

# THE WAGEWORKER

ALLIED PRINTING  
TRADES UNION COUNCIL  
LINCOLN, NEB.

A Newspaper with a Mission and without a Muzzle that is published in the interest of Wage-workers Everywhere.

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## PRINTERS ARE STANDING PAT

Dawn of the New Year Sees the Union Printers of the United States and Canada a Unit in Advocacy of the Eight Hour Day—About Eight Thousand Men Walk Out—Ten Per Cent Assessment Endorsed by Overwhelming Majority.

The first working day of the new year saw the beginning of the real struggle for the eight hour day among the union printers of the country, and there were about 8,000 men who refused to respond to the whistle on Tuesday morning. Backed by the National Manufacturers' Association and the National Association of Advertisers—the high-sounding names of two organizations having for their object the crushing of the labor unions—the United Typothaete in several of the larger cities having refused to concede the eight-hour day, and as a result the union men refused to return to work. This marks the beginning of the real struggle for the eight-hour working day, and upon the success of the union printers depends the fate of the shorter workday among other trades. If the printers fail to win the allied union busters will then proceed to tackle the other unions one at a time, for they figure that if they can beat the International Typographical Union they can beat any of the trades unions.

But the printers are out to win. They will win. By referendum vote taken last week the printers by a majority exceeding 25,000 in a total vote of less than 40,000, endorsed the 10 per cent a week assessment to finance the eight hour struggle. Already 318 unions have eight-hour contracts. Less than one-fifth of the membership can be affected by the strike, and the four-fifths remaining at work have demonstrated their willingness to support their striking brethren indefinitely.

The men who are managing the fight for the United Typothaete are resorting to falsehood to bolster up their waning cause. Samples proving this assertion are coming to notice every day. Here is a sample:

The United Typothaete Bulletins Nos. 48, 50, 51 and 53 contained the following: "Annapolis, Md.—Every shop in this city is now an open shop. By an agreement with the local union its members are working under open shop rules at usual rates and without regard to hours. Relations between employer and employee pleasant."

The very assertion that the local union agreed to "open shop conditions" stamps the bulletin as a lie. There wouldn't be any local union in Annapolis inside of twenty-four hours after such an agreement. But the facts of the whole matter are plainly set forth in the following letter from President Thomas K. McNier, president of Annapolis Union No. 114:

Annapolis, Md., December 19, 1905.—Mr. President: Our union, No. 114, never was in better condition. We are paying all assessments and are willing to pay more if necessary. We had an agreement for nine hours until January 1, 1906. After that time everything has been settled upon eight hours. Give yourself no meanness on our account. Not one word of truth in Typothaete report.

The Almighty has been good to the printers thus far during the winter. "You fellows will be eating snowballs on Thanksgiving and Christmas this year," said a Typothaete member in Minneapolis to a striking printer. As usual the Typothaete man was off his base. On Thanksgiving day 74 striking printers sat down to as many turkey dinners, and the turkeys were generously provided by the men who were already working the eight hour day. On Christmas 79 turkeys graced the tables of as many striking printers, and they came from the same source. And the boys who are at work haven't as yet begun to finance the strike.

If the printers were opposed only by employing printers the strike would have been won ere it began. But Post and Parry and the associated millionaires who are greedy for more gain at the expense of labor figure that they can afford to spend a couple of millions disorganizing the unions, for it will enable them to reduce wages and lengthen hours to their immense profit every year. And this class of men are financing the United Typothaete. It remains to be seen whether intelligent employing printers will long play catspaws for the Post and Parry monkeys.

The injunction mills are grinding rapidly these days. An injunction may be expected in every strike center, but the printers are not worrying. They are fighting this battle with their brains and with their money. They are obeying the laws of the land, and propose to continue that course.

The Wageworker ventures this prediction: There are more men on strike today than there will be thirty days from now. And the men who return to work will return under an agreement for the eight-hour day. The Post and Parry crowd is up against the proposition of their lives, and their millions will not win them a victory.

### HERE'S TO BROTHER STELZLE.

May He Live Long to Prosecute the Great Work He is Engaged In.

It's just a little late, but acting on the principle that it is better late than never, The Wageworker desires right now and right here to send its hearty New Year greetings to Rev. Charles Stelzle of Chicago and his colleagues in the Department of Church and Labor of the Presbyterian Church of America. He and his fellow workers are engaged in a splendid cause, and they are furthering it with

## THE EIGHT-HOUR WORK DAY IS RIGHT

Every Honest Citizen Should be on the Side of The Striking Printers

William Randolph Hearst in Chicago American

This newspaper and its associated newspapers throughout the country will to the extent of their power help the printers in their strike beginning tomorrow.

