

# THE WAGEWORKER



A Newspaper with a Mission and without a Muzzle that is published in the Interest of Wagerworkers Everywhere.

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NO. 43

## BUILD A LABOR TEMPLE NOW

**Lincoln Craftsmen Can Do It Easily if They Will Set Their Minds Upon the Task—Why Business Men and Employers Generally Would Help the Work Along—Only Hustle and Confidence Necessary to Win.**

With upwards of 2,000 union men drawing good wages regularly, and with a liberal and progressive lot of business men, Lincoln ought to have a splendid Labor Temple. It would advertise the city, it would be an insurance against labor troubles, it would tend towards making wage earners settle down, and it would be a vast benefit to every interest in the city. That nothing but talk has been accomplished thus far is discreditable alike to the unions and to their members. Every unionist recognizes the necessity. All hope that something will be done in the near future. And all with whom this labor newspaper has talked have expressed a willingness to help.

Then why not quit talking about it so much, and get down to business?

A good start is half the task. "Well begun is half done."

Not only would a Labor Temple be a good financial investment, but it would be a good moral investment. The city needs such a public building. The workmen need such a central place of meeting.

Thirty-five thousand dollars is ample for all needs. Half of it in cash will insure the completion of the building. The rental will pay 6 per cent on the balance, 6 per cent to the investors and provide a sinking fund.

A stock company with a capital of \$35,000, divided into 7,000 shares of \$5 each, should be organized at once, officers elected and stock subscriptions opened up. Five thousand of these shares should be snapped up by loyal union men in a very short time. The other two thousand need not be issued at once, but doubtless could be and disposed of outside of the unions.

The Central Labor Union should have carried this matter out long ago, but has not. It should get busy right away. The Central Labor Union meets next Tuesday evening, and every union man interested in the Labor Temple project should be there to start the ball rolling.

Let's quit talking and get busy!

## TALKING OF SHERLOCK, JUNIOR.

**His Investigations in Lincoln Watched With Interests by Unionists Elsewhere.**

Will M. Maupin is the editor of the Lincoln (Neb.) Wagerworker, and he is something of a live man as well. Recently he started to investigate through his paper the real attitude borne by local unionists toward union labels and union-made goods. What did he find? Now, gentle reader, what do you think he did find? The representative of his paper found almost everything and everybody wrong. He started out among the union printers and found them using "scab" soap, wearing "scab" hats, chewing "scab" tobacco and smoking "scab" cigars and tobacco. That's as far as he got, but it was far enough to make him wish to go no farther. Is it any different in Lincoln, Neb., from what it is in Chicago, Ill., St. Louis, Mo., St. Paul, Minn., or any other large city in the United States, with the possible exception of San Francisco? Not a whit! Physician, cure thyself. If men have the courage to go out and "scab" openly and notoriously in the printers' or any other trade—are they the only unclean ones? Pluck the mote from your neighbor's eye while looking for the beam in your neighbor's eye.—St. Paul Union Advocate.

## LINCOLN LOSES A GOOD MAN.

**J. R. Hunting Leaves to Accept a Better Position in the Efte East.**

For the past year and a half Mr. J. R. Hunting has been manager of the new business department of the Lincoln Gas & Electric Light Co., but he has been called higher, and leaves soon to take the management of the gas company's business at Lebanon, Pa. Mr. Hunting has demonstrated his friendship for organized labor on every possible occasion, and his departure from Lincoln is to be regretted. He is a thorough business man, and under his management the new business of the local company increased wonderfully. Pleasant, affable and always hustling, Mr. Hunting has proved himself a business man and has won a wide circle of friends among unionists in Lincoln. The Wagerworker wishes Mr. and Mrs. Hunting every possible success in their new home, and congratulates Lebanon and her people on their acquisition.

