

THE WAGWORKER.

By Wageworker Publishing Co.
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HOW IT WILL WORK OUT.

"Elect men that will carry union cards" will be the slogan of the American Federation of Labor.

We gather the above startling information from the Worcester, Mass., Labor News. We hadn't been feeling well for several days prior to reading the above pronouncement, but when we read it we just sat back and had such a bully laugh that we've been feeling good ever since.

"Catch me voting for that stiff!" Let a union man become a candidate for office, and instead of getting the unanimous support of his fellow unionists he will get "knocks" from a big lot of them. You know it's the truth! Insane jealousy of the success of others is one of the curses of the labor movement. The minute one man shows signs of rising above the level and becoming a leader and the "knockers" who never do anything but "knock" get busier than a hen with one chicken.

"He's a grafter!" Let a union man start out determined to promote some plan calculated to benefit the whole body of organized labor, and immediately there will come forth a yell of "grafter" from the same old bunch. You know it's the truth!

Take your local labor paper, for instance. Its editor fights your battles in season and out of season—and to date we've failed to learn of a single labor paper editor who has grown rich at the game. But let that editor say something that you don't like, or advocate some policy that you oppose, and immediately you forget the good that he has done and is trying to do, and you get out your little hammer and hammer away to beat all possessed. Yet you keep right on taking and paying for the daily papers that throw the hooks into organized labor at every opportunity. You know it's the truth!

"Elect men that will carry union cards!"

It is a joke? The possession of a union card ought to be a valuable asset to the candidate for office, but is it? Look at the record right here in Lancaster county. At the most conservative estimate there are 3,000 voters in the county who carry union cards. Within the last six years nine union men have been candidates for the legislature. Did we ever elect one? Not one of them ever polled one-half as many votes as there are union voters in the county, and certainly each one of them received some votes from voters who are not union men.

There are perhaps 250 or 300 insurance agents in Lancaster county, yet the insurance ring is always represented in the legislature. Why? Well, when an insurance capper runs for the legislature every blooming insurance agent in the county gets out and legs on him. And they always see to it that they have one of their own kind on the ticket too. How about union voters? In the first place if one of their number gets on a ticket it is by accident. In the second place, instead of union men getting out and boosting for him they—or a lot of them—get out and begin yelling "grafter," or perform some other species of "knocking."

You know it's the truth! The union candidate may stand for a thousand things you stand for, but if he happens to differ from you in one single little thing, no matter how non-essential it may be, you fight him to the finish, you impugn his motives, you cast reflections upon his honesty of purpose, and you hint that he is "not on the level."

What's the use of beating about the bush? You know that what we've said here is the honest truth, and the political manipulators know it is the truth, for which reason they don't give a tinker's dam for the so-called labor vote.

"Elect men that will carry union cards!" Mighty fine advice, and it reads well in print, or sounds well on the floor of the union.

But that's as far as it goes.

A MATTER OF IMPORTANCE.

The following from the State Jour-

nal, whose publishers and editors own a huge block of Traction Co. stock, is commended to the thoughtful consideration of the union men of this city.

"Within a few months the North Tenth street viaduct will be completed, permitting traffic to flow to and from the state fair grounds without crossing steam railroad lines at grade. It is important that a car line be carried over this structure to accommodate the fair, and yet this cannot be done unless the people vote a franchise to cover the intervening street. If the city and the Traction company are not yet ready for the passage of all the franchise extensions the city needs, it is clear that an exception should be made in favor of this essential line. The special school bond and park bond election of June 30 will give an opportunity to get this piece of business out of the way. If the proposition is included in the call, the certainty of its passage will justify the company in ordering material at once. If the call is delayed the state fair will again be handicapped by inadequate street car facilities. A double track all the way, with swift cars operating without the obstruction of a grade crossing, will greatly increase the attendance. The city owes the fair this comfort and convenience. A failure to provide it this year would be inexcusable."

It occurs to us that this is one word for the state fair and two for the Traction Co.

"If the city and the Traction Co. are not yet ready for the passage of all the franchise extension the city needs," remarks the Journal, "it is clear that an exception should be made to this case."

For why, please? It is quite true that the city needs some extensions, but it is also true that the Traction Co. needs them, and a few other things besides. And before we give away any more streets to that concern would it not be well to first get from it some of the things that it clearly owes the city? And if the city "owes" anything to the state fair, is it not also true that the Traction Co. is equally under obligations to a lot of Lincoln men—its employes, for instance. Allowing the Traction Co. to use the Tenth street viaduct will be a benefit to the state fair, but at the same time it will be quite as beneficial to the Traction Co., if not more so.

