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Evangelist Corkey Favors Trades Union Principles

Evangelist Corkey, who is holding a revival meeting in Fremont, delivered a sermon especially to workmen last Sunday night, and it is replete with remarks of interest to wage earners everywhere. The Wagworker takes pleasure in giving a synopsis of the sermon:

"I believe in Unionism. I am a Union man through and through. If a man does not agree with me in this, I will not have a brick at him. I will say, 'Come now, and let us reason together.' I am a Unionist for two reasons. I believe Unionism breathes the American spirit. Benjamin Franklin advocated the union of the colonists in their struggle with his famous saying 'We must hang together, or we shall all hang separately.' As Americans, some of our famous mottoes tell of our love of union: 'United we stand; divided we fall.' 'A house divided against itself cannot stand.' Labor cannot afford to be divided against itself. Americans have died fighting for the union principle. President Taft spoke strongly but truly when he recently said in Chicago that the man who did not believe in labor unions was behind the times. I believe in unionism because union labor men seek to uplift the laboring man. It is a noble aim. Labor unions have made mistakes, but this is only to say that labor unionists are human. The church has made some sad mistakes, too. But, like the church of today, the labor unions were never better managed than now. Look at that great labor leader, John Mitchell.

"Capital combines for lawful business enterprise; farmers combine for better crops and better stock. Shall not labor men unite for the uplift of labor?"

"Andrew Carnegie says, 'Capital and labor can best agree when the capitalist and the laborer are one.' He says if he were young again, and starting in business, he would make all of his 40,000 employes stockholders in his big steel business, and the business would belong to them all. This is industrial democracy, but such a thing is far off yet. What labor unions need today is a law authorizing compulsory arbitration of all labor disputes. Such a law has worked magnificently in New Zealand and such a law is needed in Nebraska.

"Strikes are a form of war, and war is the worst way to settle any dispute. The age of war is passing. War means that might makes right. No disputes among reasoning men are ever finally settled by war. It is justice that settles disputes between individual and individual, nation and nation, capital and labor.

"Laboring men do not want charity. They do not plead for sympathy.

They are demanding justice. Compulsory arbitration means justice to the laborer and justice to the employer.

"Governor Johnson and President Roosevelt compelled arbitration in two great labor disputes and their efforts to secure justice in this way were hailed with approval by all loyal Americans.

"Laboring men ought not to proclaim strikes without the fullest consideration. A strike is a terrible thing. Like war 'it is hell'—on the women and children. Men can stand strikes all right, but the burden and suffering falls on the faithful wives and helpless babes. Let them work for a compulsory arbitration law, and strikes, like war, will not be necessary. God gave us an example of how to settle a strike when men struck work on his big job of making earth a kingdom of righteousness and goodness. He appealed to reason and justice. He says to men, 'Come now and let us reason together.' We need the golden rule applied to our industrial system, and as Carroll D. Wright declared, 'We shall find it can solve the labor problem.' God listens to our grievances of labor and answers them in justice, and capital must listen to the grievances of labor and answer in justice as God does. Compulsory arbitration after the pattern of New Zealand is the need of the hour for the laboring man."

THE PRINTERS.

November Meeting Will Be Held in Fraternity Hall.

Lincoln Typographical Union No. 209 will meet, at Fraternity hall Sunday afternoon, it being the regular meeting for November. So far as known nothing but routine business will be up for discussion.

The printing business continues to flourish in Lincoln, and the "subs" have no difficulty, unless it be to dodge work now and then. The familiar old rumors about a democratic daily in Lincoln are afloat again, but no one seems able to trace it to an authentic source.

The American Homestead is being printed at the Western Newspaper Union, and its adds a lot to the work of that shop. C. W. Bryan is the publisher, and already the rapidly growing circulation is taxing the press facilities of the plant.

UNION LABEL ON PIE.

New York pie-makers have struck for higher wages and the placing of the union stamp on the upper crust of every union-made pie. Placing the union label on apple pies will be simple enough, but how are they going to manage it with the custard and pumpkin pies?—Chicago Record-Herald.



THREE GREAT CRIMINALS

WILL THE GIANT WAKE?

Is this a land of the free? Or is freedom merely a little joke that serves only to create talk?

A District of Columbia judge, appointed, not elected, says the constitutional guarantee of free speech and free press is only a joke, and backs it up by declaring that three men who insist upon their constitutional rights are guilty of contempt and deserving of prison sentence.

A court of appeals, also appointed by political pull, says the first judge is quite correct.

