

shorter route between the producer and the consumer.

A Philadelphia woman became obsessed with the idea that she had been sent by the Lord to find lost sheep. Instead of hieing herself to the "tenderloin district" she started right in the middle of a fashionable church edifice. And they actually took her in charge on the ground that she was insane. In the opinion of this newspaper she showed remarkable sanity in her choice of working field.

What an iconoclastic document that Arizona constitution is, to be sure! No wonder the privileged interests are opposing it tooth and toe-nail. It contains the provision that "No law granting irrevocably any privilege, franchise or immunity shall be enacted." The more one hears about that Arizona document the more readily one may understand why it is being so bitterly opposed in certain quarters.

Ever follow the torturous logic of "capital" in its efforts to prove that it is entitled to immunities? It will afford you a lot of fun to do so. For instance, we are told that the inheritance tax laws of New York are driving capital from the state. The same fellows who tell us that are also telling us that the Lloyd George budget of Great Britain is driving British capital from the empire into New York. Now think that over for a moment—then laugh.

We may talk tariff for revenue, and tariff for protection, or any other present form of taxation, until we are blind, deaf and dumb, and we'll not get anywhere. Our present revenue laws are criminal in their foolishness. We tax only consumption and enterprise, which is worse than foolish; it is criminal. Both forms of taxation should be abolished. Give back to the community a fair share of the values created by the community—that is the logical system. Under it every community will prosper. Quit fining men for being thrifty and enterprising; rather reward them and fine those who are neither. Make consumption easier instead of more difficult, thereby creating a larger demand for the products of toil, which will create a demand for workers.

We enact a law taxing dogs, the intent being to decrease the output of dogs. We enact a poll tax law. What for? God knows.

JOHN MITCHELL'S LECTURE.

It is not at all to Lincoln's credit that a beggarly handful of people assembled at the auditorium last week to hear John Mitchell's lecture on "The Philosophy, Purposes and Ideals of the Trades Union Movement." Seldom is it given to Lincoln people to hear a man of Mr. Mitchell's ability talk on a subject that is of

vital importance to this nation. Disguise the fact as you will, the truth is that the trades union is here to stay. The question is, how may it be made most effective for the common good? Men interested in the civic welfare ought to seize every opportunity to acquire information on this vital subject. Yet Lincoln, boasting of its high educational standing, and of its civic virtue, of its enterprise and its desire for research—Lincoln turned out less than 150 people to hear a man who is acknowledged to be one of the brainy men of this day and generation, and particularly well qualified to discuss an all-impotrant question.

Nor are the workingmen of Lincoln without blame. A majority of the trades unionists present were on the platform with the speaker, and they numbered a scant dozen. Instead of turning out en masse to hear their ablest champion, they spent the evening at home, or in the pool halls, at the pleasure resorts. Then they wonder why their cause does not make greater progress.

Justice, however, demands it be made known that Mr. Mitchell's appearance here was not judiciously advertised, nor was it under auspices calculated to appeal, although the organization in charge is worthy in every way of hearty support. But the fact still remains that the audience that greeted this really great man was so beggarly in size as to be a disgrace to Lincoln. The address was a masterly one, and it brought to the speaker warmest words of commendation from some of the best thinkers of Lincoln. It gave most of Mr. Mitchell's hearer's a new and broader conception of what the trades union movement really is, not what its opponents claim it to be.

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THE QUEEN OF A CARNIVAL.

San Diego is to have a carnival next week with a queen, and a dispute is reported between the friends of a waitress and those of a society favorite over "the delicate question which." The election of

each is claimed as Queen of the Carnival. At that election money talked. So much for a vote, with cash on the nail. Near the close of the polls the waitress was far in the lead. But at this critical moment a rich man's check for \$150 would have hopelessly turned the scale in favor of the society girl, had not the check been challenged—not as "not good" but as "not cash." The challenge held, and a rush for the cash was made. It came after the time for closing the polls; but what polls could close with a nice fat check wedged in the jamb? These polls couldn't and didn't. So the \$150 worth of votes, albeit they were cast too late, were counted; and they elected the society girl—subject, however, to a lawsuit which the father of the waitress has brought to establish the superior right of his daughter to the carnival throne. There is a better way than lawsuits for settling that royal row. Let the Waitress be Carnival Queen of the Workers, the society girl Carnival Queen of the Drones.—The Chicago Public.

FIE, FOR SHAME!

We are not quite so proud as once we were of the record western men have for gallantry. On the contrary our editorial head is bowed in shame. And were we not so overcome by our feelings as to be utterly unable to give adequate voice to our feelings, we would arraign Messrs. Robert Porter and A. A. Billings of Alma in no mild terms. These two ungallant men have cast a blot upon our escutcheon. At the city election in Alma last spring Mrs. J. H. Porter was elected city clerk, and Jean McKee was elected city treasurer. Neither had opposition. But when these good women attempted to assume the duties of their respective offices they were snubbed. Porter, the clerk, and Billings, the treasurer, refused to turn over the offices to the women and defied them to do their worst. The women resorted to the courts and won before Judge Dungan. Whereupon Porter appealed to the supreme court.

We mourn that such could have happened in Nebraska, where we are wont to be proud of our respect for and treatment of the fair sex. Now, comes these two Alma creatures of the bifurcated wearing apparel and treat with rudeness two women who have demonstrated their ability and the secureness of their position in Alma society. Time was in Nebraska when such action on the part of two men would have met with something more than a judicial reprimand. While rejoicing that Nebraska has long since outgrown her border ways, we can not help feeling sorry at times that it is no longer en regale, or au fait, or something like that, to carry a few cases before Judge Lynch. We advise that unless Messrs. Porter and Billings make proper amends for the ungallantry, they be ostracized. They have tempted the fates and should not complain.