

# THE WAGEWORKER



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## Under Which Flag, Mr. Union Man?

### J. W. Van Cleave Says:

"The injunction's purpose is to head off injury for which, if allowed to be committed, the victim can secure no adequate remedy by the courts. It is the promptness, the certainty, and the justice of the punishment in contempt cases which renders the injunction so effective in preventing attacks on property and life. Jury trial would bring delay and uncertainty. Thus it would give a license to violence, would make industry and property insecure, would increase the number and the destructiveness of labor contests, and would assail legitimate trade of all sorts.

"It is the duty of American business men, regardless of their party, to bury Bryan and Bryanism under such an avalanche of votes in 1908 that the work will not have to be done over again in 1912, or ever."—Statement by J. W. Van Cleave, President National Association of Manufacturers, and President of the Buck Stove Co., St. Louis.

### What Samuel Gompers Says:

"I am very well satisfied with the democratic platform as promulgated at the Denver convention, and I will do everything to support these declarations, and of course that means we will work for the election of the men who stand for our principles.

"I have never expected defeat in any undertaking, never hoped for defeat, and never have given up fighting for an idea or principle that I firmly believed to be right and just. I will always be found fighting for what I believe is right, no matter what the temporary results may be. I believe that in this fight we now have on hand, that we will win; and I shall work for Mr. Bryan's election and for the ratification of the principles that we have advocated as officers and as an organization."—Statement by Samuel Gompers, President American Federation of Labor, and now charged with contempt of court at the instigation of J. W. Van Cleave.

## Getting Ready For Labor Day Doings

The work of preparing for the proper observance of Labor Day has been well begun. Acting on the invitation of the Central Labor Union a majority of the unions of Lincoln and Havelock sent delegates to a meeting last Tuesday evening, and temporary organization was effected by electing T. C. Kelsey chairman and W. C. Norton, secretary. The following unions were represented by the delegates named:

Musicians, W. C. Norton.  
Barbers, A. R. McConnaghey.  
Bartenders, Ed. Fagan.  
Leatherworkers, T. C. Kelsey.  
Cigarmakers, Mr. McMahon.  
Boilermakers, No. 197, J. W. Donor.  
Blacksmiths & Helpers, E. B. Bilson.  
Electrical Workers, T. M. Anderson.  
Plumbers, B. W. Wymaster.  
Painters and Decorators, L. Hale.  
Carpenters, William Dullenty.  
Bricklayers, C. W. Smith.  
Typographical Union, H. C. Peate.  
Bookbinders, F. E. Seifert.  
Pressmen, E. Werger.  
Lathers, A. L. Baltzell.

On motion the editor of The Wage-worker was made a member of the committee.

The proposition made recently to the Central Labor Union that the unions of Lincoln join the Modern Woodmen in a celebration at Wahoo, and turned down by that body, was submitted to the committee and received short shrift. It was unanimously decided to celebrate Labor Day in Lincoln, and celebrate it with a vim. The suggestion that the usual parade be dispensed with was turned down cold, and with only one dissenting voice it was agreed to make a parade that would make the general public sit up and take notice. The parade will be held in the morning. A committee consisting of Peate, Dullenty and Hale was appointed to seek a proper place for holding the celebration, and due consideration will be given the available places. It was told the committee that Capital Beach management would make some goodly concessions and the committee went to that place Thursday evening to see what could be done. The Wage-worker went to press before the committee reported.

Messrs. Norton and Maupin were instructed to look after the matter of securing some representative of organized labor for a Labor Day address.

Secretary Norton was instructed to correspond with the union men of other cities and invite them to join with Lincoln in celebrating the day. A communication was received from Superintendent Stevens of the city schools, asking what organized labor thought about beginning the

school year on Labor Day. He will be informed that organized labor objects strenuously to such a thing. The committee adjourned until Friday evening, at which time permanent organization was effected. This, however, was too early for The Wage-worker to make report of the proceedings.

### TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

August Meeting Will be Held Sunday and Delegate Instructed.

The Typographical Union will meet at Fraternity hall Sunday afternoon, August 2. At this meeting Delegate Lyman will receive instructions as to how to proceed to carry out the wishes of the local union at the Boston convention. The Lewis proposition to locate the international headquarters at St. Louis has struck a responsive cord in Lincoln, and Mr. Lyman will probably be instructed to work for the appointment of a committee to arrange the details of acceptance.

