

THE WAGWORKER

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THE QUESTION AT ISSUE.

The attempt to make it appear that the issue in the present municipal campaign is One Thousand Dollar Saloon License vs. Fifteen Hundred Dollar Saloon License is an insult to the intelligence, and, furthermore, is an attempt to beguile the real issues at stake. The saloon license fee is merely a "good enough Morgan" for warring factions in the dominant party to build a fight upon and the attempt of one faction to make it appear that it stands for all that is good and pure in city affairs would be amusing were it not so evident that it is deceiving a number of citizens.

The Wageworker denies that the amount of the saloon license cuts any figure, and The Wageworker says it as one having no sympathy at all with the license system. This is not a prohibition paper, in the political sense of the term, and its editor is not a prohibitionist within the meaning of those who are striving to build up a political party thereon. Morality is not a question of politics; the tariff, or the currency, or imperialism, or kindred questions, are questions of politics and can not be classed as purely moral questions. The license system is responsible for much that is wrong in our political life, and for this reason The Wageworker is not in favor of the license system. But the license system is here, it must be reckoned with, and the issue therefore resolves itself into a question of enforcement of the law as it stands upon the statute books, and the enforcement of the excise rules as they appear on the ordinance books of the city. The Wageworker stands for the rigid enforcement of the law and the rules, and in its opinion the amount of the license fee cuts absolutely no figure in the enforcement thereof. To raise a dust over the amount of the fee is to blind the people to the real issues at stake.

Under the license system the general public is made a partner in the saloon business. The public says to the saloonkeeper, you put in the stock, furnish the fixtures, stand all the expense and do all the work, and we will permit you to run providing you give us—your silent partners—\$1,000 each as our share of the profits. Common justice demands that before compelling the active partner in the business to give up a greater share of the proceeds, the silent partner first examine to see if the increase demanded by him does not work an injury to the active partner. Being partners in the business the public and the saloonkeeper are entitled to equal rights in the matter. That is the sum and substance of the whole agitation over the amount of the license fee, and it is wrong and unjust for the silent partners to make a demand for an increase in their share of the profits without first investigating to see if the demand does not work an injustice to the active partners.

The question at issue in this campaign is one of good government, and by good government is meant strict enforcement of the excise laws, economical administration, protection of the public interests, curbing of corporate greed, clean streets, better fire protection, better street car service, extension of paving, extension of the water and sewer facilities and the safeguarding of the city's financial standing. The voters should lay aside their partisan prejudices and choose between the men nominated for city office, choosing those whose business standing and business success show the most conclusive evidence of ability to carefully transact the business of the city.

The Wageworker is supporting Mr. Brown for mayor, as against Mr. Hutton, because Mr. Brown is not only a fair employer of union labor, but is a business man whose success in life proves his business ability—and Lincoln needs business men to look after her municipal affairs. Mr. Brown has made a record as an excise man and there can be no doubt where he stands as regards the enforcement of the excise laws. As an employer he has made a record for fairness that recommends him to the suffrage of men who eat their bread in the sweat of their faces. He is under the control of no man or corporation, owes his nomination to no clique or cabal, and as mayor will be free to act for the best interests of the city without interference from any man or set of men who may have axes to grind.

The Wageworker appeals to all voters, especially those numbered within the ranks of the wage earners, to vote for Mr. Brown because he is a good business man, a progressive and enterprising citizen and one of the largest employers of labor in the city.

THE LESSON OF ONE STRIKE.

The strike of the employees of the New York Subway company was lost, as it should have been lost. That the men had grievances is undoubtedly true. But the conditions were of their own making, and as men they should have borne them like men. They had a contract and that contract should have been kept inviolate. The strike was a violation of the contract, and therefore was not only a wrong to the employers but was a wrong to union labor throughout the country, for the violation of a contract by a union turns back the hands upon the clock of union progress and is detrimental to the cause of unionism which already has a hard enough time to secure a fair hearing. It was a wrong against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, which union had chartered the local union, because the strike was unauthorized and therefore reflected discredit upon the Brotherhood. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers acted promptly and wisely in revoking the local's charter when the local violated its contract and refused to obey the order of the union authorities. The unions that stand highest before the business world are the unions that keep as sacred their contracts with employers.

Undoubtedly the New York strikers had grievances, and beyond a doubt they suffered from adverse conditions. But there can be no excuse for their violation of their contract. If the employers violated the contract the employees had their recourse, either at law or by strike. Union men all over the country, while sympathizing with the strikers because of their grievances, can find no excuse for them. That they were whipped before the fight begun was a foregone conclusion. It seems to have been another case of too much reliance on brute strength; too much haste; too much irresponsible leadership—the bane of all industrial unionism. Such things work an injury to the cause, and the men responsible therefore should be held to strict account.