The editor and owner of these newspapers proposes to use all of his influence to win for the men a demand based on justice and fair play.

The fight is made by the printers "in job and book offices" for an eight-hour day.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY IS THE ONLY QUESTION AT ISSUE.

This newspaper believes in the eight-hour day. It advocates laws compelling recognition of the eight-hour principle by all government contractors and in all government employ.

In this particular strike for the eight-hour day this newspaper knows THAT THE MEN ARE IN THE RIGHT. We employ printers in five cities of the Union, many hundreds of them; we employ them all on a union basis, and on an eight-hour basis exclusively, and we know what we are talking about when we say that eight hours are enough.

We know that eight hours is all that a printer should work when he works conscientiously—AS GOOD UNION PRINTERS DO WORK.

It is not possible to demand at this moment, perhaps, the absolute eight-hour day in every line of industry in the United States. There may be, as both employers and employees allege, certain lines of human labor in which the eight-hour principle cannot at present be properly granted.

But there is no doubt whatever that THE PRINTING BUSINESS is one in which the eight-hour day can be and SHOULD be applied to all printers without exception.

Those among the Typothaete or employers of book and job printers who refuse their men the eight-hour day are divided in two classes. Some of them know nothing about printing, about the strain on the eyes, on the system, etc. If they need enlightenment we shall try to enlighten them before the strike is over. IT WILL BE WON.

Other employers know perfectly well that the eight-hour day is a fair day, a reasonable AND JUST DAY. But selfishness in them is stronger than justice or fairness. And they want to fight with their men in the hope that they will be able to squeeze out of them that extra ninth hour, as much out of place in the printing business as the twelfth or sixteenth hour would be.

The work of the conscientious typesetter is extremely hard. It requires absolute concentration of the eyes, mind, muscles and nerves, all of the faculties, throughout the hours of work. The substitution of the typesetting machines for the old method of handsetting has greatly increased the strain upon the printer's vitality. And at the same time it has increased very greatly the productivity of the worker.

Is it reasonable to say that an invention which reduces the cost to the employers, and INCREASES THE PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY OF THE OPERATOR, shall not also bring some benefit to the workman?

It is foolish and inexcusable for the workingman to protest against improved machinery, against the achievements of the human intellect. It is stupid and unjust for the employer to pro-

test against giving the workman some share. A FAIR SHARE, in the new discovery—especially when it entails harder work. The employer who UNDERSTANDS what he asks of a printer, sitting at a machine with the fumes of hot metal entering into his system, CANNOT HONESTLY ASK A MAN TO WORK MORE THAN EIGHT HOURS A DAY. The ignorant employer SHOULD TAKE THE OPINION AND ADVICE OF THOSE THAT KNOW MORE THAN HE DOES.

This newspaper has a right to advise him. For it has tried the eight-hour system in all of its departments. And in all of them, as in the typesetting department, the eight-hour day has been found to work perfectly; beneficially to the men and beneficially to the employer.

If the employers persist in their unjust refusal to give the eight-hour day, this strike may be prolonged and painful. Public opinion, however, should help to make the strike a short one.

You can judge of a cause fairly well by the arguments advanced in its favor and by the tactics of its defenders.

What do you think of the first suggestion that comes from the employers refusing to give their men eight hours?

THEY SAY THEY WILL PUT GIRLS TO WORK IN THE MEN'S PLACES.

That is a nice American, decent, gentlemanly threat, is it not? How manly to take the sisters of the printers—supposing you could hire them, which you couldn't—and set them to work beside the pots of boiling-hot metal!

It would be a nice thing to hire some thousands of American young women to do a work too hard for them for wages, too low, wouldn't it? Men of means who pretend to set an example to the community act rather queerly when they say: "You can hire girls dirt cheap. Thousands of them have learned typewriting. They can be made into typesetters with the modern machines. WE CAN HIRE ALL THE GIRLS WE WANT FOR \$8 A WEEK."

Of course, the girls could not do the work properly, and the employers know it. But suppose they COULD do it? Suppose that it were possible to take women and, making them do hard work fit for men only, break down their health in the course of two or three years to save a little money, would that be something to be proud of, something good for the nation?

One notorious rat hole in New York calling itself a newspaper announces that girls are already being put to work in the places of the men.

The scheme, however, to crowd men out, to put women in at slave wages, will not work. The printers of the United States are united. They are intelligent and determined. They will find among the honest newspapers and the great body of the citizenship the support that they require.