Gene Lyman, the local's delegate to the Boston convention, will leave Tuesday afternoon for the Bean City. He will join the Omaha and Council Bluffs delegates at Omaha, and go to Chicago. There he will meet with the Chicago bunch and other western bunches, and move merrily along to what will doubtless be the biggest convention in the half-century's history of the I. T. U. St. Joseph, Mo., is after the 1909 convention, and here's hoping that Joe Robideaux town will land the plum. Then we can all attend and wear pretty badges.

Work is picking up a little, owing to the opening of the national campaign. The job men are getting a goodly share. The machine men are somewhat more numerous than they were a while ago, but everybody who wants to work seems able to land.

H. C. Peate has been selected to represent the local on the Labor Day committee. Peate will do the proper amount of hustling.

The near-pirate who edits this humble little labor paper will not be able to attend the Boston convention, owing to the cussedness of the interstate commerce commission and an unfeeling federal judge. But here's hoping that the "gang" will have as good a time as it has had at the last four or five conventions the editor attended.

### NORTON FOR REPRESENTATIVE.

Popular Printer-Musician Urged to Make Race for the Honor.

The name of W. C. Norton will appear on the primary ballot as a democratic candidate for the nomination

for representative from Lancaster county. This is not due to Mr. Norton's desire to run for a political office, but due wholly to the activity of friends who know that he would make a good race and be a creditable representative of organized labor if elected.

Mr. Norton is a member of the Typographical Union and the Musicians' Protective association, and active in both. An acquaintance of more than ten years with Mr. Norton impels The Wage-worker to say that no better man could be selected to represent the interests of the wage-earners of Lancaster county. He has lived and worked in Lincoln for the last decade, is a property holder and well acquainted with the needs of his fellow toilers. He is foreman of the Western Newspaper Union. Every democratic union man should go to the primaries and cast a vote for "Billy" Norton. They don't make any finer fellows, nor any better union men.

### TEAMSTERS WILL REORGANIZE.

Team Drivers Held Meeting to Revive Their Once Flourishing Local.

A meeting of team drivers was held last Monday evening for the purpose of reviving the Teamsters' Union. This body of hard working men had a flourishing organization in Lincoln several years ago, but the crookedness of a man entrusted with the management of the local resulted in the final disbanding of the local. Having experienced two years of work under unorganized conditions the team drivers feel that they ought to get back into line.

The Wage-worker is not at liberty to make all the facts public at this time, but it may be stated without violating a confidence that when the Labor Day parade starts one of the biggest sections will be that of the Union Teamsters of Lincoln.

### CEMENT WORKERS.

The Work of Organization is Being Pushed With Vigor.

The men engaged in working cement in Lincoln have never been organized, and as a result they are among the poorest paid of the hard workers in Lincoln. But the lack of organization will soon be remedied, for the work of organizing the cement workers is being pushed with vigor. Several meetings have already been held, and good progress has been made. It is expected that application for a charter will be made in plenty of time to let a local union of cement workers take part in the Labor Day parade.

### DR. HALL HONORED.

The selection of Dr. P. L. Hall of Lincoln to be vice-chairman of the democratic national committee "listens good" to Dr. Hall's host of friends in Lincoln. Organized labor in this community has reason to feel

friendly towards Dr. Hall. He has more than once demonstrated his friendship for organized labor. The Wage-worker violates no confidence when it makes known the fact that Dr. Hall's opposition is due the fact that a "citizens' alliance" was not organized in Lincoln several years ago. The honor which has come to this popular Lincoln business man is well deserved, and in honoring him the democratic national committee has honored itself.

### DICKSON FOR REPRESENTATIVE.

Popular Carpenters' Name to Appear on Republican Primary Ballot.

The name of J. W. Dickson will appear on the republican primary ballot as a candidate for the nomination as state senator from Lancaster county. The petition was filed last Monday. Mr. Dickson is a resident of University Place and a member of local No. 1055, Carpenters and Joiners, of Lincoln, in which local he holds the office of financial secretary. He has agreed to make the race after the earnest solicitation of friends who know his sterling worth and his splendid abilities.

Mr. Dickson is president of the board of directors of the Labor Temple Building association, and has the confidence of the entire body of union men in Lancaster county. The union men who affiliate with the republican party should see to it that Mr. Dickson receives such a substantial majority on primary day that his name will head the list of candidates for the senate whose names shall go upon the regular ticket. There is no better qualified man for the position. He is a unionist of energy and ability, and he knows what the wage-earners want and need. Their case will be safe in the hands of such a man.

