

WAGWORKER

WILL M. MAUPIN, EDITOR



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"Printers' Ink," the recognized authority on advertising, after a thorough investigation on this subject, says: "A labor paper is a far better advertising medium than an ordinary newspaper in comparison with circulation. A labor paper, for example, having 2,000 subscribers is of more value to the business man who advertises in it than an ordinary paper with 12,000 subscribers."

LABOR IN POLITICS.

Elsewhere in this issue appears a dispatch under a Washington date line, the same being sent to the Milwaukee Sentinel by the Washington correspondent, Mr. Arthur J. Dodge. A careful perusal of the dispatch will reveal the fact that the political leaders are becoming thoroughly frightened at the prospect of organized labor getting into politics. Of course the political leaders think that "organized labor is making a mistake that will be fatal to the interests of union labor by mixing up in politics." And, of course, the political leaders will now become extremely busy among union men, telling them to "stand by the party," and advising them to not endanger their labor organizations by allowing politics to get into the unions. If there is anything that political bosses fear it is a concerted movement on the part of organized labor to throw off party ties and begin voting for self-interest. Every scheme, every lie, every influence that can be brought to bear will be brought to bear by the politicians to keep the labor vote divided on party lines. As long as that can be done the grafters and the schemers can have their own way.

If the union men of the Eighteenth Illinois district do not defeat "Uncle Joe" Cannon this fall they will be derelict in their duty. There are enough of them to do it without any trouble. Let them meet in independent convention and nominate a strong union man for congress, and it is a cinch that he will be endorsed by the minority party. This one union man in congress will be worth more to the cause of labor than all the democrats and republicans elected by special interests.

Mr. Dodge's correspondence indicates that the bosses are becoming frightened at the activity of labor in politics. Bless 'em, we'll have 'em scared to death in a year if we will do our duty as union men and as free American citizens. But the reference to the Knights of Labor should warn us against mistakes made in the past. Let us not make the mistake of undertaking independent political action at this time. Let us demand the nomination of union men by the two old parties. If the majority party in your county, district or state refuses, turn to the minority. And if neither will recognize you, then it is time to put an independent ticket in the field. The chief thing just now is to defeat the enemies of organized labor and elect a few of our own members to legislatures and to congress.

Central Labor Union Benefit at the Oliver, Thursday evening, July 26, tendered by the Fulton Stock Co. and Manager Zehrung.

WINNETT WILL NOT DO.

The so-called republican machine got just what was coming to it at the republican county convention last Wednesday. It was a shame to sacrifice so honorable a gentleman as Rev. Mr. Ludden, and equally foolish for the anti-machine contingent to insist upon the nomination of Dr. Winnett. When the machine managers selected the lieutenant governorship and put up Rev. Mr. Ludden it "played horse" at a rate that would have put to shame a bunch of ten-year-old boys. Anyone with a grain of sense could see through the scheme, and it is surprising that Rev. Mr. Ludden allowed himself to be used. He is too good a man to shelve in any such a position.

Dr. Winnett has bobbed up for about everything in the shape of an office that has been mentioned. It was really funny to see the so-called "anti-railroad" contingent lining up behind the gentleman who, as mayor of Lincoln, signed a midnight ordinance that al-

lowed a railroad to steal three blocks of one of the principal streets of the city. It was not strange to see the Journal supporting him as the aforesaid street stealing was for the benefit of the Journal.

The Wagworker is opposed to Dr. Winnett for several reasons. In the first place, he is not fitted by education or experience for the position of railroad commissioner. He knows no more about rate making and tariff sheet construction than a "scab" carpenter knows about gothic architecture. But, above all this, The Wagworker is against him because he is not a friend of organized labor, and by his words and actions has antagonized the workmen who have made Lincoln great and Dr. Winnett prosperous.

At this minute he is engaged in building himself a fine residence and it is being built by a notoriously unfair contractor who employs "scab" labor in preference to union labor. Dr. Winnett's attention was called to this, but he calmly remarked that he had nothing to do with it, and that it didn't matter to him whether a man was a union workman or not.

