

# WAGEWORKER

WILL M. MAUPIN, EDITOR



Published Weekly at 137 No. 14th St., Lincoln, Neb. One Dollar a Year.

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

"Printers' Ink," the recognized authority on advertising, after a thorough investigation on this subject, says: "A labor paper is a far better advertising medium than an ordinary newspaper in comparison with circulation. A labor paper, for example, having 2,000 subscribers is of more value to the business man who advertises in it than an ordinary paper with 12,000 subscribers."

**OUR TICKET TO DATE.**  
For President—  
**WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN**  
of Nebraska.  
For Vice-President—  
**JOHN WORTH KERN**  
of Indiana.  
For Representative, Lancaster—  
**WILLIAM C. NORTON**  
of Lincoln.

## THE COMMISSION PLAN.

There is one argument in favor of the commission plan of municipal government—it could not be worse than the present system, and it might easily be better. This statement may be verified by attending one meeting of the city council and listening to the "ragchewing" of the councilmen and watching their "horseplay." The idea that nearly a score of men who have their own business to attend to can give careful attention to a business involving a million or so of dollars a year, and do it on the mifficent wage of \$25 a month is the sheerest nonsense.

Is there a wholesale business firm in America that would entrust its business of a million dollars a year into the hands of a bunch of politicians and pay each one of the bunch \$300 a year? Such a firm would go bankrupt inside of a year.

The Wageworker favors the commission plan of city government, provided provision can be made to eliminate the political feature. It favors a plan that will provide for not less than five commissioners, each one of whom shall be at the head of some executive department of the city, the chairman to be the official we now call mayor. The head of each department shall be responsible to the people for the conduct of his department and subject to dismissal by a majority vote of the people who employ him. This, in brief, is what is known as the "recall system."

In order to eliminate politics in the selection of these commissioners it should be provided that any man desiring to become a candidate could have his name printed on the ballot by filing a petition bearing a certain stipulated number of names. The two candidates receiving the highest vote for each commissionership at the primaries would be the candidates to be voted upon at the election. No party or political designation should be allowed to appear upon the ballot after the name of any candidate. These five commissioners should be paid salaries that would command the services of capable men who would give all of their time to their employers, the people.

It is a big subject and the workingmen of Lincoln ought to study it thoroughly.

## SNUBBED AGAIN.

President Hardy of the Commercial club, acting for that organization, has administered another snub to Lincoln laboring men. We cheerfully admit that the snub was unintentional, but this thing of snubbing the most numerous element of the population has become such a habit that it is looked upon by the snubbers as a mere matter of course.

The Commercial club has taken a vote of its membership on the commission plan of city government, and

the vote was in favor of it. Acting upon this hint President Hardy has appointed a committee to visit Des Moines and investigate the working of the commission system in that city. The committee he appointed is made up of splendid men—there is no question about that—They have been markedly successful in their business, as will be seen when their names are called:

John E. Miller, managing partner of the firm of Miller & Paine; Dr. H. J. Winnett, member of the state board of railway commissioners; Will Owen Jones, managing editor of the State Journal; M. L. Aitken, cashier National Bank of Commerce.

No better selections could have been made. This is admitted. But a more representative committee could have been selected. The merchants, the physicians, the newspapers and the banks are represented, but what about the wage-earners—the bricklayers, the carpenters, the printers, the pressmen, the electrical workers, the painters, the plumbers, the musicians, the leatherworkers and the members of a dozen or more other skilled trades? Can it be that President Hardy holds to the opinion that these men, who outnumber the other occupations ten to one, have no interest in city government? Is not the printer who owns his little home as much interested in competent city government as the banker who profits by the deposits of the aforesaid printer? Is not the electrical worker who has paid for his little home by depriving himself of many little necessities as much interested in good city government as the merchant who has succeeded only because there have been thousands of such to buy his goods at a fair margin of profit?

The Wageworker calls the attention of every wage-earner in Lincoln to the protest made by Lincoln Typographical Union at its meeting last Sunday. Every union in the city ought to endorse that protest. It is time to resent these continued snubs of the workingmen of Lincoln.

## MR. HUGHES OF NEW YORK.

Governor Hughes of New York is another wise man who comes out of the east to tell us what a grand old friend of labor William H. Taft is. And of course the newspapers that are trying to elect Taft tell us what a splendid man Governor Hughes is, and advise us to heed his political advice if we would achieve political salvation. We rather like Governor Hughes. In one respect he reminds us of some of the men who achieved wide fame during the early days of western civilization. It will be remembered that in the old days the chief citizen was he who could bet a four-flush to the limit and make it win.

