

Church and Labor Mass Meeting

Denver's Immense Auditorium Crowded by Workingmen and Churchmen to Hear Rev. Mr. Stelzle

The auditorium at Denver was crowded on Sunday afternoon, May 23, upon the occasion of the annual labor mass meeting under the direction of the Presbyterian department of church and labor. It was undoubtedly the greatest labor meeting ever held in Denver. The audience was composed of the trades unionists and their families, with hundreds of delegates who were attending the annual convention of the national Presbyterian church.

The Denver Trades and Labor Assembly had appointed a strong committee with Max Morris, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, as chairman, to visit the local bodies in order to secure their interest. Seventy-five of the locals appointed vice-presidents who were seated upon the platform. The local Musicians' Union volunteered a band of forty pieces under Satriano, the famous bandmaster of Denver, who rendered selections which were cheered by the immense audience. Governor John F. Shaffroth presided, and the principal address was given by the Rev. Charles Stelzle, superintendent of the department of church and labor. Mr. Stelzle spoke on "A Square Deal" and said in part, as follows:

"The most important thing about the labor question is to give the other fellow a square deal. The average workingman is too close to the labor question to understand it; but what is true of the average workingman, is probably just as true of the average employer. Thousands of men are being deluded by the vain hope that if they can abolish the labor union they will have solved the labor question. These men forget that the labor union is not the labor question. If every labor union in existence were to be abolished today, the labor question would still be present.

"The trades union is a symptom. It is the effect and not the cause of the industrial evolution through which we are passing. It has been accused of numerous indiscretions and there have been occasions when some employers have been justified in relentlessly fighting unreasonable demands; but the trades union must pass through its period of hysteria, just as has been the case in practically every great reform movement, including the church—for one need not go very far back in the history of the church to find duplicated everything that we deplore in organized labor today, even down to the boycotting and the slugging. However else the church and labor may disagree, we can at least sympathize with each other in the mistakes that we have both made.

"The trades union has a moral and ethical value which is rarely appreciated. It is the greatest force in the United States for Americanizing the immigrant. It demands equal pay to men and women for equal work. It supplies a liberal education in its meeting halls and through the labor press. It opposes child labor. It struggles for better sanitary conditions. It is an influence for more temperate living. It invites membership regardless of race, creed or color and it is fighting for universal peace. While recognizing the mistakes that the trades union has made, let's give it credit for the good that it has accomplished.

"At a recent sociological conference, somebody declared that during the past twenty-five years the church had increased three-fold, but that during the same period, social unrest had also increased three-fold. The speaker concluded that the church, as a means of keeping down social unrest, had been non-effective. As though it were the business of the church to keep down social unrest! Rather is the opposite true. It is the business of the church to create social unrest. There are no labor troubles in Darkest Africa, but if the missionaries that the church is sending there are on to their jobs, you will soon hear of demands for better social conditions among the workers. They will soon come to see the possibilities for them in a Christian civilization. This has been the history of the church in practically every generation. However dark the age, the church has always been the whitest light in history, and when reform came to the church, it came from within and not from without. The church has made mistakes, and it is falling short of its duty in the world today; but just as I would insist upon a square deal for the trades union, so I would insist upon a square deal for the church.

"The church must preach a social

message. It must not fail to demand that the American workingman should get his share of our common production. For while it is true that the American workingman is the best paid workingman in all the world, compared to what he produces, he is the poorest paid workingman in the world.

"The church must also make a fight for the masses of the people living in our great cities. The filthy slum, the unsanitary factory, the dark tenement, the long hours of toil, the lack of a living wage, the back-breaking labor, the inability to pay necessary doctor's bills in times of sickness, the poor and insufficient food, the lack of leisure, the swift approach of old age, the dismal future these weigh down the hearts and the lives of the multitudes in our great cities. Many have almost forgotten how to smile; to laugh is a lost art. The look of care has come so often and for so long a period of time, that it is now forever stamped upon their faces. Their ethical souls are all but lost. No hell in the future can be worse to them than the hell in which they now are. They fear death less than they fear sleep. Some, indeed, long for the summons, dreading not to take their lives. To such, what does it matter whether the doors of the church are closed or open? What attraction has the flowery sermon or the polished oration? What meaning have the Fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man? Where is God, they ask; and what cares man, they say.

"It is in meeting the needs of these that the church must be aggressive. It must tell the truth about the people, as well as those who are oppressing them. For this is what Jesus did. It must tell the truth even though it is crucified, as its Master was. It was because Jesus went to his death for your sake and for mine, that His power is growing today, as it has never grown before. Infidels may scoff at the arguments of Christian scholars, but the life of Christ has stunned them from the first century down to the twentieth. He is today the king of the civilized world. He is the court of last appeal. Workingmen are saying that if Jesus were on earth today, He would fight the battles of the laboring man, and they are right. He fought them when He was upon earth. The progress made by working people throughout every generation has been due to the influence of Jesus in all ages. He has been their champion and their friend.

