

## IN THE FIELD OF LABOR.

O. M. Rudy, one of the best known members of organized labor in this city, is a candidate for the nomination of water commissioner on the republican primary ticket. The water commissioner is also the light commissioner. Mr. Rudy is an expert electrician, has a thorough business training, and is one of the best qualified men ever mentioned in connection with this important office. Mr. Rudy is not a candidate on his own motion. On the contrary, he was averse to being a candidate, but the workingmen of Lincoln who know him so well, insisted, and he acquiesced. Ever since the Labor Temple opened he has been its efficient manager. He has worked night and day for its success. He is a thorough unionist. If the union men of Lincoln will do their duty to themselves they will make his nomination sure—and a nomination insures his election. There are enough wage-earners' votes in Lincoln to give him the nomination, hands down. Will the wage-earners do it? They have had their opportunity before—and missed it. Will they miss it again? We are still working under the open primary, Mr. Wage Earner. Do not forget that, if you happen to be a democrat. An "X" after Rudy's name means a vote for as square a union man as ever came down the pike—and one who is peculiarly well qualified for the position he seeks.

Henry Bingaman, president of Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209, is seeking the democratic nomination for city clerk. His qualifications are beyond dispute. He is a taxpaying citizen, possessing an enviable reputation for square dealing, and thoroughly reliable. The union men of Lincoln can have a "card man" in the office of city clerk if they will get together and vote together.

The Chicago linotype men are "in bad" with their strike. The local union

ordered the strike, but President Lynch of the International Union says it is illegal and unwarranted. This means that the Chicago strikers will have to eat humble pie, for the International Typographical Union has a habit of keeping its contracts inviolate. As a friend of No. 16 we advise it to gig back in a hurry.

The strike of the boilermakers at Havelock has been declared off, a settlement satisfactory to the local union having been reached. The terms are not made public, but President Jonas seems satisfied. The settlement was brought about by a third party who interested himself, but his identity remains a secret. This strike has been a long one, remarkable for the tenacity of the men engaged in it, and still more remarkable for its quietness, despite the provocation constantly offered the strikers to engage in harsh work. But the discipline of the strikers was splendid, and they come out of the strike with credit to themselves. Just enough is known of the terms of settlement to know that shop conditions will be bettered and no discrimination practiced against those who engaged in the strike. The editor of Will Maupin's Weekly has had some experience in strikes and he has never seen one so well conducted, so orderly and so well managed from a disciplinary standpoint as the strike of the boilermakers at Havelock. They did not get all they wanted—and we seldom do—but they made some strike history that will live to their credit.

Will M. Maupin, editor of this paper, received a telegram Thursday noon announcing the death of his father, Elder W. T. Maupin, at Hennessey, Okla. Elder Maupin was in his 80th year, and for upwards of fifty years was an active minister in the Christian church. The son left Thursday night for Hennessey.

## NO CLOSED SHOP.

Phrase Is Used Only by Enemies of Unionism.

## TRADE UNIONS ARE OPEN.

Nearly All Welcome to Membership Any Wageworker Qualified at the Occupation Organized—An Oft Repeated Slander Refuted.

The phrase "closed shop" is of recent use. It was coined and is employed on all occasions by the enemies of trade unionism for a purpose. That purpose is to divert attention from the defensive action of union members in preserving their union to what is no more than an incidental consequence of that action.

The union creates certain desirable labor conditions. The nonunionists try to destroy them. By not competing with one another for the employment the unionists make their advantage. By competing the nonunionists would leave the dictation of terms wholly to employers. That is the merest A B C of this feature in the case of labor. And then the employers, when the union has gained something through its advantage, come forward with a demand for "the open shop" and make an appeal to the public in the name of liberty. To all the inhabitants of Easy street, who complacently regard themselves as "the general public," this slogan of the employing class sounds justified as "truly American."

Now, this situation has been analyzed times innumerable in these columns by writers for the labor and social reform press. Every point in it has been brought up, weighed and given its place. No intelligent observer of today but has had full opportunity to see clearly all the factors bearing on the question. Every citizen has been enabled to take his stand thereon.

