



State Historical Society

Among the Live Workers Here, There and Elsewhere

The plans for the State Federation of Labor meeting are progressing rapidly. Just as soon as the Deputy Labor Commissioner can get in correspondence with the secretaries of various Nebraska locals and secure some idea of what date will be most convenient, the date for the initial meeting will be announced. However, the meeting will be held in Lincoln, probably at the state house, and it is more than likely that it will be held some time in June.

The need for a State Federation of Labor was emphasized when Deputy Labor Commissioner Maupin undertook to secure some data concerning the Trades unions of Nebraska. Before he could make even a start he was compelled to write to Secretary Morrison of the American Federation of Labor and secure a list of all the secretaries of national and international unions affiliated with the parent body. Then he had to write to each of these general secretaries and secure the names and addresses of the secretaries of locals in Nebraska.

Now that he has the names of most of the secretaries Deputy Commissioner Maupin has a foundation upon which to work.

Some interesting things have developed in the deputy commissioner's correspondence relative to this state printing. There are perhaps one hundred steam laundries in Nebraska, employing more than 1,500 girls and men. These laundries are not the most pleasant places in the world in which to work, and the wages are not magnificent. Yet, despite the apparent need of organization among this class of workers, there is not a single local of the Shirt, Waist and Laundry Workers' International Union in Nebraska.

The International Union of Steam Engineers has one local in Nebraska, No. 38 of Omaha. Lincoln local No. 174 has been suspended since last May.

The International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers has one local in Nebraska, No. 21 of Omaha.

The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees has two locals in Nebraska, Omaha and Lincoln.

The Bartenders' International League has two locals, Omaha and Lincoln.

The Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders' Brotherhood has eight locals in Nebraska, Omaha, North Platte, Havelock, McCook, Fairbury, Alliance, Grand Island and Lincoln.

The Coopers' International Union has one local, Omaha.

Nebraska is becoming a great milling state and has several cereal food mills, but to date it has not one local in the whole state.

The Cigarmakers' International Union has five locals in Nebraska, Omaha, Lincoln, Grand Island, Plattsmouth and Fremont.

The Sheet Metal Workers' International Alliance has one local in the state, Omaha.

The Brotherhood of Railway Clerks has one local, Omaha.

The International Alliance of Bill Posters and Billers of America has one local, Omaha.

The Journeyman Barbers' International Union of America boasts of seven live locals in Nebraska, as follows: Omaha, Lincoln, Beatrice, South Omaha, Fairbury, Nebraska City and Fremont.

The International Brotherhood of Leatherworkers on Horse Goods has four locals, Omaha, Lincoln, Fremont and Hastings.

The Journeyman Tailors' Union has a local at Omaha and one at Lincoln.

The International Typographical Union boasts of three locals, Omaha, Lincoln and Fremont.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America has ten locals as follows: Beatrice, Fairbury, Fremont, Grand Island, Holdrege, Lincoln, McCook and Nebraska City, with a Tri-City district council made up of Omaha and South Omaha, each city having a local.

The Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers' International Union has two locals, Omaha and Lincoln.

The Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen are getting to the front again—but at this time there is nothing to say.

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has four locals.

Fremont, Lincoln and two in Omaha.

The Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America has one Nebraska local, Omaha.

The American Federation of Musicians has two locals, Omaha and Lincoln.

This by no means exhausts the list of local unions in Nebraska. It merely takes in all those whose general secretaries have responded to the request of the deputy labor commissioner for information. But this information is coming in every day, and by the first of the week doubtless the deputy labor commissioner will have full information at hand upon which to work.

One thing is sure—there is going to be a State Federation of Labor meeting in Lincoln during the coming summer if it is held by only one man.

The social dance given by Capital Auxiliary Thursday evening was thoroughly successful from the social standpoint, and by no means a disappointment financially. This live organization is seeking to make an adequate contribution to the fund necessary to erect a suitable monument over the graves of the union dead in the cemetery at the Union Printers' Home at Colorado Springs. The social was held at Bohannon's hall, Quick's orchestra furnishing the music. There was a lack of printers in attendance, due to so many working at nights and overtime in the job offices. A number of friends of the Auxiliary and Union were on hand, however, to share in the pleasures of the evening. The Auxiliary will give other socials during the coming season, and promises to help entertain the delegates who will come to the State Federation of Labor meeting.

