

WAGELABORER

BY MAUPIN & HOGARD
 WILL M. MAUPIN Editor
 W. F. HOGARD Manager

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 * TO LABOR UNIONS. *
 * Will you assist us by ap- *
 * pointing some one in your *
 * union to furnish us with news? *
 * The Wageworker wants to pub- *
 * lish the news of your local, and *
 * in order to do so must have *
 * your assistance. It is our aim *
 * to give our readers all the labor *
 * news that is to be had and *
 * we wish to do it properly, so *
 * that you will be satisfied. By *
 * helping us in this way, you not *
 * only make this paper more val- *
 * uable and complete, but your *
 * knowledge of what is going on *
 * in the labor movement is bet- *
 * ter and the good feeling among *
 * the various crafts is more *
 * strongly cemented. When this *
 * fellowship idea is instilled thor- *
 * oughly among us there is less *
 * likelihood of a break in the *
 * ranks and it is certainly need- *
 * ed at the present time. *

1910.

Today marks the birth of a new year—and here's hoping and praying that it will be the best year in human history. May its close mark a nearer approach to universal happiness, a nearer end to human misery, and a higher plane to human living. May it be the best and brightest year in the history of the trades union movement, showing a splendid growth in brotherhood and a splendid decrease in selfishness. May it witness a universal revival of love, of helpfulness, of sympathy and of fraternity. May 1910 be an epoch in history because it has marked a long step forward towards the goal of universal peace, universal friendships and universal prosperity.

Organized labor can do much toward making 1910 the banner year. By its influence it can help to bring about the disarmament of nations, the reconciliation of warring industrial factions and the general uplift of the toilers. By acting unselfishly it can throttle selfish legislation and forward legislation in the interests of the whole people. It can shear arrogant wealth of its power to oppress, and lift the weak and helpless to better and brighter things. It can lessen the distance between those who have more than they need and those who have less than they need. It can protect the weak against the strong, and stay the strong arm that would use its strength to oppress. It can do more than any other agency to correct abuses that exist on every hand if only it will drop personalities, obliterate prejudices, abandon partisanship and bury animosities. It is too much to expect that all this can be done in a single year, or a single decade, but progress along these lines can be made, and here's hoping that 1910 will show greater progress than any year in the past, and set a pace for the future.

To all those who toll, eating their bread in the sweat of their faces, The Wageworker extends the sincerest wishes for a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

ORGANIZED LABOR'S STRENGTH.

Very recently organized labor in Lincoln has given evidence of what it can do when it is aroused. We regret that the showing was made along other than constructive lines, for we believe that organized labor's purpose is to build up and not to tear down. But now and then comes a time when in order to impress upon the minds of some of the solidarity of organized labor a policy of reprisal must be adopted. In the case in mind it did not take long to show that organized labor is quick to resent what it considers an insult. If it will be only as quick to show appreciation of friendship the time will soon come when it will wield a far greater influence than it does now.

The membership of organized labor in Lincoln and Havelock earns and spends in these two towns upwards of \$2,000,000 a year. If organized labor would place that patronage with merchants who make evident their friendship for organization as well as for organization's dollars, the beneficial results both to organized labor and to the friendly merchants would be sur-

prising. And if organized labor would refuse to spend any part of that two million dollars with unfriendly interests there would be a speedy weeding out of that class of business men—if such a class really exists in Lincoln. The best weapon in the armory of organized labor is its purchasing power. If it will use that weapon rightfully it can soon be master of the industrial situation.

ORGANIZED LABOR AND PROHIBITION.

A lot of men, and some newspapers, having an ulterior motive, continue to throw shudders of fear lest the State Federation convention split on the rock of prohibition. There is not the least danger. If there is any one so foolish as to introduce an anti-prohibition resolution in the convention he will be made wise in short order. And if there is any one so foolish as to try to commit the State Federation of Labor in favor of prohibition, he is due for a bump that will be enlightening if painful. Whenever it becomes proper for the Nebraska State Federation of Labor to commit itself on the question of baptism, or foreordination, or theosophy, then it will be proper for it to commit itself upon the question of prohibition. In the "economic demands" of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor the fourteenth paragraph reads:

"All just and proper restrictions of the liquor traffic."

That goes far enough, and not too far. It leaves this moral and economic question to the judgment of the rank and file. Those who believe in prohibition can insist that prohibition is the proper thing, and those who believe in restrictive legislation can uphold that. Further than this it is not the province of such an organization as the State Federation of Labor to go.

Merely in order to prevent disruption, and to advance the best interests of organized labor, to say nothing of the welfare of both sides to this prohibition controversy, The Wageworker advises both the prohibitionists and the anti-prohibitionists to keep their hands off. The signs are that whichever side tries to use the Federation will have its fingers badly burned.

The appointment of a man like Judge Lorton to the supreme bench of the nation is just what might have been expected of such a staunch friend of organized labor as we all know President William H. Taft to be. Judge Lorton is a corporationist in every fibre of his being, utterly out of touch with the army of industry, and wholly committed to the interests that prey. We are getting just what a majority of us voted for.

If you are a stockholder in the Lincoln Labor Temple you have every reason to be proud of the fact. The kind words spoken by the Temple Association's guests Wednesday evening were enough to make us all swell up with pride and satisfaction.

Lincoln plugged along all of Christmas day without a single patrolman on duty and Chief Malone, who was the sole police official on duty, admits he was awfully lonesome during the day. If that isn't a record for a city of 65,000 people we never heard of a record.

