

THE WAGEWORKER

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THE MISFORTUNE OF PATRICK.

Pat Johnson of Lincoln is a laborer. Having no trade he is forced to earn his living by the unskilled labor of his hands. This is one of Patrick's misfortunes. Another misfortune is that he has the cigarette habit. Under our present beneficent laws it is a double misfortune to be poor and a cigarette smoker.

Mind you, we are not opposed to the cigarette law. On the contrary we think it is a good thing. But we are opposed to some of the ways and means and methods of enforcing that and other laws.

The other day Patrick Johnson, laborer, was arrested for rolling a cigarette. Perhaps he should have been arrested. Just why a poor laborer should imagine that he could violate the law is beyond our ken. Were he a university student, or a well dressed counter jumper, or a scion of some wealthy house and therefore enabled to loaf and dress well at papa's expense, he might roll 'em all day long and not be molested. But no laborer, dressed in overalls and bearing the marks of toil must be allowed to roll 'em. Not much. These darn laboring men must be taught to respect the law. These greasy mechanics must be made to understand that there is a plain line of demarcation between them and the young gentlemen who toil not, neither do they spin, and are yet arrayed in wide-hipped pants, dinky little caps, flaring neckties and military-heeled shoes. These soiled mechanics must understand that the law against cigarettes means that no man with corns on his hands can violate the law but must be content with a cob pipe and a sack of cheap tobacco. Only the nice little boys with good clothes and soft white hands—and heads—may roll cigarettes with impunity.

We regret that Patrick should have run afoul of the argus-eyed police, but he has only himself to blame. If he had carefully noted the difference between the Willie boys and the Working boys he would have gone far up into the alley before rolling his cigarette. Only the Willie boys are allowed to stand on the corners and make the cigarettes they want.

But a mere workman ought to be content with a pipe, anyhow. There must be something to distinguish the mere mechanic from the aristocrat, and the cigarette seems to be about the best thing whereby to mark the distinction.

Back to Missouri meerschaum, all you common workingmen! By what right do you butt in and seize upon the aristocratic cigarette that marks the Willie boy and the aristocratic counter jumper who often earns as much as seven plunks per?

"WAIT AND SEE SCUDDER."

M. L. Scudder, high mogul of the Lincoln Distraction company, refuses to help in the matter of maintaining a base ball team in Lincoln during the coming season. We are not surprised. There is no reason why Mr. Scudder should dip into the Distraction company's treasury for a cent. Experience has taught him many things, and one of them is that Lincoln people will stand for anything. They will fuss and fume a day or two about the arrogant selfishness of the Distraction company—and then they will take their medicine and the Distraction company's dividends on its amply irrigated stocks will go right on just the same. Why should Mr. Scudder give up a nickel when he'll get just as much benefit without it? Why should he show any consideration for such a bunch of E. Z. Marks as Lincoln citizens have proved themselves to be?

In his weak and pinheaded way President Scudder goes the late Colonel Vanderbilt several better. Vanderbilt said: "The public be damned!" President Scudder beats that by saying: "The public be double damned!" What right has a lot of meek and apologetic citizens to kick against the decrees of a non-resident magnate? What right has a lot of weak-kneed skates like the Lincolnites to ask a magnate to give up a few dollars when he knows he doesn't have to?

It's the dollar that President Scudder is after, and he knows he'll get it. Experience has taught him that the people of Lincoln haven't got sand enough to demand their rights. If they want base ball let 'em pay for it—and incidentally make increased profits for the Lincoln Distraction company. They are a set of chumps if they imagine for a minute that the Lincoln Distraction company will help them out by giving up a few of its hard-earned dollars.

Go to, you suckers! M. L. Scudder knows a bunch of easy things when he sees them. And he sees you.

A BEAUTIFUL SPECTACLE.

Among the Lincolnites who went to Minneapolis to see the Gopher team make monkeys of the Cornhuskers was Clinton R. Lee, the penitentiary contractor. He flew around looking for bets, and he had a bunch of greenbacks big enough to choke a cow. His diamond shirtstud shone like an electric headlight on a locomotive, and his solitary ring looked like a year's wage for a common workman. Mr. Lee was certainly it among the "sports" at Minneapolis.

He could afford it, too. While he was flashing his roll and his diamonds, 230 convicts were making brooms for him to sell in competition with honest and free workmen who were struggling to earn a living for themselves and little ones. He has his brooms made by convicts for whose labor he pays less than 50 cents a day per man. And thousands of women who are always shedding tears for the benighted heathen in foreign lands buy those brooms and in effect tell the honest and free broommakers to starve or be durned. It is a whole lot easier—and cheaper—to feel for the heathen ten thousand miles away than it is to give thought and help to humble and struggling poor just around the corner.