Elsewhere will be found a report of the last meeting of the Labor Temple directory. It is with pleasure that The

Wageworker reports signs of revival of the temple project. The directors are going to do something or "bust a hamstring" trying.

Harrie Thomas, editor of the Harvard Courier, and formerly a member of Lincoln Typographical Union, has been appointed secretary of the state printing board, vice Lou Frazier, resigned. Mr. Frazier resigned the secretaryship in order to accept the position of postmaster at Fairmont. Mr. Thomas is a practical printer and well qualified for the position. However, it is not likely that he will enjoy the privilege of drawing a salary very long. Either the governor will be given the power to appoint, or the present board will be abolished and a printing commissionership created with the governor the commissioner and empowered to appoint a deputy. In that event the secretaryship, or deputyship, will probably go to some democrat.

Clark Dalley of Havelock, who is an active member of the Machinists' Union and employed in the Havelock shops, has announced his willingness to accept the nomination for county commissioner, subject to the republican primaries. Mr. Dalley is vouched for by his fellow unionists and by a large number of people who are not unionists. His ability is beyond question and the indications are that he will make a warm race for the nomination. He is deserving of the support of his fellow unionists.

BOOSTING THE LABEL.

Ancient Order United Workmen Committee Helps the Cause.

The grand lodge of the Ancient Order of United Workmen of Nebraska will meet in Lincoln on May 11. The committee on badges and banners held a meeting in Lincoln last Monday and it unanimously decided that all badges and banners would have to bear the union label.

It did not require any argument to convince the committee that this was

the proper thing to do. The committee was right from the start. Bids from non-union houses were not considered, but the contracts were let to houses that could furnish the label, and at that the committee got the best bids.

Organized labor certainly ought to appreciate this friendly feeling and reciprocate at every opportunity.

UMPIRE DUGAN.

Union Printer Will Adjudicate in the Western Base Ball Circuit.

John M. Dugan, member of Cincinnati Typographical Union, and a baseball enthusiast of renown, will be on the umpire staff of the Western League this season. When he shows up in Lincoln he is going to get the glad hand from a big bunch of unionists, about 120 of whom carry cards just like his own.

Johannie Dugan is a prince of good fellows and an all-round good fellow. In addition to that he is amply qualified by experience and knowledge of the fine points of the game to make a top-notch umpire.

The Wageworker doffs its union bonnet to Umpire Dugan, "square man."

GOSPEL TRUTH.

There is nothing, save the ballot, more powerful or more effective than the union label in cementing the workers. Label agitation means solidarity, and when united action is once secured, it can be used on the political as well as on the economic field. The label as an educator is invaluable.—Exchange.

LOOK WITHIN.

The strength of a labor union is measured by the loyalty and courage of the average member. Look into your own heart, comrade; if you are all right you need not doubt your brothers.—Buffalo Republic.

Only twenty-three deserters from the 8,000 union hatters who have been locked out. That's a mighty good showing.

Central Labor Union Demands New Charter

The Central Labor Union met Tuesday evening and got away with a lot of important business. Among other things it adopted resolutions asking the legislature to pass the proposed charter and House Roll 414, which provides that all cities having over 5,000 people shall have the privilege of making their own charters.

President-elect Hannan appeared and was installed, and after assuming the gavel showed that he knows how to push business along. The following resolutions were unanimously adopted and the secretary instructed to send copies of the same to the senate and house of representatives:

"Whereas, The people of Lincoln have evidenced a preference for a commission form of government, and

"Whereas, The proposed charter, while not in all of its features what we would have it, is a step in the right direction, tending to a better municipal government, and

"Whereas, A cardinal principle of trades unionism is the initiative and referendum, this body, made up of delegates from affiliated bodies representing a large percentage of the total voters of the city sought to secure the submission of said charter to a vote of the people, and

"Whereas, The legislature has seen fit to deny to us the privilege of so voting upon the instrument under which we shall live and conduct our municipal business, therefore be it

"Resolved, That while deprecating the refusal of the legislature to submit the charter to a referendum, we still insist upon the commission form of government and therefore petition the legislature to enact the proposed charter into law, leaving it to us to secure correction of whatever errors may develop in future.

