

WAGELWORKER

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MISS MCDOWELL'S VISIT.

The trades unionists of Lincoln have every reason to believe that the three public addresses given by Miss McDowell in Lincoln will be productive of great good to the industrial cause. By occupying the pulpits of the First Baptist and St. Paul's churches she reached a large number of people who could not be reached in any other way, and she delivered a message to them that must have reached their hearts. The Wageworker has often charged that the church was not reaching the working masses as it might, and should, but we have also explained that this was not so much the fault of the church as it was the fault of the men and women who are the recognized leaders in the labor movement. We believe that if the facts are laid before the great churches of this country that the members thereof will come forward to help in the great uplift planned by the leaders of organized labor. Especially is this true of a commonwealth like Nebraska, where we have neither the extreme rich nor the extreme poor. Nebraska is not fronted with the great problem as it exists in the great industrial centers like Chicago and Pittsburg, therefore a majority of her people are ignorant of conditions. But let them once be made acquainted with those conditions and they will help to provide the remedy.

We believe that Miss McDowell reached a large number of people heretofore unreached by the trades unionists and that the message she delivered will bear abundant fruit in the days to come.

The Wageworker believes it voices the unanimous sentiments of the Labor Day committee when it extends to Rev. Dr. Batten of the First Baptist church, and Rev. Dr. Roach of St. Paul's M. E. church when it extends hearty thanks to them for their interest and for their kindness in giving over their pulpits to this splendid advocate of justice for the helpless toilers of the country. Miss McDowell is engaged in a practical Christian work and we rejoice to know that this fact is recognized by such eloquent and earnest men as Dr. Batten and Dr. Roach.

HUMANE, ECONOMIC AND AMERICAN.

The demand of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electrical Railway Employees, Division No. 522, of Lincoln, for one day's rest in seven is, as Miss McDowell asserted, "humane, economic and American." She very clearly put the situation to the humanity-loving people of Lincoln, and we fully believe that such people are in the vast majority in this good city. The street railway men are asking for a shorter work day, and for one day's rest in seven. That request should be backed up by every Christian in this city. It should be backed up by every lover of humanity and of America.

And Miss McDowell also gave voice to a great truth when she said that until the Christian people of Lincoln had helped to establish a Saturday half-holiday in Lincoln they had no right to object to Sunday amusements—baseball, etc.

And she didn't mince words when she said it, either. Miss McDowell has acquired the habit of saying what she thinks in almighty plain English.

Let the Christian people of Lincoln ponder over these things. One way to interest workers in the church is to show them that the church is interested in the workers.

The Wageworker cordially invites the Christian people of Lincoln to ponder over what Miss McDowell said about Saturday half-holidays and Sunday sports.

Public sentiment was behind the McKee's Rocks strikers—and the strikers have won a victory. This is a pointer for others.

The State Fair is over. Mr. Sharp, Jump, Sharp, Jump!

The Labor Day committee did not

carry out all of its plans on account of the weather. But it achieved its chief purpose, and that was to have Miss McDowell speak to three thousand people who could not have heard her had she confined her remarks to a Labor Day celebration. She reached a class of people who ought to be more interested in the industrial question than they are.

Senator Joe Bristow received an ovation when he returned to Salina, Kan., his home town. Senator Bristow represented the people of Kansas and not the people of Connecticut when the tariff bill was up in the senate. A little study of this statement may reveal the reason why Senators Burkett and Brown were allowed to return home without being at all disturbed by noisy celebrations.

The manager of the Pressed Steel Car Works at McKee's Rocks said he would never treat with a committee from the employes—but he has. A local magnate is urged to keep the McKee's Rocks struggle in mind.

President Taft refused to umpire a ball game at Boston last Monday. The president may not be charged with lack of courage, hence he must be admired for his discretion.

The attention of Kirbyjunior is directed to the eminent McKee's Rocks gentleman who said HE would never give in to the strikers, and then gave in. Things are coming bad for Kirbyjr.

It's up to you, Mr. Sharp. The State Fair is over, and the employes of the Tractor Co., are asking only what is right, humane and Christian.

