



JOHN MITCHELL

Working the Wage Workers

People Should Be Careful of References, for Big Men's Names Are Often Obtained by Fraudulent Means and Unauthorized—References Should Never Be Taken for Granted.

By JOHN MITCHELL, President United Mine Workers of America.

Conspicuous among the enemies constantly preying upon the wage earner while he is fighting the battle of organized labor, is the investment swindler. He has all the craft of a wolf, his purpose seeming to be to attack the workingman from the rear while his attention is absorbed by the forces facing him. And these promoters of the small investment swindling game have grown so in numbers, in boldness and in cunning that their attacks must receive attention before their depredations amount to quite as much as the losses which might come from unfair wage scales or unjust restrictions upon labor.

When a workingman engages in a struggle to advance the cause of organized labor, he feels that he is doing something substantial for himself, for his family, and for his fellows. And so he is; but if he turns over to the fake investment sharps all the concrete results of the advantage thus gained, how far ahead is he? How much more of comfort can he give himself or his family as a net result of the transaction?

It is time for the wage earners of America to awaken to the fact that they are being systematically swindled by the small investment brokers, and swindled out of millions of hard-earned dollars every year. Unless they arouse themselves and protect their savings they might about as well go back to the old labor conditions, since there is not much practical choice between giving the fruits of honest toil to an over-reaching and unjust employer and handing them over gratis to a systematized project for swindling.

To warrant his putting his savings into it. In the first place, use all the sober common sense you have, and this with a realization of the fact that as you cannot bargain advantageously as an individual with the employer who hires hundreds of men and is experienced in the art of getting the most for his money, neither can your untrained common sense be a safe guide when it comes to dealing with men whose business is to dissemble. Go to a man whom you know to be an honest man conversant with money and corporation matters and who can detect an investment fraud at a glance. Common sense—the shrewd, natural ability to form accurate judgments—is always at a disadvantage unless one has the best information upon which to act, and about the most it can do for a man under such circumstances is to cause him to get the real facts before forming a judgment and a decision. You would not think of trying your own case in court if you found yourself involved in litigation. Yet the majority of small law suits are simple in comparison with the devices which the investment sharps have evolved. They know that they can reap a golden harvest if their scheme is only presented properly and that they can afford to employ the most expensive side in the way of crooked lawyers to defend them and to advise investors, and unscrupulous advertising agents to prepare booklets, prospectuses, and "confidential" letters.

When these baits are so skillfully set that hard-headed and experienced business men (who themselves know some of the tricks of the trade), are deceived by them, what chance do you think a workingman—whose financial experience is confined, usually, to making the contents of his pay envelope cover the household bills—has to see through the mysteries of the proposition?

There are a few of these financial semaphores, however, which every wage worker should know how to read, and can know. At first glance they seem to show a clear right-of-way, to give the signal to "come on" at full speed, with your savings account in your hand; but when you know the rules of the road, you can see a red light—a danger signal—swinging from every one of these semaphores.

Here are some of the danger signals of this sort which are very deceptive at first glance: "This company is going to be kept in the hands of the common people and out of the hands of the capitalists." "The shares of this company have increased 50 per cent. since our fiscal agents put the first block of development stocks on the market, 60 days ago; they will be advanced 20 points on the first day of next month and you must act promptly and remit at

once if you wish to take advantage of this handsome advance."

"We need only a limited amount for immediate development work and in order to secure the requisite sum without delay, we are making the confidential offer of a bonus of one share of preferred stock for every ten shares of the common, which you can secure at 30 cents on the par value if you respond at once. Just as soon as our needs for development expenditures are met by subscriptions on this liberal basis, it will be impossible for you to secure the common, as it will be withheld from the market except on offerings of 60 cents or better."

"You are taking no risk, for our guarantee is behind every share of our stock. The Silver and Gold Investment and Surety company is back of our securities and the Searchlight Investigation and Expert Engineering Association has made a detailed examination and stands sponsor to the world for them. In the first three months of operation of our properties, we have been able to pay our stockholders a dividend of 12 per cent., and the splendid ore bodies now in sight warrant us in assuring our stockholders that this dividend will be substantially increased in the next three months, owing to the increased facilities of production made possible by great additions to our working equipment."

These are only a few of the most glaring statements contained in the "confidential" circulars and letters, displayed in advertisements, and made, by solicitors, to draw money from the pockets of the wage earners. There are scores of other and more subtle and clever baits in every mode of expression, but they all spell one word, and that is B-U-N-C-O.

