

(Continued from page 1.)

able per cent of profit on the actual capital invested?

"Are you in favor of the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people?"

"Are you in favor of the enactment of a law providing for the establishment of a state printing office and the election of a state printer?"

"Are you in favor of proper legislation and sufficient appropriation to allow the labor bureau to meet the necessities and possibilities of such a department of state?"

"Are you in favor of enacting a law lessening the number of hours of continuous employment on transportation lines, steam and electric?"

"Are you in favor of a law providing for the safeguarding, insuring or guaranteeing of bank deposits?"

"Are you in favor of abolishing the present appointive federal judiciary and the substitution of a federal judiciary elected by the people?"

"Are you in favor of industrial pensions?"

"Resolved, That the executive committee, may in its discretion, submit such other questions as may be opportune."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 11.—(By Delegate Guey)—"Whereas, The efforts of labor to establish what is known as employers' liability laws have met with reverses on every hand through the interpretations of the courts, and

"Whereas, We recognize the necessity of creating some permanent system of relief for those who become incapacitated in their industrial life, therefore be it

"Resolved, That there be prepared a bill to be submitted to the next session of the legislature of Nebraska, providing for a system of accident insurance to be conducted under state management similar in nature to the now existing law of Montana, known as Chapter 67 of the session laws of 1909, of the state of Montana."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

This concludes the report of the legislative committee.

Y. B. KINNEY, Chm.
JOHN STEINER,
A. T. SCHWENKER,
H. W. MATTOON,
FRANK F. TURNER,
JAMES KOTERA.

Mr. President, your committee on laws begs leave to report.

Proposition No. 12.—(By Delegate Guey)—"Resolved, That article two, section three, of the constitution of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor be amended as follows: By adding the words, 'and chairman' to the tenth line after the word 'member'."

"Said paragraph as amended will then read, 'He shall be a member and chairman of the legislative committee and shall attend all sessions of the state legislature and work in connection with all other labor legislative committees in securing legislation in the interest of labor.'"

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 13.—(By Delegate Guey)—"Resolved, That section 7, of article 2, be amended to read: 'Any congressional district having more than five thousand affiliated union men shall be entitled to two members of the legislative committee.'"

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 14.—(By Delegate Coffey)—"I move to amend article 2, section 9, of the constitution by striking out in line two the words 'admit none but,' and striking out all of line three and the word 'to' of line four, and by adding to line five immediately following the word 'convention,' the words 'to the best of his ability.'"

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 15.—(By Delegate Copenhaver)—"Resolved, That the secretary-treasurer be requested in February of each year to notify each affiliated union the number of unions paying per capita tax and the number of members comprising each affiliated organization."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 16.—(By Delegate Bridwell)—"I move you to amend article 2, section 1, by striking out in lines two and three the words inclusive (delegate to the American Federation of Labor,) and amend section 2 of article 2, by inserting in line five after the words 'expenses,' a new sentence as follows: 'The past president shall be the delegate to the American Federation of Labor from the state federation.'"

Committee reports favorably.

Upon request of President Maupin that provision above does not apply this year, the recommendation of the committee was adopted.

Proposition No. 17.—(By Delegate Bridwell)—"Resolved, That the next legislature create the office of state sanitary inspector of plumbing and ventilation and that the legislative committee use their best endeavors to have such a law enacted."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 18.—(By Delegate Coffey)—"Mr. President, I move to amend article 1 of the constitution by adding thereto an additional section numbered thirteen, reading as follows:

"Section 13.—The delegate to the annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, representing this organization, shall receive as compensation railroad fare to and from his home to the meeting place of the convention of the American Federation of Labor, and the further sum of two dollars (2) per day for hotel expenses for the number of days the convention is in session, and the further sum of four dollars (4) per day for each day in attendance at the convention."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

This concludes the report of the laws committee.

E. B. CUMMINGS,
Chairman.
A. D. SMALL,
B. F. CREEL,
HENRY WHITE.

On motion of Delegate Hyers the following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, Governor Ashton C. Shallenberger has shown his friendship for and sympathy with the trades union

movement by the appointment to the office of deputy labor commissioner of one who is ever in the foremost ranks of those seeking to advance the labor movement, Will M. Maupin, therefore be it

Resolved, That this convention tender its thanks to Governor Shallenberger for the appointment of Mr. Maupin.

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be sent to the governor by the secretary of this Federation.

Mr. President, your committee on president's report on behalf of the Federation think that official for his extended report to this convention, and also for the important suggestions brought to the attention of the delegates, and recommend to the convention the suggestions contained in said report.

E. H. SMITH, Chm.
XAVIER STADLER.

The report of the committee was concurred in.