Senator Burkett says he can not see why republicans should get into a quarrel over the tariff law. The senator should consult an oculist.

You never hear a Nebraska wage earner kicking on mud at this season of the year. That is, not if he is a wage earner with brains.

For justice of the supreme court, John J. Sullivan. To date there is the only preferred candidate this humble little labor paper has.

And now for a "Labor Chautauqua." Let Lincoln be the pioneer in such a great educational movement along industrial lines.

For one we'd walk a long way to hear Senator Burkett and Charles Whedon debate the Payne-Aldrich tariff law.

We'll always believe it would have been the greatest Labor Day celebration ever pulled off in Lincoln.

It rained on Labor Day—but think of what it means in the way of prosperity for another year.

How does the "Labor Chautauqua" strike you? Listens good, don't it?

Here's hoping for Labor Day, 1910.

UNION MADE STUFF.

Ground Out By a Card Man in The Wageworker Brainery.

Strange Sight.

"Saw a funny sight Labor Day."

"What was it?"

"Saw a union cigarmaker rolling a cigarette from Puke's Mixture while he was cussing a non-union street car conductor for not getting into the union game."

He Did.

"Remember old Grindem, the fellow who said he'd never recognize the union?"

"Yes, what about him?"

"He has. He got married a few months ago and his wife makes him stand around like a little dog."

Afflicted.

"What's the mater with your head, old man?"

"That's the effects of loss of memory. Forgot and took a Lee broom home to my wife, and that's where it landed."

Collecting Dues.

"John," remarked Mrs. John Henry Gollightly.

"Yep," murmured Mr. Gollightly, looking up from his evening paper.

"John, last week you drew your wages and spent exactly one-half at a boozery. Then it cost you a dollar to pay for your tobacco, and you lost a dollar and a half playing 'pitch' and then you bet a dollar on the home team and lost. As a result the week's grocery bill was unpaid, as usual, and all you let me have was ninety-five cents."

"Well," growled Mr. Gollightly.

"No, it is not well!" exclaimed Mrs. Gollightly. "It is very bad. And now we have a change. I am going to collect dues in this household union of

ours, and if the dues are not paid every Saturday night the household machinery don't start. You'll turn over a weekly assessment amounting to 80 per cent of your wages, and out of the remainder you'll pay all your own personal bills. With the assessment I'll run the household. And the dues must be paid promptly at 6:30 Saturday evening or there's nothing doing."

Mr. Gollightly muttered something.

"What's that?" said Mrs. Gollightly.

"Talking about a strike? Well there will be no strike. There may be a lock-out, but there'll be no strike. And I'd have you to understand, John Gollightly, that I'm a young woman yet and not so worse looking, and if you ever let it come to a lock-out you are going to find your place taken by a man who thinks more of his union obligation that hangs over there on the wall with your name and mine on it than you ever did. Now you begin figuring where you get off at!"

Cards.

A lot of "square man" talk hides a crooked record.

A man can never really sympathize until he has actually suffered.

The man who stops to throw a rock at every barking dog does not go far in a day.

Your label is not entitled to any more recognition than your brother workman's label.

When a man's graft is interfered with he is quick to charge improper motives to the one who interferes.

Self interest should impel us to lift up the brother who is lower down, lest he reach up and pull us down to his level.

Organized labor has failed to perform a very much needed educational work. The public has been deceived by false teachers.

After making an utter failure at everything they have tackled some men turn socialist and begin abusing everybody who is accomplishing something.

FIGURES OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

A Sidelight on Our Present Period of Boasted Prosperity.

According to the last report of the New York State Commissioner of Labor the percentage of unemployment among the organized workers at the end of March, 1909, was 21.1, as compared with 35.7 on the same date in 1908.

We wonder how many of those who read this statement in the paper realized its awful significance. In March this year more than one-fifth of the organized workers were out of work, and in March last year more than one-third of the organized workers were out of work. One out of every five men, one out of every three men—out of work, looking for work, not knowing how long he will be out of work, not knowing what the end of it all will be, whether in fact this is not the end so far as he individually is concerned!

And if this was the state of unemployment among the organized workers, how much more widespread must it have been among the unorganized ones!