Dr. Winnett does not deserve the vote of a single loyal union man, and if they vote in their own interests they will return a majority against him at the fall election, provided, of course, he can secure the nomination.

In Omaha the merchants are scouring the country to secure labeled goods. They carry union clothing, union shoes, union hats, union shirts, union collars and cuffs, union collar buttons, union suspenders, union garters, union drawers—union everything that is made. But Omaha has a wideawake Label League. After six weeks of earnest effort The Wagworker managed to secure the signatures of fifty-six union men and women to a pledge to buy nothing but union-made goods. The merchants of Lincoln are not trying to get union goods. "There's a reason."

When a union man prefers to loaf six days and draw a \$12 benefit to working when he has a chance and paying the 10 per cent assessment to help gain the eight-hour day he is a "snitch" and a disgrace to the union. Are there any printers of that kind living on the money put up by their working brethren?

"Sandhill" Moore is a good union man and he tried desperately to secure the nomination of Caster for the legislature. Now will "Sandhill" Moore demonstrate his unionism still further by voting for a couple of union men if they are nominated by the democrats?

Tell the wife about "Gripe Guts" Post's treatment of his faithful wife and his liaison with the stenographer. Then trust the wife to throw the Post stuff out of the window and replace it with "Egg-O-See," a union made cereal food.

Congressman Pollard's vote has been recorded in the interests of organized labor on the two or three occasions that labor's interests were before congress.

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Choose ye this day! Will you stand by a party ticket put up by scheming politicians, or will you stand by your union principles?

The best way to get even with "Gripe Guts" Post is to laugh at his insane ravings and eat "Egg-O-See."

Get out and hustle for the Central Labor Union Benefit at the Oliver next Thursday evening.

C. L. U. benefit, Oliver Theatre, Thursday evening, July 26.

A winning strike can be made at the ballot box.

NATIONAL CONVENTIONS.

Where Unions Will Meet to Enact Their General Legislation.

July 21, Springfield, Mass., American Wire Weavers' Protective Association.

August 1, Toronto, Ont., United Garment Workers of America.

August 6, Chicago, Ill., International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

August 6, —, National Association Insulators and Asbestos Workers.

August 7, Milwaukee, Wis., International Glove Workers' Union of America.

August 12, Colorado Springs, Col., International Typographical Union.

August 13, New York City, International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union.

August 20, Boston, Mass., United Gold Beaters' National Union.

September 3, —, Elastic Goring

Second Annual Benefit Lincoln Central Labor Union OLIVER THEATRE, THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 26,

Courtesy of Mr. Jess B. Fulton and Mr. Frank C. Zehrung.

Usual prices of admission. Name of play will be announced later. Timely specialties between acts. Tickets exchangeable at box office for reserved seats for sale by delegates to the Central Labor Union.

BE A BOOSTER!! AND BOOST NOW!!!

Weavers' Amalgamated Association.

September 3, Toronto, Ont., International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees.

September 6, Toronto, Ont., Saw Smiths' Union of North America.

September 10, Milwaukee, Wis., International Union of Steam Engineers.

September 10, Danville, Ill., International Alliance of Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers.

September 11, Buffalo, N. Y., American Brotherhood of Cement Workers.

September 13, Boston, Mass., Cotton Mule Spinners' Association.

September 13, Hartford, Conn., Table Knife Grinders' National Union.

September 17, New York City, International Wood Carvers' Association.

September 17, Niagara Falls, N. Y.,

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

October 1, Minneapolis, Minn., International Photo-Engravers' Union.

October (first week), Toronto, Ont., Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers' International Union.

October 8, Milwaukee, Wis., Coopers' International Union.

October 16, Paterson, N. J., United Textile Workers of America.

November 5, East Banker, Pa., International Union Slate Workers.

November 12, Minneapolis, Minn., American Federation of Labor.

