

# THE WAGWORKER



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## Labor Temple Project Getting Into Good Shape

The open meeting of the Central Labor Union last Tuesday night, held for the purpose of boosting the Labor Temple project was a success. First, it was the largest meeting of union men held in Lincoln for many months. Second, it demonstrated that the union men have been considering the temple project and casting about for the best plans whereby one may be secured. Third, it demonstrated that there is no lack of enthusiasm among the faithful, although the faithful seem to bear but a small proportion to the whole number. While the meeting was largely attended, it should have been ten times as large. The hall should have been crowded to the doors. As it was, fully 200 men were present.

Governor Sheldon favored the meeting with his presence, and he made two rousing good talks. His attitude towards trades unionism was made very plain, for he declared with great emphasis that it was not only the right but the duty of workingmen to organize, and to organize thoroughly. Then he showed his deep interest in the temple project by speaking words that evidenced the fact that he had given the matter more than passing thought. He outlined some good plans and in addition he declared his willingness to lend financial as well as moral support to the enterprise.

Rev. Mr. Batten also spoke encouraging words, and he too offered financial aid to the extent of his ability. Other speakers were enthusiastic and optimistic.

After the preliminary work of the central body had been completed the meeting was declared open, and Governor Sheldon was called upon. He had a clear understanding of the object of the meeting and went at the subject without any preliminaries. After the governor had spoken W. M. Maupin outlined the building plan he had in mind, and which has been explained in detail in The Wagworker. He insisted, however, that he was willing to adopt any plan, his only object being to promote the project. Opposition to the stock company plan was at once made manifest, Wm. Emberson voicing the objection. After opposing the stock company plan he declared the question before the meeting to be, "How?" However, he failed to give a plan, contenting himself with objections to the stock company idea.

Rev. Mr. Batten moved that it be the sense of the meeting that the union men proceed at once to conceive and carry out some plan of securing a temple. The motion was carried and once more the discussion was on.

Every speaker declared himself willing to go to the limit in an effort to secure a temple, and all were optimistic, but none seemed ready to submit any definite plan other than the stock company proposition. Finally, on motion, it was decided to ask every labor organization in the city to select a delegate on an advisory board, the duty of the board being to select some plan of procedure, the same to be referred back to the various locals for adoption or rejection.

The Wagworker has no pet plan, but it still clings to the belief that the stock company plan is the best and most feasible. It is the plan that has been followed in the erection of every labor temple of which it has knowledge. Properly safeguarded it is the most enduring, and under it the money could be most quickly raised. But The Wagworker wants a Labor Temple in Lincoln much more than it wants any particular plan adopted. It will lend its heartiest support to any plan agreed upon by a majority. The little mite its editor purposes giving will be given just as freely under one plan as another.

"You may put down for \$100," said Governor Sheldon to the editor of The Wagworker. "It is without any strings."

That's a boost for fair. And there are scores of men in Lincoln who will do as much or more when the union men demonstrate that they are taking an active interest in the matter.

Already there is approximately \$2,500 in sight. That is a mighty good starter. It is about \$2,500 nearer the goal than we have ever come before.

Governor Sheldon urged the erection of such a building as would not only provide halls for union purposes and an assembly room for general purposes, but a building that would afford

a gymnasium, a library, bath rooms, smoking rooms, office rooms and dormitories wherein workingmen could find clean, sanitary rooms in which to sleep and make their home when not at work. He was sure that the business men of the city would heartily further such an enterprise because it would be a benefit to them. It would give more stability to labor. It would exert an influence for good among the wage earners. And business men are among the first to reap financial advantage from such a state of affairs.

The Wagworker is glad to add the names of the following gentlemen to the list of those who have agreed to boost the Labor Temple project. These names represent much more than one day's work each, but will be added to the list carried under that agreement:

- Fred Ress, 1201 B.
- W. T. Abbott, Lin. Tel. Co.
- Rev. S. Z. Batten.
- Gov. George L. Sheldon.
- F. A. Kates, 1020 K.
- Fred Elssler, 111 A.
- S. C. Foster, 437 N. 10.
- Nelson, 2122 H.
- C. H. Fowler, 1229 N. 26.
- R. R. Cooper, 1237 S. 27.
- O. T. Stowell, 347 S. 24.
- Chas. S. Smith, 2218 Holdrege.
- R. J. Adams, 236 N. 19.
- G. A. Noyes, 1144 R.
- Ernest Elssler, 111 A.
- J. M. Quick, 1445 N. 25.
- A. R. Gibson, 2135 L.
- J. A. Chambers, 425 S. 30.
- S. D. Swab, 1536 N. 28.
- C. E. Mellor, 2149 S. 15.

