

THE WAGWORKER



VOL. 4

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, NOVEMBER 1, 1907

NO. 31

LABOR TEMPLE COMMITTEE.

Electrical Workers First Union to Lead Off With a Subscription.

"Here is one hundred dollars," remarked O. M. Rudy to Treasurer Rees Monday evening, when the Labor Temple committee met. "It is the subscription of the Electrical Workers Union for one hundred shares of stock in the Temple Building Association."

This is the first subscription to the capital stock received from a local union, and the Electrical Workers have a right to be proud of the fact that they led off in the good work. The total subscriptions received at the meeting Monday evening was \$135.

The committee met promptly on time with Chairman Dickson presiding and the following delegates besides the chairman present:

- Fred Ihinger, Typographical.
- Fred Rees, Bookbinders.
- Al. Walker, Bartenders.
- O. M. Rudy, Electrical Workers.
- G. H. DeLacy, Painters.
- Alex. Weckesser, Pressmen.
- Sam'l Chaplin, Barbers.
- T. W. Evans, Cigarmakers.
- T. C. Kelsey of the Leatherworkers was absent on account of illness.

Matters have progressed so far that the committee feels able to cast about for suitable sites with a view of getting prices and terms. By request a local real estate agent was present to give the committee some information. Other agents will be requested to advise with the committee from time to time. The committee wants to "clinch" a site as soon as possible, believing that it will advance the financial campaign more than any other one thing. Several suitable sites have been offered, and the prices strike the committee as reasonable.

The various locals reported through their representatives that the circular appeals had been sent out. Responses may be expected from now on. It is believed that these circulars will be the means of placing quite a bit of the stock.

A committee will visit the several unions in the near future and appeal for subscriptions as locals. The secretary was instructed to communicate with the unions and brotherhoods not already represented with a view to enlisting their co-operation.

Treasurer Rees reported the securing of a bond in the sum of \$1,000, and a warrant was ordered drawn for the premium.

The committee will meet again next Monday evening at 127 North Twelfth street.

MUSICAL UNION ORGANIZED.

Another Union Added to the Roster of Organizations in Lincoln.

Last Sunday morning at 10:30, the musicians of Lincoln affected a permanent organization at Bruse's hall. Thirty-six names were put upon the charter roll and the greatest enthusiasm was manifested. It was the pleasure and privilege of The Wagworker man to be present and assist in getting the new organization started. The following officers were elected:

- W. T. Pinney, President.
- W. R. Skinner, Vice President.
- W. C. Norton, Secretary.
- C. C. McElroy, Treasurer.
- A. J. Bruse, Sergeant-at-Arms.

It was decided to hold the charter open until January 1 in order to give all an opportunity of coming in. The matter of electing an executive committee was left until next Sunday, when nominations will be made. The secretary was instructed to write to several sister locals for copies of their by-laws to help the Lincoln local in framing their own.

The musicians present all showed a deep interest in the organization, and it was evidenced that they meant business from the word go. Some good union talks were made by the members, several of whom have been members of locals elsewhere and are by no means strangers to the union game.

Another meeting will be held at Bruse's hall at 10:30 next Sunday morning, by which time the charter and supplies will probably be on hand.

The new union will at once elect delegates to the Central Labor union and will have a live representative on the Labor Temple committee. To the new local The Wagworker extends its best wishes.

Mr. Merchant, a Word With You About Printing



Also a Few Concerning a Plain Business Fact

LINCOLN, NEBRASKA, NOVEMBER 1, 1907.

MR. A. THOUGHTFUL BUSINESSMAN, CITY.

DEAR SIR—The little business flurry which came upon us suddenly the first of this week, while very annoying is not at all serious. But at the same time it should cause every citizen to pause for a moment and reflect upon a few things. It should cause the unorganized workman who is not protected in any way to give some thought to the matter of protection against just such contingencies, with a view to providing his family against want in case he should be thrown out of work. It should cause the business man to give some thought to the fact that workingmen who are protected against such contingencies are better customers than those who are not only thrown out of work at the first sign of business trouble, but are at the same time left without resources upon which to depend pending readjustment of affairs.