## WHAT SHERLOCK FOUND.

**Illinois Labor Paper Draws a Moral From the Great Detective's Work.**

The Lincoln Wagerworker has secured the services of Sherlock Holmes, jr., to make the rounds of union shops and investigate the Union Label question. He heard one union spouter boasting of his unionism under a Stetson hat; another anathematizing a scab factory across the street while washing his hands with scab soap; others who boasted of their willingness to pay 10 per cent to support the printers'

strike carrying plugs of scab tobacco; another union shouter who selected by choice a "Creemo" cigar, and still others equally guilty of patronizing scabs. And yet it would offend these gentlemen very much to be told they are injuring the union movement almost as much in buying scab goods as the scabs who make the goods.—Streator Trades and Labor Gazette.

## GOMPERS TALKS STRAIGHT.

**Declares He Would Assert His Rights Despite All Despotic Judges.**

President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor, was in Chicago last week, and while there made a characteristic speech before Typographical Union No. 16. The meeting was held in Bricklayers' hall and was attended by nearly 2,000 printers, and President Gompers paid particular attention to the outrageous decision of Judge Holdom in the injunction case brought against the local Typographical Union.

"If I am enjoined things which I have a constitutional right to do, I will maintain my rights and ignore the injunction," he declared. The remark was greeted with cheers.

"The decision of Judge Holdom is one of the most contemptible utterances ever spoken from the bench," said Mr. Gompers. "If President Wright is guilty of the charge of trying to induce men to wreck the machinery in the Donohue plant he should be indicted and given a trial by a jury of his peers, instead of being taken into court and punished at the caprice and whim of a prejudiced judge.

"This fight for the shorter day," he said, "is universal throughout the country, but the employers still assert that the printers cannot have eight hours. It has been two and one-half years since they were given warning that an eight-hour day was to be established in the printing industry, and still they assert that they have not had time to meet the changed conditions. It is the old story—they damn us if we do and they damn us if we don't. I am more confident at this moment than I have ever been that the printers of our country will never again return to a nine-hour day. Do they think that we progress crab-fashion?"

Prejudiced and subservient judges are today doing more to create anarchy, contempt for the law and for the courts, than any other agency. It is time for American wage earners to get busy. They will never be free until the courts are free.

## HOW IT "CAME OUT."

**Augusta, Ga., Chronicle Printers Walk Out and Associated Press Reports It.**

The morning papers of January 31 contained the following dispatch:

"Augusta, Ga., Jan. 30.—The Augusta Chronicle issued a paper as usual today, although every union printer walked out last night."

To be sure it did. This is a day of "reprint copy" and "boiler plate." But the Chronicle did not get out "as usual," despite the Associated Press dispatch. Instead of being full of local and telegraph news it was full of matter set up as "time copy" and plate matter purchased at so much per running foot. A saw, a mallet, a box of quoins and a ton or two of pewter plates, and any man can get out a daily paper. But not "as usual."

The bluff of the Chronicle and the Associated Press will not work. The printers are on to that game "as usual."

## DO NOT MAKE THIS MISTAKE.

**Sympathy for Striking Brethren No Excuse for Violation of Solemn Contracts.**

The strike of union housemiths in New York threatens to bring on a sympathetic strike among other building trades. If such a sympathetic strike means the violation of contracts entered into between employers and employees, we protest against it. Let the employers commit all the violations of contracts. Unions can not afford that sort of thing. A contract once entered into by a trades union should be as inviolate as the laws of the Medes and Persians. For a trades union to violate a contract is to incur the enmity of the general public—something that no man or no union can afford.

We wish the housemiths of New York success in their efforts to maintain the closed shop and secure better wages and conditions. But they will not be helped, and other trades unions will be injured, by any strike that means the violation of contracts already entered into.

## FACTS ABOUT CARPENTERS.

**Total Membership of 161,217, and Paid Out Last Year in Benefits \$185,682.20.**

Frank Duffy, general secretary of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, in his annual report shows that there are 1,759 local unions of the brotherhood in the United States, Canada, Porto Rico and the Hawaiian islands, with a total membership of 161,217. A large number of members were thrown out of employment for several months through the severity of last winter, and it is estimated that fully 50,000 members became delinquent. The great revival in the building industry enabled these men to get back to work, and all have paid up and are again beneficiary members.

