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WAGEWORKER

WILL M. MAUPIN, EDITOR



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

Entered as second-class matter April 11, 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."

THAT "LABOR DINNER."

The much advertised and much talked about "labor conference dinner" at the White House was pulled off on schedule time. If President Roosevelt is proud of it, certainly the rest of us have no particular reason for complaint. But Secretary Loeb's contention that it was a "private affair" does not jibe well with all the talk about it—most of which issued from the White House. It is so clearly apparent that President Roosevelt engineered the whole affair for the purpose of administering a snub to the American Federation of Labor officials who supported Bryan, that it is only natural that organized labor should be interested. To suppose for an instant, that President Roosevelt thought that the ignoring of Gompers at an affair of this kind would not be considered a snub is to indict his judgment. But Theodore Roosevelt is nothing if not impulsive, so it is reasonable to suppose that he acted on the impulse of the moment when he announced the dinner, and then felt that he had to make good. Doubtless he regretted the action afterwards.

As a "labor conference," the dinner must have been considerable of a joke. T. V. Powderly, who wrecked the once mighty Knights of Labor by his executive inability, and who has been a federal officeholder for years on end, was one of the guests. Samuel Gompers, who has been president of the American Federation of Labor for a quarter of a century, was not invited. The most conspicuous labor leaders present were Stone of the Engineers, Hannahan of the Firemen and Morrissey of the Trainmen. These men are really successful labor leaders, but they are in no wise identified with the American Federation of Labor. Another leader present was Inter-State Commerce Commissioner Clark, who is a member of the Order of Railway Conductors. This organization is not affiliated with the American Federation of Labor. The men who have been most prominently identified with the labor movement during the last decade were not present, some of them because they were not invited, and others because they resented the attempted snub of Gompers. Among the missing ones were Lynch of the Typographical Union, Lennon of the Tailors, Mitchell of the Mineworkers, Secretary Morrison of the Federation, Vice President Duncan of the Federation and Keefe of the Longshoremen. Just why Keefe was not present is a mystery, unless it be that he thought it best to remain in Denver and help along the cause of disrupting the great organization by opposing Gompers' reelection and the endorsement of the political program. Of course Dolan of the Steam Shovel Men's Union was there. Outside of the railroad brotherhood representatives there were not as many labor leaders present as there were editors of the Outlook, and there were more lawyers, two to one, than all the rest of the guests combined. As a social function, the dinner was doubtless a great success. But so far as any results beneficial to labor they are likely to accrue by reason of the dinner having been given, union men who think more of unionism than they do of petty political schemes will have to be shown.

SHOULD WIDEN SCOPE OF LAW.
The legislature of 1907—which, by the way, was one of the best that Ne-

braska ever had—enacted an employer's liability law which was a long step in the right direction. That the law is not wide enough in its application has been demonstrated time and again, and never more forcibly than by the two fatal accidents sustained by Electrical Workers of Lincoln this week. The law as it stands at present applies only to railroad men engaged in the actual running of trains. Narrow as this law is, it was accepted by workmen as perhaps the best that could be secured at that time. The editor of The Wageworker and others identified more or less with the organized labor movement, appeared before the house committee having the bill in charge and endeavored to have the bill amended so as to include other hazardous occupations, but the effort was unsuccessful.

There are several occupations that are as hazardous as railroading. Among them may be enumerated the Electrical Workers, the Structural Iron and Steel Workers and Cassion men. Doubtless statistics will show that in proportion to numbers the Electrical Workers lose more men by accident than any other tradesmen. Why, then, should the employer's liability law be limited to the one class? If the legislature of 1909 wants to score a hit with the workmen of the state it will amend the employer's liability so as to widen its scope and include more workers in its benefits.

A state legislature enacts a law reducing freight rates and the court declares it to be unconstitutional because it is "confiscatory." An employer arbitrarily reduces wages and any court in the land would laugh itself to death, almost, if the employee made the same kind of a plea entered by the railroads.

The defeat of "Bill" Mahon for congress in the Detroit district was not unexpected. There are too many unorganized men in that district, coupled with too many union men who are partisans first and union men afterwards, to make it possible to elect such splendid men as "Bill" Mahon to congress.

People who are interested in the crusade against child labor should take notice that an attempt will be made at the coming session of the Nebraska legislature to emasculate the child labor law by the adoption of amendments that will make the whole law a farce.

