

THE WAGEWORKER



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NO. 37

THE LABOR TEMPLE BOOSTED.

Painters and Leatherworkers Each Take Block of Stock.

This is the way the Labor Temple stock subscription stands to date:

Carpenters' Union	Shares	115
Typographical Union	Shares	115
Electrical Workers' Union	Shares	128
Bartenders' Union	Shares	100
Omaha Carpenters	Shares	5
Vallejo I. B. E. W.	Shares	5
Capital Auxillary	Shares	5
Barbers' Union	Shares	100
Painters and Decorators No 18	Shares	100
Leatherworkers	Shares	100
Electrical Workers, Fremont	Shares	100
Cigarmakers	Shares	10
Plumbers	Shares	20
Individual subscriptions	Shares	434
Total	Shares	1,160

The Labor Temple project got another good boost at the committee meeting last Monday evening. Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers' Union No. 18 came in with a subscription for a block of 100 shares in the association, and the Leatherworkers on Horse Goods followed suit for a similar amount.

This made everybody feel good because it was an evidence that a feeling of confidence in the success of the project was growing, and that in due time things would be booming. The committee spent most of its time last Monday evening in discussing "ways and means." The association's affairs are in bully shape. There are no bills outstanding, and the association has all books, stationery, etc., on hand that it will need for some time. It has a nice bunch of money in the treasury, a bully lot of pledges, as good as gold outstanding, and everybody is taking notice of the growing work.

The first annual election will take place on Tuesday, January 7, at 127 North Twelfth street. The polls will be open from 8 to 10 p. m. This election is for the purpose of electing six members of the board of directors. All who own one or more shares of paid up stock are entitled to vote, one vote for each share thus owned. The cumulative system of voting is provided for. Thus, a man owning two shares can vote two votes for six directors, or twelve votes for one director. This proviso insures the minority interests—if there ever should be any—representation on the board.

The committee is making arrangements for the visit of Ben Tillett of London, who will be in Lincoln some time in January. He is secretary of the London Dockworkers' Union and is traveling around the world in the interests of the labor movement. He will speak in Lincoln under the auspices of the Labor Temple Association. Mr. Tillett is said to be one of the most eloquent speakers now engaged in the labor movement. Due notice of date and place of meeting will be given.

THE CIGARMAKERS.

A Little Strike That Lasted Only a Very Few Minutes.

There was a short strike at the Seelingfreund factory last Saturday. For some time past the Cigarmakers have felt that they had a complaint against the employer in that factory, so on Saturday it culminated in a walk-out. The men demanded an increase of \$1 a thousand in the making of two brands, claiming that their odd size brought them within the scope of the wage asked for. The management demurred. Twelve men walked out, but on Monday they all returned to work, the management having made concessions. There was no ill feeling manifested—just a difference of opinion that was speedily settled when it came to a show-down.

Local Cigarmakers are preparing to make a whirlwind label campaign during the rest of the year, and from now on everybody will be made aware of the fact that the "Union Label" stands for something. Some very pretty little souvenirs will soon be ready for distribution where they will do the most good for the cause.

William Pepperburg has at last decided to remove his cigar factory to Lincoln from Plattsmouth. He has been figuring on this for some time, but last week he made up his mind and closed the deal. He has purchased a lot on O street between Eighth and Ninth and will immediately begin the erection of a two story build-

ing for factory purposes. It will be rushed to completion and Mr. Pepperburg will occupy it just as soon as the roof is on. It is said that Mr. Pepperburg expects to employ from twenty to thirty men right from the start. The local Cigarmakers' Union has not heard anything definite about the matter, but the members seem to be confident that the factory will be "square." The Pepperburg factory has always been one of the largest in the state, and it has always been union. It is not thought that it will now go wrong. Mr. Pepperburg and the local union had some differences a few months ago, the union refusing to lower its scale as an inducement to him to remove his factory to Lincoln, but it is not thought that this will have anything to do with arrangements that may be made hereafter.

THE CARPENTERS.

Local Union Elects New Set of Officers for Ensuing Term.

