

THE WAGEWORKER

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THE NON-UNIONIST'S DEBT TO UNIONISM.

(William J. Bryan, in The Commoner.)

Just now the employers association is trying to create friction and antagonism between union and non-union labor. There should be no antagonism, for the benefits of unionism are enjoyed by all labor. Nearly all the increase in wages, nearly all the reduction in hours, nearly all the improvement in the conditions surrounding employment can be traced to the efforts of organized labor. Take away the labor organization and the condition of the artisans of the country would soon become unbearable. That the labor leaders make mistakes can not be denied—but can we expect perfection of human beings? Strikes have been called for insufficient reason and have some times been accompanied by violence, but the remedy is not to be found in making the employe fight his battle single handed but in the selection of more discreet and more reliable leaders. We do not despair of self government because some public officials are convicted of 'grafting' and 'boodling'; we punish the guilty and exercise more care in picking public servants.

THE OWNERSHIP OF THE OX.

Let a trades unionist speak of unionism in the average crowd of professional men and immediately he must defend unionism. Because now and then a union man goes wrong trades unions are denounced as organizations of sluggers and hold-ups.

Sam Parks went wrong, and every trades union in the country was denounced because of his sin. But why is it that men who judge trades unions by the occasional grafter or slugger, refuse to judge other organizations by the same standard?

Spaulding of Peoria was for twenty years looked upon as a model citizen and business man. He superintended a Sunday school, was at the head of the city schools and was a banker. And for fifteen of the twenty years he was stealing from men, from widows and from orphans, and he has left a wide trail of ruin and woe in his wake. But who would think of calling all bankers thieves and scoundrels merely because Spaulding went wrong?

An Oregon congressman has been sent to jail for grafting in the land department, but is that any reason why the people of the First Nebraska district should look upon Congressman Pollard as a thief and a rascal?

There are more bankers in jail than there are labor grafters, but the vast majority of bankers are honest men. There are some crooked labor leaders, but the majority—the vast and overwhelming majority—of union men are honest.

Union labor asks no especial favors. It only asks to be judged by its average—not by its worst or its best. It asks for no favors at the hands of the law—it only asks an equal footing in court. Its aims and its objects are known of all men who care to investigate. But in justice union labor does ask that it be given a fair hearing in the court of public opinion.

RESTRICTING FOREIGN IMMIGRATION.

Surely one may protest against the present high tide of foreign immigration without being dubbed a "know-nothing." Within the past twenty-four months two millions of foreigners have come to American shores. This means that one person in forty in this country today has been here less than two years. What this means to society, to politics, to the industrial world is not difficult to guess. Certainly something must be done to restrict this tide which threatens to overwhelm us. No one objects to foreign immigration providing it does not come too fast to permit of its being assimilated—Americanized, if you please. As it is now, these foreign immigrants are coming in such vast numbers that not only are we unable to assimilate them, but they are actually un-Americanizing vast districts, and the boundaries of these districts are constantly increasing. The evil results are to be found in our great cities, in our politics and in our industrial conditions.

Columbia welcomes to her shores every honest, industrious man and woman who comes with honest purpose and a determination to become an American in name and in spirit. But if Columbia is to survive she must stop the awful tide of insane, pauper and criminal immigration that is now sweeping upon her.

The labor unions of the country should take cognizance of these conditions and join in the work of protecting the American industrial system. The men who talk loudest about "protecting the American workingman" are the very men who are responsible for this awful tide of foreign immigration. They encourage it because it beats down wages and adds to their enormous profits. If we must compete with foreign pauper labor in God's name let us make the battlefield Europe, not America. Better competition with European pauper made goods right here in America than competition with the pauper himself at our very door.

MR. BROWN'S IN TOWN.

His name is Brown and he is a banker at Cambridge. Last Tuesday he reduced the swelling in the head of one Charles Gates Dawes, ex-comptroller of the currency, ex-agitator of Lincoln and now millionaire trust apologist of Chicago.

Mr. Dawes thought he would dazzle the country bankers of Nebraska by his awe-inspiring presence, and when he arose to chide Mr. Brown for alleged "pessimism" he imagined that he would squelch the aforesaid Brown. Mr. Dawes knows better now. Instead of being the squelcher he is the squelched. The way Mr. Brown trimmed up this trust apologist from Chicago was worth going miles to see.

We doff our chapeau to Mr. Brown of Cambridge, and wish him many an opportunity to swat the trust and corporation apologists as he swatted Honorable Charles Gates Dawes, ex-comptroller of the currency and ex-friend of the people who pay the freight.

Did you ever hear of a Parryote or Postumite who voluntarily increased wages or shortened hours? If it were not for the labor unions, wage earners would still be working thirteen hours a day under horrible conditions. Capital has no conscience, although some capitalists may have.

Eight hours a day is long enough for any man to work for wages. And if all wage earners who have benefited by the work of unionism would get into the fold and help the cause along, the eight-hour work day would soon be universal throughout the country.

There is an erroneous impression afloat to the effect that the Ladies' Home Journal is on the unfair list. This impression should be removed. The Ladies' Home Journal is all right.

