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### THE CARPENTERS.

A Big Bunch of News From Lincoln's Largest Union.

Six candidates initiated last week, and four applications pending. Bro. Fredericks, who resides at 1920 T street, is very ill with typhoid fever. A number of the boys have taken turns sitting up with him. Beginning with the present week a nurse has been hired by the C. O. U. W., of which order the brother is a member.

The delegates from the C. L. U. made a most encouraging report of the activity of that body. Remember that beginning with the new year the dues of beneficial members are 65 cents per month and semi-beneficial members 45 cents.

Bro. Kent has returned from his trip to Colorado and Wyoming. He gave a very interesting talk of the future possibilities of that country. Work has already commenced on the new road, the Denver, Yellowstone & Pacific, which will run from Denver to Seattle, taking in Fort Collins, Encampment, Saratoga, Lander, Yellowstone park, Boise City, etc. Along this route are vast deposits of anthracite, semi-anthracite and bituminous coal, oil, copper, gold, silver, gypsum, marble, iron, stone, asphaltum, forests of virgin timber and thousands of acres of land that only requires irrigation to make it yield equal to any soil in the country. Lander is undoubtedly going to be the capitol of Wyoming. Besides this, the Burlington and Northwestern are both aiming for Lander. Next June the Shosone or Wind river reservation is to be thrown open to settlement, and in connection with this the government is already at work on a system of irrigation. No country in the United States offers greater possibilities in the future for all classes of settlers than Wyoming. Irrigation has long past the experimental stage. Land around Greeley and Fort Collins, Colo., that a few years ago was considered worthless, to day is selling at \$200 per acre and proves an excellent investment at those figures.

It was a surprise to learn that the value last year of Colorado's agricultural products was greater than the value of her mineral products. Bro. Kent told of the havoc wrought by the Citizens Alliance and Mine Owners Association in driving out the miners; how in Denver, Pueblo, Telluride and Cripple Creek. Just prior to the lockout it was almost impossible to rent a house; now empty houses are plenty. The building business is flat. The business men are realizing that the reign of Peabody and Sherman Bell was very costly to Colorado, for when they owned the well paid American miner, they drove away the best customer of the products they had to sell. Despite Colorado's great wealth in mine and field it will take years for her to regain her old time business prosperity. A large part of the miner's wealth is spent outside of Colorado, but the miner spends his money at home, it goes at once in circulation and the prosperity of the clothier, the grocer, the baker, etc., and the world of business as seen upon our streets is gauged unerringly by the wealth of the miner. Bro. Kent visited the headquarters of the carpenters in Denver and found them occupying quarters of their own at Twelfth and Stout streets. They had bought a residence and lot. They had torn out the interior partitions and added on four rooms in front, bringing the front of the building to the sidewalk line. They had put in an ornamental front, something on the store style and had made a hall of the interior of the old residence. Why not the carpenters do the same thing in Lincoln. Let them get to work and get busy. The trustees were ordered to investigate and find out how many of our members had badges of their own, and if it would be feasible to change the numbers on such badges? And further to find out the cost of badges to all members not provided for and if it would be expedient for the union to provide badges for all the members. The trustees were to make such recommendation to the union as to them seemed best.

### CAPITALISTS WAGE SYSTEM.

A Socialist Brother Says it is Wrong From Every Point.

To the Editor of the Wagoner: As a member of the working class, and one who has taken a life-long interest in the welfare of labor and society as a whole, I desire to commend you for the able and fearless manner in which you are conducting your paper. Your article last week in which you showed up the evils and perniciousness of the factory and sweatshop system of capitalist production meets with my hearty approval. If you will kindly grant me a portion of your valuable space I will endeavor to throw some light on the situation, from the standpoint of a socialist.

As you well say, when we have in our midst factories that "pay women girls an average wage of \$6.00 per week and draw checks of \$2.42 to pay for one woman's work for an entire week," it is indeed time that the public should devote time to the consideration of the situation, and the fact that sometimes such factories are opened with prayers does not improve matters a particle. The Wagoner says: "Keep your eye on the squirrel; and the squirrel in Lincoln's case is the wage question. Do we want here in Lincoln the sweatshop system? Do we want factories that pay starvation wages? Do we want factories that prey upon the necessities of those who are forced to toil?" The above are indeed pertinent questions and should be answered in the negative in each case. But let us not be too selfish about it! Do we want those things for Omaha, Chicago, St. Louis, the mill towns of Massachusetts, and Connecticut, or any place else on God's footstool? Again should we say "no," most emphatically. But what are we going to do about it? How are we going to prevent such things? Workingmen have the ballot in this country, and they are possessed of a considerable degree of intelligence! If they would use the ballot in their own interests, as they have a right to do, they could soon change such disgraceful conditions, which are a detriment to all.