They gave fair warning more than a year ago to their employers that they would demand the eight-hour day beginning with the first of the year.

They have made their demand fairly, in manly fashion, with plenty of warning, living up to their contract to the last day.

THEY OUGHT TO WIN THEIR FIGHT; THEY WILL WIN THEIR FIGHT.

And this newspaper will be extremely glad to help them from beginning to end.

marked ability. They are bringing the church to a fuller realization of what it should do among the toilers, and they are also making clearer to the minds of the toilers what the real mission of the church is. If every church in the United States had departments similar to the Department of Church and Labor of the Presbyterian church, and all of them managed by such splendid men as Rev. Mr. Stelzle and his associates, there would be a social revolution inside of the next decade.

The Wageworker prints regularly an article from the pen of Rev. Mr. Stelzle and it urges its readers to peruse them carefully. Nothing better in the way of union literature is being offered to the union men and women of the country. We call especial attention to his article in this issue, "Be Content With Your Wages." Rev. Mr. Stelzle is a union machinist and has worked his way up, aided by the friendly assistance of his fellow unionists, and he knows from experience what unionism means to a man.

We wish for Rev. Charles Stelzle and his co-workers in the great Presbyterian church long lives of usefulness and an abundant success to crown all their efforts in behalf of those who eat their bread in the sweat of their faces.

### DENVER WANTS BRICKLAYERS' CONVENTION.

Delegates Armed With Invitations from City Officials and All Labor Unions.

The fortieth annual convention of the Bricklayers' International Union convenes in Minneapolis on January 8, and promises to be the largest and most interesting convention ever held by this strong and conservative organization. An attendance approximating 1,000 delegates is expected. Denver is out after the 1907 meeting, and to that end has sent James H. Nicholson and "Sunny Jim" Miller, secretary of the local organization, as delegates, with instructions to bring the convention home with them. The delegates are armed with invitations from city and state officials and all the labor unions of Denver, and the Chamber of Commerce will have a man in

Minneapolis to give the delegates all the assistance possible.

Denver Bricklayers' Union No. 1 is one of the largest locals in the west, having a membership of upwards of 400 and a treasury that is bulging with funds. John Heartz, an ex-president of the international, is now president of the Denver local.

### ANOTHER INJUNCTION JUDGE.

St. Louis Jurist Classes Labor Unions With Commercial Traders.

Last Saturday in St. Louis Circuit Judge Taylor granted the Greeley Printing company a temporary injunction against the St. Louis Pressfeeders and Assistants' Union No. 43, the St. Louis Lithographer Pressfeeders' Union and several similar organizations, on the allegations presented that they as labor unions are combinations in restraint of trade and are trusts and labor monopolies. The injunction prohibits interference with the printing company's business, intimidation of employees, posting pickets or doing anything in restraint of commerce. No returnable order is made. Judge Taylor said that the defendants, if they so desired, could move to have the injunction dissolved at any time.

This is in line with other injunctions, secured by employers upon false representations, and based upon the erroneous plea that a labor union is a trust. It is another incident that should emphasize the fact that the injunction writ as now so commonly abused is a menace to the liberties of the American workman. Under the Taylor injunction—as under similar injunctions—men are deprived by judicial writ of the rights of free speech, and their efforts to enter their industrial condition is set at naught by the autocratic decree of a judge who makes his own laws and then uses the machinery of the courts to enforce it. Any man who would call a labor union a "labor monopoly" ought to hie himself to a home for paupers and call in a brain specialist. But under present conditions workmen are powerless in the face of an injunction. They dare not violate it, for the judge can send them to jail without giving them a trial by jury. That

is the menace of the injunction. The workingmen of the country ought to get together and secure the enactment of a law guaranteeing the right of trial by jury in all contempt cases. Until they do both the arrogant trusts and corporations have the whip hand of them.

### HORSE ON GEORGE.

Docked Him But Got a Physician to Care for the Equine.

The president of the trust, in an affable after-luncheon mood, stopped to converse with old George, a stableman.

"Well, George, how goes it?" he said, taking a dollar cigar from his mouth.

"Fair to middlin', sir," George answered. "Fair to middlin'."

And he continued to currycomb a bay horse, while the president smoked and looked on in good-natured silence.

"Me and this here hoss," George said, suddenly, "has worked for your firm sixteen years."

"Well, well," said the president, thinking a little guilty of George's seven-dollar salary.

"And I suppose you are both pretty highly valued, George, eh?"

"Hm," said George. "The both of us was took sick last week, and they got a doctor for the hoss, but they just docked my pay."—Exchange.

### AND THE SAME TO JERE.

President Sullivan of the Bartenders Sends His New Year Greetings.

