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WAGWORKER

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."

CHRISTMAS EDITION.
The Wageworker's annual Christmas edition will be issued next week, and this much may safely be promised—it will be fully up to the high standard set by The Wageworker. The various special editions of The Wageworker since its inception nearly five years ago will be put up in comparison with any labor paper in the country.

Next week's edition will be up to the standard typographically and in contents. It will be a valuable Christmas shopping guide, for it will be patronized by the live merchants of Lincoln. We ask that all members of organized labor give their patronage to the merchants who think enough of union patronage to ask for it through the columns of a paper that it doing its best to advance the interests of organized labor.

ROOSEVELT AND THE INJUNCTION
In his last message—his last annual message—President Roosevelt devotes considerable space to the discussion of labor topics. We call especial attention to this fact. Those who profess to believe that the campaign of the American Federation of Labor was a "fiasco" are invited to take note of the very special interest manifested in labor by all parties now. The editor of The Wageworker has, by reason of his newspaper connections, been compelled to read closely every presidential message for the past twenty years, and within his recollection not one of them has devoted as much space to the consideration of questions relating particularly to labor as this latest—and last—of Theodore Roosevelt's.

The president recommends some form of industrial insurance, but not being conversant with details only alludes to it in a general way. Industrial insurance is really a pressing question that must soon be decided, and the presidential recommendation is worthy of consideration by congress.

In discussing those labor questions that entered into the last campaign President Roosevelt is neither honest with himself nor frank with the public. He says: "At the last election certain leaders of organized labor made a violent and sweeping attack upon the entire judiciary of the country, an attack couched in such terms as to include the most upright, honest and broad-minded judges, no less than those of narrower mind and more restricted outlook."

Only our regard for the good reputation The Wageworker has as a household necessity and exemplar of moderate language restrains us from resorting to Rooseveltian language in denouncing the untruthfulness of the above assertion. We have the highest respect, and pay the deepest homage to the office of president of the United States, but we confess that sometimes it is a strain upon us to feel a very high respect for the gentleman who occupies the position. When he so far forgets himself as to hurl the word "liar" at others, and then departs widely from the truth himself we sometimes forget to honor the occupant, although we never fail to honor the office. When Theodore Roosevelt said that "certain labor

leaders," or any labor leaders or leader, for that matter, "made violent and sweeping attack upon the entire judiciary of the country," he gave utterance to an untruth, not to use the "shorter and uglier word." The judicial system was attacked, as it should have been, and as it will be again and again until the system is revolutionized. If this is not done the courts will in time usurp every governmental function and we will have a government by federal judges who recognize no law save of their own making and acknowledge no responsibility save to themselves. It is against the growing usurpation of power that organized labor objects, and this objection is shared by thoughtful men of every condition of life. The charge that "certain labor leaders" attacked all judges, whether good or bad, is so silly that one wonders that even Theodore Roosevelt, who is inclined at times to speak first and think afterwards, would make it. The only explanation seems to be that he was in the same frame of mind when he wrote the charge that he was when he denied that Harriman campaign fund deal, or when he said a few days ago that Uncle Sam paid that \$40,000,000 of canal money directly to the French government.

It is quite clear, however, to any man who kept in touch with the recent American Federation of Labor campaign that it left its impress upon the powers that be. President Roosevelt himself in the message under discussion has said some pretty harsh things about the courts, and he has also pointed out a few—not the greatest—evils of the injunction as now used. But he seems to willfully misunderstand organized labor's position on the injunction evil. Organized labor is not demanding the abolition of the writ of injunction as an equity writ. But it is opposing the use of the injunction as a club to hammer organized labor over the head and to establish a "property right" in the labor of the wage-earners.

The president makes some strong recommendations to congress for labor legislation, most of which will be heartily seconded by laboring men who study the question. But because of his peculiar temperament Theodore Roosevelt can not restrain himself from taking a jab or two at the men who opposed his candidate and his platform, and in making the jabs he is not at all careful about confining

himself to the facts or sticking close to the truth. Incidentally it might be remarked that that portion of the message dealing with labor problems is longer than any single one of Abraham Lincoln's annual messages to congress. This is an indication that organized labor has compelled more than the usual amount of attention.

There is \$3,000 a year and a lot of satisfaction difference between Dan Keefe's new job and the new job tendered the editor of this humble little paper, and we wouldn't take the difference in salary if we had to give up the other differences.

President Roosevelt was comparatively safe when he confined himself to railroad magnates and insurance exploiters in distributing his charges of mendacity. But now that he has taken in the newspaper editors he is going to get a game that will make him go some.

Christmas is close at hand, and the wise unionist will give his Christmas trade to the merchants who want it and make the fact known by asking for it through the columns of a paper printed for unionists.

When a clerk tries to tell you that label goods are not as good as some other kind, don't waste time arguing with the clerk. Just go to the proprietor and tell him a few things.

When the home grown product is just as good, and reasonably fair in its attitude towards organized labor, it is little less than a crime to send Lincoln money out of town.

Violent opposition to the postal savings bank plan is developing in republican congressional circles. But did any really sensible man think it would be otherwise?

The forthcoming legislature will not have done its duty if it fails to put the "loan sharks" out of business.

My, but organized labor is receiving a lot of attention from high quarters these days! Markis de Lafayette Shrope of the Easton (Pa.) Labor Journal, wants to

print the portrait of Nebraska's new deputy labor commissioner. Because of our friendly feeling for the boys in Pennsylvania we restrain our natural and pardonable pride in our good looks and decline to forward the portrait.

The citizens of Lincoln might profit by compelling the city council to adjourn and as a body spend an evening with some Lincoln trades union and learn how to transact business expeditiously.

What can Christmas mean to the children and women of the sweatshop tenements? Christmas "bargain hunters" ought to think of that question a little bit at this time of the year.

When the wife of a union printer buys Butterick patterns, what's the use of making an aggressive label campaign among the general public?

The season of annual union balls is at hand. Don't forget to plan so as to turn some of the net proceeds into Labor Temple stock.

Ever go where you are not invited? Certainly not. Then why go to a store that doesn't invite you? Look

for the merchants who invite you through The Wageworker to visit them.

Dan Keefe will draw a salary of \$4,500 a year, but there are a lot of men earning less than \$2 a day the year round who wouldn't trade places with him.

When Charley Post reads some of the president's recommendations along labor lines he is likely to go out into the front yard and throw a series of connotation fits.

Look for the label on the Christmas gifts you buy, even though it might not be etiquette to look for the label on the Christmas gift you receive.

The industrial development of Lincoln is being seriously retarded by the greed and rapacity of landlords. Rents are too high in this town.

It is none too early to begin preparing the petition to submit to the referendum at the spring election providing for an issue of park bonds.

Will some generous and public-spirited citizen kindly step forward and donate a site for a Labor Temple?

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