One of the chief aims of trade unions is to provide for its members during just such times. By shortening the workday work is thus provided for more men, and this means more and better customers for you. By a system of dues carefully fixed by long experience the union is able to provide a fund which enables it to properly care for the members who are temporarily out of work, or who may be incapacitated by reason of sickness or injury. This is not only good insurance for the workman, but it is good insurance for the merchant.

Let us suppose for a moment, Mr. Businessman, that a majority of the consumers from whom you draw trade had been the 3,000 men employed in the construction of the "Lane Cut-off." These men are unorganized, and as a result they worked long hours at comparatively low wages. At the first sign of trouble these men were discharged. They are now absolutely without resources, and many of them will be applicants for charity during the coming winter. Would you not prefer the patronage of 3,000 organized workmen who draw fair wages, work reasonable hours and have a system whereby every member is helped by his fellow members in time of trouble?

We want to put this matter to you purely as a business proposition. We are not asking for anything more than due consideration of our claims. As a matter of fact, you can consider our organization as a salesman representing a great factory which turns out a standard line of printing. When you buy goods you do so with a view to meeting the demands of the buying public. All we ask is that you consider our matter in the same light.

When we offer you printing bearing the label of the Allied Printing Trades we are offering you the very best goods in that line that the market affords. It is manufactured by men who are well paid and who work under fair conditions. It not only represents the 200 men engaged wholly in the printing business, but it represents 3,000 other men who, while working at other trades, have the same objects and aims as the men engaged in the different branches of the printing trades.

This label guarantees you a buying public made up of well paid

men and women instead of a buying public limited to the meagre wages of hopeless women and helpless children.

When you buy merchandise is it not a fact that you buy with a view to appealing to the largest possible number of customers? Why not buy your printing with the same view? The Allied Printing Trades Label represents a buying constituency which spends upwards of \$170,000 a year in Lincoln. This is fifteen times more than the money spent in Lincoln by the printing craftsmen who are not entitled to use this label.

As a businessman, which class would you prefer to have for regular customers?

This is a question you should ask yourselves. We want you to patronize the printing offices that are entitled to use the Allied Printing Trades Label. We ask you to do this because it is only justice to those fair employers who have agreed with us on the matter of wages and hours. We ask you to do this in return for our patronage, because your patronage of the fair offices means a continuation of our present agreeable working conditions, and as long as those are maintained we are enabled to spend more money with you in the purchase of not only the necessities of life, but some of the luxuries. Better wages and better hours affords us more opportunities to become home owners, enables us to provide for our families without putting out children at work in the mills and shops, enables us to educate our little ones, and gives us time to do our part in upbuilding a better citizenship and therefore a better Lincoln.

The label will not cost you a penny extra, and it will prove a business getter. There is nothing more natural than that men should give their patronage to merchants who evince a friendly interest in their welfare. We want your co-operation because your interests are our interests, and our interests are your interests.

The following printing offices are entitled to the use of the Allied Printing Trades label, a fac simile of which appears in the headline on this letter to you. Please make careful note thereof:

- Central Publishing Co., 1218 P.
- Free Press, Thirteenth and N.
- George Bros., Fraternity Bldg., Thirteenth and N.
- Gillispie & Phillips, 1524 O.
- Ivy Press, 224 South Twelfth.
- Jacob North & Co., 1118-1124 M.
- Lincoln Daily Star, Eleventh and M.
- Righter Linotype Co., 126 North Fourteenth.
- Simmons, 317 South Twelfth.
- Western Newspaper Union, 126-130 North Fourteenth.
- Woodruff-Collins Printing Co., 217-219 North Eleventh.
- Wood Printing Co., 1033 N.
- Vantine & Young, 126 North Thirteenth.

We earnestly invite you to give your work in the printing line to the above shops, for the reason that by so doing you not only benefit yourselves, but you benefit our fair employers and benefit us.