Carpenters and Joiners' Brotherhood No. 1055, held regular election last Tuesday night. The attendance was above the average, and the interest manifested was encouraging. The election resulted as follows:

President, F. A. Naracong.
Vice President, John Hewitt.
Corresponding Secretary, G. Gillespie.

Financial Secretary, J. W. Dickson.
Treasurer, John Pim.
Trustee, C. H. Bickert.

Organizer Michler of Kansas City will arrive in Lincoln the first of next week and will devote some time to assisting the local union in some matters it now has under consideration.

Eissler Bros. have just completed a new \$10,000 residence for George Lau at Twenty-fourth and Franklin, and it is conceded to be one of the finest jobs ever completed in the city.

Suffering from a severe attack of asthma, A. Brewer has returned to his home in Des Moines, Ia.

Alex Rosenthal is in Seward putting the finishing touches on a new store building.

At the meeting Tuesday night A. H. Armstrong, president of the Armstrong Clothing Co., appeared before the union at the invitation of the business agent, and made one of the best talks ever listened to by the organization. Mr. Armstrong was not feeling well, so asked permission to sit while speaking. Seating himself on the corner of a table he proceeded to address the carpenters, using a conversational tone of voice and taking his hearers into his confidence. He divided his talk into three parts, "The Advantages of Organization," "The Consideration Due a Scab," and "The Natural Man." He illustrated the first by telling his early experience as a "dump boy" on railroad work. The men were paid \$1.75 a day in pay checks that were discounted 10 per cent, forced to pay \$4.50 a week for board that a self-respecting dog would scarcely eat, and abused like galley slaves. They were unorganized. "You men would not submit to it, nor would you be expected to do so. Your organization not only protects you but it sets you on a higher plane." Mr. Armstrong succinctly covered the "scab" question by saying that the man who would benefit by organization but refuse to help share the expense of securing and maintaining the bettered conditions that unions fight for, is entitled to no consideration whatever. The third section was couched in homely phrases that appealed directly to his hearers, and showed that the speaker had given a lot of study and thought to the proposition.

The address was listened to with great interest, and at the conclusion the speaker was given a unanimous vote of thanks.

"The pleasure is all mine," said Mr. Armstrong. "I am glad that I came up here, and I am under obligations to this body for being permitted to air my views."

THE PRESSMEN.

Resting Easy as Concerns the Strike, and Still Hustling.

There are no new developments to report in the local strike situation among the pressmen. With three men out there is but one on the benefit list. The other two hustled around and found something else to do pending a settlement of the difficulty, thus relieving their brothers of financial expense. Herman Werger has gone to Crete, and if things pan out as he hopes he will not again return to the

Business Reasons for Using Union Label

Mr. Business Man, in this series of letters we have endeavored to show you why a demand for the union label on your printing is a good investment for you. We want to recapitulate now. A demand for the union label on your printing is a good investment—

First—Because it is evidence that you are in sympathy with the efforts of workmen to improve their physical, social and mental condition.

Second—Because it is evidence that you want to see Lincoln a city of workmen and women who receive fair pay for their work and good sanitary conditions in which to work.

Third—Because it convinces the toilers that you are in sympathy with the shorter work day movement.

Fourth—Because it is evidence that you believe that the men and women who have made sacrifices to bring about better working conditions are the ones to patronize, not those who would profit by those better conditions without making any of the sacrifices.

Fifth—Because it will be assisting in the good work of making

THE UNION LABEL.

The "Union Label" on all your printed matter will cost you not one cent extra, and will win for you friends and the consciousness of having helped a good and worthy cause. Write "Union Label" on the copy when you send it to the printer. It is a Business Builder.

better conditions for workmen, and that means better customers for you.

Sixth—Because the presence of the label is an invitation to union men and women to patronize you.

Seventh—Because the shops that are entitled to the use of the label are the shops that employ the best workmen, and therefore are the shops that give you the best work.

Eighth—Because the label of the Allied Printing Trades is a guarantee of equal pay for equal work—which means that the woman breadwinner who is employed in a union print shop receives the same rate of wage as the male breadwinner who is doing the same work. That means more than we care to undertake to say.

