



ARMS TRONG'S JANUARY SALE

This is an Excellent Time to Buy An Excellent Suit or Overcoat

Our Entire Stock of Suits, Overcoats and Cravenettes are Divided Into Five Great Lots Reduced as Follows:

LOT NO. 1 AT	LOT NO. 2 AT	LOT NO. 3 AT	LOT NO. 4 AT	LOT NO. 5 AT
\$22.00	\$18.00	\$14.00	\$11.00	\$6.00
Embraces all Suits, Overcoats and Cravenettes that were priced \$40, \$35 and \$30	Embraces all Suits, Overcoats and Cravenettes that were priced \$27.50, 25, 22.50	Embraces all Suits, Overcoats and Cravenettes that were priced \$20 and \$18	Embraces all Suits, Overcoats and Cravenettes that were priced \$16.50 and \$15	Embraces all Suits, Overcoats and Cravenettes that were priced \$12 and \$10

ARMSTRONG CLOTHING CO.

GOOD CLOTHES MERCHANTS

THE GOMPERS-MORRISON-MITCHELL CASE USURPATION.

Former Judge Maguire of the San Francisco Bar Gives Opinion of Justice Wright's Decision.

The decision of Judge Wright of the supreme court of the District of Columbia, in the Gompers contempt case, is the most far-reaching step yet taken to undermine and destroy the freedom of speech and of the press guaranteed by the federal constitution. Primarily it is intended to curb the growing power of organized labor, if not to destroy the labor movement; but it can not be limited to that purpose. If finally upheld, it must ultimately lead to the general censorship of speech and of the press. If a court may, by injunction or otherwise, determine, in advance, what subject may or may not be discussed, or what may or may not be said in a labor paper, why may it not, in like manner, abridge the freedom of all other publications? The fact that judges, nearly all of whom are appointed, through influences unfriendly to labor, and are out of sympathy with the labor movement, may deem it inexpedient or undesirable to abridge the freedom of other publications, is no answer to the proposition that the assumption of power to do so in any case, places the entire press of the country at the mercy of an irresponsible power, as great and as arbitrary as the Russian censorship, to be exercised at will. If the courts can enjoin the publication of any statement in "The Federationist," they can certainly enjoin the publication of the same statement in any other paper; and, if they can enjoin the publication of one statement, or the discussion of one subject, their power extends to all statements and to all subjects.

The truth of falsity of the enjoined statement is wholly immaterial and is not considered by the court, either in granting the injunction or in determining the guilt of the publisher when cited for contempt of court. The publication, contrary to the injunction, constitutes the crime, though the statement may be, as in the Gompers case, absolutely true.

The constitution of the United States provides that "Congress shall make no law . . . abridging the freedom of speech or of the press," but Judge Wright says that this provision does not guarantee the right of anybody to print or publish anything; that it is a mere inhibition upon the direct action of congress, but leaves congress free to create courts with power to abridge such freedom, by writs having the force of statutory laws. This is arrant nonsense and neither deserves nor needs discussion.

But, says Judge Wright, the defendants are charged with having conspired among themselves and with others to make the publication in question, for the purpose of injuring the property (the business) of the Buck Stove company, and that, as the publication was but an incidental overt act in execution of the conspiracy, the court had a right to enjoin it, although an individual, not conspiring with others, might not be subject to such injunction. This involves the absurdity of holding that an individual citizen may, lawfully and rightfully publish an article in a newspaper, which it would be unlawful for several persons, having the same object in view, to publish in the same newspaper.

What property of the Buck Stove Company were the defendants seeking to injure by the enjoined publication? Its business, of course. And how were they attempting to injure its business? By inducing the members and friends of organized labor to withdraw their patronage from the company during its controversy with the unions. But the Buck Stove Company has no property right in

such patronage, it belongs to the customers and not to the company with which they may, at any time, choose to deal, and may be withdrawn by them at will, either with or without reason. What possible property, or property right, of the company can be injured by requesting a customer to transfer his patronage to another? None. Yet an injunction can be issued in such cases, only to prevent injury to property or property rights of the complainant.

