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Under Which Flag, Mr. Union Man?

J. W. Van Cleave Says: What Samuel Gompers 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.

"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 general Labor Day committee met last Friday evening and proceeded to perfect permanent organization. W. M. Maupin was elected chairman and W. C. Norton secretary-treasurer.

The first business was to listen to the report of the committee appointed to wait on the Capital Beach management and ascertain what terms could be secured from that amusement resort. Chairman Peate made the report for the committee. In brief it is as follows:

One-half the gate receipts to be given the Labor Day committee, ten cents to be the admission fee, afternoon and evening.

The Beach management will furnish band and orchestra afternoon and evening, and the use of the air dome for dancing will be given the committee. All dancing to be under the auspices of the committee.

The Beach management will furnish boats free for the water sports. Weather permitting the management will give a free balloon ascension. The management will bear one-half the expenses of a fireworks exhibit.

Due diligence will be used to secure donations to committee from the Beach concessions.

No intoxicating liquors will be permitted on the grounds, and any person under the influence of liquor who enters the grounds will be ejected.

It was unanimously decided to accept the proposition and the committee was instructed to have a contract drawn up and properly signed. The committee was also continued as a grounds committee, and will have supervision on Labor Day.

A motion was made to have all committees appointed by the chair, but the chair objected and the committees were named by the entire body.

Sports—MacMahon, Wageman, Fagan and Smith.
Printing—Peate, Weger, Seifert.
Music—Norton, Watkins.
Press—Maupin, Dullenty.
Speakers—Norton, Maupin.
Prizes—Palmer, McConnaughey, and Hale.

Finance—Wymaster, Palmer, Maupin, Hale and Smith.
Parade—Kelsey, Bilson, Wageman, Roekner, Baltz, Fagan, Dullenty, McMahon, Watkins.

Dance—McConnaughey.
The committees were instructed to get busy and be ready to make a report Tuesday evening, August 11, at which time the general committee will meet.

Several unions have not yet sent their representatives and some important committees are awaiting appointment in order that all commit-

teemen may have something to do. Secretary Norton is writing to neighboring cities with a view to interesting them in the Lincoln celebration, and an effort will be made to secure special rates on that occasion. It is likely that a committee will be sent to Beatrice and Fremont to work up delegations from those enterprising cities.

RAILROAD MEN SHOULD READ.

The democratic national platform, in addition to a clear and explicit plank on the injunction question, has this to say of freight rate regulation:

"We favor such legislation as will prohibit the railroads from engaging in business which brings them into competition with their shippers, also legislation preventing the over-issue of stocks and bonds by interstate railroads, and legislation which will assure such reduction in transportation rates as conditions will permit, CARE BEING TAKEN TO AVOID REDUCTIONS THAT WOULD COMPEL A REDUCTION OF WAGES, PREVENT INADEQUATE SERVICE OR DO INJUSTICE TO LEGITIMATE INVESTMENTS."

This plank embodies in its essence the same demand that the Railway Employees' Protective Association is now making—no rate reduction that will bring about a wage reduction.

Why should not railway employees support Bryan and Kern on such a platform:

No government by injunction!
No rate reduction that will decrease wages!

Vote for your own interests, and tell machine politicians to go to Halifax.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

Printers Rush Through a Lot of Important Work in Short Order.

President Ingraham took the bit in his teeth at the meeting of the Typographical Union last Sunday afternoon, and rushed the work of the meeting in a manner that pleased the bunch mightily. After attending to the routine work some special matters were taken up. The name of William J. Bryan was proposed as an honorary member of No. 209, and on ballot the same was accepted. A little argument ensued before the ballot, but instead of being in the nature of opposition to Mr. Bryan, as stated by a partisan newspaper, it was merely on the matter of procedure. The vote was practically unanimous.

Immediately after making Mr. Bryan an honorary member the name of Governor George Lawson Sheldon was proposed and was accepted without division.

Then the printers proceeded to ar-

range for a little demonstration in honor of a gentleman who carries a Typographical Union card and who has shown conclusively that he wants to play the game square. On August 12 Mr. Bryan will be formally notified of his nomination, and the Massachusetts member of the notification committee is Humphrey O'Sullivan, the "rubber heel man." Every union printer in the United States and Canada knows Humphrey O'Sullivan, but perhaps some other union men do not. Something like twenty-five years ago O'Sullivan was an active member of the Typographical Union, but he quit the business to push a little invention of his own—the rubber heel. His invention was a success, and O'Sullivan made more money than he could haul in a hay wagon. But "printer's ink once on the hand never comes off," and O'Sullivan still cherishes fond recollections of the old days. So it was that when the eight-hour fight began O'Sullivan decided to get back into the game. He went before the Lowell (Mass.) union and said: "Boys, I want to have a hand in winning this eight-hour fight, so I can pay dues and assessments." He declined the offer to get back on payment of the initiation fee, and insisted on paying up all back dues and assessments, amounting to several hundred dollars. Then he gave Lowell union a check for a big sum, "just to help it win its fight," and then paid the expenses of the union's delegate to Colorado Springs. More than that, he withdrew all of his advertising from the "unfair" publications, and O'Sullivan's advertising counts to something like \$150,000 a year.