Ask the men who are forced to work on the street car platforms twelve to fourteen hours a day, seven days a week, for twenty cents an hour, and discriminated against if they try to organize for the purpose of securing better treatment—ask the men if the Traction Co. ought to be given this concession just because it will "benefit the state fair." Ask the men who have worked so hard to improve industrial conditions in this city if they ought to give any more concessions to the concern that is antagonistic to unionism?

The Wageworker suggests to the union men of the city that right here is a pretty good lever ready for their use. Let them not be deceived by any remarks from Traction Co. officials to the effect that they care nothing about using the viaduct. They are just as much interested in getting it as the state fair management is. Remember that the Burlington's "shuttle trains" yearly cut big holes in Traction Co. receipts for the simple reason that thousands of state fair visitors prefer those trains to the round-about grade-crossing, slow service of the Traction Co.

The Traction Co. seems able to induce the state railway commission to blow hot and cold at its suggestion, but it remains to be seen whether it has the same amount of influence over the free electorate of Lincoln.

"There are bootleggers in Lincoln, therefore prohibition in Lincoln is a failure!" shrieks a man here and there. Great gosh! Two or three horses have been stolen in Nebraska during the last month, therefore the prohibition of horse stealing is a failure and we ought to repeal it.

The decision of the state railway commission in the case brought by County Attorney Tyrrell reads very much like a literary production from the pens of Traction Co., attorneys.

If standing up for the label of your craft deprives you of a little pleasure now and then, cut out the label.

We continue to reap considerable benefits from the advertising of our loving enemies.

And The Wageworker is prosperous and not for sale.

"The idea of appointing unpaid

If You Want To Be In Class A

In The Good Clothes Show

you had better come here for your clothes; garments such as the most critical of you all can wear without any doubts, are what you get here. There is a style and quality about our

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Which makes you feel at ease when wearing them, and no matter what your taste may be, we can satisfy you perfectly from this great line of Spring Suits. If you are interested in what you get for your money you had better see them.

In our four strongest lines at \$10, \$15, \$20 and \$25, you get popular priced suits, but they are in the exclusive class if compared with others. The very best Cloths are here for you, priced from \$27.50 to \$40. You can't buy better clothes; no matter how much you pay. Come and see them.

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Lincoln's Largest Exclusive Clothing Store for Men, Young Men and Boys.

commissioners to hire experts to handle the city's affairs is foolish," says John Z. White. To be sure. Locating responsibility is the chief merit of the commission system, and how are you going to do that by electing men who will jointly hire "experts"? The city council pretends to do that sort of thing now.

Now they declare that the trades union killed James VanCleave. The truth is that VanCleave died of self-poisoning—he was so filled with the virus of anti-unionism that his circulation was impeded.

The labor paper says something you don't like, and you refuse to subscribe. The daily papers hammers your union every day in the year, but still you keep on paying it \$7.50 a year. Funny, isn't it?

"Divided responsibility is the curse of American politics."—John Z. White. An unpaid city commission elected to hire experts will be a continuation of the policy of "divided responsibility."

The State Journal reiterates the falsehood that the voters of Lincoln "adopted the commission plan of government." The question was never legally voted upon in Lincoln.

Of course! The people who were so interested in the welfare of labor a couple of months ago are too busy with something else now, and can not help boost the Labor Temple.

Maybe it was an oversight, but the injunction against the Havelock boiler-makers did not include an order for them not to walk on the same side of the street with the scabs."

While the Traction Co. is drawing a pitiful mouth in Lincoln about its handicaps, it is singing a joyful tune in the advertising columns of eastern financial journals.

If the charter framers insist upon injecting the "unpaid commission" scheme into that instrument there will be no commission form of government for Lincoln.

John Z. White punched the "unpaid commission" plan of city government so full of holes that it won't hold shucks.

Funny, isn't it? The same state rail-

way commission that said the injection of \$15,000 of water into Citizen's Railway Co. stock was a crime eighteen months later said that the injection of \$1,500,000 of water into Traction Co. stock was perfectly proper.

"Of course I haven't any respect for the courts!" exclaimed John Z. White last Saturday evening. "When a court renders a decision that is right I respect the decision because it is right, not because it was rendered by a court."

