

WAGELWORKER

WILL M. MAUPIN, EDITOR



Published Weekly at 137 No. 14th St., Lincoln, Neb. One Dollar a Year.

Entered as second-class matter April 21, 1904, at the postoffice at Lincoln, Neb., under the Act of Congress of March 3rd, 1879.

"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'S WATCHWORD.

We will stand by our friends and administer a stinging rebuke to men or parties who are either indifferent, negligent or hostile, and, whenever opportunity affords, secure the election of intelligent, honest, earnest trade unionists, with clear, unblemished, paid-up union cards in their possession.

THE POLITICAL PLAN.

To one who has striven hard for years to advance the interests of organized labor it seems strange that there should be any opposition to the proposition that organized labor, as such, should take a hand in the political game. How workingmen can expect ever to secure justice without resort to the ballot-box is a mystery. Surely experience has been costly enough to prove to any thinking man that every beneficent law is the result of agitation, and not the result of kindness or love on the part of those whose opportunities or greed have been circumscribed by the adoption of the law. The workingman who is content to toil away in the belief that some day or other, in some way or other, he will be given all that he is entitled to by the man who has been taking the greater part of it, will simply die with his expectations unrealized.

No great reform was ever achieved in this or any other country by just simply waiting for those who made the reform necessary to bring it about. The reforms have been brought about by those who suffered under the abuses until patience ceased to be a virtue, and who then threw of all restraint and set about securing the reform. The men who are robbing the toilers today are not at all likely to quit it voluntarily. The men who profit by unjust laws that lay the burden upon the shoulders of the toilers today are not at all likely to take the initiative in the repeal of those laws. The industrial reforms which are so much needed by those who perform the work will never be granted by those whose interests demand the postponement of those reforms. If ever industrial reform is achieved it will be as the result of the work of those whose interests demand the reform.

The working people of this country—the real breadwinners—suffer from unjust laws, from unjust competition, from unjust conditions and from unjust judges. And unjust laws lie at the bottom of all the rest. Now, why be so foolish as to imagine for a moment that the workers can bring about the needed change by simply waiting for the other fellows to do the right thing? We must change conditions, and in order to change conditions, we must change laws—and to change laws we must have a change of lawmakers. Instead of electing men whose interests are not our interests, we must elect men from our own ranks. And in order to do this we must lay aside party prejudices and vote from a commonsense standpoint. We must support men who believe as we believe on the fundamental principles of industrial progress. As union men opposed to child labor we are very likely to get anti-child labor legislation by electing men who are personally profiting from the employment of children.

But a lot of union men—or, rather, members of unions—would still prefer to stick to their party than to further their interests as workingmen. From this class, happily growing smaller, will come the opposition to the political plan of the American Federation of Labor. The majority of men who have a heart interest in the matter will commend the plan and will advocate its continuance. The first trial was a success, even if it did not

defeat some of labor's enemies or elect some of labor's friends. It did call attention to the fact that organized labor is waking up and determining to make its power felt. With practically no preparation, and without experience as an organization in practical politics, the Federation accomplished a great deal in a few weeks. What it can do with two years' of experience is a matter that is causing the political bosses the utmost concern.

The Wageworker heartily endorses the political propaganda of the American Federation of Labor, and hopes to see it continued.

NOT EXACTLY PHILANTHROPY.

A great many people are likely to be deceived by the recent wage advance by the principal railroad systems of the country. There has been a uniform advance of 10 per cent in the wage scale on a great many of the big systems, and a lot of hysterical people are inclined to herald it as an act of great generosity on the part of the railroad managers.

But it is nothing of the kind. The advance is due to two causes, the least of the two being the concerted demand made for the increase by organized labor. The chief cause for the increase lies in the recent awakening of the American people to the fact that they have for years been robbed right and left by the corporations. The people have shown a determination to put a stop to extortionate rates that have permitted a dozen men to pay enormous dividends on watered stocks. The public outcry has become so strong that the corporations see the necessity of doing something to make it subside. And with characteristic cunning they have seized upon the wage increase. By making a substantial increase in wages they hope to set the people to talking so loudly about the increase of wages that they will forget to keep up the agitation for lower rates. And if the corporations can continue to pay dividends of 20 and 30 per cent on stocks that are three-fourths water they will cheerfully pay the 10 per cent increase in wages.

The fact still remains that a 10 per cent increase in the wage by no means evens up the increased cost of living. And it by no means makes good the increased service demanded of the employees. Take the services of the engineers and firemen, for instance. The engineer is performing 100 per cent more service than he did ten years ago. That is, because of the increased size of locomotives he is enabled to handle 100 per cent more cars. Of course he is not entitled to all of the credit, but certainly he is entitled to more than 10 per cent of the saving made by the employers by reason of the improved machinery. The fireman on a modern through freight or passenger train performs actually twice as much labor as he did in the days of the small engines and small trains. And yet he is expected to rejoice and be glad because his wage is increased 10 per cent while his work is increased 100 per cent.