The benefits paid in the last fiscal year on 1,510 claims amounted to \$185,682.20. The amount expended in support of strikes and lockouts during that period was \$75,410.37.

## TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION NEWS

**A Great Week in Printing Circles—Omaha Printers Enjoined and Chicago Printers Sent to Jail, and Still They Win—Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209 Will Celebrate Twenty-fourth Anniversary on February 22.**

The past week has been a strenuous one in printing circles. In Omaha Judge Sears granted the Typothaete an injunction restraining the union printers from doing anything but breathe, and mighty little of that. They are restrained from talking to "rats," restrained from offering them inducements to quit their meanness, restrained from soliciting business if the union printer happens to be running a little job shop of his own. The injunction is temporary and made returnable on February 7. Otherwise conditions in Omaha remain about the same. It seems to be a still hunt all around.

In Chicago there has been a lot of things doing. Injunction Judge Holdom has had a chance to "play even" with the union men who have been grilling him for his subservency to the Parryites, and he took full advantage of it. Without trial he has found President Wright of No. 16 guilty of contempt of court, fined him \$100 and sentenced him to jail for thirty days. President Wright was denied a jury trial, had no opportunity of presenting evidence and was railroaded through to satisfy the offended dignity of a 2x1 judge. An-

## TURN IT DOWN.

**The Lincoln City Directory for 1906 is being printed in Sioux City. A promise was made to the allied printing trades that it would be printed in Lincoln. Advertising contracts were made on that assurance. The Lincoln City Directory should be printed in Lincoln by men who spend their wages in Lincoln. A city directory printed elsewhere is entitled to no consideration. Lincoln business men would be doing themselves justice and their patrons a favor by refusing to spend another dollar for it. Already their confidence has been violated. They should proceed at once to organize a company to issue a city directory from a Lincoln printing office, and let the money paid for it come back to them from men who make their homes here.**

other member of the Chicago union was fined and sentenced to jail. Notice of appeal has been given and Chicago Typographical Union No. 16 may be depended upon to fight the usurpation of Judge Holdom until hades shall have boiled down to a poultice.

The Omaha injunction is about the worst that ever happened. It is such a flagrant disregard of public privileges that even people not in sympathy with unionism should pause and consider it. Judge Sears actually enjoins the union printers from writing letters to the employees of the unfair printing firms. Think of it—a jim crow judge of the district court taking jurisdiction over the United States mails. Judge Sears is a Jerusalem pony. Just such Judges as Sears are responsible for the growing contempt of the people for our courts.

Locally everything is moving along nicely. Work has been unusually good for this season of the year, and the boys are not worrying about employment. The Typographical union meets next Sunday, and among other business will complete arrangements for the twenty-fourth annual ball of the organization. Messrs. Maupin, King and Turner were named as a committee to arrange for this anniversary. The committee met one evening last week, together with a committee from Capital Auxiliary, and named the following sub-committees:

Finance—Maupin, Ihringer, Coffey.  
Printing—King, Sam North, B. A. George.  
Reception—Turner, Bustard, Greenley, Marshall, Howe, Mesdames Norton, Smith, Barngrover, Sayer, Ihringer.

Floor—Bustard, Simmons, Bostrom, Leaden, Brenner, Mickel (F. W.), Mickel (J. E.), Pentzer, Wathan, Dobbins, McVicker.

Door—Sayer, Peat.

Check Room—Huckins, Reiger, Wilson.

The ball will be held at Fraternity hall on Thursday evening, February 22, and music will be furnished by Reid's orchestra, two members of which are members of Lincoln Typographical Union. Refreshments will be served, this feature being in charge of Capital Auxiliary No. 11. Tickets \$1 per couple, extra lady 50 cents. The above arrangements will be subject to the approval of the union at Sunday's meeting.