Fred Job would lose most of his interest in the "free and independent workingman" if he happened to lose his salary for his professional interest.

The twenty-fifth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor will meet in Pittsburg Monday, November 13.

Why don't the dailies try to deceive the public about the printers' strike like they did about the teamsters' strike? The answer is easy.

Attractive People

Your clothes should add to your attractions not by being noticeable, but by being correct. If you wear Armstrong Clothes you will get what you want. It

will be all wool in quality and all right in price.

OUR SUITS AND OVERCOATS at \$10 Note the fabrics, all wool to the last fiber. Note the cut, 1905 models. Note the linings, rich and lasting. Note the patterns.

Greys of every description; also dark shades and a liberal showing of novelty colorings. Note, too, the price, \$10.00. Add \$5.00 to this price and you will have the real value.

OUR SUITS AND OVERCOATS at \$15 The suits are made from finest worsteds, cashmeres, chevots and serges. They are made deep chested, with side or center vents, and may be had in the new greens, the popular greys or in dark shades. No more fetching or lasting suits were ever produced at \$20.

The Overcoats are made from finest American Kerseys, Vicunas, Freizes and Meltons and may be had in a large variety of blacks, greys, greens, browns and fancy colorings. Cut 44, 46, 48, 50 and 52 inches long.



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Our Finest Clothing at

\$18.00, \$20.00, \$22.50, \$25.00, \$27.00 and \$30.00

Are made from finest imported wools, specially selected as to patterns. The garments are made stitch by stitch by hand, thus insuring lasting shape and perfect fit. These are the clothes that are taking the place of tailors' \$40, \$50 and \$60 productions. None better at any price.

Armstrong Clothing Co.

GOOD CLOTHES MERCHANTS

Whether Common or Not

Will M. Maupin, in "The Commoner."

TO DOROTHY

(Oct. 13, 1894-1905.)

When the crimson shoen in the sun
gleams,
And the wild bird tails from the woods
and streams,
When the northward sun on the bare
field gleams
And the brown leaves falling, falling,
Then we fondly, thix as the twilight
falls
With its long, quaint shadows athwart
the walls,
Of the long gone days—and a voice
enthalls;
The long past calling, calling,
When the whistling wind round the
cottage eaves
Like the wailing cry of a soul that
grieves,
Blows the whirling spray of the au-
tumn leaves
As the day is dying, dying,
We nearer draw to the fireside's
glow
And watch while the dancing shadows
go
In a mystic maze, now fast, now
slow,
While the snow is flying, flying,
Then the eyes look love and the heart
beats true,
Though the gray has blotted the clear
sky's blue;
And we light home's altar fires
anew
And life new joys bringing, bringing,
When the children laugh in their
hours of glee,
And prattle and clamber about my
knee,
Then I know the pleasure life brings
to me,
And my heart is singing, singing,
"Be-cause" the wind blows cold and the
storm
does roar,
And the drifts pile high 'round the
cottage door,
Though the whirling clouds through
the heavens soar
And harsh be the wind and weather,
We have sought to fear; love lights
the way
Though the days are bleak and the
clouds are gray—
Hand clasped in hand and our spirits
gay
We walk life's paths together.

The Investment

"Gentlemen," said President McHurdle of the Scrutable Life Insurance company, gently rapping upon his mahogany desk to secure order—"Gentlemen, you will please come to order."
The silence that permeated the room was thick enough to cut with a knife, and the sunlight that streamed through the French plate glass windows even subdued itself a trifle.
"Gentlemen," said President McHurdle, "it is hardly necessary for me to explain that we are gathered here today on important financial business. The Scrutable Life Insurance company is looking for investments for the surplus funds so kindly and confidently placed in its keeping by its millions of policyholders. It is needless for me to say that our company will consider only giltedged securities, for the interests of our policyholders are our only consideration. Now, gentlemen, those of you who have securities of the kind mentioned are invited to speak and make your offers."
"President McHurdle," said Director McHurdle of the Aurora Borealis Bond and Syndicate company, rising to his feet after President McHurdle of the Scrutable Life Insurance company sat down, "our company has three mil-

