

THE WAGEWORKER

WILL M. MAUPIN, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER



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OUR "FRIENDLY LIST EDITION."

The Wageworker is preparing a special "Friendly List" edition which will be published the last of February or the first of March. It will be of especial interest to the unionists of this section of the state, and we bespeak for The Wageworker's special representatives a courteous reception from all business men interested in securing a share of union patronage and who are willing to reciprocate when occasion offers.

SPEAKING OF THE UNION LABEL.

The Wageworker has been in the habit of continually calling attention to the union label and declaring that union men and their wives owe it to themselves and to their fellow unionists to insist that the label be upon all articles of general merchandise purchased by them. The editor of the Chicago Public, Mr. Louis F. Post, has evidently noted The Wageworker's insistence upon this point, and also noticed that union men and women have not insisted upon the label as they should. There is no better friend of the wage earners than Mr. Post, and he is a strong believer in trades unionism. Indeed, Mr. Post, while not himself a craftsman and therefore not a member of a trades union, has written some of the strongest arguments in advocacy of trades unionism that it has ever been our good fortune to read. The current issue of the Chicago Public says:

The editor of the Lincoln (Neb.) Wageworker, Will M. Maupin, who is also assistant editor of Bryan's Commoner, has investigated the effect among workmen of the union label. As might have been expected the result was disappointing. Workmen themselves as a mass were found to have paid little or no attention to the label, but bought the goods they wanted, label or no label. So long as the union label is an invitation to buy with reference only to the union origin of goods and without reference to quality, the label is not likely to prove of much value to labor organizations. When the label comes to mean that the goods to which it is attached, being union-made goods, are therefore superior goods, the trade union label fight will have been won.

Time and again The Wageworker has declared that the union label should mean exactly what the Public says it ought to mean. Time and again The Wageworker has declared that the fact a man carries a union card ought to be—and it usually is—prima facie evidence that the bearer is skilled at his trade and ready at all times to perform a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. But the Public overlooks one important, and we might say vital, principle of which the union label is an expression. We refer to the principle of mutual helpfulness. The editor of The Wageworker insists upon having the union label upon the clothing that he buys, but he does not buy it because it has the union label. He buys it because he wants that particular style, color and weave of cloth, but he does not want them badly enough to buy them if they have been made in a sweat shop by poorly paid and overworked wage earners. He must use his judgment as to whether he is getting his money's worth when he buys the suit, but he is assured that if the suit bears the label the people employed to make it were fairly paid for the kind of work they were ordered to do. It would be manifestly unfair to ask the Garment Workers' union to guarantee the quality of the cloth entering into the clothing they make.

Labor unions have adopted distinctive labels for more than one reason. One of the reasons is that they want to acquaint the purchasing public with the fact that labeled goods were made in sanitary factories by comparatively well paid workers who labored reasonable hours. Another reason is the same as the reasons that actuate the great secret societies like the Masons, Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias when those societies adopted signals and signs whereby fellow members might be recognized any time anywhere.

We agree with the Chicago Public that the union label should mean that the goods to which it is attached are superior made goods because union made goods, but we insist it should mean vastly more than that. It should mean better hours, better wages, better conditions, better living, better everything, for the people engaged in making the goods bearing the label. And in order to increase the number of people enjoying these increased advantages The Wageworker insists that it is the duty of unionists everywhere to insist upon having the label on everything they consume.

THE TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION BALL.

Trades unionists in Lincoln are urged to attend the ball to be given by Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209 at Fraternity hall on February 22. Lincoln Typographical Union is carrying a burden greater than that ever carried by any other local union. We venture to assert that Lincoln Typographical Union is making greater sacrifices per man for unionism than the members of any other Lincoln union have ever made. And the cause in which the printers are fighting is the cause of every unionist in the country. For two months Lincoln printers have been paying dues and assessments that equal 11 1/2 per cent per week of their wages. In January they sent upwards of \$800 to their international to help their striking brethren win the fight for the eight-hour day. This is an average of \$8 per man. And in addition they have paid \$150 more into their local treasury for local expenses such as sick benefits, etc.

The printers want to make their twenty-fourth annual ball a success both socially and financially. They need the assistance of their friends. If you are a union man and want to help the printers win their big fight, hand a dollar to the first union printer you meet and tell him to give you a ball ticket.

Three things are essential to life—air, earth and water. The first is still free to most of us, although denied to hundreds of thousands who are doomed to toil in tenements and sweat shops. The second has been practically monopolized and is denied to 80 per cent of the population of this republic. And now comes a lot of men who want 80,000,000 Americans to pay them a subsidy for using the other profitably. And we rather opine that a people foolish enough to permit the sweat shops and the monopoly of land will be just about foolish enough to acquiesce in a ship subsidy.

