

WAGELWORKER

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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.

 * ARE YOU DEALING WITH *
 * THEM?—THE HOME MER- *
 * CHANTS. *
 * We want to call attention to *
 * our advertisers. Are you deal- *
 * ing with them? They are the *
 * ones who are making this pa- *
 * per possible and are demon- *
 * strating in the only way prac- *
 * ticable that they want your *
 * trade. They deserve it and *
 * should get it. Are you trading *
 * with merchants who refuse to *
 * patronize these columns? If so, *
 * you are defeating the purposes *
 * of this paper, which is to aid *
 * you in keeping fair living con- *
 * ditions. If a merchant wants *
 * your patronage we know of no *
 * better way to demonstrate it *
 * than for him to say so through *
 * these columns. Please keep in *
 * mind and watch the regular *
 * change of advertisements. Our *
 * advertisers are giving you the *
 * best goods at the lowest rates. *
 * We pride ourselves on the se- *
 * lect quality of our advertisers. *
 * *****

SPEAKING OF THE MILITIA.

When a company of National Guardsmen of the District of Columbia wanted to participate in the parade in honor of President Samuel Gompers' return from Europe, President Gompers vetoed the proposition. The Bricklayers and Masons and the Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers' Union have announced withdrawals of sick and death benefits from members who are members of the militia. In brief, organized labor has time and again set its face against having any part or parcel in the make-up of the militia.

This is due to the well-known fact that the militia is never used, save in the case of actual war, except to be turned out to protect the property of employers—never to protect the rights of employees.

But we have another thought on this subject. Instead of standing aloof and complaining because the militia is used against them too often, why not let the trades unionists of the country quietly fill up the ranks of the militia regiments, elect the officers and control the whole system? It would be splendid discipline, because it would teach men to obey orders without question—and that is something that workers need to learn before they can make their demands effective. And when the big employers learn that the militia is composed of men who are not the playthings of capital and of politicians they will be awfully slow in demanding that it be called out.

Before the Omaha street car strike was forty-eight hours old, and before there was even the faintest symptom of violence, one of the men at the head of the Omaha Business Men's Association was in Lincoln begging the governor to send a couple of militia companies to Omaha "to protect property" that never was in danger. To "protect property?" Not on your life! To awe into submission workers who were demanding decent conditions—decent working hours and living wages.

The militia would have been the last thought of the union busters if they knew that the militia was made up of union men and too independent to be used for the selfish ends of men who profit by grinding the faces of the poor.

The more we think about it the more we are of the opinion that we have been overlooking a good bit in this matter of the state militia.

THE TRACTION AGREEMENT.

After considerable maneuvering a new management has the Traction Co. Naturally the new management is very profuse in its promises of what it is going to do in the way of extensions and betterments, and knowing many of the men making up the new board The Wage Worker is quite confident that they mean what they say. Most of the men connected with the new management are progressive business men who know from experience that the business not going forward is the business that is going backward. Knowing this they will naturally seek to secure new business by supplying constantly increasing service. The Wage Worker heartily wishes them the fullest measure of deserved success.

But it would seize this occasion to call the attention of the new management to a few things that are quite

as much to be desired as extension of lines, better equipment and increased service—and that is better pay and better conditions for the men who man the cars. If the new management wants to start in with the good will and hearty support of every progressive and right-minded citizen, its first act will be to increase the wage scale of the car men to a living basis and re-arrange the schedules so as to give the men decent hours of service. Underpaid and overworked men can not, not matter how good the equipment, give the patrons the service that they deserve to have. The Wage Worker believes that if it were left to popular vote a majority would favor an increase of wages for the men and a diminution of working hours rather than immediate extensions and better equipment.

The Traction Co., will have favors to ask of the people in the future, and it would not be amiss for its managers to give some thought to the idea that one way to gain popular favor is to be pointed out as an employer that pays good wages, gives its employees decent working hours and shows a never-failing interest in the men who stand between the company and the general public. The Traction Co., is fortunate in having a splendid lot of men in charge of its cars; men who are considerate of the public, faithful in the discharge of their duties, conservative in their acts and loyal to the best interests of their employer. The Wage Worker believes that the progressive business men who are soon to assume control of the Traction Co., will recognize these things and act accordingly.