"Keep your eye on the squirrel." Let us consider the squirrel. Manager Jones of the Lincoln Overall and Shirt company is a business man. He went into business because he wanted to make money for Jones. Not having enough capital of his own, he goes to some of his brothers and promises them dividends on the stock of his

## THANKSGIVING

Will M. Maupin in The Commoner.

Every day's Thanksgiving if you live your life aright. Every day's Thanksgiving if you look up to the light. Every day's Thanksgiving—but today we celebrate Around the family altar with enough on every plate. So, father, carve the turkey; And mother, cut the pie; The light of glad thanksgiving Brings a sparkle to the eye. Thanksgiving for the harvest—kneel and happy tribute pay To the Lord of Hosts who blesses with a glad Thanksgiving Day. Every day's Thanksgiving when the heart is full of hope. Every day's Thanksgiving if still up and on we grope. Every day's Thanksgiving—but today we gather 'round Where the laughter of the children is the sweetest music found. So, father, wield the carver, And mother, pass the cake. Thanksgiving songs are ringing Till the very rafters shake. Thanksgiving for God's mercies that are shed upon our way, And praise the God of Harvests for this glad Thanksgiving Day. Every day's Thanksgiving, for we've blessings and to spare. Every day's Thanksgiving if we live life on the square. Every day's Thanksgiving—but today the kindred ties. Gently draw us close together where the old-time homestead lies. So, father, lead the singing; And, mother, say "Amen!" Thanksgiving day is dawning With the children home again. Thanksgiving for the blessings as along life's road we stray, And sing our songs of gladness on this good Thanksgiving Day. Every day's Thanksgiving, let the skies be gray or blue. Every day's Thanksgiving if our hearts beat strong and true. Every day's Thanksgiving—but today is best of all. For we gather 'round the table in response to mother's call. So, father, lead the singing With your strong and lusty bass; And, mother, head the column With a smile upon your face. Thanksgiving, heartfelt, honest; Sing along the way Songs of praise unto the Master for this best Thanksgiving Day.

company if they will "invest." Jones is not a humanitarian any more than any other business man. The stockholders were promised dividends and Jones promised to get them for them, if he had to do without pay himself (which is not likely, as Jones was in the same business more, and so he knew what he was going into). Where do the dividends come from? Why are the workers paid \$6.60 per week? The difference between the selling price of the product produced by the workers and the cost of operating the concern represents the amount of profit, which will be turned over to the stockholders, minus the "salary" kept out by Manager Jones for himself. But does anyone suppose Jones will be content with \$6.60 per week? I contend, as do all socialists, that the fault lies in the fact that society is not a whole. Instead of having private competing capitalists seeking to supply the needs of society for the profit—there may be in it for them—with the welfare of the workers as a very minor consideration (note the remarks of Mayor Brown: "to believe such a factory can be made to pay well," etc.) that one should have a co-operative system of production and distribution of all the things we socially need, that the welfare of the workers (and all should be given a chance to work) should be of primary importance, and that profit should be eliminated entirely. Let us all be workers together; let us eliminate ruinous, wasteful competition; let us "share one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ." By so doing the houses of labor would be reduced immeasurably, there would be abundance of the good things of life for all, poverty and sweatshop conditions would be abolished, we would have a happy contented and prosperous people, and the evils of the competitive system, of which the Wagoner rightly complains, would trouble us no more forever!

Fellow workers, fellow Americans, are not such things worth working for? The co-operative commonwealth is the goal the socialists of all lands are working for. It was but a few years ago that the people of Nebraska had a chance at the ballot box to say what they wanted—capitalism or socialism. In Lancaster county Comrade Condit, who headed the socialist ticket, got 68 votes, while another candidate received less than 100. Boys, this is a start in the right direction, but as I said before the workers must free themselves from capitalist will never get off their backs of their own free will. We have the ballot; we have the brains—all we lack is the desire in sufficient numbers. There are lots of socialist books in the Lincoln public library and there are lots of socialist papers, (Appeal to Reason, Girard, Kansas, is a good one.) Brothers, the socialists have a reasonable, practical plan to abolish the evils now afflicting society. The socialist party is the only party who has. Production for profit is wrong; wage-slavery is wrong; militarism and pauperism are wrong. In the name of poor, wrong, suffering, oppressed humanity, we ask you to investigate our cause and give it your approval at the ballot box next election day. J. C. L. WISELEY.