We thank you for your consideration of this and former communications concerning the use of our label. Very truly yours,
THE LINCOLN ALLIED PRINTING TRADES COUNCIL.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

November Meeting Will be Held at Carpenters' Hall Next Sunday.

Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209 will meet in regular monthly session next Sunday afternoon, and if surface indications count for anything it will be one of the largest meetings held in recent years. A big batch of important business is slated for transaction, among other items being one concerning a proposition carried at the last meeting and which is now being opposed by many who were not present then.

The executive committee will make a report of its label campaign and will have some valuable pointers to give to those who want to take a hand in boosting the label for all there is in it. From now on there ought to be a contest among the members to see who can boost hardest for the label and use the most "stickers" on the product of the unfair shops.

There were thirty-one votes cast at the recent election. The salary increase was beaten, but the pension scheme was affirmed. The bond of the treasurer was also increased—that is, the local favored it.

Business continues to be good, and the "stickers" have had something to do with it.

JACOB A. BAER

Not Suffering Because of Attacks Made Upon Him in Campaign.

Jacob A. Baer will be the next clerk of the district court in and for Lancaster county unless all signs fail. The effort to defeat him by the tax records will prove futile. That matter was threshed out during the primary campaign, and Mr. Baer triumphed over all opposition. It is true that Mr. Baer has drawn considerable

money from the county treasurer as a county employe, but no man can truthfully say that he did not give full value in the way of services.

Concerning Mr. Baer's ability and integrity there can be no question. His record has been open and above board for many years. He is generous, and there are scores of workmen in this county who have been tided over because of his generosity and kindness. He knows what it is to work hard, and his sympathies go out to men who are forced to toil in field, shop or mart for their daily bread. He is a believer in trades unionism, and while not himself a craftsman his relationship with craftsmen is closer than that of mere acquaintanceship, and he knows what unionism stands for, and he is in hearty sympathy with its every object and aim. The Wagworker has no part nor parcel in partisan politics. It doesn't care a fig for party—but it does care for men. It urges the support of Mr. Baer because he is a good man, a friend of unionism, and capable of rendering splendid service to the public.

NOVEMBER 18

Date Set by Pressmen to Inaugurate the Eight-Hour Day.

All locals of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistant's Union have been notified that the eight-hour day is to go into effect on November 18. In accordance with Judge Thompson's injunction no strike is ordered, but the notice the words "8-hour workday on the 18th of November, 1907" are heavily underscored.

The boys do not need an order. They can see through a millstone if it has a hole in it. It means 8 hours after November 18 or a vacation by agreement.

NOTICE.

The New Century Printing Office, located in the Free Press building, and conducted by Robert A. McCartney, does not employ union printers and cannot put the label of the Allied Printing Trades on any job turned out. Due notice of this fact should be taken by those who may have patronized this shop in the past because it could furnish the label when called for.

HOW ABOUT IT, BOYS?

What Have Lincoln Stereotypers to Say About This Little Matter?

The Washington Trades Unionist is responsible for the little item quoted below:

"More than 90 per cent of the stereotypers and electrotypers of the United States and Canada are within the ranks of the union, while in many of the larger cities it is not an uncommon thing to find every workman at the business a member of the union."

What have the stereotypers of Lincoln to say about this? A year or so ago they had what they were proud to call a "One Hundred Per Cent Union." By that they meant that every stereotyper in Lincoln was a card man. What have they got now? Oh, they've got the eight-hour day in every shop but one, but not because of any work on their part to get it. They got it because the printers financed the fight for themselves and the stereotypers came in on the deal without putting out a cent. The stereotypers have forfeited their charter. They have no local organization. They have been content to just drag along and enjoy the benefits that they do

not help to secure. They are not helping in the label campaign, which means so much to the Allied Printing Trades, which the stereotypers are in duty bound to affiliate with.

What's the matter, boys? Has your unionism suffered a stroke of locomotor ataxia? Or has it just been palsied?

Wake up and get into the game. Get that charter back without any further delay and stand forth and show your colors. This is no time to be "piking" in the union game.