This being true, the trade unionists, having made plain their view and believing it to be the true one, do not intend to permit their opponents to ignore that view. This remark applies equally to opponents who fight in the open and opponents who seek by subtle means, including profession of reasonableness or even friendliness, to weaken the position of trade unionism. It will not do for such professed "judicial" persons merely to make a passing note of the fact that the unionists declare that there is no "closed shop," that "the union shop" is an "open shop," and then go on talking and acting as if the unionists were hypocritical, or at least employing the methods of counsel under fee whose morals permit any argument for any side which pays the fee.

Trade unions are open. Nearly all are wide open to any man or woman qualified at the occupation organized at an entrance fee barely sufficient to equalize the payments of the union's cash benevolent benefits and current costs of administration. Hardly any union ever asks a nonunionist to pay for the slightest percentage of the damage he has done as a disruptionist. It is literally and positively true, without evasion or equivocation, that trade unions and consequently union shops are open for all wageworkers whom any employer would possibly contemplate as employees to be kept regularly and permanently in his hire.

We beg, then, that the press, the public spirited men and women who declare themselves in favor of labor in times of disputes and any other class of persons who deem themselves interested will accept the fact that what trade unionists call for is the union shop. When confronted by persons

who persist in speaking in private and public of the "closed shop" the trade unionists recognize by that sign that they are dealing with an enemy employing the verbal ammunition of an enemy, distorting facts as an enemy and without having the manliness and candor of a courageous enemy.—American Federationist.

## Uncle Joe to Gompers.

At the annual dinner of the Knights of Momus (an organization of printers on the lines of the Gridiron club) in Washington recently Speaker Joseph G. Cannon of the house of representatives said: "While I am not in the good books of Sam Gompers, I want to say that he is one grand man. That he is an able and forceful man goes without saying; otherwise he could not continue in the headship of that great American Federation of Labor. If I had to live over again the activities of my life during its first thirty odd years I should belong to a union." Mr. Gompers was not present.

## Caisson Workers' Wage Scale.

A proposed trade agreement to become effective May 1 will be submitted shortly to the employers by the International Compressed Air and Foundation Workers' union, covering wages and conditions of work for one year. For caisson work wages and hours are based on the air pressure above the ordinary atmospheric pressure. The wages run from \$4 a day, with an eight hour shift, at from one to twenty-two pounds pressure, to \$5 a day, with a three hour shift, at from forty to forty-five pounds pressure.

## Leaders Cannot Call Strikes.

Among the amendments to the constitution of the United Mine Workers of America adopted at its recent international convention was one providing that no general strike shall be ordered until indorsed by the entire organization by a referendum vote.

With the referendum clause attached the amendment leaves the power of the international board only that of recommending the calling of strikes.

## Big Union Aggregation.

There are now 106 unions in the New York United Hebrew Trades, with an aggregate membership of 150,000 men and women. The central body has also affiliated with it a number of unions of Italian workers and several thousand workers in other nationalities, including English speaking people.

## Courts Hit Union Labor.

A verdict of guilty against the members of the New Orleans Dock and Cotton council, charged with conspiracy to interfere with foreign commerce under the Sherman anti-trust law, was returned recently in the United States circuit court at New Orleans. This is a labor organization with about 50,000 members. It handles all freight in the port of New Orleans, and the charges grew out of a strike which began many months ago. The convicted men are James Byrnes, former president of the council and at present state labor commissioner of Louisiana; Philip Pearsaw, former president of the local Coal Wheelers' union, and U. S. Swan, former president of the Longshoremen's union. Swan and Pearsaw are negroes.

## Eight Hour Law Observed.

The annual report of the New York state commissioner of labor says the eight hour law is being practically observed. There were only forty complaints received last year, and twenty-five of them were found to be violations. The commissioner attributes the respect paid the law to the severe penalty clause, involving possible forfeiture of contracts.

# KOMO COAL

## \$7.75 Per Ton

The Best Coal in the Market For The Money  
Good for Furnace, Heating Stoves or Kitchen Ranges  
Give It a Trial. Satisfaction Guaranteed

# WHITEBREAST CO.

Bell 234  
Auto 3228

1106 O St

FOR GOOD CLEANING AND DYEING CALL THE

# LINCOLN CLEANING & DYE WORKS

AUTO PHONE 2495-4525 BELL PHONE 1059

320-322 S. 11<sup>TH</sup> ST.

LINCOLN - NEBR.

E.W. TRUMAN, PRES.

LEO SOUKUP, MGR.