Several other lists are out, and next week's report will undoubtedly be very gratifying. Now that the movement is fairly started let every genuine union man take hold and push. There should be no trouble in having the money in sight for a building lot by Labor Day. And if we succeed in that we can celebrate the day with a better heart than usual.

### TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

#### Some Little Notes About the Printer Men Here and Elsewhere.

Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209 held a special meeting last Sunday, the meeting being called to take some action looking towards the immediate relief of Mr. Rogers, who is very sick. It was decided to ask his admission to the Home at Colorado Springs. The local situation was discussed at length and proper action taken.

The regular July meeting will be held a week from Sunday, at which time the officers elect will be sworn in. By that time, too, it is hoped to have a clear understanding on matters discussed at the special meeting.

The old time printers in Lincoln will be shocked when they learn of the death of J. F. Flannigan, better known as "Kid." Mr. Flannigan died at Hot Springs last week after an illness of several months. He was secretary of the Hot Springs union and was foremost in engineering the plans for the "Pirates' Reunion" at the Springs when the international convention meets next August. He worked on the Journal in this city seventeen years ago, and was one of the men who walked out during the memorable strike of 1892. He was a genial, clever comrade, a staunch unionist and a worker in every cause calculated to benefit his fellow craftsmen. They made no better men or printers than "Kid" Flannigan. Peace to his ashes.

Superintendent Deacon of the Home has notified Frank Swigart not to send any more books to the Home library without prepaying the express. Wouldn't that jar you? Swigart took hold of the library project and made it a success. But somehow or other he incurred the enmity of the "big chiefs" at Indianapolis and President Lynch notified him not to solicit any more books. Swigart paid no attention to the ukase and kept sending in books by the score—and all of them valuable additions to the library. Then he was accused of lese majeste and notified he would be tried for his union life at the Hot Springs convention. Then St. Louis union, to which he belongs, butted in and wanted to know why one of its members was treated thusly. And No. 8 was politely told to go to thunder. The executive council would manage things in its own way. And Swigart looks forward to a trial on charges of which he is ignorant be-

fore a jury to be selected by his accusers. Pleasant prospect for a union man who has sacrificed time and money to boost a work calculated to brighten the lives of old comrades who are enjoying the comforts of the Home. But Swigart stands pat, and here's hoping he wins out as handily in this as he has won out in his efforts to make the library of the Union Printers' Home one of the largest and best in the country.

### GONE TO FAIRBURY.

H. E. Atterbury, a fair contractor, has quit Lincoln, at least temporarily, and has located in Fairbury, where he has several good contracts in hand. Mr. Atterbury was a member of the local Carpenters' Union as long as he was a journeyman, and still retains connection with that body. He gladly conducts a "closed shop" because he knows that it pays better in the long run. His many friends here will wish him abundant success in his new field.

### COMMONER OUTING.

The Commoner force went to Capitol Beach Friday evening and spent a few hours in boating and visiting the attractions at that popular pleasure resort. A picnic supper was enjoyed. The Commoner "crowd" knows how to have a good time, and it gets together every now and then and proceeds to put its knowledge into effect.

Little Rock, Ark., plumbers presented \$407.17 to a member of the union who had lost his eye-sight.

## Bar Association Works Little Political Game

With nerve almost sublime, and with a total disregard of the objects of the new primary law, a lot of lawyers, members of the Lancaster County Bar Association, met at the court house last week and selected the judicial candidates for the voters of the county.

The action was by no means unanimous, for strong objection was made by some of the members. But the "inside ring" seems to have laid its plans well. Judges Cornish and Frost were renominated, and S. J. Tuttle nominated in place of Judge E. P. Holmes. The deal seems to a rank outsider to have been engineered for the dual purpose of defeating Judge Holmes and putting a damper on the judicial aspirations of County Judge Frank Waters. Tuttle was formerly a democrat, but seems to have laid aside his democratic coat long enough to secure a plumb from the republicans.