It was an inspiring sight to see Mr. Lee offering to bet huge chunks of money on a football game. In fact, it was a much pleasanter sight than that of a score or more of struggling broommakers trying to earn honest livings for themselves and little ones and having an almighty hard time of it.

But of course the poor convicts must have something to do, else they will become discouraged and despondent. Therefore philanthropists take a great interest in their welfare. But the honest broommaker who tries to respect and obey the laws—well, he deserves no consideration. He ought to steal something and in that way insure himself a steady job at his trade.

The American Federation of Labor refused to censure President Gompers on the charge that he is too intimate with plutocrats. That's right, but the sooner President Gompers cuts loose from that bunch of labor exploiters known as the Civic Federation the better it will be for himself and the whole body of organized labor.

The union label is the most effective weapon that organized labor can use between election days. The label and the ballot—with these two weapons labor can win every battle fought for justice and right.

The Interurban company shows a disposition to do the right thing by the people of Lincoln. This is in marked contrast to the disposition shown by the Lincoln Distraction company.

There's one sure way to knock the spots off of the corporations that are seeking to crush organized labor. Bury your partisan differences and get together at the ballotbox.

Perfunctory prayers never fed a hungry worker, and God will judge men by their actions, not by their professions.

"Keep you eye on the squirrel."

Our Great Suit Section Offers Great Bargains

At \$15



Gentlemen's distinctively styled Business Suits at \$15.00. The values we give at this price speak for themselves. They are mostly Hart, Schaffner & Marx make and made especially to our order of strictly all wool and pure worsted fabrics, such as black Thibets, blue serges, Scotch chevots, black clays and casimeres in the single and double breasted "varsity" style, now so popular. These suits are strictly hand tailored, with the new heavy lapel, deep side or center vents. The assortment also includes a separate line of patterns for stout and slim men. Values that in every respect equal those at \$20.00 elsewhere. We offer this week at \$15.00.

Mens Suits At \$12.50 and \$10—better look before you buy. The suits we offer at \$12.50 and \$10.00 will save you from \$3.50 to \$5.00 in real money. Finest American woolens—garments made by America's most expert wholesale tailors—patterns that are exact reproductions of the highest priced fabrics. Not an old style to be seen or offered you at any price. An assortment to select from which is unequaled in the west. They are suits full of style, good looks, comfort and good wearing qualities.

All Wool Suits for Every Day at \$8.75, \$7.50, \$6.50, \$5.00

Our first statement about these suits is that they are all wool. This is not a misstatement on our part—we say it again. They are all wool and we will guarantee it.

The Home of Our Finest Suits at 18.00, 20.00, 22.50 and 25.00.

are worn by men who are able to pay a tailor \$50.00 for a suit if they could get one so good.

Judging from the unusual demand for our Overcoats this season, we can justly call our store the "Home of the Overcoat." Every recognized style is here given great space and consideration. Over 5,000 Overcoats to select from. Prices, \$5.00 to \$45.00.



Armstrong Clothing Co.

GOOD CLOTHES MERCHANTS

ASK YOURSELVES THE QUESTION.

Over in Bombay, India, they are working the children fifteen hours a day in the cotton mills. This is made possible by the introduction of electric lights. A majority of the operatives in these big mills are children under sixteen years of age, and recent British industrial statistics reveal the awful fact that there are 2,000 children under 12 years of age in the Bombay mills, and 600 of that number under 9 years of age. "Open shop" conditions prevail in Bombay. There are no "anarchistic labor unions" there to interfere with the employers in the management of their business. There are no "walking delegates" to control the "free and independent" millworkers. Industrial conditions, from the Parry standpoint, are ideal in Bombay. Fifteen hours a day, child labor, no unions and open shop conditions—what a paradise for the Parryite.

But what about the workers? The Wageworker invites every thoughtful American citizen to ask himself these questions:

"How long would it be ere Bombay conditions prevailed in the United States if the labor unions were destroyed?"

"How long would the eight and nine hour day last if the employers were left in supreme control of the hours of labor?"

"What would become of industrial America if Bombay conditions should come to pass here?"

"Who is responsible for the difference between Bombay and American industrial conditions?"

"How long will it be ere Bombay children are released from industrial slavery on the initiative of the employers?"

"What agency is it that is doing most to wipe out child labor in the United States?"

Ponder on these questions and answer them honestly. If you do this you will become an ardent advocate of unionism.

Now what do you think of the unionism of the Lincoln man who carries a card in the hip pocket of a pair of overalls made in the Lincoln Overall and Shirt factory? The Wageworker met one such "union man" the first of this week.

What tickles us is the sight of a man who has taken advantage of the bankruptcy laws standing up in public to denounce the oppressions of a corporation.

Manager Jones calls it "the daylight factory." Perhaps because it runs from dawn till dark.