December 3, Boston, Mass., International Seamen's Union.

December 3, New York City, National Alliance of Bill Posters and Billers of America.

SOME FIGURES FOR UNION PRINTERS.

The Union Printers of the United States and Canada have been fighting for the eight hour day since the first of January of the present year. For nearly seven months every working union printer has been paying—or is supposed to have paid—10 per cent weekly on his earnings in order to finance the eight hour cause.

Every week our official journal is filled with glowing promises and beautiful predictions. Figures gloriously compiled and beautifully mixed up are given from month to month, and nothing left undone to make us believe that the assessment is being used to win a great victory.

Is it not time for some results? Is it not time to let the men on the "paying line" know a little bit about how the money is being spent, what direct results are being achieved, and what has been done in the months gone by?

Perhaps the men in charge of the eight hour campaign are doing the best they can. Admit it. But is the best they can do commensurate with the money that it is costing? Let the figures from the official journal tell the story. In this table the reports printed in the Typographical Journal are used, the June report, however, not being obtainable, therefore the June reports are estimated on an average with the other months.

The following table shows the number of journeymen, apprentices and allied craftsmen carried on the strike benefit rolls for the months named:

Month.	Journeymen.	Apprentices.	Allied.	Total.
February	4,977	327	642	5,946
March	5,079	341	488	5,908
April	5,059	342	488	5,889
May	4,872	401	601	5,748
June, (est.)	4,996	353	555	5,904
July	4,472	328	498	5,308

Now digest those figures. After six months of fighting there are just 505 fewer journeymen on the strike benefit list than there were according to the report printed in the February Journal. There are 11 fewer apprentices carried on the benefit list, and 144 fewer allied tradesmen on the benefit list. In six months there has been a reduction of 144 in the number drawing benefits.

In estimating the number working eight hours the editor of the Journal figures without warrant. He takes the number working eight hours under contract, then adds 40 per cent of the remainder, and claims the total as working eight hours. He might as well claim 60 or 90 per cent. Common fairness demands that we take the number working eight hours actually, and by contract. Here are the figures from the Journal, the June figures being the average of the four months preceding:

Month.	Journal Est.	Actual
February	37,741	34,674
March	38,988	36,844
April	39,222	37,228
May	39,433	37,596
June (est.)	38,846	36,585

July (No figures presented in the Journal.)

These figures show that at the end of five months of effort we had gained the eight hour day for 2,922 men. What did it cost? Let the Journal's figures tell the story:

February receipts, \$144,547.03; March receipts, \$155,974.47; April receipts, \$143,131.01; May receipts, \$151,435.99; June receipts, (average), \$148,772.10; July receipts, \$275,761.15. Total, \$1,019,621.75.

But that does not cover the total expenses of the fight by any means. The Journal affords the information that seven unions, with a membership of 15,338, retain all of the 10 per cent assessment, and finance their own case, except Chicago, which receives \$1,000 a week from the international. This represents a total of \$22,338 per week. Forty-eight unions with a membership of 8,152, retain all and in addition receive constitutional benefits from the international, save Cleveland. This represents a total of \$9,600 per week. Six unions, with a membership of 793, collect the assessment and retain half, or \$600 per week. Two unions, with a membership of 531, retain all they need, or \$660 a week according to the Journal. These sums are not sent to the International and do not, therefore, appear in the reports. In twenty-six weeks these unions collected \$860,860.00. The total collected and disbursed by the international, added to the total col-

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ON TO MEXICO!

Word comes to Lincoln that Jess Mickel, formerly of Lincoln, now of Harvard, will shortly go to the City of Mexico to accept a position as machinist in a big print shop. We'll hate to lose Jess from Nebraska, but if he must go we can truthfully say that when he lands in Mexico the average of trades unionism in that republic will be materially increased. Ollie Mickel, formerly of Lincoln, is running a linotype on the City of Mexico daily known as the "Two Republics."

THE PIONEER

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