One day last week the editor of The Wage Worker was called into a little conference of union men. There were present the president and vice-president of an international union, the general organizers of four unions, two local labor leaders and the editor. The party occupied a room in an Omaha hotel from 1 o'clock in the afternoon until long after dark. And during the six hours of that conference the bell boy responded to but one call—and then he brought a pitcher of icewater. That would not have happened ten years ago.

A whole lot of men who never before cared a rap about having a case of beer hauled to their homes are now as mad as hornets because they can not have them hauled out. It's human nature, and we greatly fear some reformers have overlooked that element in man's make-up.

The editor of this little labor paper, when asked to address a body of workmen, has never stopped to ask either their religious creed or their political affiliations. When he finds it necessary to do that sort of thing he will cease addressing bodies of workmen.

Local coal dealers object to raising the wages of teamsters on the ground that it would necessitate an increase in the cost of coal to consumers. Don't it just beat thunder how considerate those coal dealers are of consumers?

There will be plenty of men ready to say, "It's a good thing," after the Labor Temple is paid for. But what is needed right now is men who will step to the front with dollars in their hands.

The eastern wing of the democracy is looking for a man who can win in 1912. They have a task that would make Diogenes' stunt of looking for an honest man seem like mere pastime.

Spaniards who dare speak Ferrer's name aloud are thrust into prison. Spain must have a lot of federal judges working overtime to uphold the "dignity of the courts."

It would seem to the unprejudiced observer that if Uncle Joe Cannon has any caring in mind he would better get at it without further loss of time.

Of course the unions are losing out! Have you noticed the woeful absence of Buck stove advertising in Lincoln this season?

Perhaps Norman E. Mack would find a democratic candidate to suit him by merely looking in his hall mirror.

The Wage Worker is contemplating some radical improvements in size, form, make-up and contents.

Everybody is in favor of the Labor Temple, but is everybody willing to put up for it?

If Mexico is a republic, then Russia is a land of liberty and equality before the law.

"There's no place like home!" Boost for the Labor Temple.

Just because the striking street car

Do You Know

All About Armstrong's Clothes, have you had the pleasure and satisfaction of wearing one of our good suits and overcoats? Do you know how much we can save you, and how much more real clothes you can get here than elsewhere?

No Matter whether you know all this or not---it will be of great benefit to you if you will come in and see what we have to offer you in new Fall Suits and Overcoats.

You'll See the reason for our leadership in Men's and Boys' Clothing. Measure the price you pay here by what you get for it and you can readily see the advantage of buying you clothes at Armstrong's.

Prices Range From \$10 to \$40

Armstrong Clothing Co.

Good Clothes Merchants



men in Omaha have not scored a big victory a lot of union haters are repeating the cry that the unions are losing out. They forget that the street-car men in the last twelve months have won victories in Philadelphia, Cleveland, Pittsburg, Pa., Pittsburg, Kas., Saginaw, Mich. and Eau Claire.

The spectacle of a great country like this quietly submitting to the blustering and bullying of a Joe Cannon is not calculated to make other people look kindly upon the suggestion to switch from a constitutional monarchy to a Cannonized republic.

What tickles us is to see a New York democratic newspaper that sneezes when "Fingy" Connors or Boss Murphy takes snuff, chiding republicans for not unloading Cannon.

Following the actions of the type-writer combine in supplanting men with women in their shops at about one-third the wages, the big packing house bosses in Greater New York, notably Swifts and Armours, are turning an honest penny, as women are, to a large extent, taking the places of men in the sausage industry get

ting from \$5 to \$7 a week for work which is identical with that done by the men at a wage averaging from \$12 to \$18 a week.

A FACT BEYOND CAVIL.

If the labor unions did nothing else than call attention to the misery that abounds, their existence would be justifiable; but they have done more, they have not only called attention to the effects, they have shown the causes. They have done more still; they have produced remedies, upon the merits and demerits of which professors, editors and ministers now discuss and advocate. Labor unions have produced thinkers and educators from cut their own ranks, and have drawn students and teachers from the wealthy and professional. And more yet; while doing this, they have bettered the condition of thousands of families, by securing higher wages, shorter hours and greater independence, individually and collectively. The result is something to be proud of. The carpenter, the printer, cigar-maker, clerk, shoemaker, tailor, working long hours on short rations have stepped boldly to the front and worked revolution in American thought. It is

a fact beyond cavil.—Ernest Howard Crosby.

SPEAKING OF PENSIONS.

Corporation Pensions Contrasted With Union Pension Plan.

