

# BILLY MAJOR'S DOPE CARD

been very active in trying to secure progressive liquor legislation, earnest churchman though he was.

Strange, isn't it—the party dominated by the whisky trust gives us the only progressive liquor legislation we have had in twenty-five years, and the party of "God and morality" neglects and refuses to consider such questions although in absolute power nearly all the time during that quarter of a century. And now, after all their equivocating and dodging and evading, the republican leaders find that they are up against it quite as hard as the democratic leaders, hence the squirming; hence the discordant sounds from the rear of the republican edifice. The efforts of the republican organs to call attention away from their own party troubles by pointing to democratic strife are all unavailing. The convention at Lincoln on the 26th will be quite as mixed up as is the convention at Grand Island on the same date. The only difference is that the republicans haven't any leader who can measure up to Bryan either in force, zeal, personal influence, political honesty or personal independence. Too bad that the student of Nebraska politics is de-

barred by physical limitations from being present at both conventions.

About the only people who are politically harmonious insofar as party organization is concerned, are the prohibitionists and the socialists. The prohibitionists are harmonious for the very simple reason that it is hard for people who have but one idea to disagree. The socialists are harmonious for the reason that they are fighting for an end regardless of present personal differences. The average prohibitionist is like a grayhound chasing a rabbit—he can not see a blooming thing except the thing he is chasing. That's the reason grayhounds so often get cut to pieces in wire fences. It is also the reason why the prohibitionists never get anywhere. Your socialist is also chasing a rabbit, but don't make the mistake of thinking that he sees nothing but the rabbit. He sees everything along the way, but he simply declines to be led aside; he avoids butting into wire fences built of fads and isms, or trying to climb telephone poles erected along the political highway.

About the most cheerful democrat we have met recently—that is, since

the Lancaster county democratic convention—is Colonel William Beatemall Price. That is the most lovable trait about Price—his optimism. He is always sanguine of success. And in the present democratic mix-up he thinks he sees victory preparing to swoop down and perch upon the Price senatorial banners. So far only Price and Hitchcock have filed as democrats for the senatorial nomination, and Mr. Bryan's attack on Hitchcock and the World-Herald imbues Price with the idea that Hitchcock will not be in the running. It is really interesting to hear William tell why he is a sure winner. It is inspiring to listen to his optimistic predictions. The only trouble about it is that after one gets away from the spell of William's voice one instinctively recalls John Z. White's definition of an optimist. "An optimist," says White, "is a man who don't give a damn what happens just so it don't happen to him."

By the way, you haven't heard any sighs of regret from the north-west corner of Sixteenth and B streets, Lincoln, have you? That particular location is the residential baliwick of Senator Elmer J. Burkett. Is Senator Burkett worried over the little family row in the democratic ranks? Not so that you can notice it. And is the Burkett cheek paling at the thought of what

will happen to him with Price the tentative candidate against him—that is, the candidate with the backing of those presumed to swing Nebraska democracy? Well, as yet the Burkett paleness is not a cause of general remark. Speaking about political luck—Burkett has got something on him that beats the left hindfoot of a graveyard rabbit. And it has been working lately, too.

Mr. Wheedon is quite anxious to get Senator Burkett into a debate, but we greatly fear that pigs will be flying and houseflies singing like canaries before Mr. Wheedon accomplishes the task. Senator Burkett is not taking any chances these days. The balls are breaking in a very satisfactory manner so far as the senator is concerned. Why should he court trouble by going up against the redoubtable Colonel Wheedon? Not on your life! The Senator and his secretary and clerk are too busy sending out "pub. docs." and Congressional Records, properly marked, of course, to consider any such political nonsense as entering into a joint debate with a fellow republican.

John J. Ryder is contemplating entering the race for the republican nomination for secretary of state. If he does he will cut considerable ice, for he is a wise politician, knows a lot of

people, has a way about him and has demonstrated by his actions that he has the ability to fill the office if elected. He is a trades unionist, too, which will be a big factor in the campaign, especially in Douglas county, his home.