How do I know it? How do I dare make so broad a statement? Because we have had times of unprecedented prosperity for so long that millions of dollars belonging to capitalists are lying idle or drawing only small interest. As a result, the sound securities and the solid investments are snapped up by men who understand values. These men command large sums, and in order to secure all the money required for a solid and honest enterprise, it is only necessary for men having real investment "opportunities" to go to them and convince them of the merit of their propositions. They will not permit to slip past them any chance to make 33 1/3 per cent., or even 10 per cent., provided the risk involved is not too great. Which is only another way of saying that when a concern must go forth with blare of trumpets to secure money from the wage workers, the proposition it has to offer is not only not worth consideration, but it should be left severely alone. If it were sound to the core, idle capital would be put into it before the "confidential" letters to prospective wage earner investors could be printed.

And this feature of the matter stands out in its true light when something of the cost of selling stocks by an "appeal to the common people" is understood. Not long ago a Chicago concern which had gone to the "people" for its support went into the hands of a receiver. Wage earners and people working for small salaries had put \$100,000 into the enterprise. When the receiver began his examination of the affairs of the company in order to determine how much those at the head of it had diverted into their own pockets, he was amazed to discover that the entire \$100,000 had been spent in "getting the great publicity campaign started!" They had committed the error of making some particularly flagrant misrepresentations and this put a period to their plans by sending them to the penitentiary before they were quite ready to do the actual looting.

There is just one thing for the sensible workman suffering from an attack of the investment fever to do, and that is to go to a solid man of financial experience, a trustworthy man, and ask him to ascertain for him who are the men behind this wonderful "opportunity" offered to him and out what their records have been in the past, and what they are putting his money into, as well as what there is and who there is behind their "guarantees" and "guarantors." When you have done this you will find, in all probability, that your fever to get rich quick has cooled to the freezing point.

(Copyright, by Joseph B. Bowles.)

The Puzzle Solved.

For 34 years past the accounts of the naval port of Toulon refused to balance. There was 20 cents too much in the cash books and even since 1873 this 30 cents has puzzled the official accountants. Some time ago orders were sent from Paris that this state of affairs must cease. Seven special accountants were set to work, and after seven months' hard labor the problem was solved. Admiral Gallibet—a former minister of marine, who was, 34 years ago, one of the officers of Toulon arsenal, but who for many years has been living in Paris on his pension—has just received official notice asking him to call at the ministry of finance and draw the sum of 30 cents. He was underpaid by the amount when he left Toulon in 1873.

Belgium Bans Absinthe.

The law forbidding the manufacture and sale of absinthe in Belgium, as well as its importation into the country, went into effect on July 27. The main features of the law are as follows: "The manufacture, transportation, sale, as well as the exposing for sale of absinthe are punishable by a fine of from 25 to 500 francs, and imprisonment for a period of from eight to six months, or either of these penalties. The merchandise is confiscated. The importation of absinthe is prohibited, but the prohibition does not extend to shipments in transit under the supervision of the customs authorities."

Against Spanish in Brazil.

A knowledge of Spanish, while necessary in all other parts of South America, is of no advantage in Brazil. Its people are very proud of their Portuguese customs and language, and are apt to be unfavorably impressed by any one who does not pay due respect to the difference between their nation and those of Spanish origin.

BLAMED ON THE RAILROAD.

First Thought in Irishman's Mind After the Accident.

Railroad claim-agents have little faith in their fellow creatures. One said recently: "Every time I settle a claim with one of these hard-headed rural residents who wants the railroad to pay twice what he would charge the butcher if he gets a sheep killed, I think of this story, illustrative of the way some people want to hold the railroad responsible for every accident, of whatever kind, that happens. Two Irishmen were driving home from town one night when their buggy ran into a ditch, overturned, and they were both stunned. When a rescuer came along and revived them, the first thing one of them said was: 'Where's the train?' 'Why, there's no train around,' he was told. 'Then where's the railroad?' 'The nearest railroad is three miles away,' he learned. 'Well, well,' he commented. 'I knew it hit us pretty hard, but I didn't suppose it knocked us three miles from the track.'"

TWO CURES FOR ECZEMA

Baby Had Severe Attack—Grandfather Suffered Torments with It—Owe Recovery to Cuticura.

"In 1884 my grandson, a babe, had an attack of eczema, and after trying the doctors to the extent of heavy bills and an increase of the disease and suffering, I recommended Cuticura and in a few weeks the child was well. He is to-day a strong man and absolutely free from the disease. A few years ago I contracted eczema, and became an intense sufferer. A whole winter passed without once having on shoes, nearly from the knees to the toes being covered with virulent sores. I tried many doctors to no purpose. Then I procured the Cuticura Remedies and found immediate improvement and final cure. M. W. LaRue, 845 Seventh St., Louisville, Ky., Apr. 23 and May 14, '07."

THE LIMITATIONS OF THE CLOTH



His Reverence (whose caddie has sneezed at the moment of putting)—You—you—your naughty caddie!

OF SUCH STUFF ARE DREAMS.

Little Virginia Imagined She Had "Eaten Herself."