### THE TEAMSTERS.

Organization Growing at a Rate Gratifying to the Membership.

Teamsters' Union No. 440 is prospering these days, even if there are a lot of shortsighted teamsters who would rather except without question what the employers see fit to give than to demand what they are really worth. The transfer drivers—the very ones who ought to take the most interest in organization—have held back and are content to work any old hours at any old wage. But the faithful ones are not discouraged and are fighting along and making their influence felt. Organizer Young is in Omaha this week winding up his work of organization in that city. He expects to be back here next week, and will resume his labors in this field. L. Dubois, who has been a sufferer from rheumatism for several weeks is able to be about again, but is not yet able to work. E. M. Hodgins, who lost a horse by accident a couple of weeks ago, has another one now, thanks to the help of his fellow unionists. A transfer and baggage line, owned and operated by union men is in

prospect for the near future. The Wagoner is confident that such a venture would be a success, and pledges itself to give it wide publicity. Excavating for the new Y. M. C. A. building began Wednesday, and business Agent Morris was called on to furnish four or five union teams. He responded to the call. Work on the interurban road continues, and several teams are still employed. The continued fine weather has been beneficial in several directions, but it has made lighter the business of the coal teamsters. The meeting last Monday night was above the average in both attendance and interest. A lot of important business was transacted, but one very important matter was laid over until next Monday night. Next week's meeting should be larger than ever.

### THE PRINTERS.

A Few Brief Notes About the Printer and His Wife.

Joe Hatch has resigned as machinist at the Star, and "Jake" Greenley is again filling the position pending a permanent arrangement.

Mrs. Leon Huckins has been ill for some time, but is now well along on the road to recovery.

Col. James Leaden is now distributing the 'steenth annual issue of his Labor Directory.

The Woman's Home Companion is a "rat" publication. The boycott is illegal, but don't forget that the Woman's Home Companion is rat.

The union meeting, December 3 will see a new set of officers elected, even though the old officers are re-elected. There is no sign as yet of any political campaigning.

There was a meeting of presidents at Indianapolis a week ago last Sunday. Presidents from the strike centers to the number of eighteen were there and the situation was thoroughly covered. The international can continue to pay constitutional strike benefits indefinitely. All agreed that the situation grew better every day.

Minneapolis and St. Paul printers say that the "soap" got very few printers from the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin, none at all from Nebraska, but oodles of them from Iowa. The "humpback rule boys" from Hawkeyedom seem to have emerged from the cornfields in droves.

### A GOOD SCHEME.

How a Business Firm is Boosting the Home Industry Scheme.

Rudge & Guenzel have struck a good lead, and other business firms of the city would do well to follow suit. There is no patent or copyright on the idea.

This firm has taken a hand in the "home industry" campaign and is advertising in Lincoln made goods and pushing them in every way possible. It gives a list of the good it carries and which are made in Lincoln, and announces that whenever possible it will give preference to goods manufactured right here at home. This is a stroke of enterprise which, if followed up in this firm's characteristic fashion, will prove to be immensely beneficial to the industrial future of the city. If every other mercantile firm will now get into the game, we may expect a boom in the manufacturing business.

### ITS GREAT BREADTH.

The Labor Movement Humanitarian, and Not Selfish.

The action of the American Federation of Labor in taking up the subject of "tuberculosis, its causes and cure," for discussion, may give an idea of the breadth of the labor movement that is not generally grasped by those outside the fold. The discussion will be limited in the main, to lay observation, necessarily, yet it gives promise of great results to afflicted humanity. But stop! Possibly the doctors will object to our invasion of their field. Think of the assurance of a parcel of heavy-handed sons of toil invading a field with nothing more than a sentimental desire to help his brother man to commend the course, and that in absence of training to the manor born.—Omaha Labor Advocate.

### MORTGAGING THE FUTURE.

Child labor is not only a cruel injustice to the children; it is uneconomical, shortsighted and wasteful for the community. It is mortgaging the future for the benefit of the present generation. Child labor is never cheap for the community; it is an inexcusable waste of opportunity to create good citizens.—Homer Folks.

### FLED BEFORE WOMAN'S PISTOL.

How Mrs. Reader Put Stop to Impudence of Peruvian.