It is reported, apparently with authority, that W. E. Andrews has given up the idea of being a candidate for governor on the republican ticket. This is sad news to the democrats. They would have hailed the nomination of Andrews with delight. It would have meant a campaign of laughter from start to finish, with Andrews as the goat. But the republican leaders were wise enough to back away from any such folly, and it seems that they managed to get the truth into the head of even W. E. Andrews. Goodness gracious! Wouldn't it have been worth a lot to have had "Peruna" as an issue in the state campaign?

The indications are that organized labor in Lancaster will delay getting into the political game until the party bosses get the tickets all framed up. Then, as usual, organized labor will divide on partisan lines and thankfully accept a few crumbs and a lot of kicks. One would think that after all the labor injunctions we've had organized labor would wake up.

## CENTRAL LABOR UNION.

### Appoints Committee to Start Labor Day Celebration Movement.

The Central Labor Union at its meeting last Friday night initiated plans for the proper celebration of Labor Day by appointing a committee to start things. The committee will visit all the unions and ask the appointment of a representative from each upon a Labor Day committee. As soon as this is accomplished the central body's participation will cease save as it gets behind the movement and boosts. The committee is already at work, and is meeting with a hearty welcome. The central body was unanimous in endorsing the idea of having a parade, and making it the biggest ever.

The committee handling the benefit, which will be given at the Lyric Saturday night, is rejoicing over the prospects. The tickets are going well and it looks like a packed house.

The Musicians asked for a committee

to confer with the Commercial Club, and the request brought out some fiery declamations. The matter was finally cleared up by appointing a committee according to the modified request. The first request was pretty strong.

### A SPLENDID GIFT.

A gift of \$100,000 to the new Home for Aged and Disabled Railroad Employees at Highland park, a north shore suburb of Chicago, is announced. The donor is Hamilton Carhart, the well known Detroit manufacturer, who says railroad men have helped to make him wealthy. The gift will clear the home of all indebtedness.

### THE MUSICIANS.

#### A Little Bit of News About the Boys of Brass and Reed.

A committee representing the executive board of the American Federation of Musicians, in session at Cincinnati, has fined Bandmaster Bohumir Kryl

\$1,000 for playing below the union rate of wages. Several of his bandmen were fined \$100 but in some case were suspended. The committee consisted of President Weber, Otto Ostendorf of St. Louis and M. B. Howard of Pittsburg. Kyle must pay his fine in 30 days.

The "Boosters Excursionists" tried to square themselves with the union musicians by employing a union band to meet and greet them on their return. As soon as the bandmen discovered that they were playing in a parade with non-union musicians they dropped out of line, as their constitution provided and demanded. A daily paper tried to discredit the union men for their action, but as this is in line with the aforesaid daily paper's policy no one was surprised.

The withdrawal of a prominent band leader from the union has not as yet resulted in the dissolution of the union, much to the surprise of the aforesaid p. b. l.

### THE PLUMBERS.

#### Some News of Interest to the Men of Firepot and Calking Iron.

Plumbers walked out in all the shops of Dubuque, Iowa, last Friday morning after waiting for almost four months for a reply to their demand for an increase of 50 cents per day and the arbitration of some very obnoxious working conditions. Since March 10, when the journeymen's communication was sent to the bosses, there has been no acknowledgment or notice of it, although the men have been ready at all times to meet the employers in conference. All work contracted for at that time was to be finished at the old scale. The Building Trades Council sanctioned the journeymen's demands in April, and all other tradesmen will refuse to work for the bosses or with their strike-breakers on building work. Journeymen working on out-of-town work for Dubuque bosses have been called off, as contractors cannot be fair in one place and unfair in another.

There is a funny situation in Omaha plumbing circles. The plumbers are on strike against the employers' association, and strange as it may seem there are more members of the employers' association than there are plumbers on strike. This is due to the fact that the employers' association is largely made up of employers who do not employ, but do their own work. There are enough of these in the association to force their desires upon the organization. The employers who employ are, of course, "running their business without dictation from a labor union." It is to laugh. The plumbers employed by non-association members secured the increase they asked, and they represent considerably more than three-fourths of the membership of the union.

Plumbing Inspector Lynch of Omaha, a member of the union and also a member of the State Federation legislative committee, is a candidate for the republican nomination for county commissioner. Here's hoping he lands with both feet.