Charles Evans Hughes, governor of New York, is a gentleman who has bet a political four-flush to the limit—and made it win. This assertion will not meet with the acquiescence of those who dearly love to worship at the shrine of the political victor or look a far distance for a political mentor. Governor Hughes was unknown to fame, except locally, until the beginning of the insurance company investigations in New York a few years ago. He acted as attorney for the Armstrong legislative investigation committee, and while it is true that he went into those rotten deals far enough to show up their corruption he quit just this side of sending the financial pirates to the penitentiary. Not one single solitary pirate was jailed as the result of Hughes' investigation, although we believe one cheap clerk was incarcerated merely to appease popular wrath. Mr. Hughes uncovered that fact that one of the big life insurance companies had embezzled \$140,000 of the policyholders' money and put it into the hands of the republican national committee, but we never heard that Mr. Hughes insisted upon its return to its rightful owners.

Just about the time that Mr. Hughes had uncovered enough rottenness to drive the republic to a formaldehyde factory for relief, he quit. A few weeks later the same men he had been prosecuting nominated him for governor of New York. This was during the campaign when "My Dear Harriman" was sent for by President Roosevelt and asked to raise a pot of money to help carry New York state. Mr. Harriman raised \$260,000 and we have President Roosevelt's word for it that it was all spent in New York state. That money was contributed by Harriman, Morgan, Depew and other railroad men, with some assistance from the insurance crowd that Hughes was supposed to have prosecuted with such vigor. Hughes was elected by a narrow margin, being the only republican candidate for a state office to pull through. We have President Roosevelt's word for it that the Har-

riman fund had no influence on this great reformer, but it will be remembered that one of his first really important official acts was to veto the 2-cent fare law passed by the New York legislature.

It is quite true that Governor Hughes "threw the hooks" into the race track gamblers, which was right and proper and which should be put down to his credit. But we have yet to hear that he has "thrown the hooks" into the big gamblers in Wall street, the chief of whom contributed to his campaign fund. Nor have we heard of his "throwing the hooks" into the bucket shop gamblers.

Of course Charles Evans Hughes is a great friend of labor. They all are when they are running for office. But when the 200,000 railroad men of New York asked for representation upon the railroad commission, Governor Hughes treated them with scorn and refused their petition. Not one laboring man—that is a man who works for wages at some useful trade—was appointed on any commission in New York by Governor Hughes.

Governor Hughes, the man who probed the insurance graft until it threatened to land some big New Yorkers in the pen, and then quit; Governor Hughes, who was elected by a campaign fund contributed by railroad magnates, who then vetoed the 2-cent fare bill; Governor Hughes, who is a friend of labor until the time comes to make his deeds square with his mouthings—this is the Governor Charles E. Hughes who is traveling about the country and telling workmen what a fine friend to labor Taft is, and what a demagogue William J. Bryan is.

As remarked in the beginning, Governor Hughes reminds us of one of those early day westerners, one of the clan of long-haired, genteel, polite card sharps, who could successfully bet a four-flush as high as the ceiling.

A pretended labor paper published in Pittsburg is furnishing the "labor dope" sent out to labor papers by the republican national committee. It consists largely of articles calling attention to the convict leasing system in democratic Georgia. Let it be borne in mind that republican Nebraska, like democratic Georgia, leases its convicts to private employers.

Governor Hughes, reformer, was elected by a campaign fund contributed by railroad magnates who wanted to defeat the 2-cent fare legislation. And Governor Hughes vetoed the bill. And Governor Hughes favors publicity of campaign contributions—after election.

William H. Taft, the injunction judge, in the White House; "Sunny Jim" Sherman, the trust magnate presiding over the senate; Joe Cannon, the labor hater, speaker of the house—say, isn't that an inviting prospect from the standpoint of the laboring man?

The Havelock shops were closed down thirty minutes in order to give the shopmen a chance to hear Taft—and then the shopmen had their pay doctored or were compelled to make up the time.

Moses was the first strike leader, and he made old Pharaoh look like a monkey. Watch how the workingmen of America put "Little Willie" of Cincinnati in the Pharaoh class on November 3.