The American people are proverbially fickle. It is more than probable that they will pay so much attention to the paltry increase in wages that they will forget to keep up their agitation for decent and equitable freight rates. The managers of our great railroad systems are not philanthropists. Not by a long shot!

The incoming governor, Mr. Sheldon, will have the appointment of a deputy labor commissioner. It is taken for granted that Burrill Bush will not be re-appointed, he having served four years. Governor Sheldon would make a hit by appointing some union man after consulting with union men who have the success of the bureau more at heart than they have the placing of a juicy political plum.

The Wageworker offers the following as a specimen of "reform journalism" as practiced in Lincoln: "John Jimpkins is a lowlived pup. He is a thief and a robber. He ought to be shot." Now, John Jimpkins, can get his side of the case before the same people who read the above by paying The Wageworker 'steens cents per inch.

Senator Beveridge has an idea—and it is a good one. He would let the government handle the child labor question by enacting a law prohibiting the transportation by interstate railroads of goods made by children under a certain age. Good idea! Bully for Beveridge. That is no "dream."

Are you "boosting" for the Labor Fair, or are you just laying down on it like you have on about every other proposition calculated to advance the cause of unionism?

The gentlemen composing the state printing board would do well to appoint a competent union printer to the position of secretary of the board.

No, the product of the Lincoln Overland and Shirt Co.'s factory will not be

exhibited by the makers at the Labor Fair. But some of the product may be exhibited alongside of the product of union made factories, with comparative prices paid to the girls who made them.

Central Labor Union meets next Tuesday night. Be there and be ready to take the work assigned you for the success of the Labor Fair.

Mr. Post is going to take the lecture platform. He can have his spiel taken in shorthand every night, too, without extra expense.

The United States Steel Co. demands the "open shop" for itself. That is why it pleads for a protective tariff.

The way to "knock" on labor's enemies is to buy the goods made by labor's friends. Look for the label.

The Lincoln Distraction Co. has suddenly discovered that "unfairness" is a game that two can play at.

The workingman who does his thinking with his belly sooner or later regrets with his head.

The Union Labor Fair begins a week from next Monday. Now, get busy!

One more week and then the Union Labor Fair. Are you "boosting?"

Union Labor Fair, December 3 to 5.

Boost for the Union Labor Fair.

Union Labor Fair.

Labor Fair.

Fair.

DEATH OF BERT WILSON.

One of the Old-Time Printers Takes "30" From the Hook.

Albert O. Wilson, familiarly known as "Bert," one of the old-time printers of Nebraska, died Saturday, November 17, at the Union Printers' Home in Colorado Springs. The remains were taken into Holdrege, Neb., where funeral services were held on Tuesday, November 20.

And thus closed the life of one of the best of the "old bunch" of printers who have made history in the west. Everybody liked "Bert" because he was one of those genial, whole-souled, companionable men who hesitated at nothing to help a friend in need. Always cheerful, always optimistic, always loyal, he left good cheer behind him as he passed along the way. He was a union man who stood four-square. The writer enjoyed an intimate acquaintance with Bert extending over seventeen years.

Mr. Wilson was born at Littleton, Ill., March 17, 1857. He early showed an inclination for the printing trade, and before he was sixteen years old he established "Wilson's Weekly" at Roseville, Ill. In 1878 he came to Nebraska, locating in Phelps county and starting the "Phelps County Pioneer," the first paper in that county. This paper he printed on a press of his own manufacture. From Phelps county he went to Kearney, and for several years was connected with the New Era of that city, then published by the Rhone Brothers. In 1893 he came to Lincoln and became foreman of the Western Newspaper Union. This position he held until failing health compelled him to resign. He was sent to Muskogee, I. T., to take charge of the plant there, it being hoped that the change would benefit him. But his health continued to fall and he was soon compelled to quit work entirely. Last spring he went to the Union Printers' Home, and his many friends hoped that the rest and care to be found there would soon bring him renewed health. But the hope was vain. Slowly he succumbed to the dread disease, tuberculosis. The friends who saw him last August were shocked at the great change for the worse, and they realized that the end could not be far off. But he was the same cheerful, optimistic "Bert."

Mr. Wilson was not only a first-class printer. He was an inventor of no small repute. He invented a leading machine for linotype matter that is in use throughout the country. He also invented a machine for wrapping wire around poles which will undoubtedly be a valuable possession some time.

