

# UNION PRINCIPLE.

Should Not Be Sacrificed For  
Temporary Benefit.

## COLLECTIVE BARGAIN VITAL.

The Only Basis Upon Which a Common Standard of Wages Can Be Secured by Workers—Labor Organization Must Be Recognized.

The Dallas Morning News takes the view that it is not surprising that the striking express drivers of New York rejected an overture that conceded everything but the demand for the recognition of the union. This is the only common sense opinion to hold, for without some organization of the workers who is to see that the terms of even the more favorable agreement would be enforced and thus a lasting peace insured? The News says further that the occasion for surprise is rather in the making of the overture and continues as follows:

"Even if it did not involve a renunciation of the vital principle of unionism itself the teamsters would have good reason to question whether the advantages thus purchased would be enduring. Concessions made to individuals are easily withdrawn after strikers return to work and are restored to a pacific mood. Gradually the men find themselves being discharged, always for 'cause,' but actually as a punishment for having struck and as a means of substituting other men willing to work for wages and under conditions which provoked the strike. Thus the price offered for the sacrifice of the union principle often, if not in a majority of cases, turns out to be dead sea fruit. The men display only ordinary prudence in refusing such an overture.

"We suppose the legal right of a corporation to decline to enter into a collective bargain with its employees is indisputable. But if ethical principles impose the duty of conceding the same privilege which one himself exercises then corporations have no moral right to decline making a collective bargain. Every act of a corporation is itself collective. Five or six officers of the United States Steel corporation act for 10,000 or more stockholders. The corporation is endowed and exercises all the immense advantages of collective bargaining, and yet when it refuses to recognize a union it denies that same privilege to laborers. The adage that what is sauce for the goose is sauce for the gander expresses a pretty sound ethical proposition, and it is this proposition that the express companies reject when they decline to recognize the union of their striking employees.

"There is a distinction, always over-emphasized, that the corporation is financially responsible for breaches of its agreements, whereas the union is not. The distinction is more theoretical than practical. If the unions are not financially responsible they are every day getting a better sense of moral responsibility that in most cases is as good a bond for abidance by their agreements as is the financial solvency of a corporation. A great many unions, notably those of railway employees and miners, make wage and working agreements with corporation

employers, and the instances of the breaking of these contracts are exceedingly rare, and in the few cases when they are broken it is not always clear that the fault has really lain with the unions. There have been cases when it was the employer who in reality broke the contract by purposely giving an intolerable provocation, and in these cases the unions have virtually no legal redress against their employers, so that in point of financial responsibility employer and employee are pretty much on a parity.

"The demand for recognition is one which a union cannot compromise if it is to be anything more than a society for the exchange of individual commiseration. The legal right of a corporation to refuse to recognize a union is likewise inviolable. But the men who exercise that right show little regard for consistency or moral obligation.

We are pleased to know that the Dallas News, one of the really great and influential newspapers of the country, holds such decided views in favor of collective bargaining, the only possible basis upon which any common standard of wages, hours or conditions could be arranged with the monopolistic express trust. It has been notorious for years that the employees of the great express companies have had numerous and genuine grievances, and the conclusion was inevitably reached that without organization nothing could be done to redress those grievances. Union recognition prevailed in the great strike in the cloakmaking industry in New York and Philadelphia, and it will finally win in the garment workers' strike in Chicago. A settlement on any other basis would prove of no lasting benefit to the workers.—Typographical Journal.

### Britons Want Shorter Day.

The printing trades of the United Kingdom, following protracted negotiations with the employers' federation, which refused to grant a forty-eight hour working week, have made the following demand upon the employers: The establishment of a maximum fifty hour working week on Jan. 1, 1911, and a maximum forty-eight hour working week on Jan. 1, 1912. The result of the ballot of the London Society of Compositors, which has been taken, shows 7,847 in favor and 1,501 against the proposal.

## PRINTERS' TRADE SCHOOL.

Typographical Union Aims to Develop Artistic Skill.

The International Typographical union is the oldest American labor organization, and its activities are of unusual interest to sociologists. It maintains a home for aged members and a tuberculosis sanitarium which has cost more than \$900,000. Last year it spent more than \$100,000 in pensions to aged members. It also has the usual strike and burial benefits. The union is also conducting a trade school.

To reach the more than 50,000 members of the union instruction is given by correspondence. This system of education is popularly known as the I. T. U. course, and its methods mark a departure from other systems of typographic education. The old plan was to study specimens of work by accomplished compositors, the students following them as much as possible, which tended to develop copyists rather than creators. Decorative typography must necessarily follow artistic lines, so the promoters of the I. T. U. course went to the art schools and ferreted out the principles of design and color harmony which underlie good typography.

The student is first taught these principles and then aided in applying them

to everyday work. This not only enables the compositor to perform his daily labor with greater ease and more satisfaction, but develops any artistic talent he may possess. The instructors are printers. Professor Sargent of the art department of the University of Chicago after a thorough inspection indorsed the course.