"Is it not a cowardly thing to ask Him to fight the battle alone? Dare you, as workingmen, take your place beside Him, telling Him that you will follow whither He leads? It is only fair that you should do so. What I have asked for workingmen and for the church, I now ask for Jesus—a square deal."

JAMES G. SAYER.

On the eighteenth day of June, James G. Sayer, a well known member of Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209, will have completed a term of continuous service with the State Journal company of a quarter of a century, having entered their employ on June 18, 1884. During this time he has had but two vacations, each of these being less than a week in length.

While this record is exceptional, Mr. Sayer has another of his own that beats it, for he was in the continuous employ of Jarrold & Sons, printers and publishers of Norwich, England, for a term of twenty-eight years before coming to the United States. He and his schoolmate, the late Jacob North, served their apprenticeships together in the employ of this same firm.

Mr. Sayer knows the printing business from the ground up, there being very few lines connected with printing with which he is not familiar in a practical way, and none that he has not become familiar with to more or less extent. Not only does he understand the ordinary lines of printing but is master of the special lines such as music printing and text-book work. He can set a page of music or a page of chemical and mathematical formulæ as well as a column of "Driftwood." For a number of years Mr. Sayer was stoneman in the Journal book room, but most of his time now is spent in proof-reading.

His father was also a printer and was employed by the same firm in England, while his brother was foreman of the Norfolk News, a large daily of eastern England.

While the colonel has made him-

self a master of the printing business, he was born a musician and his abilities in this art are extremely versatile. Blessed with a good voice, before he was fourteen he had sung all the great oratorios and could play both organ and piano. He studied the violin and also harmony and thoroughbass. For fourteen years he played the pipe organ in the Calvert Street Methodist church of Norwich, England, and counts Fredrick Archer, one of the greatest organists of all time, among his personal friends.

After coming to Lincoln he was organist at Trinity Episcopal church in the old building and also at the Unitarian church. When the first pipe organ was put in St. Paul church—the one destroyed by fire—he was tentatively offered the position of organist, but refused on account of his increasing deafness. In the eighties he was a violinist in the Philharmonic Orchestra but was persuaded to take up the viola, which he did, and his place was taken by a relative of the leader. Later he was replaced in this position by another relative of the leader, who had by this time learned the viola. While not a composer, Mr. Sayer is very proficient in arrangements and a number of the scores used by the orchestra in the production of the Messiah and other oratorios rendered by the Lincoln Oratorio society, University chorus and Methodist chorus were written by him for instruments, for which no written score existed, and have been in common use in this city for fifteen years.

Mrs. Sayer is also known in musical and printing circles. She was a soprano in the English festival choruses and has been a soprano in the May festival choruses of former years and of the University chorus. She is a member of the Woman's Auxiliary to Typographical Union No. 209.

Mr. Sayer's family has followed in his footsteps more or less. His oldest son, James J. Sayer, was formerly in the employ of the Journal and Jacob North & Sons. While in the university he was the business manager of the Hesperian and published the Sombrero for the class of '93. He was a reporter on the Sioux City Journal after his graduation and later for the Chicago Press association. He is now associate editor on the Red Book and editor-in-chief of the Blue Book.

His second son, Dr. J. H. Sayer, was business manager of the Hesperian while in the university and ran a printing department for the Y. M. C. A. He was also connected with other university publications. After graduation he became the editor of a country paper in Wyoming, used his pen to clean out a bunch of politicians at the county seat and became county recorder. Later he graduated from the College of Medicine of the University of Nebraska. Both sons are musically inclined, the older playing the cornet and French horn and the younger the violin, and both were members of the University orchestra and band.

The two older daughters have been in the employ of both the Journal and Jacob North & Sons and the old Evening News. The youngest daughter gave the whole business a wide berth and is a kindergarten teacher in Crofton, Nebraska.

Mr. Sayer will have plenty of time to equal his first record before he is seventy years old and a number of his musical friends are trying to persuade him to put the climax on his well spent life by writing an organ accompaniment to the Messiah, for which a satisfactory score does not exist. He has not signified his willingness to attempt the task, but his friends who know his ability insist that he can write the part that would fill the need, and it is to be sincerely hoped that their persuasions will be successful.

"MILLIONAIRE HOBO."

James Eads How Lives to Benefit His Less Fortunate Fellows.

A man worth \$2,000,000 who is looking for a job and cannot get one—James Eads How, the "millionaire hobo"—is hard at work organizing the unemployed of the whole country and endeavoring to find them work. He was arrested in New York city last week for attempting to make a speech in the streets, but was honorably discharged.

