

WAGEWORKER

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THANKSGIVING.
Thanksgiving Day! Your voices raise
To God on high in hymns of praise.
The fruitful yield
Of vine and field
Has brightened all our earthly ways,
Give thanks to God who rules on high
For welcome rains and sunny sky.
For peace and love
Praise God above.
And all his mercies glorify!
Thanksgiving Day? Praise God and
sing
Till every vale and hill shall ring.

Thanksgiving Day! From work apart
Let mankind come. From field and
mart
Let anthems rise
To pierce the skies
To prove the thanks within each
heart.
Give thanks to God for mercies shown,
And kneel today before His throne,
For peace and joy
Without alloy
The loving Father's kingship own.
Thanksgiving Day! Let every voice
Show how our grateful hearts rejoice.

Thanksgiving Day! Forget not those
Who know naught save life's bitter
woes.
Be not delayed—
Give them the aid
That brother unto brother owes.
Lift up the brother bowed with care,
Divide your blessings everywhere;
The highways scan
For fallen man
Who needs the help that you may
share.
Thanksgiving Day! Give from your
store
To aid the hungry, sick and poor.

Thanksgiving Day! From distance
wide
Let loved ones come to sit beside
The festive board
Whose joys afford
Long hours of love whatever betide.
Give thanks to God for earthly ties;
For love that beams in shining eyes;
Sing songs of praise
Until your lays
Are echoed back from vaulted skies.
Then at God's throne kneel down and
pay
Your homage this Thanksgiving Day.
—Will M. Maupin.

THAT TRACTION SETTLEMENT.
The more one investigates the proposed Traction settlement, whereby the city is to become a virtual partner in the company, the more one is impressed with the idea that it is not a good thing for the city. Neither is it a good thing for the men who are in the employ of the company. It doubtless is a good thing for that portion of the citizenship which holds Traction stock, but it appears to be rather one-sided. In the first place the proposed agreement does not go fully enough into the matter of betterments and extensions. It does not hold out any promise of better wages for the men who do the work.
The best way to settle this whole business is to compel the Traction company to pay its taxes to date. Then have the railway commission fix the physical valuation and allow the company to pay a reasonable dividend on that valuation. All surplus over and above expenses, taxes, depreciation, etc., and the dividend on the investment, to be put into extensions, better cars, and better wages.
If the city is going into the street railway business it does not need a partner, but should own the whole thing. That would be the best solution, anyhow. But the proposed partnership, in which the city will stand a good chance to hold the sack, ought to be very carefully considered before it is accepted.

THE PROPOSED CHARTER.
The gentlemen representing the commercial club and the city council who are engaged in framing up a commission charter for the city do not want to overlook the very important matter of providing for a referendum on the charter itself. The failure to provide for this in the charter last winter resulted in defeating it. It will not do to say that Lincoln has voted in favor of the commission plan, therefore it is unnecessary to refer the charter to the people. That assertion

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Suits and Overcoats, \$10.00 to \$40.00
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Good Clothes Merchants



was refuted last winter. The Wage-worker believes it is warranted in declaring that unless provision is made to have the charter referred to the voters for adoption, organized labor will do its utmost to defeat the charter in the legislature. The referendum is a cardinal principle of trades unionism.

And the charter commission wants to avoid all flub-dub in making the charter. It must provide for the initiative, the referendum and the recall, or organized labor will oppose it. It must fix responsibility, and it must provide for referring all things pertaining to the selling of city property to the voters. It must provide adequate park funds, and it must give labor a fair show as to wages and hours on municipal works.

NOTHING DOING.
The editor of The Wageworker, who was a delegate to the Toronto convention of the American Federation of Labor, strove in vain to secure some co-operation in the effort to secure the 1910 convention. But no response could be had to repeated telegrams and letters addressed to the Commercial Club. The editor believes that with a little co-operation from the club the convention could have been secured. At least it seemed so up until the minute when the aspiring cities were asked to state what they could offer in the way of halls, committee rooms, etc. The Lincoln delegate couldn't offer anything official, and of course the committee would not consider his personal invitation. The convention goes to St. Louis.

It may be that a convention of mere working men was not considered worthy of notice. But such a convention is bigger than anything Lincoln has ever had. It would have meant from 600 to 1,000 delegates and visitors for upwards of two weeks—all well supplied with funds.
Some of the most influential men at Toronto volunteered to assist the Lincoln delegate in his efforts to land the convention, but when it was learned that not a single citizen of Lincoln

apart from the delegate showed any interest in the matter, they quit. So did the Lincoln delegate.

The Omaha Examiner charges the editor of The Wageworker with having engineered the Ferrar protest meeting. If the Examiner is no nearer right on other matters than it is on this one, there is no further need of explanation for the Examiner's queer actions. The editor of The Wageworker had absolutely nothing to do with either the calling or the management of that protest meeting. He merely accepted an invitation to address it briefly.

Humphrey O'Sullivan has further entrenched himself in the favor of the Lincoln Unionists. His latest kindly action is to come across for \$200 to help the Labor Temple project along. They don't make 'em any better than O'Sullivan. Long may he live!

Lincoln merchants are showing a decided friendliness to the Labor Temple project, their friendship taking the form of generous subscriptions to the stock. If the union men will come across a little bit faster for a couple of weeks, success will be assured.

In a week or two The Wageworker will have an office in the Labor Temple, and every unionist in the community will be expected to drop in and subscribe, just to make business.