Little Virginia, three years old, brought her mother to her nursery a few nights ago with heartbroken wails.

"What is the matter, dearie? Why are you screaming so?" "Mamma, am I all here?" "Certainly you are all here, right in your bed."

"But, mamma, feel of me, see if I'm all here. Are my feet here and the top of my head, too?" "Certainly, Virginia, every bit of you is here, tucked in your little trundle bed. Why do you think you are not?"

"I dreamed"—this with another great sob—"I dreamed I was a chocolate stick and I had eaten myself."

A Busy Locality.

Jack is the eight-year-old son of a Philadelphia suburban merchant, and not long ago made his first visit to New York with his father. The strenuousness of the big town got on the boy's nerves, and by bedtime he was about run down. He tumbled into bed quiet regardless of certain duties, but his father was more observant.

"Don't forget to say your prayers, my boy," he said.

"O, what's the use, pop?" responded the boy. "God's too busy over here to bother with a little thing like that."

The father was shocked, but under the circumstances he thought it best not to urge his son.—Lippincott's Magazine.

RAILROAD MAN

Didn't Like Being Starved.

A man running on a railroad has to be in good condition all the time or he is liable to do harm to himself and others.

A clear head is necessary to run a locomotive or conduct a train. Even a railroad man's appetite and digestion are matters of importance, as the clear brain and steady hand result from the healthy appetite followed by the proper digestion of food.

"For the past five years," writes a railroad, "I have been constantly troubled with indigestion. Every doctor I consulted seemed to want to starve me to death. First I was dieted on warm water and toast until I was almost starved; then, when they would let me eat, the indigestion would be right back again.

"Only temporary relief came from remedies, and I tried about all of them I saw advertised. About three months ago a friend advised me to try Grape-Nuts food. The very first day I noticed that my appetite was satisfied, which had not been the case before, that I can remember.

REASON FOR WOMEN'S "NERVES"

In Very Many Cases It Is Weakened Kidneys.

Mrs. Frank Roseboom, 512 S. Washington St., Moscow, Idaho, says: "I inherited kidney trouble, grew steadily worse with me until so nervous I could not sleep at night. I was dizzy and spots floated before my eyes. My back and hips ached and every cold settled on my kidneys and made me worse. I have used many different medicines and was discouraged when I began with Doan's Kidney Pills, but now the symptoms that alarmed me are gone." Sold by all dealers, 50 cents a box. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y.

AND SHE BELIEVED HIM.

After This Who Can Doubt the Power of Love?

George had been away on business for a whole long week, and during that time he had sent Clara ten letters, six letter-cards and 42 picture postcards.

Why, then, was there a touch of coldness in her greeting when he flew to her arms on his return? "Dearest," he whispered, "what is the matter?" "Oh, George," she said, "you didn't send a kiss in your ninth letter."

"My precious," he replied, "that night I had steak and onions for dinner, and you wouldn't have liked a kiss after onions, would you?"

And, such is the unfathomable power of love, she was satisfied, and nestled to him.

STATE OF OHIO, CITY OF TOLEDO, ss. FRANK J. CHENEY makes oath that he is senior partner in the firm of F. J. Cheney & Co., doing business in the City of Toledo, County and State aforesaid, and that said firm will pay the sum of ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS for each and every copy of CUTICURA that cannot be cured by the use of HALL'S CATARRH CURE.

FRANK J. CHENEY swears to before me and subscribed in my presence, this 6th day of December, A. D. 1908.

A. W. GLEASON, Notary Public.

Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally and acts directly on the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. Send for treatise, free.

F. J. CHENEY & CO., TOLEDO, O.

Sold by all Druggists.

Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

Was an Attendant.

As the new minister was on his way to evening service in the village he met a young man whom he was anxious to have become an active member of the congregation.

"Good evening, my young friend," he said, solemnly. "Do you ever attend a place of worship?"

"Yes, indeed, sir; regularly, every Sunday night," replied the young man, with a smile. "I'm on my way to see her now."

Sheer white goods, in fact, any fine wash goods when new, owe much of their attractiveness to the way they are laundered, this being done in a manner to enhance their textile beauty. Home laundering would be equally satisfactory if proper attention was given to starching, the first essential being good Starch, which has sufficient strength to stiffen, without thickening the goods. Try Defiance Starch and you will be pleasantly surprised at the improved appearance of your work.

May Change Conditions.

A process has been discovered by a Shanghai scientist of softening and degumming the ramie fiber, by which it becomes superior to cotton yarn and much like silk. A secret process does the work in ten minutes. This is likely to revolutionize the textile trade of China and to affect the United States cotton exports.

We Sell Guns and Traps Cheap

Buy furs and hides, or tan them for robes & rugs. N. W. Hyde & Fur Co., Minneapolis.

We must ever improve our time; time goes with rapid foot.—Ovid.

