

WAGEWORKER

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ARE WE IN THE GAME?

Perhaps Lincoln will go upon the commission basic this spring. And if not, there will still be a mayor, a city clerk and other city officials to elect.

Will the mechanics and laborers follow the old policy of voting for lawyers and merchants and politicians?

Or will they get wise and elect a few from their own ranks?

Commission or old style, why not put up a few good union men for some of the city offices? We can attend a union meeting and by simply reaching out one hand touch a dozen men amply qualified by education, by knowledge of public affairs and by commonsense to handle any office in the city. The financial secretaries of a half-dozen Lincoln unions are qualified for city treasurer. There isn't a union in the city that couldn't put up a half-dozen or more men qualified to manage the city clerk's office. There are a score or men carrying union cards who would better the average of Lincoln's mayors for the past twenty years.

What's the matter with getting busy right now? Don't waste any time talking about an "independent labor ticket." Let the republican unionists get together and pick out their men and then work for them at the primaries. Let the democratic union men get together and pick out their men, and then work for them at the primaries.

We can't nominate them by adopting ringing resolutions and then neglecting the primaries. We've "resolved" until we've bulled the ink and paper markets, and while we have been doing this the practical politicians have been manipulating the primaries.

It is all right to support "friends of labor"—but what's the matter with supporting the real thing—the laborer himself?

Let's begin talking it up—and let us begin right now!

SUNDAY BASE BALL.

The Wageworker doesn't care the snap of a finger whether Sunday base ball is allowed or not allowed. It hasn't the least interest in the long-winded newspaper discussion between eminent theologians and defenders of "religious liberty." It isn't a religious question.

We've got a sufficiency of "Sunday Christians" in this community, and not enough Monday-Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday-Friday-Saturday Christians. We've got a large number of people who holler their heads off at the very idea of "desecrating the Sabbath," but who never cheep at the desecration of human hopes and human ambitions. We know Lincoln people who throw conviction fits at the very idea of making Sunday a day of recreation, as well as a day of rest and worship, yet never worry a bit about working female employees nine or ten hours a day for six days a week at starvation wages.

From the standpoint of right or wrong The Wageworker can see no objection to playing ball on Sunday—or any other day. That is, from the religious standpoint. From the industrial standpoint The Wageworker can see reasons for opposing the legalizing of Sunday ball. In the first place, it would tend to break down the common observance of the day as a day of rest. Secondly, it would nullify every argument in favor of a Saturday half-holiday. Thirdly, it might open the way to a great many things that all right-minded men would oppose.

But if the wage-earners want to take these chances, all right. They are the ones most concerned.

The Wageworker, however, is open to conviction, for or against. The editor of this modest little labor paper prides himself on having some acquaintance with Holy Writ, but as yet he has been unable to find anything therein that convinces him that Sunday base ball, or any other reasonable, temperate recreation or amuse-

ment, is contrary to the moral code. "Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy?"

Yes, we know—Exodus 20:8. And we also recall Colossians 2:14. Also Romans 5:1. Incidentally we might refer to Mark 2:27.

In this connection we might refer to the old Puritanical law that forbade bear baiting on Sunday, not because it was cruelty to the bear but because it gave pleasure to the men. We may be wrong—and we often are, we admit—but it strikes us that those who oppose Sunday base ball on religious grounds are actuated by much the same spirit that actuated Cotton Mather when he persecuted the witches, that drove Roger Williams into Rhode Island, and that made it a grave offense for a man to kiss his own wife on the Lord's day.

We are inclined to oppose Sunday base ball for industrial reasons. But up to date, and after quite a considerable research, we are unable to find any reason for opposing it on purely religious grounds.

And right here and now we give fair warning: If Sunday base ball is not allowed, a lot of aristocratic ladies and gentlemen are going to have a seance in court for indulging in the patrician game of golf on "the first day of the week commonly called Sunday." Up to date we have not heard any considerable amount of condemnation from the orthodox pulpit of the fascinating sport of hammering a vulcanized rubber ball all over the south side of town on Sunday, although our ears have been assaulted by vociferous condemnation of swatting a leather-covered sphere all over the M street park on the same day.

Jim VanCleave is now fighting the battles of the "rat" printers in the government printing office. The "rat" and the "scab" always have to depend upon some man like VanCleave to fight their battles for them. The union man has developed brains enough and independence enough to fight his own battles.