In her story of "Ella Rawls Reader, Financier," contributed in Everybody's, Juliet Wibor Tompkins tells the following incident of a struggle of Mrs. Reader's in Peru:

"After eight months of useless struggle she went to Callao, which is about half an hour by rail from Lima, with her Peruvian lawyer, Scotch interpreter, and American engineer, and forced the manager to open the warehouses and let her make an inspection of the machinery. The manager had met her with his lawyers, and the hour for argument before she gained her point had been something of a strain. During the whole process a Peruvian on the Haggin side had been standing close to Mrs. Reader, his little, narrowed eyes staring with that deliberate insolence only Latins can accomplish. The company went out into the warehouse where the machinery lay and the difficult business of a hurried inspection went forward, but still the bullying stare never ceased. After about two hours of it, the fine edge of that hidden temper of hers suddenly sprang up. She whirled on him with a blaze of words that needed no interpreter, and all at once his stare was being returned by a fierce little pistol held in a strong white hand and quite ready for business. "The gentleman of Peru neither apologized nor retracted; he inconspicuously fled. And he was not the only one. Like shadows the men flitted out of the dusky warehouse, leaving the dangerous woman a clear field. When she looked about there was no one in sight but two Irish porters, and in their eyes were sympathetic twinkles, meeting which, Mrs. Reader could only sink down helpless with laughter and put up her pistol."

The Dentist and the Alligator.

Roy Farrell Greene, the president of the American Society of Curio Collectors, told at a dinner of dentists an appropriate story.

"A dentist," he said, "was once traveling in the East, and in the Ganges his boat overturned and he was obliged to strike out for the shore.

"As the dentist swam sturdily through the muddy water an enormous alligator suddenly rose up before him. The alligator opened its enormous jaws, and the next instant would have been the dentist's last, only—just in time—the man happened to notice the great reptile's sharp, white teeth, and an idea struck him.

"He drew a probe from his pocket, and, pressing it into the alligator's gums, he said:

"Does this hurt you?" "The alligator screamed with pain, and the dentist, amid its great agony, made good his escape."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

### Wall Street Honesty.

John Alexander Dowie, before he set out for his Mexican colony, talked about Wall street honesty. In conclusion he said:

"Yes, my friend, the honesty of these financiers reminds me of that of the tramp who found a purse.

"Two tramps entered a railroad station to get a drink of ice water, and one of them, seeing a richly-dressed woman drop her pocket book, picked it up and returned it to her.

"His companion was enraged and shocked. "Don't you know better," he cried, "that to give back a purse like that? Why didn't you keep it for yourself, you do!"

"Ah, John," said the other, "honesty is the best policy when a policeman is looking, an', besides, there was nothin' in the purse."

To Point a Moral. Almost everything he had. They should make a lesson glad. Just to be alive; good friends, health, position, all that lends happiness to most of us. I should have been happy thus! Life he loved for its own sake. And he hoped to live to make Others see his point of view. And he optimistic, too. Then one day, a little worry. Caused his mind a minute's flurry; He dismissed it—it returned. Every hour. And then he learned. That it would not do him good. As his daily task revived. This small problem interfered. With his work, and it appeared. Each day larger than before. So it grew and more and more. Colored all his speech and thought; Other ideas shrunk to naught. Day and night the worry fed On his soul, unquieted. Till its everlasting pain Broke his heart and wrecked his brain.

When he killed himself, at last, All who knew him were astute. Save the one who'd caused his worry, (And forgot it in a hurry); That one said, "Did you know, my dear, I always did think he was—queer!" —Cleveland Leader.

### Too Late to Sort Cats.

Jim Crocker lived in an old tumble-down house in a little town in Massachusetts. The cellar windows being broken out, an opportunity was afforded to stray cats to run in and out, and sometimes there would be quite a congregation. We lost our pet cat one evening, and thinking she might have joined the happy throng, we sent our man over to ask "Uncle Jim" if he would take a look and see if she was among the number. He was generally pretty good-natured, but this time he was out of sorts, for he said: "Your cat may be there, or she may not be, but I ain't a-going to light up no lamp and go down in that cellar this time of night sorting out cats for nobody, so there."

### His Father Was Athlete.

Dr. Dudley of Abington, Mass., tells this story of his man David and his housekeeper, who had great confidence in all that David said and did: One day David was in the barn, doing something which caused a visitor to say: "You're quite an athlete, aren't you?" "Well, yes," replied David; whereupon the housekeeper, who stood near, said: "Why, I thought you told me you was Scotch." "Well," said David, "my mother was Scotch, but my father was athlete."

### Plans Railroad in Africa.

The Portuguese government will build a railroad from Delagoa bay to Swaziland. That adds one more to the many "openings up" in Africa.

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