The commission having the union's venture in charge claims that it has achieved success and points to an enrollment of nearly 1,800 students in thirty months as proof.

All this is in keeping with the purpose of typographical unions, which spend from \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year so that printers may receive this information at less than cost. The skill of its members has always been an important asset of the typographical union. The specialization of work which now prevails in industry has practically abolished the apprenticeship system.

### A Square Deal For Men.

In Cincinnati there is in operation a plan called the "Dow" plan for the relief of dumb animals. On a hundred million pages of paper for universal distribution is printed the following: "A Square Deal For the Horse.—We believe every horse deserves three ample meals daily, water frequently, proper shoes, a blanket in cold weather and two weeks' vacation annually. Throw away the whip." Good, very good, as far as it goes. But another hundred million copies with "horse" changed to "man" would greatly improve it.—Chicago Public.

### To Protect the Young.

The principal bill which is to be introduced by the Massachusetts child labor committee this year will be the night messenger measure to prohibit the employment of minors in the night messenger service. This is the most immoral form of employment for children which has yet been discovered. The national child labor committee has secured the passage of a bill in New York prohibiting the employment of children in such service.

### Noses Cost Them Their Jobs.

Two Western Union telegraph operators testified before the coroner's jury that the Los Angeles Times disaster was caused by gas. They declared that the odors all through the night on which the explosion occurred were almost unbearable. They were discharged from their positions and are now members of the Otis Ananias club.

### Where Gannets Swarm.

One of the most remarkable sights in the world is Bird island, in South Africa, for the reason that during some months of the year it is literally covered with gannets. Not a foot of ground is to be seen anywhere. Day after day thousands of gannets strut around, and they are so close to each other that the whole island seems actually alive. Those who have seen this sight say that it is one which can never be forgotten.

### A Pleasant Farewell.

A local minister had had a serious time in fighting the saloon element in his own town and had not been backed up in his efforts by the members of his own church. This, with other troubles, had led to his resignation, and in announcing his departure at his farewell sermon he said: "I am going to do something the devil has never done. I am going to leave C."—Argonaut.

### Greatly Improved.

Mrs. Mater—Have you seen Mr. Dater's son since he got home from college? Daughter—Yes, ma; saw him last night. Mrs. M.—Has he improved much? Daughter—Awfully. He's got a mustache.

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.

There is only one worse thing than war measures in settling industrial disputes. It is to settle in the wrong way issues over human rights. The one permanent issue at stake in the Chicago garment workers' strike is the right to bargain collectively for the rate of wages, the conditions of work and the redress of grievances. The employers have and exercise this right. Their claim to it is undisputed by their employees or by any one else. The wageworkers demand the same right in dealing with their organized and collectively powerful employers.

They justify this demand by the plea that they have no other way to exercise their right to "the freedom of contract," for singly and alone the individual employee is not and cannot be free to contract on equal terms with the collective, personal and financial resources of strong firms and great corporations. Combination is not more essential to business economy, safety and success than collective bargaining is an economic necessity to labor.—Graham Taylor.

### Hens' Teeth.

"Your composition, as a whole," said the professor of literature, "deserves a great deal of praise, but I must object to the expression, 'as fine as hens' teeth;' it is not merely uncouth, but also suggestive of nature faking, for it is common knowledge that hens' teeth do not exist."

"I do not see why they don't exist," muttered the composer. "Don't combs have teeth, and don't hens have combs?"—Chicago News.

### A Dig at May.

"I thought you said May Nagget had married a good natured man?"

"So she did."  
"Nonsense! I met him just now, and he's a beast."

"Well, he's been married to May nearly four months now, you know."  
—Illustrated Bits.

### Precautionary.

The Millionaire—Doctor, is it absolutely necessary to remove my appendix?

"Not absolutely, but it is safer to begin with some simple operation like that."—Life.

### An Indication.

"Is your daughter getting on well with her music?"

"I guess so. The neighbors are getting so they speak to me civilly again."  
—Toledo Blade.

### The Important Question.

"What was the matter with that customer?" asked the proprietor of the swell restaurant.

"When he was through his dinner," explained the waiter excitedly, "he asked for his check, and when I gave it to him he just simply went crazy."

"But did he pay as he went?"  
—Catholic Standard and Times.

### All the Difference.

"I understand that the smart set is snubbing the De Bucks because they have a skeleton in their closet."

"Not at all. The snub is because they didn't keep it there."—Cleveland Leader.

The defects of the mind, like those of the face, grow worse as we grow old.  
—Rochefoucauld.

### NOTICE OF SALE

The undersigned will sell at public sale to the highest bidder, for cash, on the premises at 7th and "L" Streets, Lincoln, Nebraska, the frame building situated on the corner, known as the "Birdie" Mann property. This sale to take place on the sixth day of February, 1911, at ten o'clock.

LLEWELLYN L. LINDSAY,  
Administrator.