Now you begin to understand why the Lincoln printers sat up and took notice when they learned that Humphrey O'Sullivan was coming to Lincoln. They decided to show their appreciation of his friendship, and a committee was appointed to arrange for "something" on the occasion of his visit. The committee consists of Maupin, Reed, Coffey, Wathan, Radebaugh, Leaden, Righter, Ihringer, Mickel, Ford, Barngrover and Curry.

Ben Coblenz resigned as delegate to the Central Labor Union and Mr. Peterson was named to fill the vacancy. A committee was appointed to act with a committee from the Auxiliary to select a banner for the union. Another committee was appointed to arrange for Labor Day, and the local agreed to put up its share of the expenses of the day. H. C. Peate was continued as the local's representative on the general Labor Day committee.

Delegate Lyman, who started for the Boston convention Tuesday, was instructed to vote for St. Joseph for the 1909 convention, and to act with the St. Louis delegation in the matter of the Lewis proposition to establish international headquarters at St. Louis.

CENTRAL LABOR UNION.

Semi-Annual Election of Officers Due Next Tuesday Evening.

The meeting of the Central Labor Union next Tuesday evening will be one of the most important of the year, that being the occasion of the semi-annual election of officers. The central body has been doing some good work of late, but the work has been hampered somewhat by the negligence of delegates. Under the supervision of the organization's organizer, T. C. Kelsey, two new unions have been organized during the last six months, and one of them has received its charter. The other one will be in shape soon to apply for its charter, and still another one is in process of formation. If the various locals of the city will see to it that the delegates they appoint attend to their duties there is no reason why several other unions should not be organized, and some of those now in existence strengthened. If the Central Labor Union has not accomplished a great deal it is due to the fact that the delegates elected have been careless and negligent.

The officers of a local have most to do with the successful prosecution of that local's work, and the same is true of a central body representing all the locals. For this reason every delegate should be present at the meeting next Tuesday evening and see to it that the best men are selected to manage the central body's affairs during the next six months.

PRESSMEN IN LINE.

Associated Press Failed to Carry Important News Item.

It transpires that the Associated Press failed to carry one important bit of news that had its source at the Mobile convention of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union. The convention by an unanimous vote decided to follow the political plan outlined by the American Federation of Labor—but the Associated Press overlooked that important item of business.

The convention did not pledge its membership to any candidate or platform, but merely voted to follow the A. F. of L. plan—boost political friends and knock political enemies. It is not difficult to understand how the pressmen view this matter. They very recently had an experience with injunctions. After accumulating a strike fund, as Mr. Taft now says they had a perfect right to do, they were enjoined from paying strike benefits, or from doing almost everything else that would assist them in winning their fight for the eight-hour day.

Detroit (Mich.) Union Advocate: With a union card in his pocket, Taft must feel about the same as some of the industrial spies and agitators employed by the Pinkerton's and employers' associations.

Railroad Employees Now Organized

The Protective Association, organized by the railway employees of Nebraska, is now in running order and is already getting results along the lines mapped out. The purpose of the organization is to oppose legislation that will result in a decreased wage scale.

As was to be expected certain newspapers having axes to grind denounced the association, claiming that it was engineered by the railway managers, who used the employees to protect extortionate freight rates. This gratuitous insult to a great body of industrious workers has been resented. Chairman Macomber of Omaha is something of a writer himself, and he has more than held his own in the newspaper discussions he has had with those who charge that the association is a political club fashioned for the use of the railway magnates.

Just why the railroad employees should be charged with dishonesty when they organize to protect themselves and their families is a question. Men in every other line of industry organize for that very purpose. The boot and shoe workers are always boosting for the factories that use the union stamp, but to date not even the most enthusiastic railroad hating newspaper has charged the boot and shoe workers with being dishonest in trying to foster their employers' business.

The question of freight rates is not one for newspapers to decide. That is a matter that should be left to the eminent doctors and country lawyers and discharged station agents who have been selected for the work and guaranteed excellent salaries. The railroad employees know full well that decreased revenues mean decreased wages—the question of rates and dividends being allowed to wait while the lower wages continue without interruption. It is therefore only natural that the railroad employees should object to legislation that is bound to result in decreased wages, and the newspaper that charges them with being dishonest or coerced merely makes a laughing stock of itself.

The association is wholly non-partisan, but that it will take a hand in state politics is not doubted. Indeed, that is the prime purpose of its organization. It will support for office men who are known to be more interested in the 10,000 men who earn a livelihood at the most hazardous work in the world, that they are in a few editorial statesmen who play upon the prejudices of the people for selfish reasons. Tariff, currency legislation, popular election of senators and guarantee of deposits will not receive the

attention of the association as an organization.

Judging by the interest taken in certain quarters there is a grave fear entertained that the Protective Association will cut an unusual lot of ice in the coming campaign.

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DECORATE RIGHT.

Lincoln Should Break All Records in Decorating Next Week.

Next Wednesday morning ought to find Lincoln the handsomest city in America in point of festal decorations. Candor compels the statement that when it comes to decorating in honor of big events Lincoln is far behind the average country village. A few flags, some of the very cheapest cotton bunting and a bunch or two of colored tissue paper—and that is about the best that Lincoln has ever offered in decorations.

It is safe to say that the cost of decorating one of the big blocks in Denver during convention week was greater than Lincoln as a city ever spent on anyone occasion—and possibly two occasions.

Every business block ought to be decorated artistically next Wednesday. Every window ought to carry a Bryan picture. It will be the greatest day in Lincoln's history.

Even the Taft banner should continue to float.