We could give you plenty more reasons, but we deem these sufficient. Because of our organizations we are working reasonable hours, drawing fair wages and enjoying life. We are building homes and rearing families, and our children are being given the benefits of an education without being deprived of the playtime of youth. The \$175,000 a year which our members earn is spent in Lincoln—spent for the goods you have to sell. Because we are well paid and well content we are better customers—buying something more than the bare necessities of life—and that means greater prosperity for you.

We have been rejoiced at the response made to our appeals for your patronage. And we believe that you have profited largely by your response to our arguments.

This is your busy season—and ours. We wish for you a Christmas trade entirely to your satisfaction. We wish you abundant prosperity in the future. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. In the language of Tiny Tim:

"God bless us, every one!"

THE ALLIED PRINTING TRADES.

press room. He is figuring on going into business for himself in that little city.

The Christmas season has boomed work, and nearly every pressman in the city is getting in over-time. The Western Newspaper Union pressroom is swamped with work, and the four big presses are running day and night. The Free Press not only keeps its big sextuple Hoe going most of the time, shops are busy on holiday work, and its two jobbers at a great rate. Other shops are busy on holiday work, and the "ghost" is growing stoop-shouldered lugging around the weekly pay envelopes.

WORK OF MADMAN.

Massachusetts Labor Leader Shot Down in State House.

Edward Cohen, president of the Massachusetts branch of the American Federation of Labor; Dennis Driscoll, secretary-treasurer of the branch, and Arthur M. Huddell, president of the Central Labor Union, of Boston, and one of the vice presidents of the In-

ternational Association of Engineers, were shot down in the executive chamber of the State House, in Boston, Thursday by a paroled madman by the name of Steele. Cohen was fatally wounded, dying yesterday; the others will recover.

THE REAL VICTIMS.

Here Are the Thousands Who Suffer From Financial Panic.

New York City was the first to feel the full effect of the gamblers' and bankers' panic, and now is first to feel severely the individual depression that is bound to follow in its train. The dispatches from the metropolis disclose that there is already a vast "army of the unemployed" and that it is daily growing larger. In round numbers it amounts to 125,000 men at the present time. This is divided, roughly, among the various trades and crafts as follows: Building trades, 25,000; clothing trades, 36,000; cigarmakers, 15,000. This vast number of men out of work does not include, of course, those who were al-

ready out of work before the panic, but only those who have been made to suffer directly in consequence of it.

It is the very poor, as always, who are hardest hit and suffer most. For it is reported that at least 100,000 of those who are out of work live in the East side tenements, having been employed principally in the clothing trades and have been working for cruelly inadequate wages of a few dollars a week, and are left penniless to face the winter. It will be for them a winter of privation, of hunger and cold, of death for women and children and anemic, wan-faced men. When "the country's savior," J. Pierpont Morgan, with Mr. Rockefeller, his pious first lieutenant, went into Wall street and "saved" themselves and multitudes of others who gamble in the country's prosperity and prey upon its toilers, they were unable to save these, the victims of their unholly "system," who live out their wretched lives in the teeming, squalid tenements of the richest city in the western world. They gave them, in fact, never a thought. It was the "system," their "system," they were giving all their solicitude to and expanding all their energies to save.—Omaha World-Herald.

PAINTERS AND DECORATORS.

Engaged in Election of National Officers This Week.

The Painters' Decorators' and Paperhangers' Union of this and other cities is now in the throes of electing national officers by the referendum system of voting. Ballots were received last week. The warmest fight seems to be over the election of delegates to the American Federation of Labor, there being some eighty candidates and four places to fill. A member of the Omaha local is one of the candidates.

Just as soon as all constitutional requirements were met the local union proceeded unanimously to take a block of one hundred shares in the Labor Temple. Committeeman DeLacy explained the proposition fully, and the plan met with instant approval. But there was some red tape to unravel before the subscription could be made. Individual members will come through also, and it is safe to say that the Painters and Decorators and Paperhangers will have a big share in the triumph.

LABOR IN MEXICO.

Sister Republic Will Soon Have a Federation of Labor.

That Mexico, which for years has been free from the question, is to have her labor problem, was manifested last week when it was announced that a meeting of delegates from various branches of labor throughout the republic would meet early next January. It is planned at this convention by certain of the newly-created labor leaders to organize a great union society similar to the American Federation of Labor of the United States. At present railway workers and cotton-mill operatives are the only branches of labor organized in the republic.