Mr. Sharp says the Lincoln Traction Co. pays better wages than any other city of Lincoln's class. Mr. Sharp, however, signally fails to offer wage schedules in proof of his assertion.

A lot of central labor unions were never given the least attention by the American Federation of Labor except at per capita paying time until this charter revocation matter began.

Gompers, Mitchell and Morrison in jail won't help sell any more of the "scab" Buck stoves. Nor will it seal the mouths or hold the pens of American freemen.

The Nebraska Federation of Labor meets at South Omaha, January 4, 1910. See to it that your local union is represented by a live one.

In the meanwhile, despite court decisions, injunctions, mandamus proceedings and other processes, The

Wageworker has no hesitancy in saying that it will not buy a Buck stove because the Buck Stove and Range Co. is unfriendly to the best interests of The Wageworker. And that goes both ways from the middle.

The charter committee may not know it, but organized labor purposes having something to say about that charter, either in the making or in the adoption.

Suppose the city authorities insist that the Traction company show a receipt in full for all taxes due the city before any more conferences are held.

Every local union in the state should take an interest in making the annual convention of the Nebraska Federation of Labor a rousing success.

Some of these days Jim Lynch is going to step on Jim Duncan, and when that occurs Duncan will be flattened out like a pancake.

The Traction company is, as usual, taking its own time in the matter of paving the cemetery road.

Van Cleave has won a court victory, but it isn't selling any Buck stoves for him.

Another little boost or two and the Labor Temple is all to the good.

CENTRAL CITY STRIKE.

Nebraska Town Has a Little Labor Difficulty on Its Hands.

Central City, Nov. 25.—A strike is something new here, but the town experienced one of considerable local importance. The workmen employed in setting up the poles and wiring the streets for the new municipal electric lighting system complained that they were being pushed too hard by their boss, and after registering several complaints went on strike. About twenty of them quit work at once.

The authorities are very anxious to have the work completed and the town lighted by the new system before the first of the year, and so J. W. Early, the electrical engineer in charge of the work, has gone to Columbus to endeavor to secure new workmen to finish the job. It is expected that he will return early in the week with enough workmen to replace those who quit their jobs.

THE LABOR TEMPLE PROJECT.

The Goal of Success is in Sight and Everybody Feeling Good.

When the directors of the Labor Temple Association met at the Temple Monday evening every one wore a smile. Things are coming along in bully shape. The plasterers are out of the way, and the painters are just waiting for things to get in shape for them to go ahead. The wiring and the plumbing work is completed, and the carpenters are pretty well along. Two weeks more will see the Temple ready for occupancy.

But it was the financial situation that called for the most attention, and as soon as the directors came to order the subject of finance was taken up. The first thing done was to allow bills for labor. Every such bill has been paid up to the date of meeting, and there is enough cash on hand to pay all material bills as soon as the need for buying more is at an end. In addition to this the treasurer has a thousand dollars ready to apply on the purchase price, and more coming in every day. Things looked so favorable that it was decided to make an effort to clean up both the December and February payments on December 1. This would save some interest, and in addition would give the association a deed and obviate the necessity of having hall leases censored by an outsider. To carry out this plan three committees were appointed to visit Lincoln business men and solicit subscriptions to the capital stock. The committees started out bright and early Tuesday morning, and by noon had \$1,500 pledged, payable before December 1. Wednesday another goodly sum was added, and by the time The Wageworker goes to press the entire \$3,000 needed will be in hand. This will practically insure success if the unionists will then come along with their share in future, and there is every indication that they are determined to do this.

Just as soon as the campaign for stock subscriptions is completed due recognition of the subscriptions will be made. Suffice it to say at this time that with one single exception every business man approached gladly made a generous subscription, and nearly every one offered to increase it if necessary. It took but a few minutes to reveal the fact that the business men of Lincoln have been watching the Temple project closely, and that they are in hearty sympathy with it.

The list of unionists subscribing for

one share a month for twelve consecutive months is growing nicely, and the local unions are responding nobly to the call for funds.

PAINTERS' CONVENTION.

Will Meet in Cincinnati and Important Questions to Come Up.

The question of holding a convention this fall of the Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paper Hangers of America, which was recently submitted to a referendum vote, was carried by the decisive vote of 16,275 for to 1,410 against.

The convention will assemble in Cincinnati in December, and will be the first in several years.

A great many important questions are to be considered, among them the establishment of a home for aged and infirm members, and the matter of creating a pension scheme in addition to the death and disability benefits already paid.

The Lincoln local will be represented by R. Glover. Mr. Glover will leave Saturday or Monday in order to be on the ground early.

The painters are well aroused on the Labor Temple project. The local has \$200 invested in Labor Temple stock, and is preparing to take a lot more. They may be depended upon to do the right thing.

THE BARBERS.

Agree With Employers to Further Shorten Up Hours of Work.

In every union barber shop in the city is posted a notice to the effect that after December 1 the shops will close at 10 o'clock on Saturday evenings, instead of at 11 as heretofore. Thus has the union secured another shortening of the hours of toil without reducing the wage scale. Of course a lot of non-union barbers will profit equally with the union barbers, but the union barbers pay the expenses of maintaining the organization that secures these benefits.

Sam Chaplin is out and around again, but it will be some time before he is able to resume work. The surgeons came awfully near cutting his left hand all to pieces, but they desisted just in time. It was a mighty close call for amputation. Sam says the only good feature of the whole thing was the fact that it broke him of the habit of chewing tobacco.