

THE WAGWORKER

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PUT THIS IN YOUR PIPE AND SMOKE IT.

Perhaps you have a religious friend who is opposed to labor unions on what he calls religious grounds. We have heard that there were such people in the world.

"The labor union weans a man away from church," says your friend.

Well, if it does, it is the fault of the church, not of the labor union. If the church were doing its whole duty there would be no labor unions. But that is neither here nor there. This is—while the church has been paying a whole lot of attention to the future welfare of man's soul, the labor unions have been paying as much to the present welfare of man's stomach. And while the church has been sending missionaries to China and Egypt and India to save the benighted heathen, the labor unions have been diligently staying right here at home and rescuing little children from sweat shops and mills and mines.

"There are so many sinful men in the labor unions, and a Christian can not yoke up with such."

Better than Jesus of Nazareth, eh? He didn't stop to find out what a man's moral character was before working with him and for him. Jesus ate and drank with publicans and sinners. But these "sinful men" as you call them have been doing some mighty good work, haven't they? The labor unions of Pennsylvania secured the enactment of a child labor law that took 12,000 boys under 14 years of age from the coal mines and put them in school. Did you ever hear that the church engaged in any such utilitarian work as that? The church saved perhaps 100,000 heathen last year. But the labor unions have taken fully that many children out of sweat shops and mines where they were being dwarfed and stunted and ruined, and has put them in a position to become useful Christian men and women. And won't God give the unions as much credit for saving the 100,000 boys and girls as He gives the church for saving the 100,000 yellow strangers ten thousand miles away?

We've heard some rich men pray in church, and we've seen the labor unions compel those very men to put a few windows and doors in their factories so that their employe could get an occasional breath of God's fresh air.

"The labor unions are antagonistic to the church and church influence."

That is not true. You have the proposition reversed, that's all. A majority of unionists are believers in God, and a very respectable minority—perhaps a majority—are church members. If they work harder for their union than they do for the church of their choice it is because they think they can do more good for their fellows that way.

This would be an almighty poor country to live in if there were no churches. We admit that. But don't forget that the church has not been the pioneer in all the great reforms. We haven't heard of any big preachers thundering against child labor and the sweat shops. We can't forget that the church counseled submission when Wendell Phillips was thundering against slavery. The church has denounced sin and corruption in general terms, but it has fallen all over itself to secure the contributions of the highwaymen of finance and never a word has come thundering from the pulpit against Rockefellerism and Carnegieism.

The church is doing a splendid work, my brother, but it isn't doing all that it could do if it would. If every professed Christian in America would do his whole Christian duty for one year—every day and all the time for one single year—my, but wouldn't there be a change? There would be a lot of vacant pews, too.

The church and the labor union are working for identically the same ends, only along different lines. Both are headed for the same goal. They should be mutually helpful and mutually progressive.

"But the Bible tells us not to be yoked with unbelievers." Yes, and the Bible says to take a little wine for the stomach's sake, but you don't preach that, do you? And Paul says something about women and their headgear, but you don't pay any attention to that. And the Bible says some very strong things about the marriage tie, but you don't lay very much stress on that, do you? And the Bible tells you to give to God's work as God has prospered you, but you usually sift the dollars through and clutch the dime when the collection basket comes 'round, don't you? If an unbeliever came to you and asked you to help him in rendering aid to a widow or an orphan you would hold aside your skirts and refuse to help, would you?

Be sensible, dear Christian brother. Study up a little, both on Biblical and labor union lines. You've got a whole lot to learn about both before you will know very much about either.

JUST THINK OF THIS A BIT.

William Rockefeller is one of the Standard Oil Kings and has more money than he could hold in a hay wagon.

Oliver Lamora is a backwoodsman, scout and hunter who has lived in the Adirondacks for sixty years. He was born there, and owned a little cabin on the side of a mountain.

William Rockefeller wanted a "game preserve," so he bought up all the surrounding land, and finally seized Lamora's little patch of ground through legal action. Lamora fought as best he could, but he lost and officers of the law dispossessed him.

Lamora sat on a big pine block in front of his cabin door when his lawyer, W. J. Saunders, of Dickinson Center, came to notify him of his defeat, and to tell him he must sell his little claim and patch of ground to pay Mr. Rockefeller.

"It's all over, Oliver; they have beaten us," said the attorney. "Don't joke with me that way, squire. It's all right now? I can go out there and fish and hunt now, with no wardens to lay hand on me, can't I?" pleaded the woodsman.