The Wageworker will endorse the idea of a public commission to investigate the traction situation, provided the commission is made up of people who have to patronize the street cars and not of people who can ride in their own autos.

A lot of people make the mistake of thinking that temperance merely means refraining from the use of intoxicating liquor. Some of the most intemperate people we know of have never tasted liquor.

Now is a good time to resolve that the money earned in Lincoln will be spent in Lincoln, and as far as possible for goods made in Lincoln.

The high school site proposition shows signs of becoming a merry little fight among real estate dealers for advantage.

We just sort of feel it in our bones that Mr. Post is about to throw another fit in the front yard of organized labor.

If during 1910 we shall profit by the mistakes of 1909, then the year just opening will prove to be a good one.

Here's hoping that 1910 will deliver to Uncle Joe Cannon the package he so richly deserves.

And the Wageworker starts off on the new year feeling mighty fine, thank you.

The eminent publicists who are engaged in drawing up a city charter should bear in mind two facts. First,

Our Overcoat Stock



contains a great variety of good things. We've got the dress coat that you want for evening or day wear; we've got the big warm great coats for stormy weather; for sleighrides, for automobiling, they're here in all styles and prices

We've got the suits you want too; no matter for what purpose you desire them, they're here ready for you, and there are no other clothes to equal them anywhere else. They are all wool fabrics always, and if you want the best to be had for your money, without question this is the place to come.

Suits and Overcoats
 \$10.00 to \$40.00

All Holiday Four-in-Hand Neckwear, now at Half Price
 All Holiday Suspenders that are left, . . . Just One-Half
 All High Neck Sweaters will be sold for . . . Half Price
 Fur and Fur Lined Gloves and Mittens, . . . 20% Discount

Armstrong Clothing Company

Good Clothes Merchants

they must provide that the charter be submitted to a referendum, and, second, they must not undertake the utopian idea of having a non-salaried commission made up of men financially able to serve without pay.

If you can not speak a good word for the man or firm that hands out your pay envelope, for goodness' sake have the manhood to quit the job before you start to "knocking."

"Resolved, that if it is made anywhere by union men and women, I will insist upon having it, and will refuse to accept anything 'just as good.'"

We feel so at peace with all the world that we even go to the length of wishing Charles W. Post and the ex-stenographer a happy new year.

Consistent and insistent demands for the union label is by far the better way to boycott the unfair products.

We haven't yet entirely lost faith in Dr. Cook, but we willingly admit that we are oppressed with doubts.

Here's hoping for the best, even if we get the worst of it.

January 1, 1910—and hell is paved with good intentions.

"Quit your meanness!"

UNION MADE DOPE.
 Ground Out by a Card Man in the Wageworker's Sanctum.

Cards.
 The only way we can account for the professional strikebreaker is that God made rattlesnakes for some inscrutable

purpose. Unionism, like charity, begins at home.

It is better to lift up than to be dragged down.

Carrying a card is not proof conclusive of a union man.

He laughs best who seizes every opportunity to laugh at all.

Unionism does not mean carrying a working card in your pocket.

The fellow who is always looking for the worst of it never has to strain his eyesight.

The man who waits for New Year's day to reform seldom gets anywhere with his reformations.

Mr. Rockefeller is able to buy porterhouse steaks and can not eat them. We are able to eat them and can not buy them. What we are looking for is an adjustment of balances.

Cautious.
 "I'd ask Smithers to have a drink with us if it wasn't for one thing."
 "What's that?"
 "I'm afraid he hasn't sworn off."

Safety.
 "Mother, may I go out and skate?"
 "Yes, my darling daughter."
 Wrap up real warm but do not go Upon the frozen water."

Spotted.
 "I just had a talk with Judge Rafter and he said he was a firm friend of organized labor."
 "What office does he intend running for this time?"

Suicide.
 "I hear that Willoby is dead."
 "Yes; and I believe it was suicide."
 "What makes you think so?"
 "Well, Willoby was always telling what a good union man he was, and

then he bought a 'scab' suit and overcoat, and they proved to be as thin as his claims to unionism. He froze to death on his way home."

Trouble at Home.
 "What's the matter, Jimperly?"
 "O, trouble at home. My wife is out on a sympathetic strike."
 "How's that?"
 "She won't get a meal until I write and ask her mother to make us a visit."

Unkind.
 "I think Wimbledon is a regular muckraker."
 "What makes you think so?"

"The other night I was telling a bunch of the boys what a good union man I am, and Wimbledon asked me to show the label on my clothing."

"Well, you did it, didn't you?"
 "Confound him, I couldn't. I got my suit at Ketchum and Cheatem's because they told me it was just as good as a union made suit and thirty cents cheaper."

JOHN BURNS' SUGGESTION.
 John Burns, the British labor leader, suggests that working hours should be internationally adjusted, inasmuch as the labor of every nation is in direct competition with that of every other nation.

Lyric Theatre
 Matinees Wed. and Sat. 2:30
 An elaborate production of
"THE MANIAC"
 The Screaming Comedy by
 THE LYRIC STOCK COMPANY
 Evening 8:30; 15c, 25c and 35c. Matinee 15c and 25c

GREGORY, The Tailor
 Knows how to dress you up and has the finest line of fall and winter goods in the city.
 Pressing a Specialty Your Business Solicited