"The Greater Lincoln" will not be built up by narrowness or prejudice. It will not be built up by policies that are inimical to organized labor. "The Greater Lincoln" will be built up by fair men who enforce the laws without fear or favor, and found their public acts upon the broad basis of the greatest good to the greatest number.

The advocates of the "open shop" love to prate about the "independent workman." Pray, when did union men become "dependent workmen?" The "open shop" advocate bases his actions on his opposition to unions, and he opposes unionism because it stands in the way of his exercise of his greed at the expense of the men who toil.

Alva Adams of Colorado can afford to give up the governorship much easier than Colorado can stand the disgrace that attaches to her by reason of the outrageous chicanery that resulted in Governor Adams being deprived of his rights.

Every union teamster wears a button and carries a card. If you are in the union game in earnest, make sure that the man who does your hauling wears the button and carries a current working card.

A labor union's contract should be as sacred as the contract of any man or corporation. After you have made your bed be men enough to lie in it without grumbling.

The union man who will vote for a candidate who employs non-union labor is sadly in need of a rejuvenator for his unionism.

Mr. Hutton, do you employ union carpenters, or do you insist

upon the "open shop" because you think you can hire non-union carpenters cheaper and thereby underbid on contracts the contractors who employ union carpenters and pay the scale agreed upon in the contract which you were a party to? Don't dodge, Mr. Hutton.

Even if the Western Federation of Miners were as bad as pictured by Parry, Job, Bell and Peabody, it would be a shining sample of virtue and decency compared with the band of political highway-men who sandbagged justice and deprived Alva Adams of the governorship of Colorado.

If Mr. Hutton's friends insist on giving him all the credit for securing a municipal lighting plant, certainly they can not object if Mr. Hutton is criticised for allowing the municipal lighting plant to be erected on a lot to which the city has no deed.

What's the use of the city spending money on a "flusher" for street cleaning purposes? The spring rains will soon flush the streets, and when the resultant mud dries into dust another rain will wash that away, and so on, ad infinitum.

Having located the city's lighting plant on a lot that the city does not own, it would not be surprising if the candidate with "six years of experience in municipal affairs" should happen to purchase a gold brick with municipal money.

Union men should stand by candidates who have proof of their unionism. Charley Simmons, candidate for city clerk is a member of Typographical Union No. 209, and is straight on the "union game."

By the time the council gives up a few more streets to corporations it will be up to the corporations to keep the streets clean. Maybe this offers a solution of the street cleaning problem.

Mr. Brown's record as a member of the excise board is a sufficient guarantee of what he will stand for as mayor of Lincoln when it comes to a matter of saloon regulation.

Remember the social to be given by the Women's Union Label league at C. L. U. hall next Monday evening. Admission free—and there will be something doing.

Get into the union game in earnest. When union labor stands by its friends results will soon be noticeable.

A vote for Brown for mayor is a vote for a man whose friendship for organized labor has stood the test.

The soda water fountain bar must go—and it must go quickly.

Properly Labeled

The Hollyhock

I may be an old-fashioned man and hardly up-to-date:
At getting next to modern things I may be rather late;
But I don't care—I have my likes, and think old-fashioned flowers
Are prettier of all that grow in this old world of ours.
The tender, scentless, things that grow in hot house under glass
May be to some the proper thing, I'm not one of that class—
You take them if you like them, I'll take other flowers in mine.
The hollyhocks that nod and blossom in tall and stately line.

The hollyhocks are nodding cheery welcome as I walk
Through the garden, and of old days and of old times to me talk.
And they whisper tales of childhood when all days were free from care,
When the nights brought dreamless slumber and the world was bright and fair.

Whisper stories of my childhood, bring the old days back to me,
And within the deep-belled blossoms faces of my loved I see.
So I love these friends of childhood with their colors rich and fine,
Hollyhocks that nod and blossom in a tall and stately line.

Rainbow colors flashing sunlight when the springtime breezes blow;
Sentries guarding memories happy as adown the path I go;
Cheery welcome in the whispers from their vari-colored throats
As they bend and nod to breezer in their quaint green-tinted coats.
Who would pass these old-time flowers with no thoughts of other days?
Who could pass their friendly blossoms on less friendly flowers to gaze?
Give me these old-fashioned flowers round which memories entwined—
Hollyhocks that nod and blossom in a tall and stately line.