### C. L. U. BENEFIT.

#### At the Lyric Saturday Evening, and Will be a Hummer.

Mr. Murdock and his associate players will present "The Long Strike" at the Lyric Theatre Saturday evening, July 16, for the benefit of the Central Labor Union of Lincoln. Tickets exchangeable for reserved seats are now on sale, and are going fast. There are many reasons why the Lyric should be crowded to the doors on the occasion of the benefit. One reason is that it will help put the Central Labor Union

in a financial way to prosecute the work of organization in Lincoln. Another reason is that the company is a splendid one and the play to be presented full of heart interest and sprightly action. The play is being rehearsed and is to be an especial rendition solely for the benefit of the central body. Mr. Murdock was in charge of the Lyric stock company during the past season, and this in itself is a guarantee of the attraction Saturday evening.

### SPARE OUR BLUSHES.

#### A Kindly Mention Clipped From the Columns of an Indiana Contemporary.

The Indianapolis Union hands The Wagerworker's editor a handsome bouquet, which is appreciated, however little it may be deserved. It appears under the complimentary head of "Maupin's Way: Manner in Which the Deputy Labor Commissioner of Nebraska Does Things," and then comes the following:

"A short time ago two organizers of the United Garment Workers of America, Misses Sellins and Hurley, of St. Louis, went to the city of Lincoln, Neb., to carry the tidings of organization to their sisters in that city. Lincoln could not boast of a garment workers' organization, and naturally the work of formation was somewhat slow and the results a little discouraging. However, the organizers were full of vim and were not the kind to surrender without making every endeavor. It happens that Will Maupin, a member of the Typographical Union and publisher of the Wagerworker, at Lincoln, is also deputy labor commissioner. Miss Hurley has had considerable experience in factory work, and in order that she might be of assistance to him in his inspection work, and incidentally that she might receive entrance to all places that might seem to invite investigation, Maupin appointed her a deputy factory inspector. It might be that if this plan were worked elsewhere the results might be as beneficial to the movement as proved that of the garment workers' organizers in the Nebraska city."

### THE CIGARMAKERS.

#### Craft Conditions in Lincoln Have Fallen Upon Evil Times.

There are fewer cigarmakers working in Lincoln today than at any previous time in twenty years. Whose fault is it? Not the fault of the cigarmakers themselves, for they have been liberal advertisers and tireless boosters. But have the employers been doing their part? Have they been pushing, or have they been content to sit back and let the employes boost while they cussed conditions.

A grocery store in the northeastern part of town has been trying to get in some Lincoln made cigars for six months, and a union man has tried three different cigar manufacturers in an effort to get some one to call on that merchant, but as yet without results. A cigarmaker suggested to his employer that he might sell a box or two this to this merchant and thus secure a regular customer. Did the manufacturer thank his employer for his interest? On the contrary he intimated that he could manage his own business.

Another reason for the dropping off in the cigar industry in Lincoln is the failure of Lincoln "Boosters" to live up to their pretensions. They holler for Lincoln and smoke eastern made cigars while Lincoln cigarmakers are walking the streets.

There are fewer cigarmakers at work in Lincoln now than there were formerly employed in one factory alone. If

one-half the cigars bought by Lincoln men were made in Lincoln, there would be five times as many cigarmakers at work in Lincoln. If one-half the cigars smoked in Lincoln were made in Lincoln it would mean the payment of \$75,000 a year more wages to Lincoln workers, every dollar of which would be spent in Lincoln in stead of being sent east.

If the manufacturers will exhibit one-half as much zeal in boosting their product that their employers exhibit, business would be better for both parties.

"The Long Strike," by Murdock's Associated Players, at the Lyric Saturday evening, July 16, for the benefit of the Central Labor Union. Seats on sale. Reserve them right now. Satisfaction guaranteed.

### STREET RAILWAY MEN.

#### News of Interest to Men of Contraller and Fare Register.

The street railway men of Toledo are organizing, despite the desperate efforts of the street railway magnates to prevent it. The Toledo Union Leader says:

"At a large and enthusiastic open meeting held last Saturday, the initial steps in this direction were taken, notwithstanding that the company tried every means at its command to discourage the men, even going so far as to 'hire thugs' to stand at the door of the meeting hall who, by threats, attempted to intimidate the men. However, these tactics availed nothing and the men are determined to continue the campaign until every street car man in Toledo is a member of the Union."