ONLY ONE "BROMO QUININE" That is LAXATIVE'S BROMO QUININE. Look for the name of W. G. GROVE. Used the World over to Cure a Cold in One Day. 2c.

Better die 10,000 deaths than wound my honor.—Addison.

Smokers appreciate the quality value of Lewis' Single Binder cigar. Your dealer or Lewis' Factory, Peoria, Ill.

To bear is to conquer our fate.—Campbell.

THE SOFT ANSWER.



Stern Parent—I hadn't any of the advantages you have had. How do you suppose I have got on as I have? Young Hopeless (intending to make a soothing reply)—Er—I expect the grass wouldn't grow under your feet, sir!

Universal Language.

He spoke his love in German—she answered not a word. In French he tried to woo her—the maiden never heard. He tried his luck in English, in Irish—all in vain; in Greek, Turkish and Latin, and in the tongue of Spain. And then an inspiration came to the anguished youth. "The universal language," he cried, "I'll try, forthwith!" He kissed the demure maiden and pressed her to his breast; she understood that language, and—well, you know the rest.

Laundry work at home would be much more satisfactory if the right Starch were used. In order to get the desired stiffness, it is usually necessary to use so much starch that the beauty and fineness of the fabric is hidden behind a paste of varying thickness, which not only destroys the appearance, but also affects the wearing quality of the goods. This trouble can be entirely overcome by using Defiance Starch, as it can be applied much more thinly because of its greater strength than other makes.

Hath any wronged thee? Be bravely revenged. Slight it, and the work is begun; pardon it, and it is finished. He is below himself that is not above an injury.—Boileau.

Garfield Tea purifies the blood, eradicating rheumatism, gout and other chronic diseases. It is made of Herbe-not drug!

An ounce of help is better than a ton of hot air on the subject.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. For children teething, softens the gums, reduces inflammation, always cures whooping cough, croup, and colic.

Calamity is man's true touchstone.—Beaumont.

The General Demand

of the Well-Informed of the World has always been for a simple, pleasant and efficient liquid laxative remedy of known value; a laxative which physicians could sanction for family use because its component parts are known to them to be wholesome and truly beneficial in effect, acceptable to the system and gentle, yet prompt, in action.

In supplying that demand with its excellent combination of Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna, the California Fig Syrup Co. proceeds along ethical lines and relies on the merits of the laxative for its remarkable success.

That is one of many reasons why Syrup of Figs and Elixir of Senna is given the preference by the Well-Informed. To get its beneficial effects always buy the genuine—manufactured by the California Fig Syrup Co., only, and for sale by all leading druggists. Price fifty cents per bottle.

SICK HEADACHE

Positively cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Biliousness, Headache, Dizziness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, COLIC, BRUISED LIVER, etc.

They regulate the Bowels. Purely Vegetable.

SMALL PILL. SMALL DOSE. SMALL PRICE.

GENUINE MUST BEAR FAC-SIMILE SIGNATURE

REFUSE SUBSTITUTES.

SPOT CASH

FOR SOLDIERS AND HEIRS

All Federal soldiers and sailors who served 20 days between 1861 and 1865 and who have not received less than \$2000 before June 22, 1908, are entitled to additional benefits which I buy. If soldier is dead, his heirs can sell. Talk to old soldiers, widows and heirs. Find some soldier's relative who was West of South after the war and whose aged government land. Let him and make some easy money. Write HENRY N. GORR, Washington, D. C. for further particulars.

READERS

of this paper desiring to buy anything advertised in its columns should insist upon having what they ask for, refusing all substitutes or imitations.

DEFIANCE STARCH

for starching best! Lincoln.

W. N. U., OMAHA, NO. 3, 1908.

ST. JACOBS OIL CONQUERS PAIN

FOR STIFFNESS, SORENESS, SPRAIN OR BRUISE, NOTHING IS BETTER THAT YOU CAN USE; LUMBAGO'S PAIN, RHEUMATISM TWINING, YOUR BACK FEELS LIKE A RUSTY HINGE; SCIATIC ACES ALL PLEASURES SPOIL, FOR HAPPINESS USE ST. JACOBS OIL.

W. L. DOUGLAS SHOES

\$3.00 SHOES AT ALL PRICES, FOR EVERY MEMBER OF THE FAMILY. MEN, BOYS, WOMEN, INFANTS AND CHILDREN.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* In Use For Over Thirty Years CASTORIA

160 FARMS FREE

What a Settler Can Secure in WESTERN CANADA

LIVE STOCK AND MISCELLANEOUS Electrotypes

IN GREAT VARIETY FOR SALE AT THE LOWEST PRICES BY A. N. BELLOGG NEWSPAPER CO. 72 W. Adams St., Chicago

DEFIANCE Cold Water Starch

best laundry work a pleasure. 10c per pkg.