The bureau of the unemployed conducted by How is the outward evidence of the organization of the workers.

"In the United States there are 4,000,000 men without employment," said How recently. "Separately the men amount to nothing; collectively they are a political power. The unemployed are now organized in New York, Philadelphia, Boston, St. Louis, Chicago and Kansas City. We call the organization the 'United Brotherhood Welfare Association.' Its purpose is to find work for as many people as possible and interest the city in making work for the others."

The Three Essentials

There are three things that should be right in clothing—Style, Durability, Price. Style means color, texture and fit. Durability means the holding of all these qualities. Price means not only your money's worth, but more—satisfaction, that sense of having received a fair return. All these things you get when you buy of us. We are not spasmodic bargain givers. Our bargain sales are our every day sales. We make the bargain price at the start. Our price today is the bargain price you'll have offered by others next month—after their stock has been picked over.

OUR UNION MADE LINES

are complete in every detail. We can outfit the union man from head to foot with union made goods—all the best values ever offered at the price asked. Suits, hats, shoes, shirts, suspenders, neckties, work garments—everything union men want. And what union men make, union men should buy. : : : : :

On
The
Corner

Speier & Simon
Tenth and O Streets

On
The
Square

How inherited about \$2,000,000 from his grandfather, who was the builder of the famous Eads bridge at St. Louis. In speaking of his fortune How said:

"I did not feel that the money my grandfather left me belonged to me. It had never belonged to him, but the workmen by whose labors it was amassed. The bulk of my so-called inheritance was left in the hands of my mother, Mrs. Eliza How, of St. Louis. She does not share my ideas, but all the money I have been able to touch has been turned to the poor it belonged to. Having done this, I naturally looked about for a job. I have done all sorts of work, but as I have often been out of work, I have been called the 'millionaire hobo,' and I'm proud of the name."

WHY THIS SILENCE?

Phase of Colorado's Recent Trouble Not Commented Upon.

The Colorado legislature has appropriated \$60,000 to reimburse members of the Western Federation of Miners for damages sustained in the war against their union by the Mine Owners' association and Governor Peabody, who is now unhonored and unsung. The silence of a capitalistic press regarding this law, just signed by the governor, is in strange contrast to the yelps of hiring editors who would convince the public three years ago that the Western Federation of Miners was an enemy to society. No greater acknowledgement of guilt could be made, and the \$60,000 looms into millions as we recall the slanders against those who were forced to call on all the manhood that's in them to resist the floodtide of abuse and misrepresentation.

Even Peabody's own political party with twenty-nine representatives in the Colorado house and senate, excepting two, voted in favor of the bill, which is a direct slap at the Citizens' Alliance, Mine Owners, deputy sheriffs, Pinkertons, thugs and press.

Hats off to the western miners.—Toledo Union Leader.

AN ELEGANT OPPORTUNITY.

New Laundry Company Can Make a Ten Strike at Start.

The new laundry company that will soon occupy the building especially erected for it at Nineteenth and O streets, has an opportunity to make a ten-strike at the very start. Let it

but announce that it will run a strictly union laundry, paying fair wages and working decent hours, and it will get the business of a couple of thousand union men and women who are just a bit tired of patronizing non-union laundries.

It will not cost the new laundry company anything extra to run a union laundry, and it will start off with a big army of boosters for its success if it will be "square."

This hint is thrown out to the management of the new company. It the managers will take the trouble to look into the matter they will find that The Wageworker has given them a hint well worth while.

CAPITAL AUXILIARY NO. 11.

Capital Auxiliary No. 11 to Typographical Union No. 209, will meet with Mrs. Fred Ehringer, 1539 D St., June 23d, at 2:30 p. m.

C. M. Cunningham was appointed postmaster at Empire, Sioux county, vice H. B. Cunningham, resigned.

Butchery Halted by Russians.

Tabriz, Persia—9 detachment of Russian troops with machine guns left here Monday for Urumiah and the territory east of Urumiah, where the Shakhseven tribesmen are massacring the people.

General Snarsky, in command of the Russian troops, has telegraphed for reinforcements to be sent here from the Russian force now in the Caucasus. Between 5,000 and 6,000 natives are reported to have been slain by the tribesmen in the last four days. The cause of the trouble is not stated, but it is supposed to be one of the periodical rampages of the Shakhseven tribesmen. General Snarsky was not able to send as large a force to Urumiah as it is feared is needed, owing to the expected trouble with the Turkish troops who are threatening the Russians.

Abdul in Danger.

London—A local news agency publishes a dispatch from Constantinople saying that an unsuccessful attempt is reported to have been made by the reactionaries to kidnap Abdul Hamid, the deposed sultan of Turkey, from the house where he is residing in Saloniki. Several officers, the dispatch continues, were killed in the struggles.

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