Capital Auxiliary meets Friday, November 8, with Mrs. J. E. Worley, 2011 K street, at 2:30 p. m.

READY TO FIGHT.

The American Federation of Labor has retained the law firm of Ralston & Siddons to defend it in the suit brought by the Buck Stove & Range Co., James W. Van Cleve, president to restrain the organization from publishing the "unfair list" and "don't patronize" list in the Federationist.

ISN'T THIS THE TRUTH.

In reference to failures of so-called solid business houses it is fair to suggest that the mistakes of trades-unions are at least not more frequent and not by any means as ruinously far reaching as those of some of the so-called self-made men who solemnly pose as critics of organized labor on economic grounds. — Washington Trades Unionist.

BOOK CONCERN YIELDS.

The American Book Company of Cincinnati, O., has announced that on November 4 the eight-hour day will go into effect in its factories in this city and New York.

A BAREFACED LIE.

Paper That Boasts of Fairness and Independence Willfully Does Injury.

Apparently the democratic state central committee is financing several alleged "union labor" organs in Nebraska, with the object of getting the votes of craftsmen belonging to the unions. A democratic politician edits one of these, and another which has just been started at Fremont evidently gets its editorial matter directly from democratic headquarters. It not only jumps on Ross Hammond and the Fremont Tribune, but attacks Judge Reese, Governor Sheldon, Senator Burkett, Secretary Taft and other republican leaders in the state and nation. President Roosevelt will doubtless be the next to come in for censure. Copious extracts are reproduced from the editorial page of the World-Herald to prove that the republican party is an enemy to the workman. Union labor in Nebraska has a chance to maintain itself in popular respect by rebuking those cheap attempts to use it as a political stool-pigeon, or it can stir up a great deal of adverse sentiment by allowing itself to be made an adjunct of the democratic party. Sensible union men will undoubtedly resent the scheme for delivering them bag and baggage into the same camp where railroads and liquor interests have taken refuge.—Lincoln Evening News.

The above appeared in the Evening News of Saturday, October 26, under the head of "Incidentals" on the editorial page.

It contains one barefaced falsehood, and insofar as the article refers to The Wagworker and its editor it is a plain lie, known to be such by the man who wrote it unless he is so ignorant as to be unfit to hold a reporter or editorial job on any newspaper worthy of the name.

The Wagworker has never received one penny from any committee, democratic, republican, populist, socialist or prohibition for any editorial utterance or support.

The Wagworker has never uttered a falsehood against any man and then charged him advertising rates for space in which to refute the falsehood.

The Wagworker has taken absolutely no part in the present state campaign save to show just what the republican and democratic conventions did concerning matters of interest to organized labor. The Wagworker has not boosted either for Judge Loomis or Judge Reese. The man who declared, by indirection, that the editor of The Wagworker is a "democratic politician," gave utterance to a falsehood without even having a semblance of truth upon which it might be based. The declaration that this labor paper is trying to swing the votes of the union workmen into the democratic column is false. The Wagworker has supported more republicans for office than it has democrats. In the last seven years its editor has voted for more republicans and members of other political parties than he has democrats.

The insinuation that The Wagworker is in the pay of the democratic state central committee is outrageously false; more is it a cruel libel, and unworthy of any man who makes any pretensions of decency. If the man who wrote the above for the News will make the same statement again, and make it in direct words instead of nasty insinuations, the editor of The Wagworker will undertake the delightful task of making him prove their truth in a court of law. The only asset of The Wagworker is its absolutely clean record in its efforts to advance the cause of organized labor, and no cheap space filler will be allowed to depreciate that asset without a protest from The Wagworker.

MR. SAWYER'S LETTER.

Hon. A. J. Sawyer, democratic candidate for district judge, has a letter in this issue of The Wagworker, and special attention is called thereto. Mr. Sawyer needs no introduction to the voters of Lancaster county. His ability and integrity are known of all men. He appeals to you for your suffrage, not because he needs the office but because he feels it to be his duty to accept the nomination and win if he can. His election would be a credit to the bench and to the district.