Your right to free speech is limited—limited by the whim or caprice of some petty judge.

The liberty of the press is a pleasant fiction—a federal judge can tell you what you may or may not publish in your own paper.

Once upon a time we thought this a government of law. Now we find it a government of federal judges.

"Damn the constitution—what I say goes!" Federal judges do not use that exact language, but that's what they mean.

A sovereign state enacts a law for the safeguarding of its own people, and acting wholly within the province of the state, as outlined by the fathers of the republic, says that certain institutions chartered by the state must secure its patrons. A federal judge, who need not answer to the people of the state, stops the governor, the legislature and the supreme court of that state by merely writing a few words and calling it an injunction.

Yet we talk about representative government and "the will of the people."

Sounds like a joke, doesn't it? The first amendment to the constitution of the United States reads as follows:

"Congress shall make no law respecting the establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peacefully to assemble and to petition the government for a redress of grievances."

Yet, what congress may not do a federal judge may do—and does. He issues his judicial ukase, and presto!—a free press is abolished and free speech is prohibited!

In Omaha three thousand workers assemble on private property; they are peaceful; they are orderly. There is no sign of violence. They are exercising a right that they, in their simplicity, thought guaranteed them by the constitution. What, that antiquated document? T'ell with it! And a sheriff, the cheap tool of the corporations, and a chief of police owning stock in those same corporations, rush in and drive those peaceful, law-abiding citizens away with clubs and revolvers!

O, yes, this is a free country!

Like the old woman kept hotel! Any old federal judge, any old sheriff, any old police chief—they can knock the stuffing out of the constitution any time their corporation backers give them the tip that it is the proper thing to do. And we workers—we who make the wheels go round; we whose toil makes the nation—we seem satisfied so long as we have a good chance at three square meals a day and a place to sleep at night.

"The land of the free and the home of the brave! O, but doesn't that sound fine and dandy? The land of the free—and we submit to this thing of letting any federal judge who so desires set aside the constitution, set aside the sovereign will of the people, and become at once the lawmaker, the law interpreter and the law enforcer. And we call that "representative government!"

The home of the brave—and we don't dare peep lest we lost our jobs, or offend some petty political boss!

They are rubbing it in, fellow workers—rubbing it in good and hard. Maybe the time will come when we will arise in our might and wipe the whole pestiferous breed from the face of the earth. Not by bullets and bayonets! That isn't the way. By ballots. But at times it seems hopeless. Well-filled bellies will stand a lot.

But maybe the men who ride us now will push us too hard some time, forgetting that there is a limit.

But if we are ever going to wake up and take notice, we ask you in the name of common sense, in the name of liberty, isn't it about time to do it?

The Temple Project is Booming Merrily Along

There were just enough directors present at the meeting Monday night to transact the necessary business. That doesn't mean that interest is waning. On the contrary, there were more directors out hustling than there were at the meeting.

While the session was attending to the little matter of paying bills for current expenses, other directors were out hustling for money that will pay future bills. A committee went to Havelock and held session with the Boiler-makers and the Blacksmiths. Both of these organizations showed a lively interest in the project, and both agreed to do something to boost the good work along. A number of individual pledges were taken, and the organizations were left to take such action as they saw fit.

The outlook grows brighter every day. Not a day goes by that additional pledges are not given, and the directors are meeting with encouragement on every hand. The meeting next Monday evening promises to spell something important. At that time accounts will be cast up and the board will know just what it will have to have by December 1 in order to get over the first hurdle. Right now it seems that just a little boosting will do the work. But the board is going to boost as hard as any set of men can.

In the meanwhile the work of remodeling the Temple goes merrily on. Superintendent Kates is pushing as fast as he can. The electric wiring is all done, and the plumbers have got as far as they can go until the carpenters and plasterers are finished. The painters and decorators are just aching to get in and do their share of the work. Right now the work is necessarily slow, but in a few days it will be at a point where progress will be apparent every minute of the day.

One cheering aspect is the interest that is being shown in the movement by men who are not affiliated with the unions—business and professional men. T. C. Kelsey, fraternal delegate to the Ministerial Union, attended a session of that body Monday forenoon and when called upon told the Labor Temple story. He was listened to attentively and the ministers were united in declaring that they would do their utmost to help the workingmen of the city get a home of their very own. Several business men have volunteered to give the movement a big push when the right time comes, but the board is sanguine that the union men will come to the front in sufficient numbers to swing the project.