### CAPITAL AUXILIARY.

Capital Auxiliary meets Friday, August 14 at the home of Mrs. E. P. Thompson, 402 South Twenty-fifth street.

A very pleasant meeting was held Friday, July 24, with Mrs. Floyd McKinney. Mrs. E. P. Thompson was installed as vice president.

Mrs. A. Aadebach expects to spend her vacation of two weeks in the country.

Miss Ethel Sidles of Hastings, Neb., is the guest of Mrs. George Locker.

Mrs. Thompson is enjoying a visit from her niece, Miss Elsie Sellers, and Miss Leona Gleason.

Mrs. Barngrover has moved to 1421 North Twenty-sixth street.

Mrs. E. A. King and daughter Estie will leave August 5 for a visit to Mrs. King's mother at Plattsburg, Mo.

Negro firemen in Pittsburg, Pa., will be organized and enrolled in the ranks of the International Brotherhood of Stationary Firemen.

## Denounces Convict Contract Emphatically

The meeting of the Central Labor Union last Tuesday evening was brief, owing to the fact that the Labor Day committee had been called to hold its initial meeting at the same time and place. In order to give this committee ample time in which to get started, the central body rushed its work and cut out several details that otherwise would have been given merited attention.

The Tailors asked that a committee be appointed to wait on a firm that recently locked out its tailors and endeavor to secure a settlement of the difficulty. The home industry committee will act.

The following resolution was adopted concerning the new contract entered into by the state with Clinton R. Lee for the labor of the convicts now in the state prison:

Whereas, At a recent meeting of this body, the Lincoln Central Labor Union of Lincoln, Nebraska, a resolution was adopted and presented to the state board of public lands and buildings, protesting against the further contract labor system whereby convicts were used to produce articles to be sold in competition with the product of free labor, and

Whereas, The said resolution of protest has been ignored by the officials of the state having this matter in charge, and a new contract made with Clinton R. Lee for the use of the labor of convicts in the making of brooms, said brooms to be sold in competition with the employers of free laboring men who seek to support themselves and families honestly, and

Whereas, It seems that a little matter of five cents per day per convict is the sum total of the consideration felt for free and honest toilers, that being the finally agreed increase per convict per day in the new contract, and

Whereas, That state officers in question have refused to give any appreciable consideration to the petition of the free workingmen and women of the state, therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the delegates from the various trades unions of the city of Lincoln to the Central Labor Union, do hereby denounce the action of the said state officials, and characterize their actions as not only inhuman to organized labor, in that said officials did not invite representatives of the protestants to appear before said board, and only gave consideration to the man who profits from convict labor at the expense of free labor and to the paltry nickel a day secured as an advance on each convict's day's labor.

Resolved, That this body hold up to the notice of free workingmen

everywhere the names of said public officials who have shown such disregard of the just demands of honest toilers to the end that said officials may feel the weight of our disapproval at the one place where the workingman stands on an equality with the idler, the machine politician, the officeholder who thinks his office makes him the master instead of the servant, and the contractor who thinks more of paltry dollars than he does of the wives and children of honest men who are seeking to make a livelihood and bring up their children to be good citizens—that one place being the ballot box.

Resolved, That the Central Labor Union of Lincoln denounce the renewal of the penitentiary contract as an outrage, and that we take advantage of every opportunity to show our disapproval of the mawkish sentiment that seeks to benefit the "poor convict" at the expense of men who obey the laws of the land and seek to advance the best interests of society.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be sent to each member of the state board of public lands and buildings, a copy given to each of the city newspapers, and a copy spread upon the records of this union.

The secretary was ordered to send copies of the above resolution to the various central bodies in the state, and to such unions as he could get into correspondence with.

Several new delegates were seated, but owing to the rush the matter of obligating them was deferred until the next meeting. The per capita tax owing the American Federation of Labor for the second quarter of the fiscal year was ordered paid.

The meeting adjourned without form in order to give the Labor Day committee plenty of time to organize and get busy with preparations for labor's annual holiday.

### FILTHY BAKERIES.

Mrs. Harriet S. MacMurphy, of the pure food commissioners' staff, has been investigating conditions in some of Lincoln's bakeries. Her report is not an appetizing one, for she says she found most of the bake shops in a horribly filthy condition. Opponents of trades unionism should take note of the fact that when a bakery is run under union conditions it is always sanitary. The union insists upon this. There is no bakers' union in Lincoln—more's the pity.

The average weekly earnings of watchmakers in the United States are \$16.16, while the women employed in the same industry receive \$3.92, which is a remarkably high average for women workers.