Mr. President, your committee on resolutions begs leave to report as follows:

Proposition No. 19.—(By Delegate Chrisman)—"Whereas, It has come to a number of delegates who are assembled here at this Federation convention, notice that one of their brother delegates and an old time and active member of organized labor, and who for years has done valiant service for the cause of organized labor and who has fled for the elective office of fire and police commissioner of the city of South Omaha, and

"Whereas, It is of vital importance to organized labor of the city of South Omaha to have a representative on said board of fire and police commissioners of the said city of South Omaha, therefore be it

"Resolved, That this convention go on record as endorsing the candidacy of Brother George Stephens of the Stationary Firemen for the position of member of the fire and police commission of the city of South Omaha, and that we commend his candidacy to organized labor and the public at large."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 20.—(By Delegate Coffey)—"Whereas, The beneficial effects of an honest and intelligent press are known to all trades unionists, and

"Whereas, The group of toll must depend in large measure upon the press for the daily knowledge of events in the social, political and industrial world, and

"Whereas, The Nebraska State Federation of Labor at this time has no official organ, the labor papers published within the state being private enterprises and the official organs of the men who own them, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Nebraska State Federation of Labor do hereby recognize the good service of the labor press and return to the labor editors its thanks. Be it further

"Resolved, That the delegates attending this convention return to their respective homes and urge upon the entire membership of the trades union movement the urgent necessity of every working man and working woman of subscribing for and otherwise supporting the labor newspaper published nearest to them."

"Resolved, That this convention recommend to the unions affiliating with the Nebraska State Federation of Labor that the various locals adopt the policy of subscribing for the nearest local labor newspapers as bodies, paying for the same out of the general fund of the unions, and thus putting this valuable educational instrument at work in every home."

"Resolved, That this convention recognize the right of the labor editor to conduct his business as he pleases, but that as individual unionists we reserve to ourselves the right to decide for ourselves whether we think the editorial or business policy of aforesaid papers is in accord with the best interests of organized labor."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 21.—(By President Maupin)—"Whereas, The revocation of charters of state and central bodies by the American Federation of Labor for seating delegates from the only organization of electrical workers in the states of Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota, works not only a hardship upon those bodies, but deprives the labor movement in general of the co-operation and assistance of a body of union men whose devotion to union principles has been manifested on numerous occasions, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Nebraska State Federation of Labor respectfully requests of the American Federation of Labor that, pending the arbitration of the differences between the Electrical Workers as provided by the Toronto convention, all charters revoked be restored, and that state and central bodies be permitted to accept credentials and seat delegates from local organizations of Electrical Workers until such time as final award or settlement is made."

"Resolved, That this convention of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor protests against any and all arbitrary action whereby the trade autonomy of any craft is interfered with, or local self-government denied. And be it further

"Resolved, That this convention go on record as opposing the revocation of charters pending appeal from the decision of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor."

"Resolved, That the secretary of this convention be and is hereby instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the secretary of the American Federation of Labor, with the request that he present it to the executive council at the earliest possible moment."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 22.—(By Delegate Guey)—"Whereas, Labor and the laboring people of the state of Nebraska have for years been imposed upon by that class of people who style themselves employment agencies, and

"Whereas, The methods of such institutions have been to agree to furnish jobs receiving a fee therefor, said jobs in many instances proving of no value whatsoever and in many instances said applicants being shipped for hundreds of miles to learn that there never was a position, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the incoming law committee be and they are hereby instructed to prepare and present to the next session of the Nebraska legislature a bill licensing and bonding employment agencies."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 23.—(By Delegate Coffey)—"Whereas, It is recognized by all good citizens who are students of sociology and economics that the well paid workman is a better citizen than the underpaid workman, and

"Whereas, The great state of Nebraska, rich in her varied resources and unequalled in her productivity, should set an example to employers of every class by being herself a liberal employer, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Nebraska State Federation of Labor go on record as opposing the policy of parsimony that has resulted in keeping this splendid state back, compelling its officials to work for meager salaries and looking for cheap and underpaid workmen to perform the work that must be done for the various state institutions and departments. We have especial reference to the policy of the state board of printing, which policy has resulted in inefficient service and the poorest kind of work. As an example we would cite the fact that the biennial reports of the different branches of the state government are supposed to be printed and bound and ready for the guidance of the members of the legislature when they meet at the capital to proceed with the work of enacting laws. The bids for the biennial reports which were to have been submitted to the legislature which convened in January, 1909, were let in April, 1908, and under the policy, higgardly and unwise of the state printing board, were let to offices wholly incompetent to handle such work. Said biennial reports, with one or two exceptions, were not ready for the legislature, and in some instances were not delivered until months after the legislature adjourned. Therefore, in view of this situation, be it

"Resolved, That we demand that the policy of the state printing board be changed, and that the printing of the state of Nebraska be let to the best bidder, and that cheapness no longer be the chief merit of the product purchased by the great state of Nebraska."