A Legislative Lody

The general committee of the state senate was called to order by the chairman.
"Gentlemen," said he, "we are gathered to consider a number of bills and decide whether or not they should be allowed to become laws. The honorable body of which we are members looks to us to sift the good from the bad, in order that the honorable body's time be not wasted. What is your further pleasure, gentlemen?"
"Mr. Chairman," said Senator Scroggie, "the bill I have in my hand, No. 223, is a bill supported by the laboring men and it asks that the state compel the prison contractor to brand his goods 'convict made.' Now I am of the opinion—"
"Mr. Chairman," shrieked Senator Scott, "that there bill ain't no good. We are a gittin' several thousand dollars a year from that there contract, and it ain't no fair tryin' for to discriminate against the man that pays us the money. Them labor agitators what are pushin' this here bill are selfish, so they are, and they ain't entitled to no consideration. I move we recommend that there bill for indefinite postponement."

"I second the motion," said Senator Smooth, lighting a perfect cigar that looked exactly like the cigars to be found in the prison contractor's private desk.
The motion prevailed.
"Mr. Chairman," said Senator Scroggie, "the bill I have in my hand seeks to prevent the employment of children under the age of fourteen years in any mill, mine or factory. I introduced the bill by request, but personally I am opposed to it."
"Mr. Chairman," said Senator Skynce, "I am opposed to that bill because it is aimed to destroy the right of an employer to employ whomsoever he pleases. A man has got a right to employ labor where he can get it the cheapest, and this bill seeks to compel him to pay extortionate wages. I believe that children should be put to work as soon as they are big enough. It keeps them out of mischief and teaches them habits of industry. I am opposed to the bill and move we

recommend it for indefinite postponement."

The motion was seconded and carried.
"Mr. Chairman," said Senator Skimp, "the bill I have here provides relief for the general public. It is a bill to reduce the freight rates. I believe freight rates are too high, but this bill, I believe, makes too great a reduction. With some amendments I believe it would be a good bill, and I desire to offer—"
"Mr. Chairman," said Senator Skeem, "we ain't got no time to fool away discussin' that there measure. It is growin' late an' I am anxious to get through and go home. I got just an hour to catch the train to get home over Sunday and look after some personal business, an' I move we kill that there bill right here and git it out of the way."

And it was so ordered, the committee proceeded to kill a bill to compel railroads to handle live stock expeditiously, a bill to make public service corporations liable for injuries sustained by employees while in discharge of their duties, a bill to compel railroads to provide sites for independent elevators, a bill to abolish passes, a bill to regulate common carriers, a bill to compel railroads to furnish cars to independent shippers, and other bills of a like nature.

When the senate convened on the following Tuesday every bill demanded by the corporations went through with a rush, and the lobbyist of the principal railroad corporation in the state put trip book No. 57 back into his desk, and took out book No. 68 and softly ran the 100 leaves through his fingers.

"The railroad pass is a courtesy," he whispered to himself, winking at the inkstand, "and in no sense a bribe. But I'm glad the other fellows have no similar 'courtesies' to hand out. It might make things a bit more difficult for us."

CAPITAL AUXILIARY.

The Auxiliary met Friday, March 17, at the home of Mrs. Wells Compton, 1216 T street. As usual we had a good and interesting meeting.
Our social committee, with Mrs. Barngrover as chairman, is busy planning for our April social. No definite plans have been made but we are sure it will be a success, as our last social was. All printers and wives should make an effort to attend these socials.

Mr. and Mrs. Morris Crisman's two children, Belma and Irvin, who have been ill with the measles, are recovering nicely.

Our secretary, Mrs. Fred Mickel, has been alling the last few days but is feeling better at present.

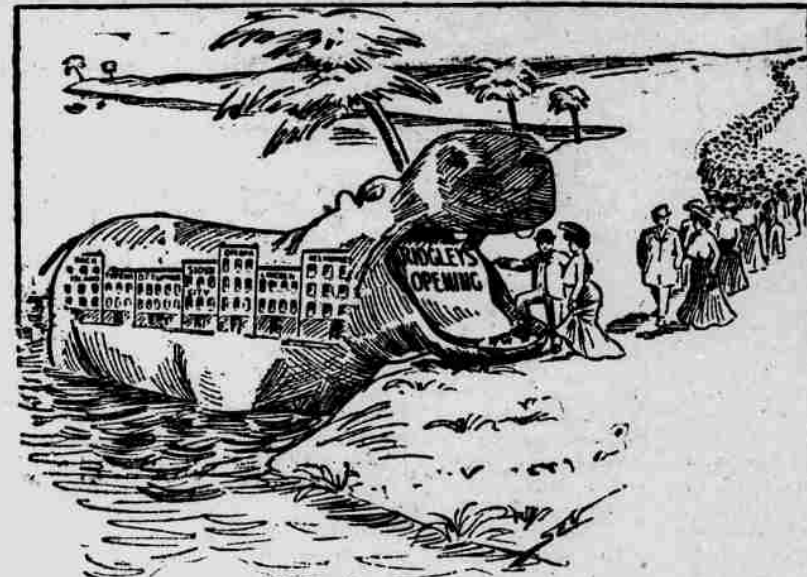
Mr. and Mrs. Glen Fancher, who have been boarding with Mr. Fancher's parents for the winter, are now keeping house at 523 North Fourteenth street.
Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bustard, who have been residing at 1649 Vine street have moved to Thirteenth and M streets.
The next meeting of the Auxiliary will be held Friday, April 7. All members are requested to be present, especially those who have not attended our meetings since they were initiated. Also our prospective members whose names have been accepted but who have not been obligated.