Unemployment is not an exceptional phenomenon. It is a permanent condition. A chronic disease under which the working class permanently suffers. A disease unknown in former ages. A peculiar and specific product of the capitalist system.

For according to the same report the percentage of unemployment among the organized workers in New York state was 15.1 in 1905, 9.9 in 1906, 19.1 in 1907, etc. Even in the prosperous years one out of every seven, one out of every ten, and one out of every five workers was out of employment.

And, again, if this was the case with the organized workers, how much worse must it have been with the unorganized ones!—New York Daily Call.

SALVATION ARMY DENOUNCED.

Iowa unionists, headed by President Erick of the State Federation, are protesting against the proposed scheme of the Salvation Army to import laborers from London direct to Des Moines. The business men of that city are demanding cheap labor and the army has stepped into the breach. The unionists are asking if Colorado and Pennsylvania labor troubles are to be repeated in their state.

HOW ABOUT LINCOLN?

"There are no workers in Detroit who are so exploited as the laundry workers," declared a girl in the Trades Council hall Monday. "Their wages are low and sanitary conditions in some shops are very bad. The heat and dampness all play their part in deteriorating the physical condition of the workers. We are going to try and form a union and see if we cannot better conditions.—Detroit Union Advocate.

HANDSOME EDITIONS.

Labor Papers Showed Up Handsomely in Labor Day Editions.

Judging from appearances the labor press of the country is coming into its own. A few years ago the average labor editor was content if he could get his paper out at all; now he has to celebrate every anniversary with a special edition. And we say without fear of successful contradiction, that after an experience of something like a quarter of a century in the newspaper business—not labor newspaper—that the handsome special editions we have ever seen have been those of labor papers during the past three or four years. This year seemed an especially good one for the "b'hoys," for the Labor Day editions were numerous and mighty good to look upon. They showed that the labor papers are gaining in popularity as advertising mediums, and that the workers of the country are realizing more and more the necessity of supporting papers that will give their side of the case to the public. We would call especial attention to the following handsome Labor Day issues:

The Worcester, Mas., Labor News, twenty-four pages, on fine book paper, handsomely illustrated and full of remunerative advertising. Des Moines, Ia., Unionist, thirty-six pages, well illustrated and full of the matter that cheers the business office; also of matter that was of interest and profit to the readers. The Oklahoma City, Okla., Labor Unit, which was in keeping with the record of that young state and its wide-awake unionists. Nothing finer in the way of a labor paper ever came off the press. The Pueblo, Colo., Industrial Review was a credit to the Pittsburg of the west and to its editor and publisher. Printed in colors, well illustrated and full of good stuff, the Review was a pleasure to look at. The Kansas City, Mo., Labor Herald went its former records one better, which means that the Herald set a great pace. Editor West always goes a little further every time he gets out a special edition, and one often wonders if he will ever be satisfied. Frank Kennedy's Western Laborer, Omaha, was not as big as some of them, but we happen to know it was a profitable edition, and it was handsomely illustrated and full of good stuff. The Council Bluffs, Ia., Weekly Times is a youngster, but a mighty lusty one, and its Labor Day issue was a credit to its publishers and sufficient to show that Council Bluffs is appreciative of a lively, reliable union labor newspaper. The Pittsburg Pa., Iron Trades Journal was a wonder. It has rather the advantage of most of us in point of location, and it took all that was coming. As a result its Labor Day issue was such that it will be kept on file for the purpose of being used as a model at some future time. The Pittsburg, Pa., Amalgamated Journal, organ of the iron, steel and tin workers, was a hummer, and dedicated to the locked-out members of the trade. The Baltimore, Md., Labor Leader also appeared in handsome Labor Day garb.

There are others worthy of special mention, but the above take the lead. The best thing about it all is that the evidences multiply that the labor editor is being appreciated. Here's to every one of our "esteemed contemporaries."

ITS CHARTER TAKEN UP.

Iowa State Federation Disciplined in Electrical Worker Fight.

