

# THE WAGELERKER.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY  
BY WAGELERKER PUBLISHING COMPANY.

WILL M. MAUPIN, Editor.  
E. L. GRUBB, Business Manager.



Entered as second-class matter April 21, 1904, at the postoffice at Lincoln, Neb., under the Act of Congress of March 3rd, 1879.

## LABOR DAY.

Labor's great holiday is again at hand. From its annual observance organized labor should garner many a boon for good. It is not enough that organized labor should parade upon this day; nor is it enough that the day be spent wholly in sports and merrymaking. It should be observed with a view to impressing upon the general public the principles upon which organized labor is founded, and educating the public to a knowledge of what organized labor is doing for the uplift of the working masses. Whatever of benefit that accrues to labor in the way of shorter hours, better wages, better conditions and more hopeful outlook, must of necessity result from the activity of the trades unionists of the country. Capital will not confer benefits without coercion. The unorganized masses have no means of making an influence felt, even if it had an influence to exert. It remains for the organized workers, through co-operation and mutual sacrifice, to bring that pressure to bear which shall result in the betterment of all workers, the organized and the unorganized. Labor Day will have been spent in vain if the organized workers who observe it fail to fit themselves to properly lay before the public the objects and aims of trades unionism.

The union man who feels that shorter hours and higher wages are the sum total of unionism is a detriment to the cause of organized labor. The men who work hardest and sacrifice most to advance the interests of unionism are men who would lay down the burden tomorrow if wages and hours were the only ends to achieve. Better industrial conditions, like human liberty, must be fought for every day if they are to be retained. Liberty, like manna, must be renewed every day, else it mildew and decay. The industrial movement must ever go forward, else it must inevitably go back. It can not stand still.

Back of the parades and the paraders must be the grim determination to struggle onward and upward; to forever fight for a better tomorrow; to keep hammering away, educating, agitating, that when those of us active today shall have laid down the burden may leave to our children a better industrial heritage than came to us from the pioneers of the industrial movement. That union man is false to himself and false to his fellows who neglects or refuses to educate himself so as to be able to stand forth anywhere, at any time, and give reasons for the union faith that is within him.

We may well be proud of what we have achieved in the comparatively few years of organized effort that lay behind us. But what has been done is but a small part of what must be done if labor is to come into its own.

To the ranks of organized labor everywhere, whether under the Stars and Stripes of our own United States, whether under the Red Cross of St. George, the Lilies of France, the Eagles of Germany—or whatever banner it may be—this humble little labor newspaper extends its fraternal greetings and its best wishes. May the ranks grow larger and more solid every day until at least every day shall be labor's day—labor's day in which the laborer may receive the full fruits of his toil and stand forth under the blue dome a free man—free in fact as well as in name.

For the speedy coming of that glad day let us all work and pray.

## LABOR AND CAPITAL.

Let us have an end to all this twaddle about labor and capital being equal, and therefore entitled to equal treatment. Is the created equal to the creator? Is the thing made equal to the man who made it? We have had the twaddle of equality so long and so loud that even the courts have come to hold that the man-made corporation is bigger than the God-made man who created the corporation.

Not until the dollar is equal to the man; not until the thing created is equal in all its parts to its creator; not until the man whom God has made is equal to the God who made him, will capital be the equal of labor. Without labor capital could never have existed. Capital is the creation of labor, therefore should be entitled to secondary consideration. Too long have we prat-

ed of "property rights," forgetful of human rights.

Let every dollar of capital be wiped out of existence tomorrow, and the clanging anvil, the glowing forge, the whirring wheels, would immediately begin anew the creation of more capital. But let every avenue of human productivity be closed tomorrow, let labor be wiped from the face of the earth, and immediately capital ceases to exist. Why, then, continue the palaver about the "equality of capital and labor?" Such talk is treason to mankind. It exalts the dollar too much and recognizes the man too little.

Destroy the railroads of the world tomorrow, and before sunrise the next day labor would be making new railroads. Destroy labor tomorrow, and nothing could be more useless or more worthless than the railroads. Sink every minted dollar into the depths of the sea tomorrow, and ere sunrise of the next day labor would be minting its muscle and its brain into more dollars. But paralyze the arm of labor and minted dollars would be worthless as ice at the poles.

High time, workers of the world, that you began realizing the power that lies in your trained eyes and hands and brains. High time you awoke to a realization of the responsibility that rests upon you, the strength that is yours to wield for yourselves or for others.

