

SOME PRINTER DOPE

The Typographical Journal for January, 1908, contains (pp. 30-31) a letter written by W. E. Shields of Denver, discussing some changes in I. T. U. law he proposes to introduce in the Boston convention. The first amendment he proposes is to have all future conventions meet in Indianapolis. Undoubtedly there would be a saving in this plan, but would it tend to a greater degree of representative government? I'm not opposing the idea at all. I have believed for a long time that the friendly contest in breaking entertainment records had about reached the limit. If we can add to this proposed plan a scheme whereby every subordinate union will have convention representative we will be making real progress.

Proposition No. 2, the effect of which is to "cut out the steady job of the first vice-president and his attendance at I. T. U. conventions at I. T. U. expense," is another step in the right direction. A slight perusal of the financial statements in the Journal will show what a costly office this has been. The report to the St. Louis convention, 1907 "expenses of officers and organizers," showed the first vice-president to have been paid for the fiscal year June 1, 1903-May 31, 1904, the sum of \$2,280.09; 1904-1905, \$3,020.94; 1905-06; \$3,432.89; 1906-07, \$3,598.98.

Proposition No. 3 to repeal the law requiring the Home agent to make one trip a year to the home, is eminently wise. As Mr. Shields says, the agent has no vote on the board, and he is clothed with office simply to act as a legal agent in case of necessity.

In proposition No. 4 Mr. Shields has the temerity to strike at the organizer industry. His idea to legislate the organizer out of office and when real work for the organizer develops—that is, when there is no unorganized town to be organized—to delegate the secretary of the nearest union to do the work. The organizer was originally created to organize unorganized towns—that is, towns where there did not exist typographical unions. The organizers are still organizing—not organizing towns. What do they organize? Did you ever go to a convention? Under the old district plan the organizer's jurisdiction was confined to his district. But now they are at large—that is, they are largely at large. Thus it is that you pick up the book and find that the organizer resident in Los Angeles is sent across the continent, with numerous stops en route, to the Atlantic seaboard; another California organizer goes all the way to the gulf coast; a Chicago organizer is sent to New York, and so on. Besides which several, if not all, can be found at all conventions. The convention shouldn't necessarily need organizing!

The change made at Hot Springs, (which was a substitute for the New Orleans proposition to take from the president the power to appoint the appeals committee and have the convention elect it), providing that the president shall name the appeals committee within ten days after the convention adjourns, was not only a clumsy bit of "trimming," but adds another expense in sending five men to the convention to do the work of the delegates.

There have been approximately 75 per cent of the subordinate unions unrepresented in the conventions—that is, out of about 600, something like 200 are represented. A little more than

200 delegates, 90 per cent of whom never were delegates before, constituting the convention, compose the initiative, and decide what shall be submitted to the referendum—the 45,000 members. There are several special committees, having no date in the convention (Cumming's Memorial, appeals, etc.), who, together with organizers, attend the conventions. A few weeks before the convention meets each delegates receives from headquarters a better of inquiry as to whether he will attend the convention (will a duck swim?), which information is desired as a guide in the selection of committees. Gul Vide. This gets Mr. Delegate guessing. Who knows? He may get on the laws committee. So he doesn't bother much about taking a chance getting a headache by thinking out propositions to enlarge the council or abolish the organizers, or supply the initiative, or anything like that. Well, the convention convenes and the appointments are announced. It is seen that there are just about enough delegates to fill all the committees. And the delegates about this time conclude that reciprocity is a good thing, too—you must, as an act of courtesy, vote to concur in the other fellow's committee report if you would have his favorable vote on your report. And so it goes.

I agree with Mr. Shields that there should be much earnest discussion on the amendments he will propose. I'm for them. But, above all, I must congratulate him on getting by the ultramarine graphite. J. J. DIRKS. St. Louis.

Henry Street Hudspeth of New Orleans, candidate for president of the International Typographical Union, has promulgated the following platform of principles. It is recommended to the thoughtful consideration of members, who are anxious for better conditions in the great organization:

"A more economical administration and disbursement of the International Typographical Union funds.

"The right of each subordinate union to manage its own affairs by the first principle of union government, I favor changes in the present laws which will prohibit interference by International Typographical Union officials in local union matters—local autonomy in its broadest sense.

"Broader representation of the membership in the councils of the organization, the tendency to centralization of authority and power being unwise and undemocratic.

"While favoring a healthy growth and expansion of the organization, to maintain a solemn regard for the oath of allegiance is of the highest importance. Its sacredness should be apparent to all.

"I believe that a closer alliance among the allied trades is absolutely essential for the betterment and elevation of the printing trade. The non-existence of an agreement embodying definite offensive and defensive measures cost the membership of the International Union thousands of dollars during the eight hour battle.

"While I stand pledged to the principle of arbitration, I am unalterably opposed to any form of arbitration which, in its application favors the employer to the detriment of the employee. If elected I will endeavor to bring about such changes in the present agreement as will give freer reign to the expressed will of local unions in local cases, to the end that the tradi-

tion principle of home rule as applied to subordinate bodies may be observed to the uttermost."