President Sullivan of the Bartenders and Waiters' sent out a happy and characteristic holiday greeting to his friends, among whom The Wageworker is proud to be numbered. It presents a good picture of the genial president standing under the barkeepers' and waiters' banners with a stovelin in his hand.

## BE CONTENT WITH YOUR WAGES

Rev. Charles Stelzle Administers a Sharp Rebuke to the Pharisees Who Distort the Scriptures in Order to Induce Workingmen to Submit Themselves to the Unjust Demands of Employers—What the Preacher Meant When He Said It.

It was a great preacher that said it originally. There probably never was greater than he, with the exception of Jesus Christ. At any rate, Jesus said of him a few days after he preached that sermon, "Among those that are born of women, there is not a greater prophet than John the Baptist."

But what did he mean? Did he imply that there should never be a strike or a demand for better conditions? Some unfair or ignorant agitators have insisted that the Bible and the church teach that doctrine, and they have flung into our faces with scorn the text of John the Baptist, declaring that it is vicious and degrading. Some employers in history have also quoted this Scripture passage, in order to point out that the Bible teaches absolute subservience on the part of the employe to his employer.

I am reminded in this connection of the smart young man who insisted that the Bible itself says "there is no God." But when he was compelled to look up the reference, he discovered that what the Bible really said was, "The fool hath said in his heart, 'There is no God.'"

Something like this Aleck are the men who twist the Scriptures so as to produce all sorts of economic absurdities, warping out of their true meaning the greatest and most beneficent teachings of Christianity.

But let us look for a moment at the circumstances under which the words were spoken and the persons to whom they were addressed. The story is found in the third chapter of the Gospel of Luke. The fearless preacher—who afterward was beheaded because he dared to denounce the reigning monarch for his sin—was speaking to a great multitude that had come out to hear him. The burden of his message was summed up in the single word, "Repentance." And it was noted that this repentance had particular reference to sins committed against men. As the preacher proceeded the people began to ask, "What shall we do then?"

He answered, "He that hath two coats, let him impart to him that hath none; and he that hath meat, let him do likewise." Will you note, by the way, that he said "two" coats—not "six"? Then came the publicans—the government grafters of the day—and said to him, "Master, what shall we do?" The preacher answered, "Exact no more than the law demands." Finally came the soldiers—often the brutal representatives, the policemen, of a foreign government; men who were following the example of their superiors by robbing the working people; it was a case of graft which was very much worse than anything unearthed in our day. "And what shall we do?" they asked. And John the Baptist answered, "Do violence to no man; neither accuse any falsely; and be content with your wages." The emphasis was upon the word "wages."

It was not intended to teach that workingmen in every generation should be content with their wages. It was intended to teach that these brutal, conscienceless soldiers should not demand from the masses of the people, upon pain of bodily injury, that which did not rightfully belong to them, in order that they might add this money to the wages received from the government. The words, "be content with your wages" must be viewed in the light of the spirit of the entire address. No one—not even the most radical agitator—can successfully deny that the preacher was making a fight for the poor and the oppressed.

And so, instead of degrading the toiler, this injunction is actually a plea for fair treatment for the man who was powerless to resist oppression.

### DESERVES A GOLD MEDAL.

Youthful Little Hero Risks His Life to Save the Life of Another.

Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Walker are the happiest and most grateful parents in Lincoln today, and Downing Charlton, aged 12, is a hero who is clearly entitled to a gold medal for bravery. Mr. and Mrs. Walker are happy and grateful because the life of their little three-year-old son Lawrence, has been spared to them, and Master Charlton is a hero because he risked his own life to save that of Lawrence.

On December 28 Mr. Walker's little niece took Lawrence on the ice of Antelope creek, and without warning both broke through where the water was over four feet deep. The little girl managed to get to shore, but Lawrence sank. His little body arose to the surface just as Downing Charlton, passed by, Master Charlton was attracted by the little girl's cries and saw Lawrence's body come to the surface. Without a minute's hesitation the brave lad flung off his coat and jumped into the icy water. He grabbed the drowning boy and by almost superhuman effort managed to drag him ashore. Lawrence was hurriedly taken home, and aside from the shock was not injured. Master Charlton did not wait to be thanked, but skipped out to change his clothes and meet his playmates. Mr. and Mrs. Walker have made public acknowledgment of Master Charlton's bravery, and are as grateful as loving parents can be. Master Charlton is modestly declaring that "it wasn't nothing much to do," but the general public knows better. A medal should be made at once to secure for the brave little fellow a gold medal for his bravery.