Another argument of Judge Wright is that the enjoined publication was, and was intended to be, an interference with interstate commerce, and was therefore a criminal act in execution of the alleged conspiracy. How did, or could, the publication interfere with or obstruct interstate commerce, assuming, although we deny, that it might be properly enjoined upon that ground? If every person in every state of the union, should, as a direct result of the publication, refuse to purchase any stove or other article manufactured by the Buck Stove Company, that fact would not in the least interfere with interstate commerce. The company would still be perfectly free to ship their wares into every state in the union. They might find no purchasers in any of the states, but that is a matter entirely beyond the scope of the interstate commerce laws, and beyond the jurisdiction of the federal government itself.

Judge Wright, as a further basis for his decision, appeals to the higher law of necessity, "the argument of tyrants." He contends that, if such injunctions cannot be issued and enforced, there is no adequate protection to the citizen against false and libelous publications injurious to his business. Of course he does not find that by anything published by the defendants was false or libelous. It was manifestly true, and its truth or falsity was legally immaterial in the contempt proceeding. It was true that the Buck Stove company had been placed upon the "unfair list" of the American Federation of Labor, and it was true that members of the Federation "do not patronize" the company. These were the enjoined publications, for publishing which they were found guilty of contempt of court.

Injunction is not, and never can be, a remedy for libel or slander, but, if it were desirable to adopt such a remedy, the judicial department of the federal government has never been commissioned to legislate upon the subject.

THE PRINTERS.

Arrangements Completed for the Twenty-sixth Annual Ball.

The twenty-sixth annual ball of Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209 is going to be the "best ever," and that means something in view of the past magnificent successes achieved by the union in the matter of annual balls. It will be held at Fraternity hall on February 17. Quick's orchestra furnishing the music. The committee from the union and the auxiliary have worked hard to make the arrangements complete in every detail, and a grand success is already assured.

Mrs. Will Norton and family will leave for Humboldt the first of the week to make that city their future home. Mr. Norton is now editor and

publisher of the Humboldt Democrat and making good—as might have been expected.

Mrs. G. N. Wathan is visiting with relatives and friends in Kansas City.

The Auxiliary met last Wednesday afternoon with Mrs. Hoffmeister.

Gene Lyman can have a couple of overcoat buttons by calling at this office, proving property and paying for this notice.

LABOR PROTEST MEETING.

Will Be Held Under Auspices of the Central Body, February 12.

A protest meeting will be held under the auspices of the Central Labor Union at Bruce's hall on February 12, the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln. Good

speakers, both inside and outside the ranks of organized labor, will be heard. A program of music will also be provided. All union men and women are urged to be present.

It was intended to make this a monster mass meeting, but owing to circumstances this was found impossible, so a meeting on a smaller scale will be provided. Proper resolutions protesting against the decision of Justice Wright will be introduced and doubtless adopted.

The meeting of the central body Tuesday night was unmarked by any important business, routine work being given the right of way.

DO NOT

PATRONIZE

BUCK STOVES

AND RANGES!

PROGRESS OF CIGARMAKERS.

Fine Showing of the Organized Part of the Craft for 1908.

For the year 1908 the Cigarmakers' International Union makes the following showing to the American Federation of Labor: Charters issued, 8; surrendered, 11. Gain in membership, 200. Number of strikes, 68; final reports have been received in but 36; won, 22; compromised, 5; lost, 9; number of persons involved, 3,426; benefited, 1,055; not benefited, 170. Thirteen strikes were against reduction in wages; 6 were successful, 1 compromised and 1 lost. Death benefits, \$203,500; sick benefits, \$173,505.87; traveling benefits, \$50,063.86; unemployed benefits, \$60,000. As a result of the improvement in the conditions of the members brought about by the organization, death rate from tuberculosis has been reduced 15 per cent and length of life increased 6 per cent in males and 8 per cent in wives of members.