The lawyer told the old man that he must never again hunt or fish in the forests he had known since childhood. Lamora appeared to be stunned.

"The law says I can't climb that peak over there, does it?" he finally exclaimed. "And must not follow the deer through the forest nor fish in the streams? Well, squire, that may be the law; I know you wouldn't lie to me, but it ain't right. God never made all these things for one man."

No! A thousand times, no! God never made all those things for one man. He made them for all men. But a few men have grabbed them and hold them by virtue of laws they have bought and paid for.

Such laws are infamous and ought not to stand. The land belongs to all the people. No man should be allowed to hold more than he can utilize. The man who tries to speculate in land is a public enemy, although neither he nor the public may realize it. The land should be as free as the air and the water.

God never made all those things for one man, nor for a half-dozen men.

God made them all for the benefit and use and enjoyment of all of God's people everywhere.

The Panama canal has already cost us \$30,000,000 and not a spadeful of dirt has been thrown. Coolies and Jamaica negroes are being employed at starvation wages and worked ten hours a day in violation of law building little palaces for the engineers and commissioners. The Panama canal is a big graft and the wage earners of the country are footing the bills.

The Lincoln Distraction company has curtailed the transfer privilege and we are glad of it. We hope President Scudder will keep right on walking on the necks of the poor and humble and cowardly citizenship of Lincoln until they revolt in sheer desperation. "Wait and see Scudder."

With his scalp bleeding from a ragged cut, with his lip split by broken glass, and with his body covered with blood, the 16-year-old victim of a Lincoln Distraction company accident was approached by a legal representative and asked to sign a release of all claims for

Men's Odd Trousers

The "Armstrong" kind, extra good materials, carefully selected patterns, faultless fit. The regular \$7.50 kind, at **\$5.00**
Men's fine Dress Trousers, worth regularly \$4.50, here **\$3.50**
Men's substantial Trousers, worth \$2.10, here only **\$1.98**



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Men's Suits at \$10.00

They are Suits that will be worn by brisk, active business men who require clothing of unusual strength, but who insist upon latest style. The Suits are made from fine American Woolsens, embracing Blue and Black Thibets and Serges as well as dark and fancy patterns in Worsteds, Cassimeres and Cheviots. Hand-tailoring shows up about the collars, shoulders and lapels of these garments which, if for nothing more, would take them out of the \$10.00 Suit class. The truth is, they are exact counterparts of \$15.00 Suits shown elsewhere.

If \$12.50 is the Price You desire to pay for a Suit of Clothes

Come direct to this store, where we guarantee to deliver Suits at this price which are shown elsewhere as bargains at \$15.00.

Very Fashionable Suits at \$15.00

This price commands extra fine fabrics—tailoring which is only equalled by the expert merchant tailor. We positively show \$20.00 values in our \$15.00 Suits.

OUR FINEST SUITS—Imported fabrics, richest linings, at \$18.00, \$20.00, \$22.50 and \$25.00.

Fur Coats

Complete lines, finest quality—good in looks, good in service— **\$10.00 to \$45.00**

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The thing for professional men—stylish, comfortable and reasonably priced **\$25.00 to \$35.00**

New Holiday Vests

In newest Weaves—Silk or Washables—prettiest assortment we have ever shown—styles that cannot be seen elsewhere, at **\$1.50-\$7.50**

Largest line of Trunks and Bags in the city—our prices save you fully one-third.

Best Clothing for Boys

If you were to ask the mothers of the boys in Lincoln who sold the best clothing for boys the answer would be nine times out of ten "THE ARMSTRONG CLOTHING COMPANY."

Investigate our Boys' Knee Suits at \$1.98

All styles, both for large and small boys, are embraced at this price. There are upwards of 100 styles to select from in all and not a Suit but what would be cheap at \$3.00.

Ask to See Our Sterling Boys' Knee Suits at \$2.45

Pure wool fabrics, Serges, Cassimeres, Cheviots and the like. Beautiful patterns—garments that are cleverly constructed—all styles—for children 2½ to 7 years and 8 to 16 years.

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We undertake to get as much solid values in these Suits as it is possible. Treated Woolsens, best needle work, honest inside finish. They are Suits that many stores sell at \$6.00.

\$6. Boys' & Children's Suits \$3.98

This store really sells garments for Boys and Children in the various knee styles worth \$6.00 for \$3.98. If you have any doubt about it take the time to investigate.