The Western Federation of Miners ought to vote for Debs, the socialist candidate, in order to defeat Bryan and elect the chosen heir of the man who designated them as "undesirable citizens."

If Mr. Bryan is elected he will use his utmost efforts to have a department of labor created, with a secretary in the cabinet. The republican party is on record as opposing it.

Taft says Gompers is lying about him. "Little Willie," as Vice-Presidential Candidate Sherman calls him, should not make a spectacle of himself by losing his temper.

"A man is known by the company he keeps." Union men should bear in mind that Taft's staunchest supporters are VanCleave, Post and Parry.

If Theodore Roosevelt should succumb to an attack of tonsillitis William H. Taft would have to cancel his speaking tour.

We haven't been enjoined from demanding the union label—that is, not yet.

The New York garnishee law is

exactly like the Nebraska garnishee law. Collier's Weekly says of the New York law: "It is an outrage to justice; it is a harking back to the blindness of the past, and it ought to be repealed." The law thus denounced was signed by Charles Evans Hughes.

Union men should go to the polls resolved to stand by labor's friends and administer a stinging rebuke to its enemies.

Moses would never have led the children of Israel out of bondage if he had not been guilty of contempt of court.

Three weeks more, and then we'll see whether organized labor stands by its friends and rebukes its enemies.

Trades unions are doing more than any other agency to stamp out the dread disease known as tuberculosis.

Keep partisanship out of your unions and your politics. But put your unionism ahead of both.

As election day draws nigh William Howard Taft gets madder and madder.

Discuss politics in your unions, but do not be partisans.

"Help me, Theodore, or I sink!"—W. H. T.

Under which flag, Mr. Union Man?

THEY CALL US A TRUST. THE TRUST IS SO FORMED THAT YOU CAN'T BREAK INTO IT WITH AN AXE. WITH THE LABOR ORGANIZATION IT FINDS NONE TOO LOWLY IN ITS RANKS, AND WE WELCOME TO OUR ORDER MEN OF EVERY TRADE, OF EVERY RACE AND CLIME. TRADE UNIONS STRIVE FOR MORE OF THE PRODUCTS OF THEIR LABOR—MORE, MORE, MORE, AND WHEN THEY HAVE ACHIEVED THAT THEY WILL STILL SEEK MORE.—SAMUEL GOMPERS.

## THE AMBIDEXTEROUS BRYAN.

Taft and Teddy are running off at the mouth very acutely, but they both get hot balls off the bat from Billy Bryan faster than they can catch them. He can keep them both up in the air with one hand and hold his breeches up with the other. They are not in his class!

## AN OUTRAGE ON JUSTICE.

Collier's Weekly Denounces New York Law That Resembles Nebraska's.

Making a slave out of a debtor is, in general, a bygone entertainment. New York, however, has managed to pass a law by which a man's salary may be garnisheed, not only for necessities, but for luxuries. A merchant or manufacturer can persuade the supporters of a family to buy what he does not need, and then go to his employer and hold up his salary, if it be over \$12 a week, while his wife and children starve. This is to the advantage of the seller of luxuries. It is to the advantage of manufacturers of books and periodicals, like, for example, P. F. Collier & Son. But it chiefly benefits the loan sharks, into whose clutches family sickness or misfortune often throws the small salaried man. While New York has been legislating for the rich against the poor, Massachusetts has been proceeding in the very opposite direction by legislating against the loan shark. The New York law may make it easier for Collier's to collect from its subscribers, but it is an outrage to justice; it is a harking back to the blindness of the past, and it ought to be repealed.—Collier's Weekly.

# Which Store

---There are several stores in Lincoln---which store is your store?---which store sells the best clothing?---which store sells the most clothing?---which store gives the best satisfaction?---which store offers the greatest values?

# Armstrong's

sells the famous Henry J. Brock union-made clothing---this answers the question of "best"---an because this store sells the best it sell the most---and because it sells the most it is in a position to offer the greatest values---so all the questions are answered with the one word

# Armstrong's

The perfection of the clothing we sell speaks for itself---and we, in turn, have the enthusiastic patronage of the best dressed men in Lincoln.

Fall Suits and Overcoats \$10 to \$40

We call special attention to the Fall Suits priced at

# \$25

The best Suit values ever offered here at this price.

# Armstrong CLOTHING COMPANY

GOOD CLOTHES MERCHANTS

