

THE WAGEWORKER

A Newspaper with a Mission and without a Muzzle that is published in the Interest of Wageworkers Everywhere.

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A Very Humble Apology Offered

Last week The Wageworker inadvertently did an injustice to the committee on public printing of the senate by charging its members with discourtesy to the printing trades. The Wageworker asserted that the allied printing trades label bill had been referred to the committee on public printing, and by it reported for indefinite postponement. The editor naturally supposed that a printing bill would be referred to the printing committee. This is where he made a grave error. He failed to take into consideration the fact that Mr. McGilton is lieutenant governor of Nebraska, and by virtue of his office called upon to preside over the deliberations of the senate. With a judgment little short of marvelous and altogether astonishing, Lieutenant Governor McGilton referred the bill to the committee on public lands and buildings. If he has followed this plan of referring bills throughout the session, he certainly has mixed things up proper. Imagine the committee on public charities gravely considering a bill to change the revenue laws, or the committee on fish and game considering with owl's wisdom a bill to amend the banking laws.

But this printing bill went to the committee on public lands and buildings, and was by that committee turned down without giving the men vitally interested therein a chance to present their side of the case. That committee is made up of the following eminent authorities on the subject of printing:

- DIMERY OF BEAVER CROSSING.
- TUCKER OF HUMBOLDT.
- NIELSON OF BANCROFT.
- THOMAS OF OMAHA.
- GIFFEN OF GOTHENBURG.
- HARSH OF LOWELL.
- GOULD OF WOLBACH.
- PETERSEN OF CAMPBELL.
- HALLER OF BLAIR.

It's a safe bet that neither of the reverend senators named above knows the difference between an em quad and a galley rack.

The Wageworker tenders its humble apologies to Senators Whaley, Good, Wall and Breesse of the committee on public printing. Dimery of Beaver Crossing is a member of the public printing committee, but he is not included in the apology for the reason that he is a member of the committee on public lands and buildings.

Owing to rules and regulations laid down by the postoffice department The Wageworker will not say what it thinks about a presiding officer who would refer a printing bill to the committee on public lands and buildings.

BLOWN ABOUT A BIT.

A Gasoline Explosion Jars a Couple of Lincoln Boiler Makers.

L. D. Foscutt and Manager Davenport were the victims of a combination of a match and gasoline gas the other day. The accident occurred in the Capital Boiler and Sheet Iron works. Foscutt and Davenport were repairing a tank that had contained gasoline. The tank had been empty for some time, but when Foscutt held a lighted match to the opening to see if the tank was all right inside, there was an explosion that sent the two men ballooning. Foscutt was severely burned and bruised, and Davenport was unceremoniously blown through a door and landed in a heap.

The printers' strike in Kansas City is not spreading. On the contrary several of the offices have signed up and the indications for satisfactory settlement all around are good.

WELL, WHY NOT?

Ministerial Delegates Would Learn, and So Would We.

The proposition to ask the Ministerial Union to send delegates to the Central Labor Union is creating some discussion. Why not? It would not hurt the ministers to learn a whole lot more about the needs and desires of the laboring man, and it wouldn't hurt the average laboring man a bit to know a lot more about church work.

If the Ministers' Union does send delegates the ministers selected will be warmly welcomed, and they will not long be wondering why laboring men do not attend church. The delegates to the Central Labor Union are not in the habit of minding their words.

The Pressmen are now having their innings with the employers. So far the conferences have been marked by good feeling, and while no agreement has yet been reached it is expected soon.

THESE EMPLOY UNION TEAMSTERS.

This is not an advertisement. It is a guide for union men and women who buy coal or building material and want it hauled by union teamsters. But one of these firms—Hutchins & Hyatt—advertises in The Wageworker, but all of them employ union teamsters and are therefore entitled to union patronage. All of them should be Wageworker advertisers, of course, and, of course, the firm that is entitled to special patronage from Wageworker readers. But, at any rate, give your patronage to fair employers—and the following are fair:

- THE ADAM SCHAUPP COAL CO.
- THE F. W. BROWN LUMBER CO.
- WHITEBREAST COAL CO.
- HUTCHINS & HYATT.
- LANDY CLARK, AGENT.
- UNION FUEL CO.
- MARSH-BURKE CO.
- BADGER LUMBER CO.
- SEARLES & CHAPIN.

Capital Auxiliary Gives A Colonial Tea Party

Last Monday evening Capital Auxiliary resumed its regular monthly sociables and inaugurated the new season by giving a "Colonial Party" at Central Labor Union hall. The attendance was by no means as large as it should have been, and those who failed to attend missed one of the best sociables ever given by Capital Auxiliary—and those who have attended former sociables know what that means. Members of the Auxiliary were costumed like the dames of the Revolutionary days, with powdered hair and black patches, and several printers arrayed themselves in knickerbockers, ruffled shirts and huge wigs.