Last week's Colorado Springs Labor News conveyed the information that the wives of Colorado Springs union printers had just organized an auxiliary with twenty-five charter members. The president-elect is Mrs. Sam A. Hoon, who was the first president of Capital Auxiliary No. 11. Mrs. Hoon is a zealous and active worker, and we congratulate the Colorado Springs Auxiliary on their first presidential choice. Mr. Hoon has been working in Colorado Springs for several months. There are no better union men in the I. T. U. than Sam Hoon.

Capital Auxiliary No. 11 celebrated its third anniversary at Bohannon's hall last Friday evening, and it was the most largely attended social in the history of the organization. H.

W. Smith officiated as master of ceremonies and introduced the speakers. Mrs. Norton, president of the organization, made a neat little speech in which she welcomed the visitors and explained the objects of the Auxiliary. President Greenley of the Typographical Union said he would tell why the Auxiliary was a good thing if it were not for the fact he couldn't talk all night. Several musical selections were rendered, and short addresses given and then the rest of the evening was spent in social pleasure. A luncheon was served by the Auxiliary.

President Greenley, Vice President Peat and Executive Committeeman Bingham went to Omaha last Sunday and visited with the Omaha union.

## JABBED GEN. OTIS HARD.

**Los Angeles Union Lands on Solar Plexus of a Chronic Union Hater.**

Word comes from Los Angeles that the unions on strike in that city for the establishment of the eight-hour day (the affiliated trades are standing together in that place) have won the advantage of drawing first blood from the enemy. As a part of the Typothaete program it was arranged with the notorious Times establishment to assist the various struck offices by loaning men and executing orders for work that could not be delayed. Otis has always endeavored to keep a large force of employees in his establishment, giving steady work to the best men and only enough to those of mediocre ability and to apprentices to encourage them to hang on. Naturally, an establishment of this character would be of great help to the Typothaete in times of trouble. Just at the moment when the Times

## TURN IT DOWN.

office was beginning to assist the Typothaete in a substantial manner, twenty employees (17 compositors and 3 pressmen), the best men in the office, put on their hats and walked out. This occurred Friday of last week. Just now the Times is busy looking after its own troubles and instead of proving a serious obstacle to the eight-hour movement in Los Angeles, it is in the unexpected position of looking for help to handle its own work. This is an old trick, of course, in the management of printers' strikes, but the writer does not recall a single instance in the history of the I. T. U. where it has been played at a more opportune moment and where the damage to the enemy has been more disastrous.—Labor Clarion.

## ELIOT'S "HEROES" START THINGS.

**"Scab" Miners Attack Union Representatives and a Pitched Battle is the Result.**

Goldfield, Nev., Jan. 27.—Jack Gineau lies dead in the morgue at Tonopah tonight and George Cole, a member of the legislature from New York county, is shot through the arm as the result of a pitched battle between union and non-union miners at Cliffords, on the Manhattan road. Sheriff Tom Logan this evening placed eight non-union men who are charged with precipitating the trouble, under arrest and brought them to Tonopah tonight and a strong guard to prevent lynching. As soon as the news of the shooting reached Goldfield, Sheriff Carberry assembled a posse to go to the scene of the trouble.

George Cole, who was for years president of the Delamar Miners' Union, with a committee of union miners went to Cliffords, the scene of a strike, to interview miners charged with working for less than \$5, the union scale. A man named Pittis is said to have opened fire, shooting Cole through the arm and Gineau through the lungs. A hand to hand battle ensued, which concluded with the escape of the non-union men, who for a time defied the citizens' posse. The arrival of Sheriff Logan upon the scene resulted in the recalcitrants giving themselves up.

## DELIVERS AN ULTIMATUM.

**Miners Must Have an Increase of Wages or There Will Be No Agreement.**

John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, speaking on behalf of his union, said last Wednesday that there must be an increase in wages or there will be no agreement.