"Fifteen thousand dollars worth of watered stock is a crime; a million and a half of watered stock is a virtue."—Nebraska State Railway Commission.

Senator Burkett says congress is responsive to the will of the people. The senator is disclosing an unexpected vein of humor in his political make-up.

A mighty good way to boost your enemies is to "knock" on your friends.

The Wageworker subscription price continues at \$1 a year.

Watch the legislative candidates!

ABSURD COURT DECISIONS.

And They Jail Us For Having Contempt For Such Things.

In an article entitled "Some Follies in Our Criminal Procedure," in McClure's Magazine for April, Charles B. Brewer gives some of the examples which led President Taft to declare "that the administration of the criminal law is a disgrace to civilization." Here are a number of cases where convictions were upset by Supreme Courts, and why:

"Because the stolen shoes were not a 'pair,' as charged in the indictment. (The thief, in his haste, had picked up two "rights.")

Because one member of a firm of three names from whom goods had been stolen was dead, and the indictment had named all three.

Because the indictment had charged the burglar with intent to commit a "theft" instead of intent to commit a "felony."

Because the indictment charged that the thief had entered the house of one Wyatt with intent to steal from him, and the defense was able to prove that Lamb also occupied the

house, and it was Lamb's property the thief was looking for.

Because the accused had been indicted for attempting to murder Kaugay instead of Korngay, the real name.

Because the murdered man's name was Patrick Fitzpatrick, instead of Patrick FitzPatrick, as charged.

Because the indictment named a specific though a correct date, instead of saying "on or about" a certain date.

Because the lower court had failed to advise the jury that the thief had stolen the goods "feloniously" or with "criminal intent."

Because the indictment had not stated that a "blackjack" (designed especially for cracking skulls) was a "dangerous or deadly" weapon.

PETTY THIEVERY.

Several years ago Will Kirk wrote for the Milwaukee Sentinel a bit of verse, "McGinnis and the Union Label," which was widely copied. Of late it has re-appeared in several labor papers, each time credited to some member of a local union. This is a species of petty larceny that should be discouraged. The verses are good, and the man who wrote them ought to have the credit. The Bakersfield Labor Journal is the latest exchange to err. It prints Kirk's verses and credits them to "L. W. Lloyd, Local 132, Brotherhood of Carpenters." Mr. Lloyd had as much to do with the writing of those verses as he had to do with the writing of the Ten Commandments.

TAFT'S MEASURE.

The bill that meets with the approval of "Big Bill" Taft would exempt those benevolent organizations of capital, the railroads, from the operation of the Sherman anti-trust law. This would leave only the trades unions to be suppressed by its provisions, so there ought to be rejoicing in the land of high finance.—A. W. Swenson, "Short Jobs," Spokane Labor World.

WHERE'S "GENERAL" OTIS?

There are now ninety-two labor unions in Los Angeles, Cal., all housed in the seven-story Labor Temple recently dedicated. In 1887 there were only two labor organizations in that city, the Typographical and the Car-

UNION BARBER SHOPS.

When you enter a barber shop, see that the union shop card is in plain sight before you get into the chair. If the card is not to be seen, go elsewhere. The union shop card is a guarantee of a cleanly shop, a smooth shave or good hair-cut, and courteous treatment. The following barber shops are entitled to the patronage of union men:

Geo. Petro, 1010 O St.
J. J. Simpson, 1001 O St.
Geo. Shaffer, Lincoln Hotel.
C. B. Ellis, Windsor Hotel.
C. W. Laffer, Capital Hotel.
E. L. Scott, Royal Hotel.
A. L. Kimmerer, Lindell Hotel.
C. A. Green, 120 No. 11th St.
W. G. Worth, 1132 O St.
E. A. Woods, 1206 O St.
Chaplin & Ryan, 129 No. 12th St.
Bert Sturm, 116 So. 13th St.
J. B. Raynor, 1501 O St.
W. H. Barthelman, 122 So. 12th St.
J. J. Simpson, 922 P St.
E. J. Dudley, 822 P St.
Lundahl & Warde, 210 So. 13th St.
Frank Malone, Havelock.
C. A. Hughtart, Havelock.
H. A. Wise, 112 No. 13th St.
Winterstien, 107 No. 14th St.
T. G. Theckfelt, 114 No. 14th St.
Oden, 1711 O St.
John Miller, 1927 O St.

Bell 1478 Auto 1916

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