"Resolved, That we demand that the state printing board hereafter seek the best, not the cheapest regardless of serviceability, and that it give every preference possible to those employers who pay decent wages and exact only a reasonable number of hours' work per day."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 24.—(By Delegate Guey)—"Whereas, Experience has demonstrated that the interests of the wage workers can only be served by their own efforts, politically as well as industrially, economically and educationally, and

"Whereas, Our greatest and most effective force, as citizens, lies in the independent use of the ballot, therefore be it

"Resolved, That we hereby urge all trades unionists and their sympathizers, to vote independent of party affiliations whenever and wherever it tends to serve or promote the interests of wage earners generally, to the end that we may be able at all times to rise above the time worn custom of party yoke."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 25.—(By Resolutions Committee)—"Whereas, It is a healthful, humane and economic as well as a divine principle that the toiler should be released from employment at least one day in each calendar week, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Nebraska State Federation of Labor commend the Omaha Barbers' Union No. 212 for their effort to secure release from employment at least one day in each calendar week."

"Resolved, That the State Federation of Labor recommend to its legislative committee the perfecting of an amendment, if such an amendment be needed, classifying barbering as labor, and striking many times in excess of its actual value and declare dividends on the same in violation of law, and

"Whereas, Said corporations become a part of powerful combines for the purpose of controlling legislation, crushing labor unions and defying the whole people, and

"Whereas, Some of such corporations refuse their employees the right to affiliate with organized labor and in many instances attempt to force them to sign an agreement that they will never join a labor union while in the employ of said corporations, such action being un-American and unlawful, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Nebraska State Federation of Labor condemn said corporations for compelling or attempting to compel their employees to surrender their citizenship in order to work for said corporations, and be it further

"Resolved, That the state federation call upon organized labor to start a crusade against the unlawful and un-American methods of said corporations."

Adopted.

Proposition No. 28.—(By Delegate Coffey)—"Whereas, The Nebraska State Federation of Labor is desirous of being in the forefront of industrial progress and the promulgation of all ideas for the betterment of society, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Nebraska State Federation of Labor strongly endorse the principle of the so-called 'Davis

bill,' introduced in the Sixtieth congress, for the establishment of industrial high schools in the various states, partly through the aid of federal appropriations of money, and that it calls for such legislation on the part of the state as shall provide for effective vocational training in the public schools of Nebraska."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

This concludes the report

F. M. COFFEY, Cham.
J. C. TROUTON,
S. A. D. SMITH,
O. J. RANDALL,
L. J. COPENHARVE,
H. W. MATTOON,
A. A. HYERS.

Mr. President, your committee on organization begs leave to report as follows:

Proposition No. 29.—(By President Maupin)—"Whereas, The western country is making rapid strides along industrial lines, increasing by leaps and bounds in the number of its wage earners, and

"Whereas, This vast district, including the states of Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, Montana, Idaho and the Province of Manitoba, has not now nor has it had for some five or six years, the services of an organizer of the American Federation of Labor, and

"Whereas, We deem it high time that some attention be given by the parent organization to the needs of the per capita paying organizations of the great west, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the Nebraska Federation of Labor respectfully demand of the American Federation of Labor the services of an organizer acceptable to the Nebraska State Federation, who shall devote his time for a period of not less than one year to the work of organization within the bounds of this state. Be it further

"Resolved, That this convention call to the attention of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor, with all the emphasis at its command, to the fact that while organizers, working on salary, are numerous in the eastern districts, the district west of the Mississippi river—a territory larger than many empires, boundless in its resources and magnificent in its development—has been practically ignored and left to work out its own destiny without assistance. That this convention feels warranted in insisting that this policy of ignoring our needs should not longer be pursued, and that we of the central west be accorded the assistance that is ours by every right."

"Resolved, That the secretary of this convention be instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, with the request that he present it to the executive council and secure for this organization a speedy reply."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 30.—(By Delegate Coffey and Pres. W. M. Maupin)—"Whereas, The Nebraska State Federation has been organized for the purpose of advancing the interests of the wage earners of the state, and

"Whereas, The State Federation can be of best service only when it is accorded the hearty support of all the organized crafts, therefore be it

"Resolved, That the secretary be instructed to at once request the officers of the American Federation of Labor, and the affiliated international unions, to use their best endeavors to secure the affiliation of all subordinate trades unions in Nebraska with the Nebraska State Federation of Labor."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 31.—(By Delegate Guey)—"Whereas, The labor press has proven to be one of the strongest factors in the labor movement, for good both in education as well as a source of communication between the different branches and systems of labor unions, and

"Whereas, One of the chief supports of the labor press is its advertising patronage derived from such firms as are desirous of securing the patronage of the working people, and

"Whereas, There is a combined and concerted movement on the part of the large department stores and similar institutions throughout the country, to ignore the labor press in the distribution of their advertising patronage, and

"Whereas, Such a policy, if continued, would prove detrimental as well as unfair to labor and to the labor papers, therefore be it

"Resolved, By this convention, that we request every member of every union to, in the future, when making a purchase of any or every nature to give preference to those firms which advertise in the local labor paper; and be it further

"Resolved, That we call upon all friends and sympathizers to join us in this campaign of rewarding those who believe that patronage of labor is worthy of similar favors."