OUR FINEST KNEE SUITS at \$5.00, \$6.00, \$6.50 and \$7.50.



Armstrong Clothing Co.

GOOD CLOTHES MERCHANTS

the paltry sum of \$35. But the boy was game. It took sixteen stitches to close his wounds and he is still in the hospital, but he is not waiting to see Scudder. He is allowing Scudder and his managers to do all the worrying.

The appellate court of Illinois says there can be no such thing as peaceful picketing. Judge Holdom has cited a lot of Chicago printers for contempt on the charge that they have been guilty of violating an injunction by peacefully picketing some Typothaet shops.

The capital stock of the Lincoln Overall and Shirt factory has been increased 100 per cent. The miserable wages it pays have not been increased at all.

Help inject a little ginger into the Central Labor Union. No matter if you are not a delegate, come up to the meetings and help the good work along.

Hearst is gaining in New York, and the chances are that he will be declared elected mayor. And here's hoping that it may be so.

Remember the meeting of the Central Labor Union next Tuesday night and be there to help inject some ginger into it.

It is time for the Typographical Union to sit down on Hayes and Berger, and set hard.

WEALTH DUE TO LAZINESS

With the opening up of the section of the Province of Ontario in the neighborhood of North Bay, a couple of hundred miles directly north of the city of Toronto, all sorts of tales have drifted down out of that country about the mineral wealth it contains and the lucky "strikes" that have been made by prospectors. One of the most romantic of these, and one that has the merit of having real wealth to show for it, concerns W. G. Trethewey, now a resident of Toronto, who is the possessor of a mine that has already paid him a small fortune, which he found simply owing to his lazy habits.

At the time he made his "strike" Trethewey was a traveling salesman for a wholesale shoe house and was possessed of a certain amount of knowledge of chemicals and ores of various kinds. Two years ago his business route carried him to one of the new settlements on the Grand Trunk railway, in the North Bay district, called Cobalt, from the deposits of that mineral that had been found in the neighborhood. Trethewey, who

was always keeping an eye out for something in the way of a "strike" for himself, took a walk out in the forest around the place, and strolled along a beaten path because it made the easiest walking. He came to a place where a big tree had fallen across the trail, but instead of walking around the tree, as every one else had been in the habit of doing, he ducked under it to save himself that much distance.

As he bent his head to pass beneath the prostrate trunk his eye caught something that had been rooted up by the fall of the tree, and he dropped down on the ground. He gathered up some of the earth, put it in his pocket and returned to the station. At the earliest opportunity he went through the necessary formalities to get possession of the land, and with the little money he possessed he began to work the claim, which was a cobalt mine. In less than two years he has cleared nearly \$200,000 from the mine and has reduced the price of cobalt about 40 per cent. And all because he was too lazy to walk around a fallen tree.

FAMOUS PONY EXPRESS RIDERS

The world's record for organized and "scheduled" riding was made by the Pony express, says C. F. Lummis in McClure's Magazine. Never before nor since has mail been carried so fast, so far and so long merely by horse power, and if I am not in error, never elsewhere have horses been so steadfastly spurred in any regular service. The Pony express carried mail between the east and California (at \$5 per half ounce) for about two years. It ran from Independence to San Francisco, 1,950 miles. Its time was ten days and it never needed eleven. It employed 500 of the fastest horses that could be found, of course, all western horses, 200 station keepers and 80 riders. It had 190 stations—crowded down the throat of the wilderness, 65 to 100 miles (or even more) apart, according as water changed. The rider was allowed two minutes to change horses and mails at a station.

William F. Cody, "Buffalo Bill," was the most famous of the Pony express riders—and as a 14-year-old "kid" got his first "job" from the man who invented the Pony express. Cody made the record here—a round trip ride (necessitated by the killing of his relief) of 384 miles without stops, except to change horses and to swallow one hasty meal.

Another of the Pony express riders, Jack Keetley, made a run of 240 miles in thirty-one hours; and another, Jim Moore, rode 280 miles in fourteen hours and forty-six minutes.

Such men got \$100 to \$125 per month and "found." Their mail was limited to fifteen pounds. Postage was \$5 per half ounce for some time; then the government ordered it cut down to \$1 per half ounce, at which figure it stood till the completion of the overland telegraph to San Francisco (Oct. 22, 1861), ended the life of this gallant enterprise.

Wigg—"Harduppe is always going broke." Wagg—"Well, I notice he isn't shattering any traditions."

A blunt man usually has a sharp tongue.

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