Is the following, from the Springfield, (Ills.) Tradesman, a "knock":
"T. W. McCullough, managing editor of the Omaha Daily Bee, is a candidate for delegate to the A. F. of L. convention from the International Typographical Union in the election that will be held next May. According to the Western Laborer of Omaha this chap took a fall on the labor papers in a speech which he made at the 1906 convention, which was published in the October 1906, issue of the Typographical Journal. All members of the Printers Union in Springfield are well acquainted with this fellow and it is hoped that they will vote solidly against him."

Say, did you read W. E. Shields' letter in the January Journal? It appears on pages thirty and thirty-one, and after you read it you will have two surprises in your possession—one that it appeared in the Journal and another that the matter has not been emphasized long ago. Mr. Shields, better known in the ranks as "Kid" Shields, is president of the Denver Union. His suggestions deserve the thoughtful consideration of every member who wants things to go right.

T. C. Crowley is a candidate for secretary-treasurer. He is now one of the home trustees.

Lincoln and Omaha unions should unanimously endorse Sam DeNedry of Washington and Charley Fear of Joplin for delegates to the American Federation of Labor. Both are former Nebraskans, both are tireless workers in the cause of unionism, and both are fearless and enthusiastic.

The February meeting should be a hummer. Nomination for international officers are to be made. The anniversary committee will make a full report, and matters pertaining to a future red-hot union shop campaign will be discussed. This is a time when every member of the union must get into the game with both feet.

Everybody knows that President Lynch is a candidate for re-election. But has anybody heard what Secretary Bramwood is going to do?

The Western Laborer calls The Wagerworker down for saying the nine hour day was won at an expense of \$25,000. The Laborer says the total expense was \$3,100. Quoting a delegate to the Syracuse convention the Laborer says:

"It may be of interest to the members to know the names of the men who secured the nine-hour day at a cost of \$3,100. The members of the Typotheta were: Joseph J. Little, Amos Pettibone, Robert J. Morgan, A. J. Adkins and Edwin Freegard. The pressmen were represented by James H. Bowman, W. G. Loomis, D. J. McDonald, James J. Archer and Theodore F. Galoskowski. The binders by: Chas. F. Weimar and William J. O'Grady. The printers by James J. Murphy, Charles E. Hawkes, R. B. Prendergast, David Hastings, G. H. Russell and George W. Harris. Two years later George W. Harris' paper was ordered thrown out of the Milwaukee convention because it advocated the election of Lynch. Charley Hawkes was defeated for president by a man who has spent \$4,500,000 fighting for the eight-hour day and T. F. Galoskowski has been removed from the position of editor of the American Pressman because of editorial differences of opinion with the new president, who was elected after a campaign of free opinion in the American Pressman. James J. Murphy is being handed a weekly lemon by the I. T. U. administration. 'Your strike is won send on the assessment,' and then Murphy wonders what he is to do with the largest number of idle men that New York has had to contend with in a number of years. So, you see, the man who does not know what is going on this year will not be handed a lemon next year. So what's the use?"

TWELVE YEARS OLD.
With its issue of January 17 the Minnesota Union Advocate, published at St. Paul by Cornelius Gulney, entered upon its twelfth year. The Advocate has had all the ups and downs that usually falls to a labor paper, but of late years the ups have far exceeded the downs. The result is that it is today one of the best labor papers in the country, and it rejoices us to know that Mr. Gulney is reaping the rewards of his past sacrifices and his present labors. The Wagerworker extends to its esteem exchange, the Advocate, hearty congratulations and heartfelt wishes for its continued and uninterrupted prosperity. It is deserving of everything good that may come its way.

Industrial Slaughter Pens.
It is high time some radical steps were taken to safeguard life in the

The Last Week

WHEN we blow out the candle on Saturday night your opportunity to buy Clothes, Hats and Furnishings will be a thing of the past at

Our Great Reorganization Sale

With its marvelous discounts and unequalled values.

Belated buyers will have a chance to secure Grand Bargains.

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more dangerous occupations. If the mine owners had spent half the time and money at Monongah, W. Va., in making reasonably safe conditions that they have in fighting the labor unions that were trying to give a miner a dog's chance this nation would not be the byword as it is. Extract the last dollar from the business, never mind the human heart. They are mostly "foreigners," and there are plenty more where they came from.—The Labor Leader.

Notice of Adoption.
In re adoption No. 244 of "Clara" in County Court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska, to all persons interested, take notice that Mrs. Blanche W. Compton has filed her petition for the adoption of Clara, a minor female child with bestowal of property rights and change of name to Gretchen Compton which has been set for hearing before this court on February 15th, 1908, at 10:30 o'clock a. m., when you may appear, object to and contest the same.

Dated, December 31, 1907.
P. JAS COSGRAVE,
County Judge.
(Seal)
By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk.

Notice to Creditors.
Estate No. 2335 of John E. Little, deceased, in county court of Lancaster county, Nebraska.
The State of Nebraska, ss.: Creditors of said estate will take notice that the time limited for presentation and filing of claims against said estate is August 1, 1908, and for payment of debts is March 1, 1908; that I will

sit at the county court room in said county on May 1, 1908 at 2 p. m., and on August 1, 1908, at 2 p. m., to receive, examine, hear, allow, or adjust all claims and objections duly filed.
Dated, December 30, 1907.
P. JAS COSGRAVE,
County Judge.
(Seal)
By WALTER A. LEESE, Clerk.

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