Committee reports favorably.

Adopted.

Proposition No. 32.—(By Delegate Guey)—"Whereas, We learn that the laboring men and women of Norfolk, Nebraska, are desirous of becoming organized, and

"Whereas, They have sought the assistance of some person for the purpose of aiding in the formation of local unions of that section, and

"Whereas, It is the duty of the federation to assist in every possible way in effecting local organization; therefore be it

"Resolved, That the president of this Federation be and he is hereby authorized and instructed to render to the laboring people of Norfolk, such assistance as will be necessary to effect the organization of such crafts as are willing to form trades and labor unions in accordance with the rules and regulations of the Federation."

Your committee concurs in the above resolution and recommend that the president be instructed to render such assistance immediately. Or in case of his inability to perform such service, that he appoint an organizer who shall at once proceed to Norfolk."

Adopted.

This concludes the report

L. V. GUYE, Chm.
T. C. KELSEY,
J. J. FERRON,
JAMES KOTERA.

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Delegate Chrisman offered the following motion:

Mr. President: I move you, the president of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor, be the state organizer of said Federation, and that the A. F. of L. be requested to name said president as the organizer of the A. F. of L. for the state of Nebraska, and that the A. F. of L. be asked to assist in his remuneration.

Adopted.

Delegate Coffey offered the following motion:

Mr. President: I move you that the legislative committee be instructed to prepare or have prepared a bill to be presented to the next session of the legislature providing for the adequate protection of the funds of fraternal, benevolent and labor organizations.

Adopted.

Moved that an adjournment be taken till 7:30 p. m., and election of officers be made a special order of business for 8 o'clock. Adopted.

Evening Session.

Called to order by President Maupin. Motion made and carried that no resolutions be received after 8 p. m. Adopted.

Moved by Delegate Guey that the Machinists' Local 31 of Omaha be credited with per capita for the quarter ending December 31, 1909. Adopted.

The hour for the special order of business having arrived, the convention proceeded to elect the following officers:

Moved that the secretary cast a unanimous vote for Frank M. Coffey for president of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor. Carried.

John C. Trouton, on motion of Delegate Copenhaver, was unanimously elected 1st vice president.

Will M. Maupin was unanimously elected 2nd vice president.

For third vice-president, J. A. Booth was elected.

For fourth vice-president, John Lambert was unanimously elected.

For fifth vice-president, no election.

For members of the legislative committee, the following delegates were elected: S. A. Smith, T. C. Kelsey, James Kotera, J. C. Lynch, C. L. Widman, S. H. Grace.

Delegate A. A. Hyers of Havelock was unanimously elected sergeant-at-arms.

President Maupin then proceeded to obligate the newly elected officers.

Second Vice President Maupin was then obligated by President Coffey.

By a rising vote the thanks of the convention were tendered to the outgoing officers.

Delegate H. A. Davis of the Electrical Workers Local No. 162 of Omaha then offered the following:

To the Convention: I hereby ask to be allowed to withdraw as a delegate to this convention and that the local organization which I have the honor to represent be allowed to cease affiliation with the Nebraska State Federation of Labor.

Moved by Delegate Guey that Delegate Davis be allowed to withdraw and that an official communication embodying therein an honorary membership, accompanied by the information that this Federation stands ready at any and all times to render every assistance to the Electrical Workers of Nebraska, and that the per capita tax be returned to Local No. 162.

Adopted.

Delegates Maupin, Guey and Mattoon offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That this convention tender its hearty thanks to Mayor Koussky for his warm welcome of the delegates to the hospitable city of South Omaha, to Mr. Murdock of the Commercial club for his welcome on behalf of that organization, and to the local committee for its ample arrangements for the convenience of this convention. Be it further

Resolved, That we wish for the busy city of South Omaha a prosperous business and industrial future, based upon a due recognition of the rights of men of toil to organize and have

a voice in the disposition of their only product—their labor.

The invitation of Delegate Hyers to hold the 1911 convention at Havelock was unanimously accepted.

Motion made and carried that 1,500 copies of the proceedings be published in pamphlet form for distribution among the affiliated unions.

On motion of Delegate Maupin the first annual convention of the Nebraska State Federation of Labor adjourned sine die.

F. M. COFFEY,
President.
FRANK P. HART,
Secretary-Treasurer.

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