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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 recog-
nized authority on advertis-
ing, after a thorough investi-
gation on this subject, says:
"A labor paper is a far bet-
ter 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."

EXORBITANT RENTALS.

"For Rent" signs are becoming more
numerous in Lincoln—and The Wage-
worker is glad of it. The greed of
Lincoln landlords is something re-
markable. As a result of exorbitant
rents the growth of the city is re-
tarded, and the volume of mercantile
business is materially reduced. If
Lincoln landlords do not soon evince
a willingness to accept a fair rental
for their property they will be very
foolish. These landlords point to the
high price of labor and building ma-
terial as an excuse for their outrage-
ous rents, but the excuse is not valid.
Most of the property offered for ren-
tal was built when wages were low
and building material about 60 per
cent of what it is now. For instance,
The Wageworker knows of a double
house, built on a single lot that cost
less than \$800, with six rooms on
each side and lacking a great deal of
being modern. Yet the owner is ask-
ing \$27.50 a month for each side, or
a total of \$550 a year for a property
that did not cost to exceed \$3,000 to
build, lot included. This is a fair
sample of the hold-up game the land-
lords have been working ever since
the return of "prosperity."

The merchants of Lincoln, if they
are wise, will get into the game and
help the wage-earners to defeat the
greed of landlords. The workingman
who is compelled to pay out 30 per
cent of his wages for rent is not as
good a customer as the workingman
who is compelled to spend only 18
or 20 per cent of his wages for rent.
A year ago it was difficult to find an
empty house in Lincoln. Today they
to be found by the score. This is
due to one reason—exorbitant rents.
The workingman who is unable to
secure steady employment cannot af-
ford to run the risk of renting a house
at the present high rate. Therefore
he must leave town and seek lower
rent. If rents were within reason
he would remain in Lincoln and take
chances on securing steady work a
little later.

Twenty and twenty-five dollars a
month for cottages that do not re-
present a total investment of more than
\$1,500 or \$1,800 is entirely too much.

If wages had increased during the
last six years as much as rents have
increased, there would be no cause
of complaint, but while rents have
increased from 30 to 40 per cent in
the last seven or eight years, wages
have remained practically at a stand-
still.

The Wageworker wants to see a
live prosperous Lincoln, but until
greedy landlords reduce their ex-
orbitant rents this humble little pa-
per wants to see the "for rent" signs
multiply on every hand.

IT LOOKS FUNNY, ANYHOW!

The Gas company is a competitor
of the Traction company in the mat-
ter of lighting.

The Journal-News is forever ham-
pering the Gas company, but never
has a word to say about the short-
comings of the Traction company.

The fact that the Journal-News
management owns a big block of stock
in the Traction company may not
have any bearing on the situation,
but it looks funny, anyhow.

The Journal-News, which owns
stock in the Traction company, ac-
cuses several councilmen of being
unduly friendly to the Citizens' com-
pany, in which the Journal-News has
no stock.

This may not be due to the owner-
ship of Traction company stock by
the Journal-News management, but it
looks funny, anyhow.

The Gas company may need ham-
pering, and the Citizens' company
may have a "drag" in the council,

but does this mean that the Traction
company is blameless?

How long would the Traction com-
pany have staved off the six-for-a-
quarter fare if the Citizens' company
had not forced it? How long would
it have taken the Traction company
to better its service if the Citizens'
had not forced it?

The Wageworker believes that the
price of gas is too high in comparison
with the actual amount of money in-
vested in the plant. It also believes
that Traction company fares are too
high and the service too poor for the
actual amount of money invested in
plant, franchise, etc. And we are
willing to prove the latter by a show-
ing of the figures of the actual cash
invested by the present owners of
both companies. But why does the
Journal-News make fish of the Traction
company and flesh of the Citizens'
company and the Gas company?

Perhaps the Journal-News' owner-
ship of a nice block of stock in the
Traction company has no bearing on
the case, but it looks funny, anyhow.

Every union workman is an em-
ployer, either of "scab" or union
labor. He employs garment workers,
tobacco workers, broommakers, shoe-
makers, etc. And every time he buys
an article that is not union made he
is employing "scab" labor and has no
logical right to kick against the "scab"
that takes his job.

The American Protective Tariff
League kindly offers to furnish the
Wageworker with "canned editorials"
and boiler plate articles advocating
the protective tariff. The Wagework-
er declines with thanks. The old
"protection to American labor" gag
don't sound like it used to.

It's all right for mill owners to
equip their factories with libraries
and bathrooms for their employes.
But what organized labor is trying
to secure is a wage that will enable
the workingman to have books and
bathrooms in his own home.

The Journal accuses Mayor Brown
of being unduly friendly to the sal-
oons. What Mayor Brown should do
in order to be in the Journal's class
is to oppose the saloons publicly and
advertise their product for pay.

Reverting for the moment to mat-
ters political, and perhaps partisan,
will the president's part in the
Brownville affair result in a "Black
Hand" swipe at the president's party
on election day?

Those London unionists who are
thinking of starting a daily paper
could learn their lesson a whole lot
cheaper by trying to keep seven week-
ly labor papers going a little while.

If 2,000 people see a Sunday ball
game in Lincoln and it is impossible
to secure a conviction, how will we
be able to convict a "bootlegger" on
the testimony of a hired spy?

Don't howl about your wrongs until
you have taken due advantage of your
rights. Subscribe to the Labor Tem-
ple fund and show that you are some-
thing more than a mouth unionist.

