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WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL AUXILIARY



MRS. FRANK A. KENNEDY, OMAHA

The first auxiliary to the International Typographical Union was organized in Atlanta, Ga., by the wives, mothers and sisters of the members of Atlanta Typographical Union. Its object originally was to promote sociability among the families of union printers and to be of assistance in times of distress.

In February, 1900, the Omaha auxiliary was organized, we being urged to by the workers in the Atlanta auxiliary. To the object already mentioned was added that of promoting a more general use of the union label. Label agitation became a hobby among printers' families and this influenced the organizing of the Milwaukee, Nashville and Cincinnati auxiliaries.

When the International Typographical Union convention met in Cincinnati in 1902 a conference was held by five representatives of the above named auxiliaries to discuss the advisability of organizing an international auxiliary. At this conference the Woman's International Auxiliary to the International Typographical Union was organized.

Of those who had the nerve and will power to organize the Woman's International Auxiliary, Mrs. F. A. Kennedy was chosen temporary chairman and first international president, and held the office three years; Mrs. E. D. Donnell of Cincinnati, secretary, Mrs. Edwin Buchanan and Mrs. J. Loser of Nashville, Mrs. M. U. J. Crowley of Milwaukee and Mrs. Jesse Johnston of Cincinnati were the other officers and organizers of the Woman's International Auxiliary.

In the face of an objection to the organization of the international auxiliary at that time by a clever lady from New York, our auxiliary women went before the International Typographical Union convention and won that body's official endorsement by a vote of 90 to 27. Since then the organization has grown in all parts of the International Typographical Union jurisdiction, locals being scattered from California to Toronto, and Portland to Atlanta.

The organization of the new auxiliary has toned up the printers' conventions immensely until now it is strictly fashionable for delegates to bring their wives to the conventions.

To illustrate the effect of the auxiliary on conventions it might be stated: At Syracuse there were three visiting women in attendance, at Detroit, 40; at Milwaukee, 60; at Cincinnati, 120; at Washington, 160; at St. Louis, 250; at Toronto, 500; at Hot Springs one sixth of the visitors were women. At Boston there will be no less than 1,000 women visitors. That beats any convention of any kind on this continent.

In August of each year at the time and place of the International Typographical Union convention the Woman's International Auxiliary also meets. At this convention the wives, mothers, unmarried daughters and unmarried sisters of the union printers have a chance to show what organization among women can do. In organization there is strength, and as women are the purchasing power they, by the purchase of union made goods, are constantly improving the condition of the wage earner.

Other local women who have held office in the international are Mrs. Herman Mathes and Mrs. Bert Cox of Omaha, both of whom served as chairman; Mrs. H. W. Smith of Lincoln also held an international office for one term.

Miss Frances Taylor, a member of the Typographical Union of Cincinnati and a literary woman of more than local reputation, assisted materially in organizing the international. Mr. Dan W. Green of Atlanta, Ga., and Mr. F. A. Kennedy of Omaha were the godfathers of the international auxiliary, they having assisted Mrs. F. A. Kennedy and Mrs. Jesse Johnston of Cincinnati in drawing up the original constitution of the Woman's International Auxiliary.

I am very anxious to see every auxiliary represented at the Boston convention. Now is the time for all good auxiliary women to save their pennies for the greatest trip of their life--Boston 1908. All previous conventions will be put in the shade by Boston.

MRS. FRANK A. KENNEDY.

AMONG THE BARBERS.

Open Shop Proposition Does Not Seem to Frighten Them Much.

Last Friday evening there was a meeting of employing barbers at the committee room of the Commercial club, and at that time a declaration, abounding in rhetorical flights and eloquent phrases, and declaring for the "open shop" was signed by several. Attention is called to the beautiful wording of the pronouncement, which is as follows:

"Believing in the constitution of the United States, and in the freedom of its people, and that all men should be treated alike and right and every citizen should stand on his own feet, we, the undersigned, agree to stand by and for the open shop; that we will not discriminate against men that can stand on their own merits whether they be union or non-union men, and believing the time has come when the men, their family, their children and those depending upon them will be the sufferers from the closed shop, and that a long-suffering public has tired of being driven to the necessity of shaving themselves, or doing without barber work, and that there can be and there is no money for the proprietor or journeyman in the closed shop, and that all proprietors of barber shops from this date shall fix their own price lists as they see best for the good of their business and for the good of the barber profession and the benefits of all concerned a long-suffering public. Believing that God is with the right and patient and that we have been patient and right, we, the undersigned proprietors, agree to run open shops from this date. We also agree that the opening and closing hours shall remain as now, except on special occasions, when the hours shall be agreed upon by the boss barbers. (Signed).