Every time a clerk tries to tell you that the union made article you ask for is inferior to the "seab" article he wants to sell you, grab him gently but firmly by the arm and yank him up to his employer. Then tell the employer that if he stands for that sort of "con talk" you will take your patronage to some merchant who wants union trade badly enough to cater to union sentiment. That's all.

Non-union men pay no sick benefits to non-unionists. Non-union men contribute nothing towards bettering working conditions. Non-union men never built a home to support disabled non-unionists. Non-union men merely seek to enjoy the benefits that union men have secured by sacrifice of time and money.

The daily newspapers are now roasting Count Boni de Castellane

Tell It To Each Other!

The manner in which all of our fall and winter sales have jumped into prominence is not alone attributed to the advertising we pay for in the newspapers. Friends of the store, people who want to live and let live, who appreciate a bargain and wish their neighbors to share in any of the good things that are being passed along, have been good enough to help push these sales until they have reached their present proportions. If you have all the merchandise offered in this sale that you care for, pass the word to some friend. He'll thank you, so will we and we'll show our appreciation by treating him right.

Men's Overcoats worth \$50.00, \$45.00, \$37.50 and \$35.00	\$18.50	Men's Overcoats worth \$22.50, \$20.00 and \$18.00	\$10.50
Men's Overcoats worth \$32.50, \$30.00, \$27.50 and \$25.00	\$14.50	Men's Overcoats worth \$16.50 and \$15.00	\$7.50

Big Three Suit Sale!

The last of our Beautiful Fall and Winter Suit Stock. We do not propose to carry over a single fancy Suit from our Fall and Winter stock. They must go—not a part, but all. How would you like to own a fine Suit at half and in some instances less than half price?

That's Exactly Our Proposition in this Big Three Suit Sale
This is the Way the Suits Are Divided and Marked
Nothing Reserved but Staple Black and Blue Suits

Lot 1—Lot 1 embraces all Fancy Suits worth \$30.00, \$27.50, \$25.00, \$22.50—	\$15	Lot 2—Lot 2 embraces all Suits which we sold at \$20.00, \$18.00, \$16.50 and \$15.00—	\$10	Lot 3—Lot 3 embraces all Suits sold by us at \$12.50, \$10.00 and \$7.50—	\$5
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As a special sweetener we are offering a uniform discount on all Odd Pants of 20 per cent. This single announcement will make a rushing business on our Odd Trousers Department. Our assortment is at present very good. All sizes may be secured from 31 waist to 54, all leg lengths from 28 to 38.

Armstrong Clothing Co.

Good Clothes Merchants

to a frazzle for his treatment of Anna Gould. Count Boni is not a big advertiser. The daily newspapers are not roasting Charles W. Post, who treated his wife so harshly that she had to secure a divorce, proving cruelly on his part. We've been waiting a long while to see some big daily newspaper vent its virtuous wrath on the Battle Creek husband of his stenographer.

Union men should take notice of the fact that if they are wearing "Arrow Brand" collars or "Monarch Shirts" they are wearing the products of a firm that locked out 700 girls who objected to having their wages reduced 50 per cent by fines, fees, reductions and dues. Cluett, Peabody & Co. do not deserve a nickel from union men.

The first Lincoln furnishing store in Lincoln that puts in a full line of union made collars and shirts and advertises the fact in The Wageworker is going to reap a harvest of dollars that will make his bank account look as big as a prize pumpkin at the state fair.

Lincoln trades unionists spend \$3,000,000 a year with Lincoln business men. If they would insist on spending it all for labeled goods the merchants of Lincoln would be jumping sideways to find the goods bearing the union label.

Spring work will soon open up in good style and overalls and work shirts will be in demand. No Lincoln unionist will wear overalls made in a factory which pays its operatives \$2.42 a week for making those garments.

If every citizen who holds Judge Holdom of Chicago in utter contempt should be lodged in jail, the streets of every American city would look like the streets of Goldsmith's "Deserted Village."

A lawyer named Penny is the attorney for the Chicago Typothetae who secured the injunction from Judge Holdom. This will explain the bad scent surrounding that Holdom decision.

The street railway employees of Lincoln work longer hours for less money than the street railway employees in Sioux City, St. Joseph or Omaha. Why? "Wait and ask Scudder."

The demand for the abrogation of the Chinese exclusion act comes from men more interested in getting cheap labor than they are in the welfare of mankind.

"The Housekeeper," published at Minneapolis, is printed by "rats" working for a firm that is opposed to unionism. That's all.

All of Frank A. Munsey's publications are union made. It is better to boost your friends than it is to knock your enemies.

If it is union made it was made by well paid labor. And that's the reason you should buy union made goods.