Unionism of the mouth counts for nothing.

Buy label goods! Get the habit!

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.

SOME PLANTS THAT HIDE

C. G. Pringle, for many years a famous plant collector, especially in Mexico and the arid regions of the United States, speaks of a native grass of Northern Mexico, Muhlenbergia Texana, as such a favorite with all grazing animals that it is usually exterminated, or nearly so, except when growing under the protection of thorny shrubs, usually mesquite bushes. In Arizona during the winter and spring the Indians bring it long distances into the towns to sell. He adds: "How many times I have contended with the horrid mesquite bushes to gather an armful of this grass to carry joyfully to my hungry and jaded horses. In such cases the thorns, spines, and perhaps bitter taste of the bushes, not only protect the young growth and leaves of certain plants, but furnish shelter for other tender and nutritious herbage. In arid regions, especially, similarly instances of protection by thorn bushes are numerous."

Again, some plants retire beneath the surface of the ground at the close of the growing season, especially in regions subject to droughts or cold, remaining secure beneath the surface for months in the form of bulbs, tubers and rootstocks. At such times they are nearly sure to escape destruction by animals. Examples are Solomon's seal, Dutchmen's breeches, May apple, goldenrod and artichoke. Other plants are protected by water and of these Prof. Beal says: "Not only the flowers of many species of plants as they project above the surface of the water are protected from most unwelcome insects, but the whole plants as well. Mud turtle, certain fishes, water snails, larvae of insects eat aquatic plants, but most other animals are unable to reach them in such places. Water plantain, wild rice, pond lilies, arrowweed, pickerel weed, pondweed, lizard's tail, bulrush, horsetail, cattail flag, water dock and many more of their associates root at the bottom with leaves floating on the surface or projecting above. Innumerable low forms, known as algae, are at home in lakes, ponds and streams, or on the surface of the water, while other kinds thrive in salt or brackish water. These aquatics find protection below the surface or by extending above it, not only from numerous animals, but they have no competition with others which can grow only on dry or moist soil."—Exchange.

A Recipe for Thanksgiving

Secure either one large turkey, or three or four average sized chickens, a peck of potatoes, two or three cans of corn, a couple of cans of tomatoes, about two quarts of cranberry sauce, four bunches of celery, some macaroni and cheese, several kinds of jelly and some canned peaches. Bake four fat mince pies and make a bread pudding with plenty of sauce. Prepare the aforesaid articles as nicely as possible, and then set upon a table covered with a clean cloth, and have plenty of elbow room at each plate. If you have five in your family make the table long enough to seat about ten people.

Having prepared the dinner go into the front room and invite your guests to "walk in to dinner."

Now comes the important part. If you have invited the right kind of guests the dinner will be a magnificent success.

The guests should be some poor widow and her little brood.

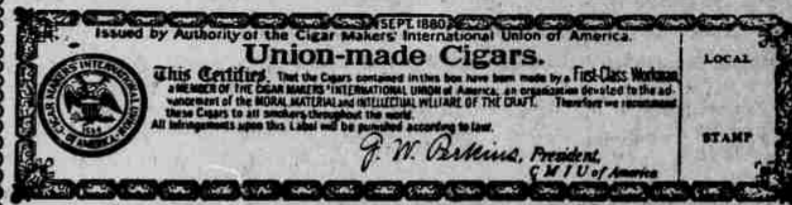
Try it once, and see what a good dinner it will be.

Hoppe Handles Howard's Hot-Draft Heaters

See our goods, get our prices before you buy that bill of hardware. Remember the place. A large display of the best Stoves, Ranges and Heaters in Lincoln is what we have to show you.

Hoppe's, 108 North 10th St.

Your Cigars Should Bear This Label.



It is insurance against sweat shop and tenement goods, and against disease. . . .

A Discussion

"Dis irrigation business is a good thing," remarked Walker Rounde, removing the tomato can from the fire with one hand and turning the old newspaper with the other.

"I 'link not," exclaimed Ragson. "Of course it is, pal," said Walker Rounde. "Don't decrease de wisible supply o' water by lettin' it soak into de ground?"

"O, yes, dat's true 'nough," yawned Ragson Taggs, "but just tink of how much moisture it spreads aroun' where dere ain't been any before."

Brain Leaks

A smiling face is a great road maker through life.

Last summer's pleasures are always brightest when the winter is coldest.

This world is good enough; the trouble is that so many people are not living up to it.

A lot of men claim credit for being good when they are only afraid of doing wrong.

Some people look on joining the church as a sort of vaccination against eternal punishment.

The love of labor lightens the load. When the congregation yawns the preacher needs awakening.

There are housewives so awfully neat that they will not be content in heaven unless they can peer into all the corners.

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