"Resolved, That while we can see shortcomings in the proposed charter, we can see in it a long step towards meeting trades union demands, in that

it provides for the initiative and referendum, and, above all, the recall, whereby faithless or worthless public officials may be discharged from the public service; that it eliminates partisanship, that bane of progress, from municipal government and puts merit above party affiliation; that it centers responsibility and in a measure prevents payment of political debts with public funds and public office.

"Resolved, That Lincoln Central Labor Union record itself in favor of the immediate enactment of the proposed charter into law, and promise to join with all good citizens in an effort to further elevate the moral and commercial welfare of the city of which we are so rightfully proud. And be it further

"Resolved, That this body respectfully petition the honorable senate to pass H. R. 414, now past the house, which gives cities of 5,000 and over the privilege of making their own charters."

President Hannan announced the appointment of the following committees:

Label—Jones, Typographical; McMahon, Cigarmakers; Evans, Barbers; Organization—Kelsey, Leatherworkers; Anderson, Electrical Workers; Chase, Carpenters.

Home Industry—Potter, Glove Workers; Dalley, Machinists; Benson, Bartenders.

Chase was appointed chairman of a committee of three, his two associates to be selected by himself, to formulate a working plan for the employment of an educational secretary and submit the same to the central body at its next meeting.

A committee was appointed to watch the garnishee bill now in the legislature and use every effort to prevent its enactment into law.

The meeting was the best attended in many months and the interest was keen. The machinists were well represented and the presence of a delegate from the glove workers was a source of pleasure.

THANKS, BROTHER GUINEY.

Fellow Labor Editor Pays Wageworker Editor a Compliment.

Will M. Maupin, editor of The Wageworker at Lincoln, Neb., and now labor commissioner of that state, is nothing if not forcible and progressive. He starts his administration of the important office to which he has recently been appointed by inaugurating a movement which will undoubtedly succeed under his inspiring management and be of great assistance to organized labor in his state. He has announced that sometime during the early summer he will call a meeting at Lincoln for the purpose of organizing a state federation of labor in Nebraska. His plan is to get each labor organization in the state to send one delegate and have this delegate convention draft a form of organization and government for the proposed federation. Knowing what we do of the benefits derived from our own state federation, we commend his purpose most cordially, and knowing what we do of him, we can see only success for his undertaking. Our best wishes attend the venture and our full confidence in its beneficent and fruitful results goes hand in hand with them.—Minnesota Union Advocate.

EVANGELIST SUNDAY "RIGHT."

"Billy" Sunday, in addressing the Carpenters' Union, who attended the meeting in the tabernacle last week, is quoted as saying in the beginning of his address: "No class of men get next to my heart and exist in whom I become so enraptured, more than the carpenters, carpenters' union and all men of toil. Every place I have gone many of them have contributed one or two days' work toward the erection of the tabernacle. They are always anxious to help, and when we are compelled to hire any help it is always union men. There's a bunch that has never turned me down; never passed me up, and to all I express my appreciation and esteem."—Springfield (Ill.) Tradesman.

New York legislators have been confronted with a bill, providing for labor colonies.

A LABOR PRIMARY MARCH 29

FOR CITY CLERK—VOTE FOR ONE.
F. H. HEBBARD, Member Typographical Union.
WALTER BROWN, Member Pressmen's Union.
W. L. MAYER, Member Electrical Workers' Union.

FOR WATER COMMISSIONER—VOTE FOR ONE.
O. M. RUDY, Member Electrical Workers' Union.
C. H. CHASE, Member Carpenters' Union.
BERT CHIPMAN, Member Plumbers' Union.