lions in the bonds of the Consolidated Hot Air and Tuffy company, which was organized by a number of our most prominent financial magnates. These bonds are guaranteed by the Prunella Guaranty company, which holds a first mortgage on the property of the company. These bonds bear 6 per cent interest and are offered at par and accrued interest, although there is a demand for them at 1 per cent premium. However, we desire to put them where they will not be speculated in to the detriment of our company, therefore we offer them to the Scrutable Life Insurance company."
"I have investigated your company, Mr. Director McHurdle," said President McHurdle, "and I rejoice to find it in such sound financial condition. You may put down the Scrutable Life Insurance company as subscribing for three millions of your bonds. Are there any others?"
"President McHurdle," remarked Secretary McHurdle of the Boundless Horizon & Unlimited Circumference railroad, "our company is preparing to place upon the market a five million issue of first mortgage debenture gold bonds bearing 7 per cent interest, for the purpose of construction work. This railroad taps a magnificent agricultural section whose future manufacturing prospects are very bright. We have already made tentative contracts for material and most of our townsites have been laid out. I consider these bonds an excellent investment under the circumstances."
"Mr. Secretary McHurdle," said President McHurdle, "I have noted the progress of your company with considerable satisfaction, and have thought of asking you for the privilege of taking up its bonds. Permit me to ask if this is your entire issue?"
"It is."
"Then you may set the Scrutable Life Insurance company down for the whole of them. We are determined to securely invest the money of our policyholders, thinking more of the security of the investment than we do of the interest thereon. Are there any more offers?"
"Yes, President McHurdle, I have a proposition," replied Treasurer McHurdle of the Consolidated Flapjack Frying company. "Our company, after several years of splendid prosperity, feels the need of making enlargements and improvements. We have decided, therefore, to issue six millions of bonds guaranteed by mortgage on the present plants and bearing 6 per cent interest. By placing these bonds we will secure sufficient capital to enable us to acquire control of the entire flapjack frying business of the country. This being the busy season in flapjack circles we are anxious to close our deals immediately in order to take advantage of the rush."
"I am glad that you are present today, Treasurer McHurdle," said President McHurdle, bowing profoundly. "I have anxiously awaited your decision to enlarge your business, feeling that an investment in the bonds of your company would be a great boon to the policyholders of the Scrutable Life Insurance company. You may consider the sale of your bonds as having been closed with me. Are there any others?"
"My company has nothing to offer as yet, President McHurdle," said General Manager McHurdle of the Soda Water Frolic company. "We are putting perfected machinery for the manufacture of froth for soda water,

but as yet we have ample capital on hand. Should our expectations be realized, however, we may want to float a couple of millions in bonds for the enlargement of our business."

"Well, General Manager McHurdle," said President McHurdle, "when that time comes I hope you will let the Scrutable Life Insurance company have an opportunity to consider an investment in your securities."
"I will be glad to, Mr. President," said General Manager McHurdle.
"There being no further business, gentlemen, we will consider the meeting adjourned. Before going, however, I desire to thank all of you for your kindness to the policyholders of the Scrutable Life Insurance company in letting them in on such good securities."

With this the meeting adjourned, and President McHurdle, Treasurer McHurdle, Director McHurdle, Secretary McHurdle and General Manager McHurdle went out as one man and sat down to a bountiful dinner for which the grateful policyholders of the Scrutable Life Insurance company paid.

Both Sides of the Shield
"I saved three cents a yard, on that lace," boastfully declared Mrs. Bargain-Hunter.

"And my wage of 37 cents a day was reduced to 33 cents a day in order that you might secure the bargain," said Mrs. Sweat-Shop Worker.

"Last year this ready-made silk-waist suit would have cost me \$45, but this year I secured it at the bargain price of \$39.98," said Mrs. Bargain-Hunter.

"And I had to deprive my little ones of sufficient food and clothing on account of it," said Mrs. Sweat-Shop Worker.

"My what a beautiful cloak!" exclaimed Mrs. Bargain-Hunter. "Only \$75, and the material must have cost all of that. I'll just take it. It is a wonderful bargain."

"Yes, it contains more than material and workmanship," sighed Mrs. Sweat-Shop Worker. "It contains the hungry looks of my little ones, it contains my tears and heartaches, it contains my heart's blood, it contains the warmth and comfort that my children never knew. Yes, it is a great bargain."

Precaution

The great Mine Owner was showing his Distinguished Visitor about the mine property.

"This," said the Mine Owner, "is where we care for the sick and injured mules that haul the little cars through the galleries to the main shaft."

"What wonderful philanthropy, what distinguished consideration for our dumb animals!" exclaimed the Distinguished Visitor. "Now show me the hospital where you care for the sick and injured miners."

"Huh! We have no such hospital," said the Mine Owner.

"And why not, pray?" queried the Distinguished Visitor.

"For the very simple reason that we are constantly pestered by men looking for work, while we are compelled to keep men out on good salaries looking for mules," replied the Mine Owner.

Brain Leaks

No road is long that love walks. It is easy for a mother to excuse. The sin found out is no worse than the sin concealed.

The mark in the pupil should never be the model for the mark in the pew.

There is nothing else so grouch as a man who thinks he is just about half sick.

Miss Anna Virginia Miller...

The services of Miss Miller have been secured by us for an indefinite period. She is admittedly one of the leaders in Domestic Science, and her lectures and demonstrations are of immense value to those who desire to know how to secure the best culinary results at the least expenditure of labor and money.

Free Demonstrations

Miss Miller's demonstrations are free and all housewives are invited to attend. They are given on Wednesday afternoons at 2:30 and Friday evenings at 8. The following is the program for

Wednesday, Nov., 1, 2:30 p. m.

REQUESTED DISHES:—Lamb Chops with Potato Balls and French Peas. Clover Leaf Rolls. Cream Puffs.

Friday, Nov., 3, 8:00 p. m.

"A NEW ENGLAND THANKSGIVING"—New England Chicken Pie. Pumpkin Pie. Thanksgiving Pudding.

We propose to sell to the employer eight hours out of the twenty-four, and we will do as we please with the remaining sixteen.