

THE WAGWORKER.

By Wageworker Publishing Co.
 WILL M. MAUPIN - - Editor
 W. P. HOGARD - - Manager



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WELL HARDLY, ROGER.

We are informed by the grapevine route that the Honorable Roger Sullivan of Illinois has fixed up a democratic political slate whereon appears the name of Governor Judson Harmon of Ohio as presidential candidate.

This labor paper has studied up on the record of Governor Harmon, therefore is not qualified to speak of his excellency's record on matters of supreme interest to the workers. But this paper does know something about Roger Sullivan and his record. And we are thereby reminded of the story of Old Dog Tray.

Judson Harmon may be a staunch friend of organized labor. He may be a constitutional lawyer beyond compare. He may be a statesman without reproach and an executive without peer—he may be all these things, yet if he ties up with Roger Sullivan he will have a hard time convincing a lot of us that he isn't just exactly the opposite. The presidential nominee who ties up with corporationists of the Roger Sullivan and Joe Cannon stripe are going to get almighty little comfort out of the organized labor vote in future. A lot of us who are democrats will take a Lafollette or a Cummings before we will take the willing tool of Roger Sullivan or Charley Murphy. A lot of us who are republicans will take a Folk or a Culbertson before we will take another willing tool of the Aldriches and Cannons and Morgans.

Party ties are sitting lightly on the shoulders of men these days, and this is especially true of the men who eat their bread in the sweat of their faces.

MR. SHARPE NOT SATISFIED.

President Sharpe of the Lincoln Traction Co. insists that The Wage-worker's apology was worse than the original offense—referring specifically to the little matter of uniforms for the motormen and conductors. For this The Wage-worker is truly sorry. We want to be absolutely fair to President Sharpe and to the Lincoln Traction Co., withholding nothing of praise when praise is deserved, and sparing nothing of censure when censure is deserved. Frankly we believe that up to date the company is deserving of more censure than commendation, but be that as it may. We absolve President Sharpe, and other managers of the company, from any blame whatsoever—if blame there be—in the matter of those uniforms. After careful investigation we find that the employees themselves decided on the kind of uniform, and were given liberty to get them anywhere they pleased. That they were required to uniform themselves was perfectly proper. President Sharpe very properly ordered that all motormen and conductors should appear in uniform after a certain term of service, or else be laid off until such time as they did so appear. We believe all this is conducive to better discipline as well as conducive to better service towards passengers.

But really, if President Sharpe wants to secure the best discipline, get the best service and the most loyal support from the motormen and conductors, let him recognize their right to organize, then recognize the organization and deal with it just as he must deal with the representatives of the big concerns from which he buys supplies, or with the representatives of the big financial concerns. Of course this recognition might make a few old-time employees feel sore after they have tried to "play favorites" by kow-towing to certain straw bosses—but they don't count for much real worth.

Now that we have tried our level best to square ourselves on the uniform proposition, will President Sharpe kindly tell us, plainly and unequivocally, why it would not, in his belief, pay him and his company to recognize the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees.

THANK GOODNESS!

Thank goodness this excuse question is settled for another year—maybe. It didn't go to suit all of us, but the mere fact that it has gone is enough

to rejoice over. Perhaps we can now settle down to matters of business and proceed with our regular work. But we are glad it came up. Any time any considerable number of people are interested in bringing up some question for settlement at the polls, The Wage-worker force will sign a petition for a referendum. We are stuck on the referendum. We like it. We've fought for it for a quarter of a century. We want to see it in force and effect as a state law. The present system under which we operate as a state, and which we call "representative government," is a ghastly joke. It is anything but representative of the people. The Wage-worker is for direct legislation—the initiative and referendum—and it believes that every other progressive institution, and every progressive, right-thinking man, ought to be for it. The Direct Legislation League ought to be the biggest organization in Nebraska.

"Let the people rule!" That's a mighty good slogan. But the people will not rule as long as corporations can buy individuals. The masses are honest, but too many individuals are dishonest politically.

But now that we've settled the excuse question for at least a year, let's accept the verdict and whoop her up for a bigger and better Lincoln.

President Taft says he is opposed to boycotts and sympathetic strikes. On this we are in accord with President Taft, but for vastly different reasons. He opposes them because they raise hades with the employers. We oppose them because there is a better way to get along if the employers will meet the workers half way.

My, if they keep on organizing new unions in Lincoln we'll have to build two or three more stories on the Labor Temple. Six new locals since the Temple opened on December 1, 1909, is a pretty good record for this western town.

There are three trades unionists in the Oklahoma City city council. There are none in Lincoln. But the Oklahoma City union men believe in standing together at the polls as well as on the jobs. Maybe that will explain some things.

The Indianapolis Union declares that Grand Chief Stone of the Locomotive Engineers has declared for the "open shop." We don't believe it, but we admit that such a declaration from Mr. Stone would not surprise us.

What Nebraska needs about as badly as anything else is a law regulating the employment bureaus. The workers of Nebraska are annually bilked out of thousands of dollars by fake labor agencies.

Some of these days a few of our republican prohibition friends will perhaps discover that the republican tariff is about as much of a hindrance to the American worker as the use of intoxicants.