Mr. Wilson leaves a wife and two sons and two brothers to mourn his death. One brother, H. T. Wilson, is a resident of Lincoln. To the devoted wife and the two stalwart sons the full measure of sympathy of a host of friends will be extended. Unionism has lost a staunch supporter, and a family a devoted husband and father, in the death of Bert Wilson. Peace to his soul!

ANOTHER UNION HOME. The National Brotherhood of Operative Potters, in session at Akron, O., recently decided to build a home for aged and indigent potters.

THE PIONEER BARBER SHOP

CHARLES BOWEN, Prop.
Union—Cleanly—Handy
YOU ARE NEXT
101 South 11th, - Lincoln

Henry Pfeiff

DEALER IN
Fresh and Salt Meats
Sausage, Poultry, Etc

Staple and Fancy Groceries.
Telephones 888-477. 314 So. 11th Street

Cheap Coal

One or more can buy a car of Coal, direct from the mine, at

\$3.50 PER TON ON CAR AT LINCOLN

ADDRESS
HARRY LITTLE, OSKALOOSA, IA.
Correspondence Solicited



OFFICE OF
DR. R. L. BENTLEY,
Specialist Children
OFFICE HOURS 1 TO 4 P.M.
Office 2116 O st. Both Phones.
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA.

Union Harness & Repair Shop

GEORGE H. BUSH
Harness repairing, Harness washed and oiled. I use the Union Stamp and solicit Union Trade. All kinds of work furnished on call. 145 So. 9th.

NICELY FURNISHED AND FITTED AND THE MOST POPULAR PRICED HOUSE IN THE STATE. FIFTEEN NEW BATH ROOMS.

New Windsor Hotel

Lincoln, Nebraska
American and European plan. American Plan \$2 to \$3 per day. European Plan, Rooms 50c to \$1.50 per day. 93 rooms all outside. Popular priced restaurant lunch counter and Ladies' cafe. SERVICE UNEXCELLED.
E. M. PENNELL, Mgr.

HAYDEN'S ART STUDIO

New Location, 1127 O
Fine work a Specialty.
Auto 3336

GRAND CENTRAL BARBER SHOP
BATHS
Anything in our Line? Members of the Union
W. H. BARTHELMAN
134 SOUTH 11TH STREET

DR. A. B. AYERS

Dentist
1309 O Street Auto 1591; Bell 915
Bring this ad and save ten per cent on your bills.

Columbia National Bank

General Banking Business. Interest on time deposits
LINCOLN, NEBRASKA

The Lincoln Wallpaper & Paint Co.

A Strictly Union Shop
Wholesale and Retail Modern Decorators, Wall Paper, Mouldings, Etc. Masonic Temple 230 S. 11th St.
Auto Phone 1975

S. L. McCOY
"THE RAGTIME MILLIONAIRE"
Rubber Heels.....35c
Best Half-Soles.... 60c to 75c
Hand-Sewed.....\$1.00
Repairing neatly done.
I Sell Union-Made Shoes
1529 O Street

UNION STAMP SHOES
—MEANS—
THE BEST SHOES
FOR THE MONEY
No higher in cost than other shoes, but you may be sure they are made under the best conditions. More for your money in Union Stamp Shoes than in those without the stamp. By wearing Union Stamp shoes you do much to help wage earning shoemakers. If you cannot get the Union Stamp shoes in your locality, write
Boot and Shoe Workers' Union
246 SUMMER ST., BOSTON, MASS.

Your Cigars Should Bear This Label..

Union-made Cigars.
It is insurance against sweat shop and tenement goods, and against disease. . . .

Three Good Rules to Follow

First When Traveling between Omaha and Chicago, use The Overland Limited leaving at 8:35 p. m. from Union Station.
Second. If you cannot use The Overland Limited, use The Eastern Express leaving at 5:45 p. m.
Third. If you cannot use either of the above, take The Chicago Express leaving at 7:15 a. m.
In these three trains the

Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway

offers an excellence in service between Omaha and Chicago not obtainable elsewhere. All trains arrive in Union Station in the heart of Chicago. All trains are protected by block signals and run over a smooth track all the way
Low Rates to Many Eastern Points
F. A. NASH, 1524 Farnam Street, OMAHA.
General Western Agent.

GREEN GABLES

The Dr. Benj. F. Baily Sanatorium
Lincoln, Nebraska
For non-contagious chronic diseases. Largest, best equipped, most beautifully furnished.

For Quick Deliveries and Good Grades of

COAL

Hard Scranton and Soft Coal
Call **Schaupp Coal Co.**
Phones: Bell 182 Auto 3812
1234 O St. YARDS, 18th and R Streets