The cement workers employed in Lincoln ought to get together and organize without further delay.

McClure's Magazine is "rat." This fact is mentioned lest we forget.

GOOD FOR BURKETT.

Stood Up Against the Infamous Ship Subsidy Graft Bill.

Senator Elmer J. Burkett of Nebraska cast his vote against the ship subsidy bill, which was up in the senate and passed last Wednesday. This ship subsidy business is a steal—a gigantic steal. Its purpose is to tax the general public in order to raise a big bonus to induce multi-millionaires to engage in a business that is and always has been immensely profitable. As a fraud on the people it is worse than a sugar bounty, a railroad land grant or a factory bonus. Every man who represents a manufacturing or agricultural constituency and votes for

the ship subsidy steal ought to be marked for slaughter and retired to private life at the end of his present time.

Senator Burkett certainly does not deserve any particular thanks for doing his duty, but he is to be congratulated on his good sense in not being blinded by the specious arguments of the subsidy grabbers. His vote represents the opinions of 99 per cent of Nebraskans who are intelligent enough to know a plain steal when they see it.

A Newspaper Charge.

The Nebraska Independent has changed owners again, this time falling into the hands of a stock company. George W. Berge, who pur-

chased it from F. D. Eager, still retains a large interest, and Fred W. Berge will continue as business manager. J. M. DeVine will officiate as editor-in-chief and will be assisted by Frank Gallagher. Several prominent business men are financially interested in the company, and it is the intention to build up a large publishing business.

WORKED TO A FRAZZLE.

City Improvement Society Made Victim of Cunning Schemers.

If the City Improvement Society had been wise it would not have allowed itself to be used as a catspaw by the notoriously unfair National Cash Register Co. of Dayton, Ohio. If the City Improvement Society really has the good of the city at heart it would take some interest in the welfare of those who are making Lincoln—the wage earners. And the lot of the wage earners would be mighty poor indeed if all employers were as notoriously unfair as the National Cash Register Co. That company will, of course, tell about its "model cottages," its "sanitary factory," and all that sort of rot, but it will not tell that its scheme is like that of the busted Pullman plan, nor that its "sanitary factory" is filled with employees who dare not call their souls their own for fear of losing their jobs and the little savings they have invested in those so-called model cottages. Neither will it mention "pluck-mo-stores," company physicians, fines, etc. This wonderfully philanthropic company has locked out its union printers for daring to ask an eight-hour day. It discharged hundreds of employees who failed to respond to a command to attend an "open shop" meeting called by the employers.

The National Cash Register Co. has made monkeys out of the members of the City Improvement Society by getting them to stand sponsors for about the baldest bit of advertising graft ever worked in Lincoln. That the aforesaid members allowed themselves to be "worked" does no credit to their intelligence nor to their interest in the wage earners of the city.

One-half off Sample Shoe sale. Rogers & Perkins.

THE TEAMSTERS.

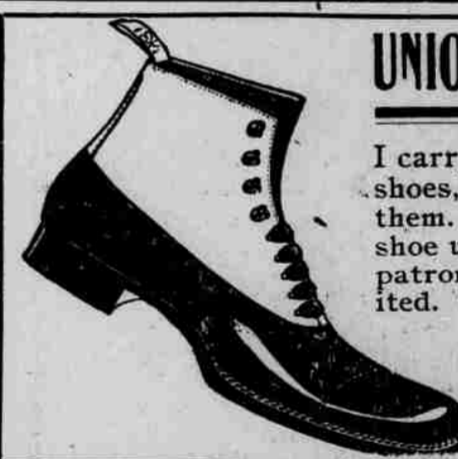
Interest in the Organization Seems to Be Steadily Growing.

The meetings of the Teamsters' Union have been unusually well attended for the past month or two, and a renewed interest is being taken in the affairs of the organization. One of the most encouraging signs is that the members are more prompt in meeting their dues, take a more active part in the discussions and make fewer excuses when asked to perform committee duties.

The local is anxiously waiting for the international board to send on the long-promised organizer. There is plenty of work for him right here. In the meanwhile the local members are determined to do all that they can to keep things moving along towards a better condition.

International Slate Workers' Union has been doing some effective organization work in New York and Vermont. A local was organized at Greenville, N. Y., with 365 charter members, and it is believed the membership will reach 500 by the next meeting.

Eleven iron molders employed at Kutztown, Pa., went to Allentown and joined the Molders' Union. On their return they were discharged. Then there was a strike, the majority of the employees going out for the right to be "free and independent" and join a labor organization if they so desired.



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I carry nothing but union made shoes, and have a full line of them. I manufacture shoes and shoe uppers. A share of union patronage is respectfully solicited.

S. L. McCOY

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The Lincoln Wallpaper & Paint Co.

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