If the people of Lancaster county stand for this Bar Association game they are entirely too easy. This is not said with any purpose or reflecting upon either Judge Cornish or Judge Frost. Both have made excellent records on the bench. But the same arguments that demanded their renomination also demanded the renomination of Judge Holmes. Again, the people who are so unfortunate as to be tangled up in litigation have much more interest in the judicial candidates than have the eminent legal lights who depend upon litigation for a living. If the lawyers must be looked to to select proper judicial timber, then the bookkeepers and accountants of the county should be allowed to select the candidate for county clerk, the bankers allowed to select the candidate for treasurer, and the bridge contractors the candidates for county supervisor.

The turning down of Judge Holmes was unfortunate, not for Judge Holmes, who will undoubtedly be better off financially by being retired from the bench, but unfortunate from the standpoint of those who are interested in making a success of the juvenile court work. Judge Holmes has made a splendid success of his work among the boys and girls, and now, just as the good effects of his tireless work in their behalf is being made manifest, he is to be retired by a lot of self-sufficient lawyers who claim the right to select judicial candidates for all the people. The editor of this little newspaper has only a passing acquaintance with Judge Holmes, but he is acquainted with Judge Holmes' work as judge of the juvenile court. That work has been splendid, and Judge Holmes should be continued in his present position if for no other reason than that he is so well fitted to have complete charge of the enforcement of the juvenile court laws. The fathers and mothers of Lancaster county who think more of caring for the boys and girls than they do for legal quips and quirks ought to unite in administering a rebuke to the lawyers who arrogate to themselves the right to dictate bar nominations.

Doubtless Judge Holmes feels that he would benefit himself by acquiescing in the decision of his fellow members of the Bar Association. There are a few people—just plain, ordinary, everyday people—who will think otherwise, and who will demand of Judge Holmes that he go before the primaries and endeavor to overturn the action of the lawyers. Whatever the lawyers may do with the rest of the court business of the county, the parents should see to it that there be no political monkeying with the juvenile court. It is altogether too vital to the social and moral welfare of the community.

The Wagworker mistakes the temper of the people if the action of the Bar Association is endorsed at the primaries. This paper, while not a partisan of Judge Waters, admires him for his refusal to stand for the action of the Bar Association. His independence is refreshing under the circumstances.

A republican nomination is equivalent to an election in Lancaster county, and if the action of the Bar Association is allowed to go by default at the republican primaries, the Bar nominees will be foisted upon the people in open disregard of the intent and purpose of the direct primary law, which seeks to eliminate just that sort of political chicanery. Neither Judge Cor-

nish nor Judge Frost can afford to allow themselves to be used that way. As to the personal differences between Judge Frost and Judge Holmes The Wagworker has no interest either way. But The Wagworker has a deep interest in the success of the juvenile court law, and it believes that Judge Holmes, with his experience and his success in that work, is the man to continue in that position. He should be made to see that it is his duty to oppose the action of the Bar Association and go before the republican primaries and ask a renomination. The people should eagerly seize the opportunity to rebuke the lawyers who arrogate to themselves the right to select the judicial candidates, and especially when these same lawyers have clearly demonstrated that they were actuated by personal rather than patriotic motives.

### THE PRESSMEN.

#### Local Members Anxious to Know Facts About New York Convention.

Members of the local union of Pressmen and Assistants are anxious to learn the facts about the New York Convention. The defeat of President Higgins and Secretary Webb, and the practical repudiation of the agreement entered into by these two officials with the United Typothete, has aroused unusual interest. Delegate Brooks will make a full report at the next meeting.

A number of Lincoln pressmen are well acquainted with Fred M. Youngs, formerly of Omaha but now Seattle. Youngs is a "hustler" for unionism, and those who have watched affairs in pressmen circles can see his fine Italian hand. Some time ago Youngs asked Higgins and Webb for information concerning the financial affairs of the international and was politely informed that it was none of his business; that the officials would report when they got good and ready. Youngs immediately laid the wires to force a report, and the defeat of Higgins and Webb is doubtless due in a large measure to the snub they gave the "live one" from Seattle.

