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HOW LABOR'S HOSTS OBSERVED THE HOLIDAY

Twelve Hundred Union Men and Women of Lancaster County Proudly Parade Beneath the Stars and Stripes And the Glittering Banners of Organized Labor---The Greatest Demonstration in History of Local Unionism

Early risers last Monday morning felt gloomy enough, for it seemed like a repetition of Labor Day a year ago, when it rained from morning until night. The skies were weeping at 7 o'clock and there was little prospect of them clearing up. By 8 o'clock, however, patches of blue began to appear, and at 9 o'clock everything was lovely. From then on until the last celebrant went to bed, tired and hungry, the day was an ideal one. As a result of fine weather conditions, unbounded enthusiasm and loyal effort, Labor Day, 1910, in Lincoln was a grand success. It is possible that more men had been in line on some former celebration, but never did a parade move more smoothly, present a finer appearance or call forth more enthusiastic cheers than the one of last Monday.

As a fitting prelude to Labor Day the churches of Lincoln almost without exception observed Labor Sunday, the pastors preaching upon subjects dealing with the relations of the church and the trades organizations. In four of the churches trades unionists occupied the pulpits at the evening services. Frank M. Coffey, president of the State Federation of Labor, occupied Rev. Mr. Long's pulpit at the Second Presbyterian church; Will M. Maupin occupied Rev. Mr. Shipherd's pulpit at the First Congregational church; Clyde J. Wright occupied Rev. Mr. Laurence's pulpit at the First Presbyterian church, and T. C. Kelsey and S. D. Smith occupied Rev. Mr. Orr's pulpit at St. Mark's Reformed church. Brief extracts from the remarks of these gentlemen will be found elsewhere.

Before the skies had fairly cleared Monday morning the union men began gathering at the Temple, and by 9 o'clock the building and the street in front of it were crowded by workers in their holiday array or in the garb best fitted to their craft. Banners and flags flew on every side, and everybody appeared as happy as happy as could be. At 10 o'clock the workers began drifting south on Eleventh street to get their places prior to the parade. Grand Marshal Kelsey and his aides, bedecked with tri-colored sashes and bestride noble Arabian steeds, dashed hither and yon, urging the men to hurry into line so the parade could start on time. But it was difficult to get the men to obey—they were having such a bully time talking things over, joking, laughing and discussing the future of organized labor. At 10:30 things began to look like a parade, but it was found impossible to give the starting signal at 10:30 as announced. But at 10:50 Grand Marshal Kelsey gave the signal, the Musical Union band at the head of the line started off with a rousing march, and the great Labor Day parade was on. Through streets lined with cheering thousands the hosts of organized labor marched away to the lilt of music. Almost with the precision of veterans the unionists marched, keeping step and spreading out the lines in orderly array. It was a magnificent sight to see, and the thirty thousand people who saw the marching hosts could not help but be impressed with the showing made by the unionists.

At the head of the long column, in the post of honor, marched Eureka Lodge of Boilermakers of Havelock, seventy-two strong, and all on strike for three months for common justice that has been denied them by an arrogant corporation and under the ban of federal court injunction not to do anything other than breathe and sleep—eating as best they can as wageless workers. But the Boilermakers didn't look like a hungry nor a cowed lot. On the contrary they were in full regalia, heads erect, eyes bright, and as full of determination to win as they

were the day they walked out of the Havelock shops. All along the line the Boilermakers received an ovation from the men and the women who are aware of the gallant fight against heavy odds that these mechanics have been making.

The Blacksmiths 70 strong followed the Boilermakers, and they were decked out in a uniform distinctive of their craft. They followed their banner with pardonable pride, and many favorable comments were heard upon the fine showing made.

Next came the machinists, headed by a daily decorated automobile with Gus Hyers at the steering wheel and bearing the local's officials. Following the machine came a long line of machinists, 76 strong, and they looked every inch the expert workers they are.

By common consent, after the striking Boilermakers had been accorded

than 30 to 40 in line, but things have been doing in this craft during the past six months, and as a result of tireless work the organization is now fully up to its high water mark record of a few years ago. The Carpenters and Joiners made a splendid showing and deserved all the encomiums showered upon them.

The Mail Carriers were a little late, but they dropped into the line behind the Carpenters and Joiners, and in their handsome grey uniforms, they made a great showing and won applause all along the line. Postmaster Sizer marched piously at the head of this section, and if he was one-half as happy as he looked he must have been feeling awfully good. This is the first time the Mail Carriers have ever participated in a Labor Day parade in Lincoln, but it will not be the last time, for they were made to feel right at

gather others, until the organization will again reach its old-time spirit and strength.