A short program was rendered, Master Clarence Mickel and Dorothy Odell rendering each two piano solos, Mr. Donald Plumb vocal solos and Master Barngrover a clever recitation of Eugene Field's ever popular "Just 'Fore Christmas." Each of the performers was warmly applauded as they deserved, for they entertained the audience well. The committee had displayed upon the walls pictures of all the presidents, each picture numbered, and those present were asked to fit the names to the pictures. There was a lot of fun in this. From Lincoln down to Roosevelt was easy, but between Washington and Buchanan it was a harder job than one would naturally expect. The old fellows looked very much alike with their wigs and stocks. Will M. Maupin managed to fit nineteen names correctly and won the prize.

The refreshment table was decorated with flags, and the luncheon served was heartily enjoyed by everybody. Following luncheon dancing was indulged in until the clock warned the merry-makers that the Lincoln Distraction company was about to take its valuable cars in out of the weather. Before adjournment three cakes were disposed of to good advantage by means of three lumps of loaf sugar properly marked. This was a departure from the usual plan of selling them at public auction, and the departure was profitable, to say nothing of its being hilarious.

The Auxiliary is doing a splendid work in the cause of unionism, especially the printing branch thereof, it is little less than a downright shame that the members of Lincoln Typographical Union do not show more appreciation. Members who haven't missed a day's work in a year pinch their little old fifteen cents just as if tomorrow was bound to bring a walk-out and destitution, and show no appreciation whatever of the splendid efforts of as loyal and energetic a band of union women as ever insisted on the label and "roasted" a retailer for handling "scab" goods. Some of these days the printers are likely to meet up with a situation that will recall to them the fact that they missed it when they did not show appreciation for the Auxiliary's work.

A CLOSED SHOP CONTRACT

Capital Auxiliary met in regular semi-monthly session at the home of Mrs. William Bustard on March 3. After the transaction of the usual routine business a two-course luncheon was served by the hostess. It might not be amiss at this time to note a seeming lack of interest—or exhibition of negligence—on the part of a portion of the membership. There were only sixteen members present at the last meeting.

Mrs. Charles B. Righter has been seriously ill for the past two weeks, suffering from a severe attack of quinsy. We are pleased to note a decided improvement in her condition.

The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be held at the home of Mrs. Brown, 2314 N street.

THE PRINTERS.

No. 209 has about 98 members in good standing. So far 97 have expressed a willingness to accept election as delegate to the Toronto convention.

The Cummins memorial committee is not idle. It is framing up something that will boost the memorial fund "right smart." Wait for the committee!

The "smoker" is next in order, and the printer man who fails to show up will be fined seven dollars and barred from all future sessions of the "Roasters' club."

The boys had lots of fun voting on the contract at last Sunday's meeting. As the roll was called and the members voted the "anarchists" were loudly applauded as they marched forward.

President Coffey was in Kansas City a couple of weeks ago, and he went down and back between the linen sheets of a Pullman. "It was different from one or two Kansas City trips I have taken," says Coffey.

The last Typographical Journal contains a lot of "hot stuff." The executive council has made charges against several members of the Philadelphia union and demands trial on the charges. That Philadelphia muss promises to result in some nasty business.

"On to Toronto" is now the cry of the printer man, and if everything goes well Lincoln will be well represented at the next meeting of the International. An "On to Toronto" club is being organized. The plan is to pay weary assessments from April 1 until August 1, and then charter a car and make the trip as a body. Next week this depart-

ment expects to be able to give an approximate estimate of the expense of the trip, and then the projectors of the club will be able to give detailed plans.

F. C. Greenley and Colonel McQuitty have reached that point where they turn pale at the sight of pink colored ice cream.

The cheerful way in which the boys are paying their little old half-cent assessment into the 8-hour fund argues well for the success of the movement. This one-half of one per cent assessment is more than some local unions pay altogether but up to date no printer has been heard to make a "boiler."

"A machinist," says Charley Bowers, "is a man who has to stand for the work of bum operators." "That's not so," says Ollie Mickel. "A machinist is a man who draws easy money for looking after machines that good operators never put on the bum." The matter will be officially decided at the next regular meeting of the "Roasters."

THE LABOR TEMPLE PROJECT.

The labor temple project need not scare anybody. The idea is a feasible one, the chief difficulty being to get union men to take hold of the project. It is not necessary to raise all the money at once. Certainly 1,800 union men are able to raise money enough to buy a good lot in the business section. The lot once bought and paid for will insure the erection of the building. Rents will more than take care of the interest on the deferred payments, the taxes and the insurance. A sinking fund will not be difficult to secure.

