



By W. M. M. M.

Oklahoma

We are mighty proud of you,
Oklahoma.
You are mighty good to view,
Oklahoma.
We were filled with joy ecstatic,
And our shouts were quite emphatic
When we saw you democratic,
Oklahoma.

As an ally in the fight,
Oklahoma,
For strict justice, truth and right,
Oklahoma,
You will be a help tremendous,
Your new strength will help defend
us—
More like you the good fates send us—
Oklahoma.

Out there in the sunset west,
Oklahoma,
Of them all you look the best,
Oklahoma.
May you never make revision
Of your new statehood decision,
Keep close ranks without division,
Oklahoma.

As was stated in the start,
Oklahoma,
You have acted well your part,
Oklahoma.
As the new state of the nation
You deserve a great ovation—
We'll join in the demonstration,
Oklahoma.

A Trades Union Story

Peter Doerner was the proprietor of a machine shop in—well, no matter where. It is not necessary to give the name of the city. Suffice it to say that this is a true story, even to the names of the participants, so the name of the city may be omitted. Doerner employed twelve or fifteen men, and one day an organizer for the machinists' union appeared in their midst and persuaded them to organize a union. The charter was secured, and then an agreement and a scale of wages were drawn up and presented to Doerner.

"Well, boys," said Doerner, "I have nothing against unions, but I think you ought to give me a little time. Suppose you let me think it over for a week."

The men agreed to this, and Doerner spent the week in making some investigations. At the end of the week he called his employes before him and said:

"Well, boys, do you still want me to recognize your union?"

They declared that they did.

"And you want me to support union principles?"

They insisted that the boss was correct.

"And if I stand by union principles you will do the same?"

The men said they would.

"Well, boys," said Doerner, "I have been investigating, and I find that you are asking me to do what you don't do yourselves. You ask me to agree to employ only union labor, but you employ what you call 'scab.' Ain't I got as much right to do that as you have?"

The spokesman for the men indignantly denied the charge.

"You only employ union labor when you want work done?" queried Doerner.

"Sure! We wouldn't employ 'scabs' at any price," declared the men.

"Well, boys," said the old man, "if every one of you has got on union

made clothing I will sign the agreement. Now show up."

Less than half the men could show the label in their coats.

"Well, if all of you have on union made shoes I'll sign the agreement."

Investigation showed that only two or three had on union made shoes, and from a list in his pocket Doerner proved that about half of the men had on shoes that were penitentiary made.

"Well, that's too bad, boys," said Doerner. "But I'll give you one more chance. If every man who uses tobacco has got union made tobacco in his pockets I'll sign the agreement."

Not a man had that kind of tobacco.

"Boys, it ain't fair to ask me to do something you won't do yourselves. Now I'll postpone signing that agreement for a while. I'm in favor of unions, but the employes ought to be willing to keep step with the employer. When you men can come here, every one with union made clothing, union made hats, union made shoes and union made everything else that is made anywhere by men of your class, I'll sign the agreement, and I won't sign it until then. If you want to strike, all right. But if you do I'll publish to the world the truth about this conference, and I guess the rank and file of the unions will stand by me."

The men did not strike. They pondered on the lesson and discussed it among themselves. A month later they again appeared before Doerner and stood the test. The boss signed immediately, but declared that if they broke their implied contract with their fellow unionists he would feel at liberty to break his contract with the machinists' union. The shop is still unionized, and the men are consistent trade unionists yet.

This story may interest but a small per cent of Commoner readers, but its truth may impress the few who do take an interest in such matters. There is a moral concealed about it, and if it is disclosed it may have some effect in future elections.

Wise

"Jines is a level headed fellow. He always knows when it is time to stop."
"That's right, and he always locates the time just ahead of his turn to buy."

Limerick

There was a young man in Spokane
Who had to go home in the rane,
And now in his attic
The twinges rheumatic
Are filling his body with pane.

Plenty

"Anything to be thankful for this year?" we asked of the defeated candidate.

"I should say I have," he replied with a smile. "The opposition papers didn't have time to dig up one-half the truth about me."

Not Unusual

"I am not feeling at all well today. Mr. McSwat," said Miss Arabella DeTypit.

"Do you think you will be able to work today?" queried Mr. McSwat.

"I am afraid not, sir."

"Very well," sighed Mr. McSwat, reaching for his pen. "But I have noticed that you have often remained at work while suffering from a bad spell."

But as Miss Arabella DeTypit was

facing a mirror and adjusting her hat she failed to catch the veiled sarcasm of her employer.

Reminiscent

The courtiers were congratulating King Charles of Sweden upon his great victory.

"Alas," he sighed, "another such victory and I am ruined forever."

After remaining lost in thought for awhile he chirped up a bit and said:

"But I will not be alone. In 1906 the g. o. p. in the United States will win a similar victory in New York.

Diplomacy

Thomas, Richard and Harry, after playing truant and perpetrating several very naughty tricks, met to discuss ways and means.

"We're due to get it good and plenty when we meet teacher in the morning," remarked Thomas.

"She won't leave a grease spot of us," sighed Richard.

"O, I don't know," remarked Harry.

"I guess a little diplomacy will win out."

"Well, tell us about it!" exclaimed Thomas and Richard in unison.

"It's this way fellers," explained Harry. "I've been thinking about that election in New York. The fellows that elected Hughes are the fellows he got after so hard, and it's hardly likely that he'll throw it into them after they boosted him into office."

"What's that got to do with our case?" asked Thomas in a disgusted tone of voice.

"I don't see nothing in it," sighed Richard.

"Hold on, fellers," said Harry. "We'll just load our pockets with apples and give 'em to teacher in the morning before school takes up. I guess them apples will fix her all right. It ain't likely she'll lick three fellers that bring her enough apples to last her a week."

Realizing that they sat in the presence of a future diplomat and trust financier, Thomas and Richard were properly impressed.

Brain Leaks

Self-help is the best assistance.
Boosting friends beats boycotting enemies.

It takes more than a turkey to make a Thanksgiving.

As the father is bent the son is usually inclined.

When a friend does a good thing, acknowledge it.

The man who is alive has plenty to be thankful for.

Crowns are never won by bearing home-made crosses.

Repentance is much more than being sorry that you sinned.

Men who achieve success by hard work are usually called lucky.

The man who agrees with everybody soon becomes very disagreeable.

Some men always miss being available because they are never adaptable.

The man who is always trying to lift others up is in small danger of being dragged down.

A full stomach has prevented many a man from thinking of his duty to himself and to his country.

Some people never learn the difference between asking God for what they want and asking Him for what they need.

One-half the flowers brought to the average funeral would have made life much more pleasant if given a few months earlier.

The higher the salary attached to the public office the more patriots there are ready to sacrifice their business interests to accept it.

We met an optimist the other day. He expected that some time he would drop into a home and find the mother playing the piano in the parlor while the daughter was washing the dishes.

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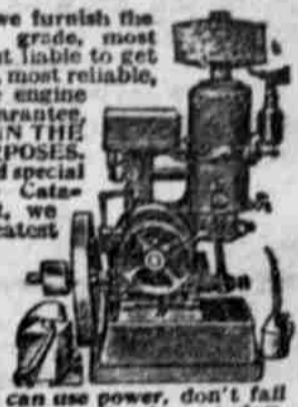
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