Union men who will pledge themselves to take one share of stock a month for twelve consecutive months are coming to the front in squads, but there is room for many more. If enough will come to the front during

the next two weeks the directors will see their way clear, and then their next move will be to add the third story to the building, and thus provide the union forces with the largest and handsomest hall in the city. Such a hall would more than pay the running expenses of the whole Temple project, and the directors are just aching for the time to arrive when the roof can be raised another story.

The interest manifested in the Labor Temple project is evidenced by the letter printed elsewhere, from a friend in Easton, Pa. There are others who will show the same interest, providing the local unionists will make the proper showing.

The committee appointed to visit the unions is very busy every night, and results are being accomplished.

THE MUSICIANS.

Talk of Permanent Club Room, But Will Boost Temple Project.

The musicians had a short special meeting Sunday morning, the purpose being to talk over the matter of establishing a permanent club room and other matters of interest. A committee was present from the board of directors of the Labor Temple and explained the project thoroughly. Then the musicians proceeded to discuss the matter for an hour.

Owing to peculiar circumstances surrounding the craft there is a feeling that the musicians ought to have separate quarters of their own where practice can be indulged in. This, of course, would be practically impossible with headquarters in the Labor Temple. But although the sentiment was general that a separate headquarters would be best, it was generally agreed that the Temple project is a good one and that the musicians can not afford to be on the outside. Although no definite action was taken at Sunday's meeting it was generally understood that at the next meeting the local would invest a handsome sum in Labor Temple stock. In the meanwhile a committee of seven will investigate the matter of permanent headquarters and be ready to report a plan of procedure at the next meeting.

The local organization is in a flourishing condition. The membership is beyond the 130 mark, the treasury is awake. One new member was initiated Sunday and one suspended member taken back into the fold.

LABORERS GET INCREASE.

Officials of the Pittsburg & Lake Erie railroad have issued circulars to their three thousand laborers, announcing that when they draw their pay November 1 for October work they will receive pay on a basis of \$1.65 a day instead of \$1.50.

THE STAKE, FAGGOT AND THUMBSCREW.

Samuel Gompers, Frank Morrison and John Mitchell have been found guilty of that most heinous of all crimes—contempt of court. The wife-beater, the horse-thief or the murderer is entitled to more consideration than the man guilty of contempt of court. They, at least, are entitled to trial by a jury of their peers, but the man guilty of contempt has to stand trial before the prosecutor who also acts as judge and executioner.

So it is that these three men, guilty of having exercised rights they supposed to be guaranteed by the constitution, are facing a prison term.

Perhaps they will have to go to jail. If they do they will not be the first men who have suffered for having fought for a principle.

Latimer and Ridley were burned at the stake, but Latimer's prophecy that the fire which consumed them would light all England was more than fulfilled. Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison in jail will be a greater menace to judicial czarism than they would be out of jail.

If law is to be set aside at the whim of a judge; if constitutional rights are dependent upon the way a judicial breakfast sits upon the judicial stomach; if liberty is to be the football of judicial tyranny, then it is high time that the country recognized the fact and cut the foolish expense of legislatures and executives.

The stake, the faggot and the thumbscrew used to be the punishment of those who dared to exercise freedom of thought and action. We are more refined in these enlightened days. We have the injunction, whereby the same end is reached—the throttling of constitutional rights and the fettering of the limbs of free men.

YOUR LIBERTIES, NOT GOMPERS' ALONE!

The court of appeals of the District of Columbia have affirmed the decision of Judge Wright, and Samuel Gompers, president; Frank Morrison, secretary, and John Mitchell, executive officer, of the American Federation of Labor, are adjudged fit subjects for prison because they dared to exercise the right of free speech. It is a mooted question whether these men will be allowed to perfect an appeal to the supreme court of the United States.

Free men—sons of men who fought and died for liberty—should bear in mind that more than the liberties of three men are involved in this matter. The liberties of an entire nation are at stake. Shall it be said that the sons of men who died to free this country from the reign of a king shall submit to its becoming the plaything of a judiciary swollen by long continued and constantly increasing power? The King of England would not dare to exercise the power daily exercised by judges in this republic. The czar of Russia would hesitate to use the power often exercised by federal judges in this republic. If a federal judge may issue an order in defiance of the constitution, and arbitrarily and without recourse commit to prison men who dare to defy that power, then this claim of being a republic, a government of the people, by the people, and for the people, is all humbug.

The decision in the Gompers-Morrison-Mitchell case should concern all men, whether they be union men or farmers; merchants or lawyers; physicians or bankers. The liberties of a people who imagine themselves to be free are at stake.