The Bricklayers turned out well, as usual. A large number of the members of the Lincoln local are working out of town, and this prevented the local from making its usual showing, but despite this handicap the organization had more than 40 men in line and made a goodly showing.

The Allied Printing Trades section made its usual big showing, despite the fact that the daily newspaper printers, pressmen and stereotypers were unable to be in line. But every pressman but one in Lincoln was on deck, and the absent one was sick in bed. The showing of this organization was especially gratifying, as it has been facing a desperate look-out for months. The Bookbinders had more men in line than ever before, and were so proud

ready for the matinees. But they were represented, all right. They put a handsome banner in the parade and employed husky boys to carry it for them. It read: "Theatrical Stage Employees, 34 strong and all working—this is our busy day." Couldn't keep that live bunch from having its part in the big parade of Lincoln unionists.

The Leatherworkers on Horse Goods didn't show up strong for numbers, but they had a showing that attracted attention just the same. Several members rode in a carriage and held aloft the unique banner of the organization, and they were followed by a half-dozen workers on foot. This organization is just recovering from a long and bitter strike, and it will be some time ere it is again convalescent. But if it came out of the struggle with some scars it didn't leave the other fellows all to the good. Not by a millsite.

The parade was marked because of the number of banners and mottoes carried. The Central Labor Union had a magnificent float in the line, bearing on its two sides a picture of Lincoln's handsome little Labor Temple and the words, "Let's work together for Lincoln. Headquarters Central Labor Union, Home of Lincoln Workingmen. All are welcome." This was a striking advertisement of the Labor Temple and brought out rounds of applause.

The Carpenters and Joiners had a banner calling attention to the fact that their organization has paid out upwards of six millions of dollars in benefits. Other banners were as follows: "Be a real booster for union labor."

"We will patronize merchants who handle union goods."

"Good wages and hours make prosperous and contented citizens."

"Honest workmanship bears the label."

"Does the business men keep the laboring men? Not yet." Reverse side—

"We keep the business man."

"A square deal hurts nobody."

"Ninety per cent of us are home owners and taxpayers in Lincoln."

"A long day and poor work. A short day and good work."

"If you can not boost, don't knock."

The line of march was as follows:

North on Eleventh to N, east on N, to Twelfth, north on Twelfth to O, east on O to Seventeenth, countermarch on O to Eleventh, north on Eleventh to Q, south on Q to P, west on P to Ninth, south on Ninth to O, east on O to Eleventh, south on Eleventh to N, and disband. Each union was requested to have at least one American flag in its section of the parade.

As the parade moved north on Eleventh street past the Labor Temple it was reviewed by Governor Shellenberger, Mayor Love, Congressman Maguire and state and city officials. Many of the unions, as they passed the reviewing stand saluted the officials of state and city by doffing hats and caps, and these salutes were returned in kind by the dignitaries.

The reviewing officials acted as judges of the banners carried in the parade, their decision giving to the author of the best motto a prize of \$5 offered by The Wageworker. The official decision will be announced at the meeting of the committee next Sunday afternoon at the Labor Temple. At that time the committee will attempt to make a final settlement of all the Labor Day affairs.

T. C. Kelsey, grand marshal, was assisted by these aides: G. G. Gwinn, T. W. Parker, Fred Eisler, Gus Swanson and J. R. Slusser. All were mounted and wore the customary sashes.

After the parade the hosts scattered to snatch hurried dinners and get ready for the big doings at Capital Beach in the afternoon. From 2 o'clock in the

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The Wageworker wants to increase its subscription list. To the man, woman or child who brings in the largest number of paid-in-advance subscriptions before Oct. 1, 1910, a prize of Ten Dollars in gold will be given. Subscription \$1 a year; 50 cents for six months; 25 cents for three months. A yearly subscription counts four points; a six months subscription counts two points; a three months' subscription counts one point. Only cash subscriptions counted. In addition to the above prize a commission of 20 per cent will be paid. In other words you get one-fifth of all the money you collect, and you may win the Ten Dollar Prize. Go to work immediately.

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the honor of heading the column, the Havelock contingent was given the lead, and Havelock has a right to feel mighty proud over the excellent showing the Shop City made. The boys out there have worked hard for weeks to reflect credit upon themselves, their busy city and the ranks of organized labor in general, and they succeeded in great shape.