There is a demand for good office rooms and store rooms in the central business sections. The unions of the city are already paying out over \$1,000 a year in rent, and that is 5 per cent interest on \$20,000—enough to put up a fine building. There is a demand for a good hall for socials, and the proper kind of hall will bring in a return of from \$1,000 to \$2,000 a year. Within the last thirty days labor unions have paid out \$100 for a single hall in which to hold balls. All this money should be paid to a "temple fund."

The principal thing to do is to get the unionists of the city to take an interest in the project. A little nerve, good business judgment and a determination to win are the ingredients necessary to make the project a success.

When the Central Labor Union committee reports let the "knocker" lay aside his vocal hammer, let the spineless unionists stanch his spinal vertebrae, let the weak-kneed get a set of braces and let everybody take hold. It is possible to dedicate a labor temple in Lincoln before another twelve months slide by into eternity. It is merely a question of doing.

sides, the contract is as a whole satisfactory to all parties interested

The chief sticking point was on the question of hours. After everything else had been practically agreed upon, the eight-hour question came up. The employers wanted a contract for three years with the nine-hour day. This the committee would not listen to for a minute. It was a matter absolutely outside of their jurisdiction being a matter already decided upon by referendum vote of the International Union. By that vote the International decided to put the eight-hour working day into effect on January 1, 1906. The local committee could not ignore that law. And there negotiations hung fire for several days. Conference after conference was held. President Lynch was asked to help out the local committee, but being sick he was unable to respond, and Vice President Hayes acted. Mr. Hayes was in Kansas City trying to settle a bit of trouble there, and to Kansas City went one member of the union's committee and one member of the employers' association. These two met with Mr. Hayes, and the work of fixing the whole thing up to the satisfaction of both sides was a matter of a few hours. The wage scale is settled for four years, but the question of the work-day may be opened up. This satisfied both sides. The contract was thus drawn up and signed by the members of the employers' association, and last Sunday Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209 formally ratified it.

The union's executive committee had charge of the matter, and this committee was made up of the following members: Jesse E. Mickel, O. C. Fodrea and Henry Bingaman. President Coffey of the union acted with the committee throughout the entire negotiations. After the ratification of the agreement a unanimous vote of thanks was tendered by the union to President Coffey and the committee.

The Typographical Union has appointed a committee to arrange for a "smoker," to be given by the union to the employers, and when it is held it will be a corker.

LOOKS GOOD.

Outlook for the Building Trades Was Never Brighter Than Right Now.

Prospects were never brighter for the building trades in Lincoln. In fact, the building season did not close up during the winter, although the cold snap made a short vacation necessary. But with the advent of spring building operations have taken on great activity.

With possibly one exception everything is pleasant in the building trades, and the exception promises to disappear.

Business Agent McKnight of the Teamsters' Union may be found at Carpenters' hall.

Business Agent Kent of the Carpenters' Union keeps regular hours at the local's hall.

Central Labor Union meeting next Tuesday evening. All delegates should be present.

It is reported that the job printing firm of McCartney & Simmons has been dissolved, Mr. Simmons retiring.

THE LABEL LEAGUE.

The regular meeting of the Woman's Union Label League will be held at Central Labor Union hall next Tuesday evening. It is especially desired that there be a full attendance at this meeting, as plans for the summer's campaign are to be discussed.

The League committee has been visiting the different local unions during the past two weeks, striving to arouse interest in the work of the League and secure new members. The committee has met with many encouragements and feel that the visits have been productive of much good.

Members of the League assert that the grocer who will keep in stock a supply of union made brooms will reap a goodly harvest. One member was sent a Lee broom by her grocer, and when she fired it back the grocer complained about it. The lecture she gave that grocer was something worth while and he has doubtless been thinking about it ever since.

The "something just as good or better" talk that some dealers put up don't go with the members of the Label League any more. It must have the label, or it does not get into the house.

THE BARBERS.

"Billy" McQuiston's dream of wealth is over. For a year or two "Billy" has been spending the thirty thousand plunks he had in his mind. He bought houses and lands and automobiles; he founded colleges and libraries and made philanthropic stunts that put Carnegie on the bum. All this, of course, in his mind! In other words, "Billy" was going to do all these things when he got next to the city treasury of Utica. But some one coughed and "Billy" woke up. It happened this way: "Billy" was arrested in Utica for selling something without a license. He was thrown into the donjon keep for an hour or two and the imprisonment, being unjustified, made him sore. So he sued the village for damages. But owing to the perverseness of twelve men he was defeated. However, "Billy" had the fun of spending all the money several times over—in his mind.

The local Barbers' Union is growing steadily in strength and influence. The local now has upwards of sixty active members on the rolls, and interest in the work of unionism is growing every day.