The Electrical Workers' fight is growing acute, and the American Federation of Labor is proceeding rapidly in its work of disciplining the central bodies and state federations that have failed or refused to unseat the delegates from the Electrical Workers' locals that pay allegiance to the "Reid faction." Last week the charter of the Iowa State Federation of Labor was taken up by Secretary Morrison because that organization refused to unseat the so-called seceding delegates. Several central bodies in Iowa and Nebraska have been ordered to throw out the "Reid delegates" on pain of having their charters revoked, Lincoln among the number.

Eighty per cent of the Electrical Workers are opposed to the faction recognized by the American Federation of Labor, and half of the remaining 20 per cent are sympathizers. A lot of the organizers of the A. F. of L. seem to be spending most of their time fighting the Reid faction instead of organizing new locals. The McNulty faction, backed by the A. F. of L., is in a bad way. Its membership is scattered, it is paying no death benefits, and it is seemingly content with getting what money it can and letting the A. F. of L. disrupt the whole movement by "butting in" instead of letting the Electrical Workers settle their own fight. This trouble must be settled soon or it will give the whole labor movement a black eye. President Gompers

and Secretary Morrison would it appears, do well to back up and wait a few months. The Toronto convention can thresh the matter out with better information than the Denver convention had. And, besides, if the A. F. of L. will let things alone for a few months the trouble will be settled by the McNulty faction "petering out" entirely.

To date the Lincoln central body has taken no action, and the delegates from the Electrical Workers' local are still seated.

VICTORY FOR THE WORKMEN.

Long Strike at the Pressed Steel Car Works is Over.

Pittsburg, Sept. 7.—Peace and quiet will again reign in McKee's Rocks. The costly strike which has been in progress fifty-three days at the Pressed Steel Car works is over. The workmen, numbering over 5,000, have won a complete victory. Beginning Thursday morning they will return to work a thousand a day. While formal action declaring the trouble at an end will not be taken until a vote is cast by the men sometime tomorrow, C. A. Wise, chairman of the strikers' executive committee, stated tonight that the employes of the big plant will unanimously decide to return to work Thursday. Practically all the demands made by the men, he said, have been granted by the company.

The satisfaction of the men over the final outcome of their contention is general.

Among the changes agreed to by the company are the following: No Sunday work hereafter; half holiday on Saturday; the promise of an increase in wages; the indefinite suspension of T. A. Farrell, chief of the company police; a printed list of prices to be paid will be exhibited in all departments, so the men will know exactly what they are to receive for piecework, and a guarantee that better conditions are to prevail throughout the big mill.

Owing to the reticence of Commissioner of Labor Charles P. Neill, nothing definite is obtainable concerning the investigation he is making here in connection with the strike. It is said Mr. Neill will report to Washington before announcing whether the government intends to prosecute. Excepting to say that action will probably be taken against several eastern employment agencies, United States District Attorney Jordan is also silent.

THE PARK COMMISSIONERS.

The Labor Day celebration did not materialize, but that fact does not prevent the committee and the rank and file of organized labor in this vicinity from feeling grateful to the park commissioners for their evidences of friendship. Remembering the assistance organized labor gave when the matter of park concerts was under discussion, the park commissioners held a special meeting on Friday of last week and decided to have one of the public concerts at Capital Beach on Labor Day as a recognition of the support given by the unionists. Ex-Mayor Brown interested himself in the matter and had the other commissioners meet him. The decision was unanimous and hearty. The park commission as now constituted is able to transact business rapidly and well, and when the people of Lincoln get ready to spend money for parks as they should, the commission is made up of the right men to make a park system what it should be.

PERSONALS.

Mrs. W. C. Norton and children, Harry and Delphine, came up from Humboldt last week and spent several pleasant days visiting with friends.

Miss Jeannette, the four-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Young, accompanied her grandmother, Mrs. Hogue, to Illinois last week, and for the next month will enjoy the always pleasant visit with grandmas and grandpas and great-grandparents.

Mrs. J. G. Sayer, who received a severe fracture of the shoulder last week, is resting as easy as could be expected and making good progress towards recovery.

Gene Lyman has taken out his I. T. U. traveling card and will take a tour of the northwest country.

J. W. Dickson has returned to Lincoln and is again plying his trade. Dickson's return will be beneficial to the union spirit of the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Will Bustard have set up their lares and penates in the Salisbury block.