Labor and capital equal! Capital is not to be mentioned in the same breath without insulting the power that alone creates capital. Let us stand forth and be men, insisting that the creator be given consideration always and at all times before the created.

## OUR ADVERTISERS.

We bespeak for the advertisers in the Wagerker the patronage of all who are interested in the cause of organization. The merchants who advertise in the Wagerker do so because they want the patronage of union men and women and are therefore extending them an invitation. The merchant who refuses to advertise in the Wagerker can only put forth one reason—he does not care for the patronage of those whose interests The Wagerker tries honestly to advance. He cannot refuse on the grounds of rates or lack of readers before whom his advertising might be laid.

The Wagerker's advertisers are inviting you to patronize them. Just as you would seem to attend a select social function to which you were not invited, so should you seem to patronize a merchant who thought so little of your patronage that he did not ask you for it.

This newspaper uses every effort to protect its union readers against unfair goods. It has never knowingly advertised unfair products. It has refused time and again, to carry advertisements of certain lines of goods, knowing them to be unfair to organized labor, although it could have "gotten away with it" easy enough. A case in point: During the recent strike of the boot and shoe workers against the W. L. Douglas Shoe Co. that company tried to secure a contract for space in The Wagerker. The offer was turned down cold, although many other labor papers took advantage of a technicality and accepted the advertising. Another case: By misrepresentation—downright lying, in fact—a Chicago concern secured a contract for space in The Wagerker. Before the contract was half expired it came to our knowledge that the house was seeking to impose upon union men and women by foisting unfair goods upon them. The contract was immediately cancelled, at considerable financial loss to this paper. At all time and under all circumstances The Wagerker has tried to protect the interests of union men and women, and at the same time tried to boost for the fair home merchant. And there are many such in Lincoln. For an almost complete list of these friendly business concerns we commend to your careful consideration the advertisers, not only in this issue, but in the regular issues of the Wagerker. We wish them all well. May their business increase, and may the ties of friendship grow stronger as the days go by.

There will be no "Mary Jane" overalls or aprons in the Labor Day parade. There will be no juvenile bands in the name of God and morality and in violation of the child labor laws of the state. There will be no underpaid women whose toil affords an opportunity for ostentatious display of philanthropy and piety.

It is easier to march than it is to tell why you march—but it should not be. Educate, agitate, propagate.

Now if we'd only vote as solidly on election day as we march on labor day! But what's the use?

The God-made man is entitled to considerable more consideration than the man-made dollar.

Nebraska has upwards of 30,000 men and women working in manufacturing

institutions, and the number is increasing every day. There ought to be factory inspection laws worthy of the name upon the statute books, and the machinery provided to make the inspection practical and productive of good results for the workers.

This is the seventh time The Wagerker has appeared in Labor Day garb—thanks to the loyal support of its friends and the advertising of its enemies.

Some of these days the American worker will learn that measured by his product he is among the poorest paid workers in the civilized world. When he does learn it the graft worked under the guise of "protecting American labor" will come to a sudden end.

The Wagerker will support no candidate for the legislature, for state office or for congress who does not satisfactorily answer the questions that will shortly be propounded by the legislative committee of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor.

Organized labor will get from the next legislature only what it can compel the legislature to give. The legislature will not hand organized labor anything worth while on a silver platter.

Mr. Aldrich says he favors compulsory arbitration. All union men who believe in trusting their cause to a board created by the same power that controls the courts should vote for Mr. Aldrich.

Watch the answers that the candidates make to the questions that will shortly be propounded to them by the State Federation of Labor. And as they answer, act accordingly.

The wage earner who believes that the protective tariff adds a single penny to his daily wage ought to consult a specialist in mental disorders.

With the Stars and Stripes at the head of the column, and with union banners overhead, let's all get in line on Labor Day.

Brer Post will not parade especially on this day. Organized labor is making him walk Spanish nearly every day.

Get in line and show your colors!

## O, FOR MORE!

Welcome Women With Hearts Who Feel for the Helpers.