A REASONABLE SUGGESTION.

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison, labor leaders sentenced to jail for contempt of court, don't want to go, any more than other men would in their places. What's more, they don't intend to go if they can help it, and there are a great many laboring men all over this broad land who hope some other way out of the difficulty will be solved. Just as a suggestion, why not saw this thing off with the

Standard Oil company? Can't we arrange this thing on a more equitable basis and send these men to jail on the day the Standard Oil company pays that \$29,000,000?—Paterson Evening News.

SAME EVERYWHERE.

Schenectady Labor Paper Waxes Sarcastic About Them.

"Of course the daily newspapers are flying to the defense of the rights of the workers. What's the use of supporting the labor newspapers?"—Lincoln Wageworker.

None at all. They are a superfluous adjunct to the labor movement; a labor editor is no good; he's a hot-air artist, "living off the hard-earned dollars of the downtrodden toilers," etc., until a strike or lockout occurs, or some boycott is to be exploited, and then what an influential publication becomes the labor paper in the sight of these knockers! and what a powerful and convincing writer is the editor! The editor's reward is, of course, a little advertising, censored by men who are not subscribers, or if they are, in the majority of cases, delinquent, and if by any circumstance should pay their bill, do so in a manner that would indicate that they were giving to charity. Schenectady has many "union" men of this stripe, and no doubt, hell is crowded with them.—Schenectady Labor Leader.

PRESSMEN ON STRIKE.

Last Tuesday evening ten pressmen and ten pressfeeders walked out of the establishment of the West Publishing company, St. Paul, Minn., on strike. This action was a result of the absolute refusal of the company to concede the forty-eight hour week inaugurated for the two crafts on the first day of January, and cheerfully agreed to by every other printing house and publishing concern in the city.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS.

President Gompers has notified Peter W. Collins, grand secretary, and J. F. McNulty, grand president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, that the A. F. of L. executive council had rendered a decision to the effect that they are the bona fide officers of the Electrical Workers.

A WORTHY BILL.

House Bill No. 162, introduced by Representative Nettleton of Clay, repeals the garnishee law as it now stands, and provides for the exemption of sixty days' wages of heads of families. The bill ought to pass without a dissenting voice.

The stenographers of the supreme court of Nova Scotia have refused to take notes as a protest against small pay, and recently Judge Russell declared he was not going to be both judge and stenographer and joined the ranks of the strikers.

Additional death benefits of \$250 for a membership of seven or more years and \$300 for one of ten or more years have been established by the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers.

His Vocabulary.

He was an only child. They were very particular about his manner of speech, constantly correcting him so that he would use beautiful English. He, however, was allowed now and then to associate with other children. He played with a neighbor boy a long while one day and when he came home there was an ecstatic smile on his face.

"I like that boy, mother," he said. "I like him very much. He swears beautifully. He knows every word."

Starch, like everything else, is being constantly improved, the patent starches put on the market 25 years ago are very different and inferior to those of the present day. In the latest discovery—Defiance Starch—all injurious chemicals are omitted, while the addition of another ingredient, invented by us, gives to the Starch a strength and smoothness never approached by other brands.

Grows Only in Four States.

Bromine, useful in medicine, photography, the manufacture of dyes and in certain metallurgical operations, is produced commercially in only four states of this country—Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia. Last year's output was 1,379,496 pounds.

The roller mills of Arlington have changed hands and the new owners expect to put it into operation after an idleness of several years. One of the owners was in Arlington recently trying to make arrangements with the electric light company for power to run the mill and steam for heating and steaming the wheat.

Munson & Edgcombe, who recently bought the Beatrice Daily Express, purchased the Beatrice Weekly Times of Colonel W. S. Tilton, who has published the paper for the last twelve years. The Daily Express will be consolidated with the Times plant and will soon be moved from Ella street to Court street in the building occupied by the Times.