W. H. BARTHELMAN.
H. J. FARMENTER.
A. E. SNYDER.
C. W. EMMERT.
C. A. GREEN.
W. A. JACKSON.

Charles Bowen refused to sign, and Mr. Jackson declares that he signed under protest.

These notices were posted in the Barthelman and Green shops next day. When the union learned of it the officers got busy. President Erlensborn and Secretary Schwenker proceeded to the Green shop in the Richards block and demanded the shop card. Mr. Green had it secured and refused to give it up. It is claimed that Mr. Green struck President Erlensborn and threatened Secretary Schwenker. It seemed for a time as if the shop would be struck, but finally the obnoxious notice was removed and the shop card allowed to remain. At the "Grand Mogul," the other Green shop, the notice did not long remain posted. Later it was removed at the Grand Central. One result of the trouble was a practical demonstration that the journeymen would stick together if occasion demanded it, and that any effort to enforce the open shop would result in something more than a mere "talk-fest."

The international constitution gives each local the right, if it sees fit, to fix the price list of work, and acting on this the local union recently voted to raise the price of shaving in all union shops to 15 cents. This advance is being bitterly opposed by some of the so-called "smaller shops," the proprietors claiming that it will simply force them out of business. They point to the fact that a similar effort a few years ago resulted disastrously to both proprietors and journeymen. The advanced prices are to go into effect on September 1. Several of the "big shops" have been charging the 15 cent rate all the time. The journeymen have assured the "small proprietors" that if the new rate injures their business they will be taken care of.

The local barbers' union now has upwards of sixty-eight members and is in a flourishing condition. At the regular meeting on Wednesday night of last week the local unanimously voted to renew its subscription to The Wagoner, and a member was selected to act as "press representative" and furnish The Wagoner with all the barber news going. The local also voted unanimously to take \$50 worth of stock in the Labor Temple as a starter with more to follow if necessity demands.

The union shops will be closed all day next Monday, and the barbers will make it a holiday in fact as well as in name.

The Lincoln Barbers' Union has appointed a press agent whose duty it will be to keep The Wagoner posted on what is going on in union barber circles. This is an example that should be followed by every other union in the city.

It is almighty easy to buy a reputation for philanthropy with the money secured by robbing the weak and defenseless.

COMING HOME TO ROOST.

Pope Manufacturing Company Forced to Go Into Bankruptcy.

The Pope Manufacturing company, at Hartford, Conn., has been forced into bankruptcy. It had a capital of \$21,000,000 and was accounted one of the biggest and most successful manufacturing concerns in the country. But Col. Pope, the head of the concern, was an "open shop" man, and he was a bitter opponent of trades unions. He undertook to break up the machinists' union, and a long and bitter fight resulted. The Pope Manufacturing company is a "dead one," but the machinists' union is still doing business at the old stand.

If we remember right, Col. Pope is the same individual who rushed into print a few years ago with the statement that in his opinion strikers were little if any better than anarchists, and that they deserved the same treatment as anarchists--either be deported or stood up against a wall and shot.

Sometimes a great many years elapse before the chickens come home to roost, but they come, just the

same. The labor-hating chickens incubated by Col. Pope are coming home almighty fast these days.

CHAPMAN, ABSTRACTOR.

Closely allied to the real estate interests which to the industrial worker constitutes the wealth of his class, is a profession in which only men of the highest standing and business integrity have any chance. The importance of the abstractor can not be over estimated.

Alanson Chapman, located in the Funke building is one of the pioneers and it is fitting that he should be mentioned in a review of this kind. His heart has always been in the right place in regard to labor interests and the industrial worker and union man would do well to consult him where his services would be of benefit.

Sam Large is larger now than he was a week ago, and all because a little Large arrived on August 26 to bless his home. The visitor, who has promised to remain permanently, is a boy, and papa is so proud that he often forgets and tries to cast a matrix in cold metal.