This looks like trouble. The mine owners have declared that they will not grant an increase. They are very emphatic in this assertion.

Conferences have been in progress for a week or more, but to no purpose. The miners are asking but 3 per cent increase, that being the amount of the reduction two years ago. At the present time it looks like big trouble in the coal regions.

## WHERE THE CLUB COMES IN.

**Gripe Nutt Post Running Lew Dockstader a Very Close Race.**

On the eve of the annual convention of the Citizens' Industrial association at St. Louis, C. W. Post issued a statement to the press that brands him as the peer of Lew Dockstader, Ezra Kendal or any of their kind. C. W. gravely announced that his association was formed for the purpose of helping the labor unions and strengthening them. He made the further statement—without cracking a smile—that a number of trade unions were seriously considering the advisability of joining the Citizens' Industrial alliance. Probably he thinks to kill the unions by kindness. Isn't it funny what a man will say under the influence of Postum?—Typographical Journal.

## THE BIBLICAL GREAT "DIVIDE"

**The Early Christians Did Not Practice Communism as It is Taught by Modern Adherents of That School—What They Really Did Preach and Practice Was Brotherhood—Rev. Charles Stelala's Regular Weekly Sermon for Wagerworker Readers.**

Communism is peculiarly attractive to some men. In most cases it appeals to the fellow who would like to adopt for his motto: "All yours is mine; all mine is my own."

Unquestionably, there are noble features in connection with this social system. It has attracted some great minds. It has, however, almost invariably been a failure when put to a practical test. Where it has succeeded, it has been due to a strong moral or religious sentiment.

Some reformers who advocate communism insist that Jesus Christ endorsed their system, because it is said in the Acts of the Apostles, with reference to the early church, that "neither said any of them that aught of the things which he possessed was his own, but they had all things common." They also declare that the frequent allusion to a "common" table in the history of the early church proves that this condition existed quite generally among these Christians. As a matter of fact, in most instances the reference is clearly to the "communion" table, which has to do purely with a religious service. It is true that during the earliest days of the church a form of communism was practiced. It is forgotten by those who interpret these scripture texts as teaching that communism is incumbent upon all men, that even during this almost ideal period when it was practiced by the early Christians, that the church recognized the right of private property, as was manifested in the case of Ananias. When this man tried to deceive Peter by bringing only a part of the money which he had received for his property, declaring that it was the whole amount, the apostle said to him: "While it remained, was it not your own? You were not under obligation to bring this money to me," thus plainly indicating that this was purely a voluntary arrangement.

Furthermore, those who entered into it were of "one heart and one soul;" it was limited to "they that believed"—namely, the Christians.

## WOMEN IN THE INDUSTRIES.

**The Wagerworker's Editor Invited to Address the Woman's Club of Omaha.**

Next Monday afternoon, providence permitting, the editor of The Wagerworker will address the Social Science department of the Omaha Woman's Club on the subject of employment of women and children in the industrial world. The invitation is the result of an "open letter" addressed to the Lincoln Woman's Club through this paper several months ago, the letter being based on an address made before the State Federation of Women's Clubs by a representative of the National Consumers' League.

The Wagerworker at that time called the attention of Lincoln's club women to the fact that the trades unions were doing more to protect women and children who were forced into the industrial field than all other agencies combined. It will be the aim of the editor, when he appears before the Omaha club to point out reasons why the women should lend their aid to the trades unions in the effort to reform industrial conditions.

## A WISE APPOINTMENT.

**American Federation Appoints a Woman Organizer for Industries Employing Women.**

Miss Gertrude Barnum, daughter of Judge Barnum, of Chicago, has been appointed a general organizer for the American Federation of Labor, being the first woman ever appointed to such a position. Miss Barnum will devote her attention to the industries in which women and children are employed, and will collect facts and statistics bearing on these industries.

There is a splendid field of usefulness for a woman of Miss Barnum's ability and energy. She has made a study of this branch of industrialism, and has been a college settlement worker for some time.

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