Much ado is made in the newspapers about a proposed pension system which the Rock Island railroad is about to establish for the benefit of its old employees. Those who have been in for twenty-five years in the employ of that railroad will be entitled to a pension equal to twenty-five per cent of the average annual pay drawn by the pensioner. While we are not disposed to criticize the Rock Island's plan, yet we don't see why there is so much fuss made over it by would-be philanthropists. And surely the men have to earn it before they can get it, because the railroad has no income except what is produced by those working for the concern. Besides, it is not so much of a pension as that paid by a well-known American labor organization—the International Typographical Union. This organization pays its aged members at the rate of \$20 a month flat, and no average about it. And in addition to that it pays a funeral benefit of \$75. And if a printer desires neither the pension nor death, then he is entitled to spend his last remaining days at the Union Printers' Home at Colorado Springs, where every possible care is taken of him without costing him one cent. This throws the Rock Island's pension plan completely in the shade.—The Miners' Gazette.

IN TORONTO.

Labor Temple Has Proved to be a Profitable Investment.

The annual statement of the directors of the Toronto Labor Temple shows that the year's business was a profitable one. The receipts amounted to \$13,568.33, leaving a balance of \$1,856.18. The assets of the company are the building, \$35,888.34; furniture, \$7,500. The profits show an undecleared dividend of over 13 per cent. The excess of assets over liabilities is \$17,309.87. The original allotment of stock has been taken up, and the single transaction of \$5.00 for the year closed the final allotment. At present there is no stock on the market, and the company will not issue any more, as the stock as it now stands is worth more than double what was paid for it.

FAIR BARBER SHOPS.

You Will Find the Union Card in the Following Places.

When you enter a barber shop, see that the union shop card is in plain sight before you get into the chair. If the card is not to be seen, go elsewhere. The union shop card is a guarantee of a cleanly shop, a smooth shave or good hair-cut, and courteous treatment. The following barber shops are entitled to the patronage of union men:

- George Petro, 1010 O.
- J. J. Simpson, 1001 O.
- George Shaffer, Lincoln Hotel.
- C. B. Ellis, Windsor Hotel.
- D. S. Crop, Capital Hotel.
- M. J. Roberts, Royal Hotel.
- A. L. Kimmerer, Lindell Hotel.
- C. A. Green, 120 North Eleventh.
- C. A. Green, 1132 O.
- E. A. Wood, 1206 O.
- Chaplin & Ryan, 129 North Twelfth.
- E. C. Evans, 1121 P.
- Bert Sturm, 116 South Thirteenth.
- J. B. Raynor, 1501 O.
- Muck & Barthelme, 122 South Twelfth.
- J. J. Simpson, 922 P.
- Frank Malone, Havelock.
- C. A. Hughart, Havelock.

UNION PRINT SHOPS.

Printeries That Are Entitled to Use the Allied Trades Label.

Following is a list of the printing offices in Lincoln that are entitled to the use of the Allied Printing Trades label, together with the number of the label used by each shop:

- Jacob North & Co., No. 1.
- Chas. A. Simmons, No. 2.
- Frede Press, No. 3.
- Woodruff-Collins, No. 4.
- Graves & Payne, No. 5.
- State Printing Co., No. 6.
- Star Publishing Co., No. 7.
- Western Newspaper Union, No. 8.
- Wood Printing Co., No. 9.
- Searle Publishing Co., No. 10.
- Kuhl Printing Co., No. 25.
- George Brothers, No. 11.
- McVey, No. 12.
- Lincoln Herald, No. 14.
- New Century Printers, No. 17.
- Gillispie & Phillips, No. 18.
- Herburger, The Printer, No. 20.

San Diego, Cal., carpenters have arranged with a physician of that city to address the union on the methods of combatting tuberculosis.

NO TIME TO KNOCK.

There is always a surplus of "knoekers" in this world. What we need now is "boosters." And especially are "boosters" needed right now in Lincoln's union labor circles. There is a need for men who will "boost" the Labor Temple project, and "boost" hard.

Are you a "booster," or are you a "knocker?" By your actions are you judged.

The men who have been handling the Temple project have sacrificed their time and money. They have worked patiently and well, and they have accomplished a good work. But they can not carry the whole burden. They must have help—not "hot air," but the good old dollars, and the union men of this community to furnish the dollars.

A dollar from each of you right now will serve a better purpose than two dollars a year from now. Upon the "now" depends the whole future of the project. Come across.