GOLDFIELD INVESTIGATION.

President Roosevelt Will Have Official Information Soon.

After sending troops without investigation and on the request of the governor of Nevada, President Roosevelt will proceed to inquire as to the real need for federal interference. However, as the troops are there now it does not seem to matter whether they are needed or not. The ends of the mine owners have been served, and that is sufficient.

On Wednesday President Roosevelt named a federal commission to proceed to Goldfield, Nevada, and inquire into the situation. The commission is composed of Assistant Secretary L. O. Murray of the department of commerce and labor, Herbert Knox Smith, commissioner of corporations, and Charles P. Neill, commissioner of labor. The commission started for Goldfield last Wednesday.

WELL, MAYBE!

Col. Bryan makes things both so lively and pleasant when he comes to town that we've been wondering if some inducement could not be offered to cause him to change his residence, temporarily, at least.—Washington Trades Unionist.

SCOFF AT THE LAW.

Little Children Deliberately Murdered By Big Coal Barons.

Dorothy Dale, staff correspondent for the United Press, was sent to Fairmont, West Virginia, to write up the Monongah mine horror in which nearly four hundred lives were sacrificed. The laws of West Virginia prohibit the employment of boys under fourteen in the mines, but the law is ignored by the big mine owners, for child labor is cheap and children are plenty. Miss Dale, after investigating the disaster, sent the following over the United Press wires:

Fairmont, W. Va., Dec. 10.—"Please letta me work, lady. Gotta getta money."

It was the appeal on every side in Monongah today, and it came from little girls, many of them not over ten. It is the newest development of the mine horror. Girls—mind you—not boys. The boys of Monongah lie sleeping under the coal-weighted hill.

Early today the corpse of a slender child form was brought out from No. 6. It was identified as Johnny Yachonis and was taken to a tumble-down shack in the red row over the mine, where a stony-faced little woman kissed it till her face was black from contact with the charred flesh of her dead boy.

Another body, that of Johnny's father, Franco Yachonis, is still concealed in one of those underground rooms.

Domine Yachonis, her boy of sixteen, lies in the company hospital, where his crushed leg was amputated. Only her Johnnie has been brought to her. "Devil Johnny" they called him, but there was nothing devilish about him. At twelve, the stunted little overalled figure trudged every morning to the mines, where he was a trapper. At thirteen he died in those mines.

The labor law of West Virginia requires that a child must be fourteen before he may work, and the white-faced Monongah women say Johnny's case was one of many other boys.

At any rate, there are no boys of that age on Monongah's streets.

"Please get something for me I can do."

"A little hand touched my arm; a curl-framed face of a girl aged ten looked into mine.

"You know man's all dead; boys all dead; only girls left to work."

Do you know the half-apologetic, half-appealing look of the trembling old man who was shoved out of life's track by young men—the man who begs you to buy matches or shoe strings?

Well, that was the expression in the old young eyes of the little ten-year-old Faustina Dala, the brightest Italian girl in the settlement.

Faustina was in the sixth grade in school before the explosion. That was ages ago to her.

THE SWEAT SHOP CRIME.

What a Celebrated Divine Says After Studying This Evil.

That close observer of men, Dr. Lyman Abbott, once made the following observation having special bearing on the sweat shop oppressor:

"The portraits of all the pickpockets of our country do not hang in the regues' gallery; the pictures of the biggest pickpockets of the country are not to be found there.

"The man who takes money which he has not honestly earned from the pockets of the people, at the gambling table, or in the speculator's shop, or in industry in which young children are ground up in the sweatshop in order to supply cheap goods, is far more of a robber than the petty thief on the streets.

"In the life of the baby, the child and the young man in college, we recognize the things that are made for the baby, the child and the collegian; but when the young man leaves college and enters business, this whole order is reversed, and our American people seem to accept it as truth that man was made for things, not things for man, and that the measure of man is the amount of money that he can make."

Frank Anderson, a switchman who sued the Union Stock Yards Co. of South Omaha for \$6,000 damages, he being injured while making a coupling, lost his case in the lower court, but has appealed to the supreme court.