CAPITAL AUXILIARY.

Pleasant Reception to Delegates and Happy Evening Spent.

Capital Auxiliary No. 11 tendered a reception to Mrs. F. H. Hebbard on Friday evening of last week. The reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Fred Mickel, 2525 Vine street. Mrs. Hebbard, who represented the Auxiliary at the recent St.

Joseph convention, gave an interesting account of her visit and told of the many attractions offered for the entertainment of the delegates. George Locker, one of the Typographical Union delegates, responded briefly to a request for a few remarks.

The attendance was not as large as it should have been, but those who did attend enjoyed a pleasant hour or two. Mr. Clarence Mickel entertained with several piano solos in which he demonstrated that he is a pianist of ability. Refreshments were served.

A SUDDEN BEREAVEMENT.

Mr. James Yates, a well known resident of Lincoln, died very suddenly at York on Thursday of last week. Mr. Yates was in York attending to some business, and was stricken while at a hotel. His illness lasted but a few minutes. The remains were brought to Lincoln and after brief funeral ceremonies were interred in Wynka Saturday. Mr. Yates was the father of C. A. Yates, well known in allied printing trades circles and pressman at the Woodruff-Collins establishment. The sincere sympathy of a large circle of trades union friends is extended to C. A. Yates and to the other members of the family.

BERT CHIPMAN BACK.

Bert Chipman is back from the northwest and is now officiating as sewer and sanitary inspector for the City of Lincoln. He was appointed by City Engineer Dobson, who knows a good man when he sees him. Mr. Chipman has served in this capacity before and made good. There are a lot of us who will be glad to welcome him back to Lincoln.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

The printers met Sunday afternoon and rushed through a lot of business in short order. Delegates Locker and Freeman made brief reports. Notices of several constitutional amendments were given. Nothing outside of the routine was accomplished.

THE WAGELWORKER FAMILY.

A Few Personal Remarks That You Are Asked to Pardon.

The editor of The Wageworker has been enjoying himself for several days past, despite the hard work of getting out a big Labor Day edition, attending to a busy public office and assisting in forwarding the Labor Day celebration. Tuesday evening Mrs. Geo. L. Burkhalter, of Needles, Calif., a sister of Will M. Maupin, arrived to spend a few days in visiting. She returned Monday morning and took with her Miss Dorothy Maupin, aged 8, who will spend the winter in Needles. Saturday evening T. Whit Maupin, a brother, came in from Oregon, Mo., and will spend fair week in Lincoln.

Whit Maupin is a country printer, being employed on the Oregon Sentinel. It was upon the Sentinel that the editor of The Wageworker served his apprenticeship at the printing trade, beginning in May, 1879. The editor and publisher of the Sentinel then was David Porter Dobyns, more familiarly known as "Deacon." "Deacon" Dobyns is still the editor and publisher and his partner is Tom Curry, who was foreman of the Sentinel shop when The Wageworker man was handling the roller and setting reprint.

MILLION DOLLARS' REWARD.

"American Industries" is the name of the official organ of the National Association of Manufacturers. It is edited by John H. Kirby, president of that bunch of notorious union haters. The Wageworker will pay one million dollars in confederate script for any issue of "American Industries" since Kirby became its editor that does not contain a picture of John H. Kirby.

PLUMBERS' ORGANIZER.

General Organizer Franklin C. Fay of the plumbers and fitters' union is in the city looking after the interests of the local in general and sprinkler fitters in particular. He is from St. Louis, but has Nebraska in his district. He attended the meeting of No. 16 last Tuesday night and gave the boys a good talk.—Omaha Western Laborer.

IN MISSOURI.

Governor Hadley of Missouri has signed the woman's nine-hour law. The law regulates the employment of girls and women in factories, restaurants and other such places. Employment is limited to nine hours a day and prohibits their employment later than 10 p. m. or earlier than 5 a. m.

AN AWFUL RECORD.

During the last seventeen years American coal mines have killed 22,840 men, made at least 19,000 widows and upward of 40,000 orphans. And yet they have to strike against the coal barons for better conditions and fight the troops to enforce their rights.