Play square now! The workers who want to enjoy a Sunday ball game should be allowed the privilege so long as their doing so does not annoy anybody who does not want to be annoyed.

Just as soon as President Sharpe gets his "pay as you enter" cars to working we trust he will devote some time to considering the use of "come when you want 'em" cars.

What the socialists of Milwaukee have done the trades unionists of any other large American city may do if they will work together as solidly as the Milwaukee socialists.

"What does Liberty mean?" asks the Iron City Trades Journal. There are as many definitions of Liberty as there are men trying to define it.

Why should the railroads kick on raising wages? They'll more than make up for it by "re-classification of schedules" of freight rates.

Come on now, you good temperance people, and help us wage earners make the Labor Temple a success. Actions speak louder than words.

Trades unionists in some of the big cities might profit by studying the example of the Milwaukee socialists.

Pittsburg, Pa., unionists have bought a Labor Temple. Pittsburg is rapidly getting into Lincoln's class.

The elevator conductors of Lincoln have organized. They believe in the "mutual uplift."

Isn't Brer Post due for another fit at the ice house?
 If the brewers and distillers, and

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their agents, really do try to hamper the work of the State University because of the stand recently taken by the Uni faculty, it will only be another evidence of the "fathedness" of the men who pretend to manage the political affairs of the aforesaid brewers and distillers.

The second Sunday in May is to be "Labor's Memorial Day." It should be observed in Lincoln.

The next legislature should put a quietus on the "loan sharks."

O, quit your beefing about it!

"Nobody knows how dry I am."

Let us have peace!

PAYS A DIVIDEND.

The San Francisco Labor Clarion is owned by the Central Trades and Labor Council. Last week it announced a dividend of \$250, and the money was handed the council by R. I. Wisler, secretary of the council. We congratulate Editor Will French, whose pen has made the Clarion famous, and Secretary French who has helped o boost. The Clarion is deserving of all the success that can come to it.

EAST O BOOSTERS.

Big Business Drifting Rapidly East of Thirteenth Street.

Five or six years ago they told us—and some of us said so ourselves—that O street east of Thirteenth street would never amount to anything as a business district. Now look at us! We've got about every line of legitimate business on O street east of Thirteenth. We only lack one thing, a department store, and we'll have that inside of a year. Drug stores, hardware stores, banks, hotels, clothing stores, grocery stores, fruit stands, confectioneries, ice cream parlors, tailor shops, insurance companies, news stands, the Orpheum theatre, meat markets, restaurants, coal and lumber offices, marble works, cigar factory, and other business institutions, all thriving. And The Wage-worker Publishing Co. Don't overlook that. It's the latest addition to the East O Street Boosters, but it isn't the smallest by a long shot.

Some of these days the Lincoln Traction Co. will be sending most of its South Lincoln cars around the corner of Sixteenth and O. We want

'em to right away, but they're shy about it. A year or two from now the Traction Co. will be begging for the privilege.

You'd better keep your business eye on East O street—it's a "comer" and coming fast. Just look at the handsome business blocks going up east of Seventeenth! Just look at the thriving business institutions east of Thirteenth and Thirteenth used to be the limit east, too. We have pinned The Wage-worker's faith to east O! Don't forget the number—1705 East O.

A WISE JUDGE.

Lets Fall Words That Should Soak Deep into Unionists.

Judge Alfred J. Murphy, of Detroit, Mich., in an address delivered recently, said:

"Society has no respect for the intelligence of workmen who take no interest in the organization of labor. In proportion to their weakness in the spirit of unionism they lose the confidence and support of the public. It is the spirit of the times. It should not require argument to so convince wage earners. To maintain strong organizations in the true spirit of unionism is the only way for labor to be prepared for a crisis."

The truth in the above should sink deep in the hearts of all who toil.

LABOR SHOULD AWAKE.

Organize and Get Balance of Power in Congress.

We trade unionists of this country should be impressed by the fact that thirty-three delegates to the last British Trades Union Congress are members of the British Parliament, and were elected by union labor votes. How does the American Federation of Labor representation in Congress compare with this British record? It looks as if the Britishers are far wiser than the American trade unionists, though much slower in some respects. We should be ashamed of ourselves to allow any other country on earth to beat us in this matter, but we have no one except ourselves to blame. Wake up, boys! We can capture the balance of power in Congress if we elect our friends to that body, and then we can get whatever legislation we need or desire. Let's go out after this balance of power. It will require time, but we can afford to wait if patience will bring results.—Iron City Trades Journal.

Special Silk SALE

4300 Yards of New Silks at Less than Manufacturer's Cost

Recent fortunate purchases enable us to offer some very extraordinary Silk values at a big reduction in price. The collection comprises Pongees, Meisslines, Peau de Cygnes, Diagonals, Louisines, Taffetas, etc., in both plain and novelty weaves. As a matter of convenience we have divided them into two huge lots.

Lot Number One
 Silks worth to \$1.00 per yard, at **45c**

Lot Number Two
 Silks worth to \$1.50 per yard, at **69c**

A special feature of this sale is the offering of 15 pieces of Rogers & Thompson's "Mikado Silk," a regular \$1.50 value, at **69c**

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