Here's hoping the 1909 convention of the American Federation of Labor goes to some extreme point of the country. In that event it will be possible for Lincoln—the center of the universe—to make a telling plea for the 1910 convention.

Harvey E. Garman didn't last long as a labor editor, but when he dropped out of the fold he stepped into a job as a member of the Colorado legislature. Garman is a union man for fair, and here's hoping he will be elected speaker of the house.

The more one studies the vote cast at the last election the more certain it appears that the labor vote came nearer to being cast solidly in the interests of labor than ever before.

Post continues to offer a "thousand dollars" for proof of this thing and that. He would better offer it to the woman he discarded after she had helped him to fortune.

There are about 1,500,000 of us who believe that more good will accrue to labor from the Denver convention than from any number of White House "labor dinners."

Well, Uncle Sammy Gompers is not the only union man who is immune from indigestion caused by over-eating at the White House under the present administration.

By the time the legislature meets arrangements should have been made to present a united appeal for the repeal of the infamous 10 per cent garnishee law.

Nebraska needs the attention of the American Federation of Labor about as badly as any state in the Union.

Every time you think of the White House "labor dinner," let it be a reminder that you ought to demand the union label on all your purchases.

The Union men who "lays down" at the first defeat never gets anywhere. Let's keep on fighting for right and justice.

Great Scott, perhaps they mean to bust the labor movement by laying all our leaders up with the gout.

In one minute a man can act foolish enough to cause him a lifetime of regret.

**The Top O' the Fashion
The Bottom O' the Price**

When the careful and economical dresser finds the place where he can combine the latest in style and the best in wear, with the lowest possible price, is it to be wondered at that he stops there and bestows his patronage? And is it to be wondered at that this store does the business when it always combines these things—the best values for the least money.

There are about as many individual tastes in clothing as there are individual men, and the problem is to best suit the largest possible number of individual tastes. This store's buyers have solved that problem to the satisfaction of thousands of men. There is a refinement, a dignity, about the Armstrong Clothing that sets it apart and above the other kind. The "above" is only in style, make, fit and wear—not in the price. There is a something about our clothing— "verve" it may be—that makes it a strong appeal to the neat, careful and economical dresser. "More for the Money, and Better"—that's this store's motto.

FROM FIFTEEN TO FORTY

Extra good values for the money in suits and overcoats from \$15 to \$40. This wide range makes it possible for us to suit every purse as well as every taste. The full value is in the fabric, the style and the make.

OUR BOY'S DEPARTMENT

This is really a big store in itself. It contains more goods than many clothing stores of huge pretensions. Anything and everything for the boys—from 2 years old to 16. School outfitting is a strong point with us in this department.

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Good Clothes Merchants

BARBERS' OPPONENT ELECTED.

Ex-Representative Eubanks of Cleveland was swept into the Ohio legislature on the recent tidal wave. This colored gentleman was responsible for defeating the proposed bill to regulate barber shops and provide for sanitary inspection, introduced a few years ago. Eubanks vowed it was a sinister move of the barbers' unions to put his race out of commission, but he forgot to add that the Barbers' union is alone responsible for present conditions, which the non-union colored workers also enjoy.—Toledo Union Leader.

SAME OLD HABIT.

From all appearances, the workingmen in the east have not gotten out of the old habit of permitting their employers to vote them.—Union Banner.

THE LABOR VOTE AT THE RECENT ELECTION.

not that of foes; and since those who depend for a livelihood on the labor of their hands bear the heavier burdens and have less opportunity to upbuild their higher being, the men of position and education, for whom they labor, should lead them not more in virtue of their greater ability and capital than in virtue of their greater loving kindness.

"Where production is controlled despotically by capital there may be a seeming prosperity, but the qualities which give sacredness and worth to life are enfeebled or destroyed. In the absence of a trustful and conciliatory disposition the strife between capital and labor can not be composed of laws and contrivances. The causes from which it springs are as deep as man's nature, and nothing that is powerless to illumine the mind and touch the heart can reach the fountain head of the evil. So long as employers and employes continue to look on one another as opponents and antagonists, so long shall their relations be unsatisfactory and strained, requiring but a slight thing to provoke the open warfare which is called a strike." The Democratic party has stood for the right; it must still stand for the right. Peace, prosperity and progress—all these demand that justice be done to those who toil.