During the recent strike of the Shirtwaist Workers, the press carried word to the effect that Miss Anna Morgan, daughter of J. Pierpont Morgan, was and did give valuable aid, both in a monetary and moral way, to those striving for better conditions. Regrettable as it may appear, in one or two of those papers which reach our desk, it was said that she was "the pirate's daughter." God bless her, for being a daughter. By her acts she also demonstrated that she had a heart! Yes, even if that heart had been brought to maturity in an atmosphere far removed from those whom she sought to assist. Whatever we think of Mr. Morgan, as a man, we will give due credit to the little daughter who felt the appeal of humanity and had a heart large enough to heed the call. Would there were a few more in all the cities of this broad land like her. If so, the lot of the woman toilers would speedily improve.—Cincinnati Chronicle.

## A ONCE STRONG UNION.

Only Labor Organization Ever Chartered by Congress is Dead.

A once strong union, the Machinists' and Blacksmiths' Union of North America, was founded in 1859, and was incorporated by congress in 1859; the only union which, so far as I know, ever received a charter from the United States government. This body was composed of smiths and machine makers at first, but afterward, boiler makers and pattern makers were added, and in 1877 it took the name of Mechanical Engineers of the United States of America. Its membership amounted to 18,000 in 1872, but had fallen to 5,000 in 1878; and if it still exists, it must lead a very quiet life.—Richard T. Ely, "The Labor Movement in America."

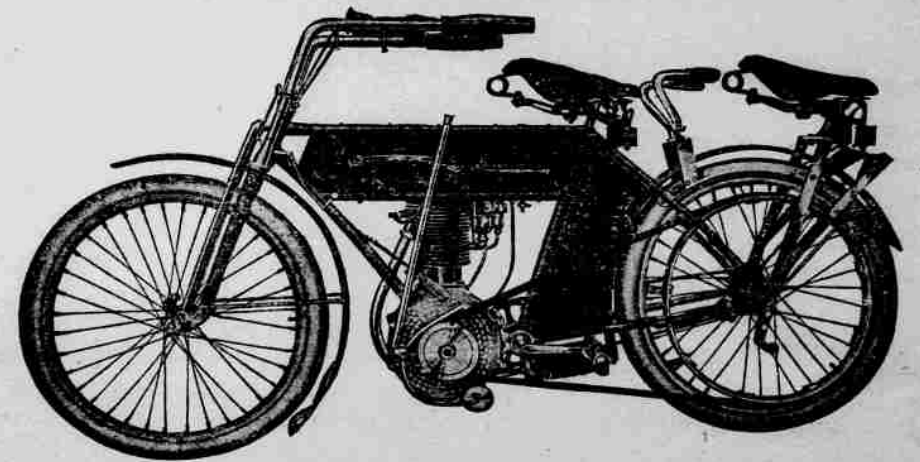
## ALL BANK ROT.

Uncle Sam can appoint receivers to put a busted business back on a paying basis for the stockholders, but he can't appoint anybody who can run a business in the interest of the whole people, because that requires "individual initiative," you know. Fancy sane workmen swallowing that sort of bunk!—St. Paul Union Advocate.

The Oklahoma Unit says that the agitation for state-owned railroads is bracing up the service of the Rock Island lines.

# THE EXCELSIOR is the MACHINE

W. I. Davis and wife of Colo. Springs, on June 8th completed one of the most remarkable motor trips ever undertaken, riding from Colo. Springs to Chicago over a route of 1,400 miles in 13 days.



As in Every Test, in Pleasure or Utility, The Excelsior Made Good.

**GIRARD CYCLE CO.**

140 NO. 14TH ST.



**PRUDENT PEOPLE PROCURE PROTECTION**

BY INSURING IN THE

**UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY**

OF LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

INCORPORATED 1886

STATEMENT OF 1909

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL STATEMENT

OF THE

**UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY**

RESOURCES

Gross Premiums on Unexpired Policies.....	\$823,407.32
Deposit Notes and Cash.....	\$312,067.11
Bills Receivable and Due from Agents.....	1,600.83
Furniture and Fixtures.....	1,341.81
Miscellaneous.....	74.96
Losses Paid Since Organization.....	\$505,015.60

**THE UNION FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY**

is incorporated under the laws of 1873, which is the only mutual insurance law that absolutely limits the liability of the assured to the amount stated in the premium contract.

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

G. P. WATSON, Pres.  
J. F. DONOVAN

E. H. MARSHALL, Sec'y  
CYRUS KELLOGG

T. J. BROWNFIELD, Gen. Mgr.  
W. A. WAY

## THE WRONG OF THE WORKER.

Cruel Injustice Heaped on Him in Guise of Law.