"The anarchists must go!" shouts
the daily newspapers. Of course he
must. And with him must go the
rotten social and industrial conditions
that breed anarchy.

The Erie railroad announces a wage
reduction of 5 per cent in all branches
save those organized trades under
contract. When will the cheap clerks
get wise?

"Let's have a revival of unionism!"
exclaims the Washington Trades Un-
ionist. All right, Samuel. But what's
the matter with having a resurrection?

Lincoln's material progress is be-
ing retarded by greedy landlords who
are demanding \$25 a month rent for
\$16 houses.

By the way, wasn't Paul guilty of
a horrible sin when he advised Tim-
othy to take a little wine for the stom-
ach's sake?

The Labor News, Columbus, Ohio,
is the latest candidate for favor. My-
but the labor paper game is becoming
popular!

The dollars that union men earn
are the dollars that should be spent
for the product of union labor.

The trouble with a lot of unionists
is that they do all their work from
their necks down.

When the union label stands for
quality it will have support from non-
unionists.

Not every man who is opposed to
prohibition is a "saloon bum," a "slave

of the liquor interests" or an "advoc-
ate of drunkenness." And not every
advocate of prohibition is a total ab-
stainer, a Christian or an honest man.

The revenue feature is what has
made the saloon the great evil that
it is today. The cupidity of men has
led them into error. Restriction and
regulation do not depend upon the
size of the license fee.

Last week was awfully dull in union
labor circles. The supreme court
failed to render a decision adverse
to the trades unions. We demand the
immediate impeachment of the su-
preme court because of its neglect of
duty.

Through the herculean efforts of
Senator Burkett, Colonel Ross L.
Hammond landed his job. Now Sen-
ator Burkett will have to work a
blamed sight harder in order to con-
tinue his own job.

Reduce the rents, not the wages!

SAM'S ARTISTIC PEN.

Wageworker Acknowledges Indebted-
ness to Washington Trades Unionist.

The Wageworker cheerfully—yes,
enthusiastically—acknowledges that a
little more than 99 per cent of the
items under the head of "General
Mention," and appearing in this issue,
were lifted bodily from the Wash-
ington Trades Unionist, for which pa-
per they were written by its hand-
some and accomplished editor, Sam
DeNedry. If Samuel gets his just
deserts he will be elected delegate
to the American Federation of Labor
by the International Typographical
Union.

The items in question appeared in
Samuel's paper under the head of
"Hither, Thither, Tither," whatever
that last word may mean. And we'll
lift 'em again if they continue to be
as interesting and instructive as this
batch—so there, now.

RAILROAD MEN.

Call for a Mass Meeting March 22,
Reported Called.

The following interesting item ap-
peared in the "Railroad Department"
of the State Journal last Wednesday
morning:

"It was reported yesterday that a
meeting of union and brother-
hood men, including men in the
train, shop and operating
service of the Burlington railroad is
being arranged for Lincoln on Sunday,
March 22. It is said that invitations
have been sent out to all the unions
asking that they have representatives
present.

"Inquiry as to why the meeting is to
be held brought out two words only in
explanation. They were 'self-preser-
vation.' Just what will be considered
has not been made plain, although it
is supposed that present conditions in
the railroad business will be discussed
and future contingencies provided for.

"Questioned concerning the matter
a Burlington man said that so far as
he knew no effort had been made at
this time to reduce the wages of men
and he does not look for a cut.
"It is understood that J. B. Tanney,
chairman of the general committee of
conductors, is one of the prime movers
in calling this meeting, and that H. L.
Beatty of the brotherhood of engineers
is also active in making arrangements
for it."

SAME EVERYWHERE.

"Snitches" Profit by Sacrifices of En-
thusiastic Unionists.

The Lincoln Wageworker, last week,
called the attention of non-union
street car men in that city that the
labor movement was responsible for
vestibules that protect them from
wintry blasts.

The Wageworker compliments the
non-unionists on their ability to get
something for nothing.

Same case in Toledo. We happen
to remember the opposition when this
subject was first suggested, and how
some street car companies in Ohio
rigged up vestibules made of cloth,
to comply with the letter of the law.
But the unionists fought on, and now
you will find street car men that slug
organizers, like they did in Toledo
last summer.—Toledo Union Leader.

Notice to Creditors.

Estate No. 2378 of Thomas Carna-
han, deceased in County Court of Lan-
caster County, Nebraska.

The State of Nebraska, ss.: Credit-
ors of said estate will take notice that
the time limited for presentation and
filing of claims against said estate is
October 15, 1908, and for payment of
debts is May 17, 1909; that I will sit
at the County Court room in said coun-
ty, on July 15, 1908, at 2 p. m., and on
October 15, 1908, at 2 p. m., to receive,
examine, hear, allow or adjust all
claims and objections duly filed.
Dated March 9, 1908.

P. JAS. COSGRAVE,
County Judge.
(Seal.) By WALTER A. LEESE,
Clerk.

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A number of Plain Grey Panama Suits just received.
Jacket is 25 inches long, has a half fitted back and
half fitted box front, the new wide cuffs, two rows of
trimming with scallops on back, front and cuffs, coat
style collar. Skirt has nine gores and is trimmed
with two rows of silk trimming same as on jacket.
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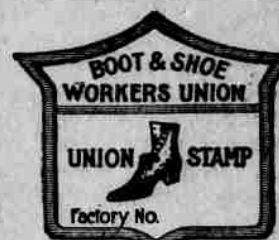
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