The Plasterers made up for lack of numbers by their fine appearance, and this little local, organized within the past year, demonstrated that it is among the liveliest of the live ones. Twenty-six men marched behind the banner of the Brotherhood of Plasterers, and they looked like men who are determined to more than double the number before the next parade day.

Next in line was the Federal Union, made up of men engaged in the building laborers' line, and they wore overalls and uniform caps and by their appearance made it apparent to all that they are benefitting by organization. There were nearly thirty of them in line, and they made a fine showing.

The Tailors gave the lie to the old adage about tailors going in rags, for they were dressed in the top o' the fashion and looked like a big bunch of well-to-do business men. Under organization the Tailors have vastly benefited their conditions, and their showing last Monday has encouraged them to hustle a bit more and further solidify their ranks.

The Plumbers deserve especial mention on account of the vast improvement they showed over the demonstration two years ago. In 1908 they had a mere handful of men in line; last Monday they had nearly 50, and they were dressed nattily, marched jauntily and looked as happy and as prosperous as we are usually led to believe they are by the "plumber jokes" in the alleged funny papers. The Plumbers worked hard to make their turnout impressive and they succeeded fully in their efforts.

The Carpenters and Joiners won the distinction of having more men in line than any other craft, nearly 200 of them following the banners of the Carpenters and the Millworkers. A year ago this craft couldn't have put more

home in the ranks of the organized workers.

The Musicians had to scatter somewhat, 30 of them being in the two musical union bands. But there were about 50 of them, men and women, in eight big touring automobiles, and they looked mighty aristocratic, thank you. A feature of this section of the parade was the number of women unionists participating. The Musicians have the distinction—and a great one it is—of having more women members than any other organization in the city, and the organization is proud as can be of the fact.

The Brotherhood of Electrical Workers made its usual fine showing. The men were arrayed in full dress uniform consisting of union made overalls and caps—with other garments, of course, and they followed their banner like veteran soldiers. The Electrical Workers marched upwards of 70 strong, and would have turned out more than 100 had it not been for the fact that so many of them had to attend to onerous duties. Fair week makes a lot of work for the electricians, but despite this handicap the Brotherhood turned out in fine shape.

The Horseshoers' union is a little one in point of numbers, but what it lacks in membership it more than makes up in zeal, and all things considered this little bunch made about the handsomest showing in the line. The men had on natty leather aprons that didn't show a single hoofmark nor even smell of smoke, but beneath the shirtsleeves could be seen bulging muscles, and from under the visors of the caps gleamed eyes that were alight with union enthusiasm.

The Lathers make up another little union, but when measured by deeds instead of numbers it ranks with the best of them. The Lathers made a good showing, and won many compliments.

The Painters and Decorators have been in pretty bad shape for several months, but a bunch of loyal ones met, decked themselves out in uniforms of white overalls and jackets, bore their union banner aloft and marched just as proudly as any of them. The numbers may have been lacking but the spirit was there, and around this nucleus of good union men will soon

of the fact that they could hardly keep from shouting it from the housetops. The Stereotypers were well represented considering the fact that there are only a few of them, comparatively speaking. The Typographical Union turned out 68 strong, and the men wore dinky little paper caps bearing the label of the Allied Printing Trades. This section of the parade had 172 men in line and made a handsome showing.

The Cigarmakers won the last position in the parade, and they made a fitting conclusion to the best Labor Day parade ever held in the city. The Cigarmakers turned out every member in the city, and they made a showing that entitled them to, great credit. If a lot of people who are forever hollering about "home industry" would practice what they preach, the Cigarmakers would have three times as many men in the parade next year as they had this year. But what's the use?

Following the parade of organized workers came the industrial section. In many ways this was a disappointment to the committee, but even at that it was ahead of any previous year. A number of local business men were represented to a greater or lesser degree. The Nebraska Material Co., had 12 wagons in line and made a fine showing for itself.

The Havelock, band, made up almost wholly of men who carry cards in some mechanical crafts' union, was given the middle of the parade, and the Nebraska State Band came third among the musical organizations. As a result of having three good bands in the parade there was plenty of good music, and everybody could keep step.

Mention of the Steam Engineers has been reserved for towards the last because this is the "baby union" of the city. It was organized only a few months ago, but it is among the live ones all right, and it made a good showing considering its youth and the smallness of its number.

There were no Theatrical Stage Workers in the parade, but that was not the fault of the men. They wanted to be in line, but it was impossible, for every theatre in the city was due to open in the afternoon and the stage hands had to hustle from early morn till 2 o'clock in the afternoon to get