MAKE SELECTION, THEN STAND BY THEM

The trades unionists of Lincoln, through chosen representatives, have selected the above names to be voted upon at a labor primary for the position of city clerk and the position of water commissioner. This is under the present city charter. It was not deemed advisable to attempt to run too many labor representatives. Instead, it was thought best to center upon two offices which come in closest contact with labor and make an effort to elect union men to those two offices.

If the charter bill becomes a law the two men selected to stand as candidates at the May election will be made candidates for places upon the commission.

Two weeks ago the Central Labor Union set this ball in motion. That body called a meeting of representatives of the different Lincoln unions, the purpose being to select a list of possible candidates and outline a plan of procedure. This committee held several meetings and last Tuesday made its final report to the Central Labor Union. It reported a decision to nominate candidates only for city clerk and water commissioner; to present three names for each office, and to hold a primary vote for the purpose of selecting one man for each office.

The report of this committee was accepted and the primary will be held at Carpenters' Hall, Bohannon block, corner Tenth and M streets, next Monday afternoon and evening. The polls will be open from 12:30 p. m., until 7:30 p. m., and every union man is urgently requested to cast a vote for the men of his choice. The vote will be by Australian ballot. The proper petitions will be handled by the judges of election, and each voter will be expected to sign the petitions.

The six men whose names have been submitted to the union referendum are all amply qualified to fill the positions for which they have been mentioned. They are staunch trades unionists and worthy the confidence of their fellow men. Their party affiliations are not known to The Wageworker, and they matter not at all. It is enough to know that they are true blue unionists, upright citizens and qualified to fill the offices with credit to themselves and to their city.

Mr. Hebbard is a member of the Typographical Union, of which organization he has been financial secretary for three years. He has lived in Lincoln for upwards of fifteen years and is a man of unblemished character. His ability is evidenced by the satisfactory manner in which he has handled the large financial affairs of Lincoln's largest trades union.

Walter Brown is a member of the Pressmen's Union, and is in charge of the press room of the Freie Presse press rooms, a position of responsibility. He has been an officer of his union for a long time. Mr. Brown is qualified in every way for the office to which he has been nominated and would make an excellent official.

W. L. Mayer is a member of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers,

and is at present its financial secretary and its representative in the district conference. He is one of the most active trade unionists in this section and there is no better qualified man for the position of city clerk within the corporate limits of the city.

The three men named above have been suggested for the office of city clerk. It ought to give pleasure to every union man to support any one of the three for this responsible position.

O. M. Rudy is a member of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers and is now holding a responsible position with the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph company. He is a past president of the Central Labor Union, an expert electrician and a man of considerably more than ordinary ability. His worth is testified to by members of his own union.

C. H. Chase is a member of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners and is one of the most enthusiastic trades unionists in this section. He is a man of unquestioned integrity, possesses ability in a marked degree, and is worthy the confidence of every citizen anxious for the betterment of civic affairs.

Bert Chipman is a plumber by trade and for years was one of the most active members of the union of that craft. For two years he has been connected with the city plumbing inspector's office, and for that reason has been required to take a withdrawal card. But Mr. Chipman is still a trades unionist. He is amply qualified by experience for the office, and his character is such as to recommend him to the people of Lincoln.

The three men named above have been suggested for the office of water commissioner. Every unionist in Lincoln may well be proud of an opportunity to support any one of the three at the polls.

From the three names submitted in connection with each of these two offices it will be possible to select one who is not only worthy of union support, but whom the trade unionists can recommend to their friends and fellow citizens.

There never was a better time than now for Lincoln unionists to get into the game and secure representation. The coming election will be thoroughly non-partisan. No partisan designation will appear on the regular ballot. Every candidate must go upon the ticket by petition. There are enough union men in Lincoln to elect these two officers if they will only get together, work together and vote together. The Wageworker couldn't pick out six better men. It feels that it could not support two better men than will be selected from this list of six. Every one of the six is personally known to this newspaper, and it will stake its all on their ability, their honesty and their good citizenship.

It is the duty of every unionist to attend this labor primary, vote for the two men of his choice and then sign the required petition. We can win—and we will win if every one of us will do his duty.