President-elect George Berry of San Francisco, is a red hot allied trades agreement man. San Francisco printers and pressmen got together despite the disagreement between the internationals, with the result that both secured the eight hour day without any trouble worth mentioning. The Higgins agreement meant that the San Francisco pressmen would have to go back to the nine hour day without an increase in wages, and naturally they objected. They put Berry into the race for president, and the anti-Typothete agreement men got together to back McMullen for Secretary Webb's place. Webb has made a splendid official, but the rank and file seem determined to make a clean sweep while about it, and as a result Old Dog Tray went down with the rest of the bunch.

With Berry at the head of the pressmen's organization, and an equally strong allied agreement man at the head of the printer's organization, there is no reason why the allied crafts should not get together again in close communion and win by a united front.

### EVANS-ERICKSON.

Thos. W. Evans, treasurer of the Central Labor Union and secretary of the Cigarmakers' Union of this city, was married on Monday evening to Mrs. Alma L. Erickson of this city. Mr. Evans is one of the best known and most popular trades unionists in Lincoln, and his host of friends will join with The Wagworker in congratulations and sincere wishes for the happiness of himself and Mrs. Evans.

### ANOTHER INJUNCTION.

The striking molders, machinists and metal polishers of Detroit, numbering about 1,000, have been made the victims of another blanket injunction. They are restrained from doing about everything they have a right to do as citizens, the chief one being that they are enjoined from the exercise of the right of free speech. This is done under cover of preventing them from picketing or interfering in any way with the imported strike breakers.

## NOTICE TO LOCAL UNIONS

At the mass meeting at Central Labor Union hall last Tuesday night to consider the Labor Temple proposition, it was decided to ask all trades and labor unions to select one member each to act upon an advisory committee. This committee will consider ways and means, and report back to their locals for rejection or approval. Local unions are urged to select the best possible material for this committee, and to do so at once, without waiting for formal notice from the secretary of the mass meeting, and to notify George Bush when selection is made. As soon as a majority of the unions have reported, the committee will be called together.

Every union in the county, regardless of affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, is urged to select a member of the committee, and to do so at once. Speedy action means quicker results.

### THE CARPENTERS.

#### Will Have Special Called Meeting for Tuesday Evening, July 2.

All members of Local 1,055, Carpenters and Joiners, are hereby notified that next Tuesday evening, July 2, will be a special called meeting for the purpose of considering Sec. 13 of the by-laws and trade rules. The question of the local labor paper will also come up for consideration, and the labor temple proposition will be considered. Other business of great importance will come before the meeting. These questions are of great importance and every member should think them over and come prepared to give their views on each. This being the first called meeting of the new quarter members are requested to bring their due books for comparison with the secretary's books.

J. A. CHAMBERS, Secretary.

Monday night's storm was not without its compensations. It did a lot of damage that will require the attention of carpenters.

Knoxville (Tenn.) carpenters have reached an agreement with the contractors whereby the carpenters will receive 20 cents an hour, nine hours a day, and union shop conditions.

The International Protective Association of the Carpenters' Union recently purchased the armory building in Spokane, Wash., and will convert it into a hall for headquarters.

### SOUNDS RATHER GAUZY.

#### Pinkerton Spy McPartland's Work Touted Entirely Too High

James McPartland, the Pinkerton spy who claims the credit of having exposed the workings of the so-called "Inner circle" of the Western Federation of miners, is the same McPartland who disrupted the "Mollie Magure" bands in the Pennsylvania coal regions. In breaking up the "Mollies" McPartland became the best known detective of his time, and it does seem idiotic to believe that a man with such a reputation could turn the same trick again. If the Western Federation were guilty as charged, certainly the presence of a well known detective like McPartland in western mining circles would have put the men on their guard and made it impossible for McPartland to again turn his famous "Mollie" trick.

McPartland seems to have worked upon the superstitious fears of Orchard, who has a mania for claiming responsibility for crimes committed by others. With a mental defect for which he should not be held responsible, Orchard glories in being looked upon as a bloody criminal, although his cringing before McPartland stamps him as a coward. His wonderful nerve on the witness stand is a subject for psychologists, not criminologists, to consider. Aaron Burr had Orchard's mania, only it was manifest in another way. He is said to have had a mania for being considered a "woman killer," and it is recorded that when he heard of a girl who had made a false step he offered to support her offspring provided she would say that Burr was responsible. Orchard seems willing to be charged with any sort of crime provided he can receive the reward of public attention.