John Mitchell, a steel worker, in charge of one of the soaking pits in the West Penn plant in the Pittsburgh district, called to a fellow workman last week to perform some regular task. The news dispatch continues:

"The man pulled the wrong lever, opening a great door at the feet of Mitchell, who fell forward into the seething pit and upon a white steel ingot which he had just placed there. In two minutes not a trace of his body remained."

Shocking, but the most shocking thing is yet to be told. That is that it was fortunate that the body of this steel worker was utterly consumed. Had there been any funeral expenses to pay, the family of that man under the common law, and under the law as it stands in most states—including we believe, Pennsylvania—would have been compelled to defray the expenses out of its own pocket. Any aid it would have received would have come from the good will of the employer, not of right.

The fact of the matter is that John Mitchell had unwittingly committed something like a crime. That crime was in having a co-worker who made a mistake, who pulled the wrong lever. You can read all about the mistake in those volumes of English and American, particularly American, court reports which treat of the "fellow servant's rule."

Once an English butcher had two employes—a helper and a wagon driver, and the latter injured the former. The court decided that the butcher should not pay damages because the man was injured through the negligence of a fellow servant. The decision was just in that particular case, but it became a mockery when its principle was extended to cover the complicated relations of modern industry in the dangerous callings—where there are so many men to make mistakes and so many

ways to make them, and where any way may be fatal.

That "fellow servant's rule" is one of the three granite milestones in the road of social injustice, which every American factory or foundry worker must tread. The other two are called "contributory negligence" and "assumption of risk." The upshot of all three is that the law makes the widow of the average victim of our industry the present of a lawsuit, when what she needs, and what justice dictates she should have, is money to bury him, money to keep herself and children alive until she can get boarders, or scrubwork or housework, or until work can be found for the children.

The New York legislature made a little step in the right direction this year, and we guess there would be compensation promptly forthcoming should a steel worker here meet with an end like that of the Pittsburgh operative. But in a host of other less hazardous callings the old injustice persists.—N. Y. Evening Mail.

## AUGUSTUS A. HYERS.

Sergeant-at-Arms of the State Federation of Labor.

Ladies and gentlemen: I have the honor and the pleasure of introducing to you Hon. Augustus A. Hyers, sergeant-at-arms of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor, union machinist and postmaster of Havelock.

"Gus" Hyers was born in Nebraska along with the grasshoppers of 1874, appearing first on a farm near Weeping Water. Later he took his parents to Plattsmouth and attended the public schools of that city. In 1885 he once more took his parents by the hands and led them to Yankee Hill precinct, Lancaster county, and made his father warden of the Nebraska State Prison.

He attended the public schools in Lincoln for a time, and then attended business college in Plattsmouth. In 1892 he began as a machinist apprentice at the Havelock shops, working eight hours a day, four days a week,

at 7½ cents an hour. After working in all departments of the craft he made a specialty of brass finishing and continued to work for the Burlington till 1905, when he grabbed off the Havelock postoffice, which he has since held down. Incidentally he represents the Lancaster Land Co., and does it to the satisfaction of that concern. "Gus" has never dropped his union card, and continues to take an active interest in union affairs. He assisted in organizing the State Federation of Labor at Lincoln, and represented his local at the Federation meeting in South Omaha last January. With the veterans S. D. Smith and James Jonas he grabbed off the 1911 convention for Havelock.

## HOW THEY LIE.

Labor Gets the Worst of It From Daily Press.

According to the headlines of all the Chicago papers the strikers were rioting and shooting in South Bend yesterday. There were calls for the troops. There were wild scenes of violence—in the headlines.

When the story was finally dug out of the mass of falsification and exaggeration it was discovered that A PINKERTON THUG HAD SHOT A CAR REPAIRER IN THE BACK.

There were no mobs. There were no riotous strikers. There was no killing by strikers. No shots were fired by strikers.

Do you think the writing of those headlines was an accident? Do you imagine that the carefully framed-up story which so artfully concealed the truth and so craftily suggested the falsehoods, was the result of blundering incompetency?

That story and those headlines were prepared in the manner most suited to throw discredit upon the strikers, turn public opinion against them and afford an excuse for the introduction of the militia and the regular army.

AND WORKINGMEN BUY AND SUPPORT THESE PAPERS.—Chicago Daily Socialist.