

# Omaha Scenes on First of May

Pictures from Photos  
by a Staff Artist



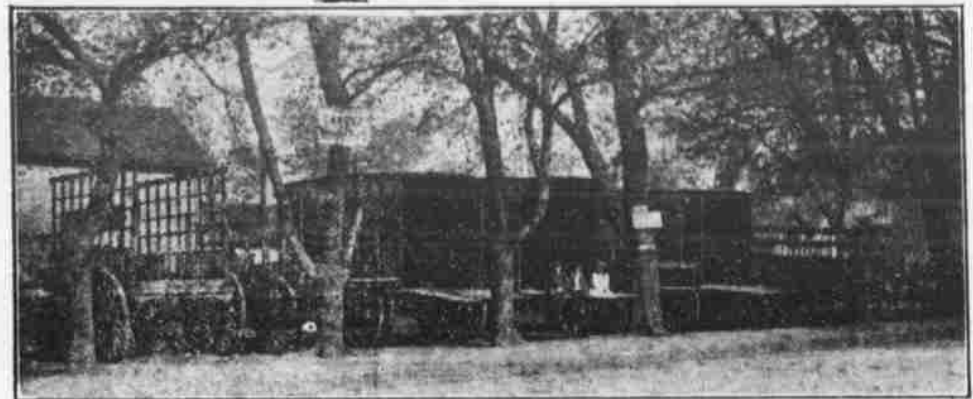
CROWDS AROUND LABOR TEMPLE.



IN FRONT OF A RESTAURANT AT NOON, MAY 1.



WATCHING UNION MEN LEAVE OFF WORK.



VAN AND EXPRESS WAGONS OUT OF COMMISSION.

strike, refused to deliver building material to any contractor who undertook to start work with nonunion men.

Then came the first evidence of the association which had been formed among the employers of labor. The dealers in building material refused to sell stock to any contractor until the labor trouble should be finally settled. This brought building operations to an absolute close so far as new work was concerned. A number of the smaller contractors had agreed to the hod carriers' demands as to time and they operated as long as material lasted, but being unable to renew their stock they were forced out of business. At this juncture a capitalist of Omaha offered to secure material for these contractors, but by the time he was ready to deliver the goods the small contractors had been prevailed upon to co-operate with the organization of employers, and nothing came of this attempt to secure material through unusual lines.

The second strike in the building trades was that of the electrical workers. These men made a demand for increased wages, which was refused. Then came the plasterers, who had been refused a demand for higher wages, and finally May 1 the carpenters, who up to this time had been at work, struck upon the refusal of the employers to grant them an increase of wages amounting to about 25 per cent. About the same time the drain layers employed by the master plumbers were refused wages demanded and these constitute the unions interested in the construction of houses who are now out of work. The plumbers, sheet metal workers and the painters are the three unions connected with the building trades who had no trouble this spring, and the demands of the structural iron workers were conceded.

May 1 brought the strike of the waiters' union. This union did not ask increased wages to any considerable extent, and all employers were willing to grant all that was asked, and were also willing to grant a six-day working week, but the objection in this case was the same as that of the teamsters—the employers refusing to recognize the union. Simultaneously with the waiters the cooks and the cooks' helpers left the places of their employment, in both cases the question of recognition of the union being the principal issue. With the waiters and other restaurant employees went the bartenders in all houses where bars are run in connection with the restaurant.

Two strikes, sympathetic in their nature, were inaugurated this week as the result of the strike of the team drivers, when the freight handlers at the freight depots of the railroads and at the wholesale houses quit work rather than handle shipments delivered by nonunion drivers of wagons, and the horseshoers quit work rather than shoe the horses of the employers who attempted to operate their business with men not members of the union.

The strike of the building trades has very materially altered prospects of a busy season in this line of trade. But two houses of importance have been constructed this season, the Joslyn residence and that of Mrs. Ben Gallagher, both of which were begun last year, and neither of which are yet complete, but which are being finished without friction. Bids were asked early in the season for the construction of the

Methodist hospital on Cuming street, which was to have cost \$100,000 in present construction, but this was withdrawn from the market when it was found that the strike would not be settled early in the season. The Clarkson Memorial hospital has plans for the erection of a large building adjoining its present quarters on the east, the work to have been done this year, but it is now expected that it will go over for twelve months, as will probably the new apartment house of H. C. Plunkett on Thirteenth street; the new Baptist church, the new Christian church, the new building for the Monmouth Park school. Ever since April 1 work has been suspended on the new market house and the Auditorium, while a large number of small

houses which were to have been built have been postponed until next year. The members of the hod carriers' unions do not look upon the loss of work this spring as a total loss. The president of one of their unions says: "There is just about so much work to be done in Omaha every season. If it is not done in the spring it is done in the fall and work can be carried on here generally until late in the winter, so while we may be idle now we will be busy at those times when we usually are idle or doing something besides work on buildings. Neither are the contractors losing money. They are but postponing the day of their activity. Neither men nor employers can lose anything unless the work is done by other hands, and we are satisfied to wait."

The strike is having considerable effect upon the retail trade of the city, particularly from the fact that few of the larger stores can deliver purchases, either having contracts with transfer companies or being directly involved in the strike of the team drivers' union. At the same time the small grocery in the suburbs is reaping a harvest, as a great part of the trade which previously went down town now goes to it, because the team drivers have not as yet brought the delivery men at the single-line stores into the union and they are able to deliver goods.

A conservative estimate of the men now out of employment places the number at about 2,900, divided among the thirteen unions directly affected as follows: Team drivers, 1,350; carpenters, 400; hod carriers, 320; waiters, 250; bricklayers, 110; freight handlers, 100; horseshoers, 75; plasterers, electrical workers, drain layers and cooks, each, 50.

A considerable number of the persons involved in the strike have left the city temporarily and a smaller number, perhaps, permanently. Of the permanent removals a few of the bricklayers have gone to San Francisco, Denver and Salt Lake, a number of the waiters to eastern and western cities and a number of the carpenters to the west. Of the larger number of those temporarily absent bricklayers have gone to Des Moines and other Iowa towns, a large number of waiters to the summer resorts, and a comparatively few of the team drivers to grading camps and railroad construction. Many of the hod carriers and building laborers have started "Pingree" patches of gardens over the city, and one man has planted such a garden that he says he expects to make more money this year than he would have done had he followed his usual occupation.

## Secrets of Success

A certain fellow who answered advertisements in cheap story papers has had some interesting experiences. He learned that by sending \$1 to a Yankee he could get a cure for drunkenness. And he did. It was to "take the pledge and keep it."

Then he sent fifty 2-cent stamps to find out how to raise turnips successfully. He found out—"Just take hold of the tops and pull."

Being young, he wished to marry, and sent thirty-four 1-cent stamps to a Chicago firm for information as to how to make an impression. When the answer came it read, "Sit down on a pan of dough." It was a little rough, but he was a patient man, and thought he would yet succeed.

Next advertisement he answered read, "How to double your money in six months." He was told to convert his money into bills, fold them and he would see his money doubled.

Next he sent for twelve useful household articles and he got a package of needles. He was slow to learn, so he sent \$1 to find out "How to get rich." "Work like the devil and never spend a cent," and that stopped him.

But his brother wrote to find out how to write without pen or ink. He was told to use a lead pencil.

He paid \$1 to learn how to live without work and was told on a postal card, "Fish for suckers, as we do."—London (Ky.) Echo.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM GARRETT OF FREMONT IN THEIR LIBRARY.