

## FORCES OF LABOR.

Need of Organization Along  
Trades Union Lines.

MENACED BY MANY FOES.

Co-operative Effort Alone Can Repel  
the Encroachments of Privileged  
Power—Every Union Man Must Be-  
come an Organizer.

There never was a time, perhaps, in the whole history of labor in this country when there was such an opportunity for organization as there is now; neither was there ever a time when the necessity was greater. Many things have entered into combination to bring about this condition, things and elements that never had to be considered before in the labor struggle. Mighty forces created by great combinations of capital and of effort have made the more thorough and complete organization of the workers a primal necessity, which, if ignored and left undone, will be more than disastrous to the cause of labor. Combination and co-operative effort are the only things that will not only bring us greater measure of relief, increased liberty and improvement of condition, but they are absolutely necessary to enable us to hold what we have already gained and prevent their sacrifice.

Many hands are uplifted against the organization of labor, particularly the hands of those who recognize in it the only formidable champion of the lowly against the encroachments of privileged power and monopoly. The privileged few and the parasitical many are opposed to labor's advancement, and because of this they would not only retard and check any forward movement on the part of labor, but would make it criminal for all who toil and sweat to organize for mutual protection and improvement.

To circumvent the desires of all such and to prevent them from putting what they desire into practice it is necessary that labor should organize along trade union lines, and there never was a time like the present to do it nor a time, as already stated, when the necessity was greater.

In order that the forces of labor should advance and have a fair promise of success in return for their efforts it is first necessary to enlist the great majority of workers into the grand army of organized labor. After that comes their education, but first of all must come the enlistment. Every effort must be made to bring as many as possible into line, for the real strength of any movement, particularly of an economic nature, lies in the number of those who have identified themselves with it in its advancement and growth. No stone should be left unturned, nothing left undone, that would be conducive to success or aid in the work of organization; no task should be considered too great that has for its end the enrollment of a greater membership in the ranks of labor, for it is only by sacrifice and effort in this direction that the plan can be perfected that will protect the worker and make his position secure.

The most successful plan of organization, the plan that has given the best results and brought the greatest returns, the best one of all, is the one which can be carried on by every individual trade unionist every day of his life. The grand rally and public

meeting with social accompaniments at times makes a wonderful showing and brings intermittent results and is sometimes fairly successful, exhibiting permanence in membership, as well as an increase in numbers, but its success is not to be compared with the success that attends the efforts of the individual working quietly as an organizer.

It is the trade unionist imbued with the true spirit of unionism, working steadily and quietly for the good he can do, mocked, jeered and misunderstood and oftentimes discriminated against and maligned, but who struggles manfully along the path he has selected, that shows the biggest gains in the end. There is not a man throughout our organization who has not the opportunity in a greater or lesser degree of adding to our membership by this means if he but make the effort. It will not be necessary at all times to make any degree of sacrifice to gain a new member, and no one need be fearful of consequences should he make the effort. A word in advocacy of unionism whenever the opportunity occurs and a fair statement of what it involves and the good that will come to all who toil when they are thoroughly organized will do more good and more thorough work for organization than bluster, bludgeons or brass bands. It is the quiet worker in the shop who quietly informs his nonunionist fellow workman about the benefits that will come through organization and who points out that it is a duty we owe to each other to be mutually helpful that builds up the trade union and has placed it in the position that it now occupies. It is the same quiet man, steadily and conscientiously at work, never tiring and never ceasing, who will eventually place the trade union movement on the high plane it is destined to occupy and for which it was originally conceived. The time is ripe, the harvest is ready. Take your place among the workers and help with all the zeal in your power toward the high ideal that can only be reached through organization.—Machinists' Journal.

### Trade Union Notes.

Newfoundland's government has decided to establish immediately an old age pension system.

Mayor Lathrop of Springfield, Mass., recommends municipal ownership of gas and electric lighting companies.

The Minnesota Union Advocate has entered on its fifteenth year of continuous activity in the cause of organized labor.

The newspaper proprietors of San Diego, Cal., voluntarily raised the wages of compositors \$3 a week above the union scale.

Owing to the opposition of the sugar barons, the Austrian upper house has rejected the bill prohibiting night work by women in factories.

William F. Houk, a member of the Minneapolis Typographical union, will be labor commissioner of Minnesota for the next two years.

The paper on which the Typographical Journal is printed bears in the watermark a facsimile of the label of the International Brotherhood of Papermakers.

That the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad must arrange for a probable total wage increase of \$2,700,000 during the present fiscal year is the statement made in a brief filed before the interstate commerce commission by Chester M. Dawes, attorney for the company.

### Foolish Loiterers.

People who sit and wait for great moments miss many wonderful small moments, and they are to be pitied.

## A Double-Barrelled Story.

A negro banking company was organized in a southern city a year or two ago. Shortly after it began business an aged African deposited \$9.74. Six months later he went in to get his money.

"You all ain't got no money in dis bank," said the cashier.

"But Ah done put in \$9.74 six months ago," replied the depositor.

"Cou'se Ah remembers dat, nigger," said the cashier.

"but de intrust done e't dat up long ergo." That's the only bank of its kind we ever heard of, but it gives us an opportunity to remark "dat de intrust eats you-all up" if you have to pay it; it sets you up in business if you have it paid to you. Catch the point. We pay you FOUR PER CENT INTEREST on your deposits, and this interest works twenty-four hours a day in your behalf. A dollar or two deposited now and then, as frequently as possible, soon gives you the opportunity of promenading on Easy Street. Come in and let us explain to you the successful operation for upwards of ten years of our business.

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