Columbus, Ohio, street railway employes are rejoicing over the enactment of an ordinance that will help a lot. The ordinance states that neither motor nor conductors shall be allowed to operate cars without ten days' previous experience in the city of Columbus. This city law will make it impossible for an army of professional strikebreakers and thugs to terrorize Columbus after the fashion of the late bloody struggle in Philadelphia. Union men point out that those corporate bodies who make war on organized labor are helpless if they cannot import their "Hessians," as it is impossible to hire enough local scabs in a great crisis to fight their mates and neighbors. This is not the first friendly act of the municipal authorities, for during the recent street car strike in Columbus the mayor refused to place police on the cars to assist the company's strikebreakers. As a result of its fight against the carmen, the Philadelphia Traction Company is defendant in twenty-nine damage suits for killing by scabs. It is also trying to borrow several million dollars to recoup its financial losses. Verily the way of the transgressor is no gravel pike.

The Omaha strike was formally declared off at the meeting of the Omaha association last Saturday night.

### THE PRESSMEN.

#### Big Convention Came to Agreement After Hottest Session in History.

The twenty-second annual convention of the International Printing Pressmen an Assistants, union, held in Columbus, O., at the A. I. U. temple, made a record for hot contests and decisive action which had for its storm center the point at issue between the web and the flat-bed pressmen.

So important was the question of inter-jurisdiction between the men who work in the newspaper offices, (web pressmen) and those who work in the job offices (flat-bed pressmen), that the convention ran two days over the five-

day limit in its efforts to come to an agreement.

It was the office of the Chicago Inter-Ocean that furnished a test case of the differences between the two branches of the trade. A flat-bed pressman had been given the position of foreman in the web press department over the objections of the web press men, and the jurisdictional contest thus brought to an acute stage was carried to the floor of the Columbus convention which decided that, hereafter, before flatbed pressmen can work in newspaper pressrooms they must present their cards for acceptance to the newspaper pressmen.

An additional victory for the web pressmen was gained by a decision which placed the cost of this contest upon the treasury of the international.

Delegate Dooley of Washington, among the first acts of the convention, successfully carried a motion to appoint a committee to investigate the last referendum vote in the election of national officers, by the close vote of 103 to 101, that no new election should be held.

The proposition for the establishment of a trade school for pressmen carried and the plans of tuberculosis patients' home were upheld.

President George Berry, who is a flat-bed pressman, and was chosen as the head of the international without opposition by the last referendum vote, had need of all his ability as a presiding officer to bring the assemblage to final agreement. Heated disagreements at one time even threatened the existence of the consumptives' home.

The present officers of the international are: George Berry of San Francisco, president; P. J. Dobbs of New York first vice president; M. J. Flannery of Chicago, second vice president; A. B. Kreiter of New York, third vice president, and C. B. Crowley of Holyoke, Mass., secretary and treasurer.

The Lincoln pressmen form a five bunch these days, and are making a warm campaign for the label. Three more scabs hand at their belts as a result of their tireless work, and more are in sight and about ready to be lifted. Senator Burkett told a member of the committee that the Journal Co. was the only firm in the city that could do lithographing. He was informed that Mr. Woodruff and Mr. Smith could do it, and because Woodruff had at least been fair at one time the committee preferred to have the work done there rather than at a shop that had never been fair. W. B. Price said the Journal Co. told him that it had special permission from the union to do campaign work, and he was promptly informed that the Journal Co. was prominent in the effort now being made to drive the unions out of Lincoln. He said he was glad to know the facts in time, and would govern himself accordingly. It is easy to see that the printing firms that have joined with the Journal bunch in the combination to drive unions out of Lincoln are getting just what the Journal bunch expected to hand them—the Journal is hogging the work under all kind of pretenses.

President Berry expresses himself as well pleased with the progress being made in Lincoln and in due time will send Mr. Wilke of Milwaukee to Lincoln to take up the pressmen's end of the game once more.

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