Merely for information, when the Epworth Assembly refuses to sell tickets on Sunday does that mean that the lecturers and singers and other entertainers decline to accept pay for their services on Sunday? We inquire to know, as our friend Togo would put it.

Now if some of the ministers would work as hard for a Saturday half-holiday as they are working to prevent the workers from enjoying Sunday as they see fit, we might have less support of the plan of legalizing Sunday base ball.

A thousand dollars for the development of sanitary conditions for the roosters and hens, but not a dollar for the development of the sanitary conditions under which men and women, boys and girls, shall work.

Just compare present street railway facilities in Lincoln with the facilities had five or six years ago when the company in which the State Journal's editors and managers held stock was in supreme control.

Come on, boys; let's have a State Federation of Labor. We'll have to finance it ourselves. No money left in the state treasury after financing chicken shows, hog exhibitions and steer gatherings.

Colonel Green might sell his Sunday base ball tickets on Saturday and refuse to accept money at the gate. That seems to save the conscience of some people.

Every time you buy a Lincoln-made cigar you help employ more men at good wages in the town where you live. Get right!

Demetrius the silversmith missed out by not having a Judge Wright to whom he could fly for relief and protection.

It takes money to run a labor newspaper—a fact that seems to have slipped the minds of some union men.

Drop a dollar in the slot and help Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison fight your battles. Don't be a piker.

"Made in Lincoln" Exposition at the Auditorium next week. It's a big thing—push it along.

An habitual demand for the label is far better than habitual adoption of ringing resolutions.

Gee, we're threatened with another prohibition campaign in Lincoln this spring.

Auditorium next week—"Made in Lincoln" Exposition. See it!

Wherever You Go You Ought to Be, and Want to Be Well-Dressed—

This Means that you Ought to have and Want to have an

Armstrong Spring Suit

The Spring Styles are Ready Now

PRICES

\$10 to \$40

Positively the Greatest Clothes Values Obtainable Anywhere in Nebraska

Armstrong Clothing Company

GOOD CLOTHES MERCHANTS



THE MUSICIANS.

Brief Bits of News About Reed, Brass and String.

These are busy times for the musicians. The orchestra men are working every night, and the indications are that the bandmen will fare as well next summer as usual.

The Musicians Union of San Francisco has requested the approval of the Central Labor Council of a proposed bill for the registration of music

teachers in the state of California. Newark Musicians Union No. 16 has adopted a resolution binding its members to the purchase of only such sheet music as bears the label of the Allied Printing Trades Council.

Council Bluffs Musical Union pulled off its annual grand ball last week, and 2,000 people enjoyed the festivities.

SOCIALISM AND THE CHURCH.

Are you reading the series of articles on "Socialism and the Church"

now appearing in The Wageworker and written by Rev. Charles Stelzle. If you are not, and you are interested in socialism, you are missing something. We are not agreed with Rev. Mr. Stelzle on many points under discussion, but we are interested in his side of the case. So should you be if you want to inform yourself.

THEY DO! Attractive "home industry" editions were printed last week by the

Western Laborer of Omaha and The Wageworker at Lincoln. Both papers are a credit to the publishers and clearly show that merchants of the two cities appreciate the efforts of these papers.—Council Bluffs Times.

Thirty-one Austrian soldiers, caught Tuesday in a snow and landslide near Lafranna, were rescued from a tunnel near Coldozano by a detachment of troops.

Marching Forward

The month of March will be with us one of Marching Forward, in a business sense. New lines added—Old lines strengthened.

Our New Cloak and Suit Buyer Mr. Rasmussen

comes to us with an enviable reputation, having been connected with some of the prominent and progressive department stores, both east and west. Mr. Rasmussen had had long experience in buying and selling Women's and Children's "ready-to-wear" apparel and will keep this department in the front rank in Lincoln.

Our Millinery Department Under the Management of Mrs. Phillips will be Stronger than Ever.

In Our Fast Growing Furniture Dept. we have added a new line of Stoves and Ranges.

A New Wall Paper Department will be opened soon in the Basement.

Premium Tickets

with

Every 25c Purchase

H. Herpolsheimer Co.
THE DAYLIGHT STORE
THE STORE THAT SATISFIES

New Line Men's

Union Label

Dress Shirts