General Mention
For Union shoes go to Rogers & Perkins.
The Central Labor Union meets next Tuesday evening. All delegates should be present.

If you are going to move this spring, be sure that a union teamster drives the wagon.
Rogers & Perkins have the largest line of union made shoes at popular prices in the city.
The Ridgley Merchandise Co., has an ad in this issue, and it would pay you to read it carefully.
The Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers of this city are making arrangements to organize an auxiliary.

Fred Schmidt & Bro. have an ad in this issue, and it is worth reading. This firm has been a liberal and consistent advertiser in The Wageworker, and for this and other reasons is entitled to union patronage.
Of course you have noticed the ad-

NO SWEAT SHOP CLOTHING FOR US. OUR CLOTHING BEARS THE LABEL OF THE UNITED GARMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA



...ATTEND...

Ridgley's Grand Spring Opening

At 1406 O Street, Saturday, March 25th

and receive a beautiful souvenir. Through the far-sightedness of Mr. Ridgley we are enabled to cater to the trade of all loyal union men. Our clothing for Ladies and Gentlemen cannot be surpassed for quality and style, as all union men know, because the label of the U. G. W. of A. makes it so. You will notice our prices then to convince yourself of the liberality of Ridgley, go to the cash stores and ask their prices and examine their clothing, then come to us and you will see we have them on the run.

Ladies' Department Men's Department

Ladies' shirt waist suits, fresh and crisp, in silks, linen and voile—\$6.00 to \$18.00
Swell Cravenettes that keep you warm and dry—\$12.50 to \$18.50
Skirts hand tailored with subburst pleating, in latest style, all kinds of fabrics and colors—\$4.75 to \$15.00
Spring Jackets' tailor made, latest style in silk, covert cloth and Cravenette—\$5.00 to \$14.00
Fine selection of ladies' tailor made suits in browns and olive shades, silk linings throughout—\$11.75 to \$25.00
Special sale on ladies' waists in silk and wash goods; we clear this line up and will astonish you on prices—\$7.50 and \$9.00 waists at \$5.00; others in proportion.
Well selected stock of ladies' fine shoes from \$2.85 to \$5.00

Nobby top coats—\$10.50 to \$12.50
Fine hand tailored suits in the predominant style and most popular of all colors—brown and brown mixtures—\$14.98 to \$18.50
Blue and blacks, same make—\$9.50 to \$20.00
Raincoats that shed water like the duck—\$12.50 to \$13.50
Men's fine calf and patent leather shoes, correct shapes and they fit the feet—\$3.00 to \$4.75
Men's Hats—all colors and styles—\$2.50 to \$3.50
Shirts to wear—50c, 75c and \$1.00

...DO NOT FORGET THE PLACE...
Ridgley Credit Clothing Co.
1406 O STREET
We give S. and H. Green Trading Stamps.
Credit to All—None Refused. J. T. BULLHART, Mgr

NINETEEN BURNED UP

Secondary Fire in New York Results Disastrously
Nineteen persons were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the five story tenement house at 105 Allen street, New York. More than forty were injured and only a few of the sleeping inmates escaped unhurt. Several of those who perished were roasted to death in plain view of thousands in the street. Coroner Goldenbranz declared after an investigation that he had reason to believe that the blaze was the work of an incendiary. He issued subpoenas for the fire marshal, tenement house and building inspectors and health officers to appear before him at the inquest.

Have your orders for Groceries and Meat filled at

The Royal
1028 P STREET
Phones: BELL 224 AUTO 1224

Handle Everything in Season
MODERATE PRICES. FIRST CLASS SERVICE
MEALS, 15c. AND UP
OPEN ALL NIGHT

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Manufacturers of
...SHOES AND SHOE UPPERS...
And Dealers in
FINE READY MADE SHOES
The Only Union Shoe Dealer in Lincoln.
1529 O Street, Lincoln, Neb.

Local Lineman Dies in Local Hospital after Week's Illness

Joseph Hart, a lineman of the automatic telephone company, died at 4:30 a. m. today in a local hospital, after a week's illness. The remains were taken to Seward where the Burlington train company's funeral will be held at 10 o'clock. Mr. Hart was a single man, thirty years old, and was a member of the Electric Linemen's Union and of the Woodman lodge.