

THE LABOR NEWS.

ORGAN OF THE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

ENDORSED BY GREENSBORO TRADES COUNCIL.

MOTTO: ORGANIZATION, EDUCATION AND ELEVATION.

VOL. III.

GREENSBORO, N. C., FRIDAY, MAY 15, 1908.

NUMBER 38.

A PRACTICAL WAY.

A man who toils for his daily bread
And is "only a working man,"
Must strive to obtain the best results
And learn all he possibly can;
He sells his skill to the highest bid
To the man with cash to pay,
But he gives his best of brain and
brawn
And works in a practical way.

A workman skilled in his chosen craft
Finds industrial life a school,
While using the mitre, plane and saw
His is also the "Golden Rule";
He wears the badge of a union man,
For he gives and demands fair play;
He reads the papers and studies
And works in a practical way.

The bargain lies in an honest job
From the man with labor to sell,
The world depends on this sort of
man
For the work that must be done
well;
The law of kindness is in his heart,
He believes in an eight-hour day,
But of earnest toil he gives his best,
And works in a practical way.

And the world respects a union man,
For it finds his plans are good
And the Union respects himself
As a Unionist always should.
He knows he is right and goes ahead
His principles true to obey,
Honest to others, just to himself,
He works in a practical way.
—Exchange.

A NEEDED REFORM.

To the Labor News.
Mr. Editor:—Our country is just
now awaking to the fact that there is
great need of improvement along the
line of morality, and the question of
state prohibition is to be submitted to
a vote of the people on the 28th of
this month. This is a question of vast
importance to the working men and
women of North Carolina. But there
has been so much said and written on
this question, that I am not going to
add my humble views or opinions
here. I do wish to say a few words,
however, about an evil which is so
common among our people today; that
very little is said about it in the
papers that we read. This is the vile
habit of profanity. It has become so
generally used that very little notice
is taken of it. Men who speak the
words often do not think what they
are saying. Many use it, they say, to
give emphasis to what they are say-
ing. I have always felt my respect
lessened for the opinions of any per-
son who must back up his statements
with an oath, not seeming to think
it sufficient that his honest word as a
man of truth to vouch for what he
says.

This evil is so insidious in its na-
ture; it is so easy to form the vile
habit; because so many men thought-
lessly engage in it, they feel that or-
dinary conversation without it is dull
and lacking in manly expression. Boys
hear their elder companions and as-
sociates use the words which they
have been taught, not to use; soon to
fall into the habit without realizing
the awfulness of the words which they
are thoughtlessly uttering. This evil
is not confined to the lower class of
workmen, but men of high stand-
ing, lawyers, physicians and profes-
sional men, as well as the men who
wear the overalls and the shop apron,
and even by men sometimes (I am
ashamed to say) who have some stand-
ing in the church as Christian gen-
tlemen. I am sure that our ministers
and our ladies, often hear some of
this disgraceful profanity because the
habit has become so general that to
restrain themselves has become very
hard indeed.

I do hope that after the question of
prohibition has been settled, that a
general crusade against the evil will
be waged, until we can walk on our
streets with a lady and feel safe from
the fear of having her ears burn at
the sound of some vile profane words
used by men who are talking on the
street.

GEO. T. NORWOOD.

CHURCH AND LABOR.

Social Unrest.

At a sociological conference held re-
cently a speaker made the assertion
that during the last twenty-five years
social unrest had increased three-fold.
He said, furthermore, that during the
same period the church had increased
in the same ratio. Therefore, he con-
cluded, the church had been absolute-
ly non-effective in the matter of keep-
ing down the spirit of social unrest.
Then he began a tirade against the
church because of its apparent fail-
ure.

Granted that his statements concern-
ing the development of both the
church and social unrest are true, and
granted that the church has not re-
tarded the growth of social unrest,
—there is yet another viewpoint.

The speaker seemed to imagine
that it is the business of the church
to keep down every protest against
the present social wrong. This prom-
ise is altogether wrong. Rather is
the opposite true. IT IS THE BUSI-
NESS OF THE CHURCH TO CREATE
SOCIAL UNREST. And the church
is doing it!

There are no labor troubles in dar-
kest Africa. But the Christian mis-
sionaries who are being sent there
will create them. They will point out
to the natives their low standard of
physical, mental and moral life. They
will then show them the higher ideals
of Jesus Christ, and urge them to at-
tain to the splendid possibilities of
the better life. Naturally, there will
come a dissatisfaction with their pres-
ent state, and there will follow a spir-
it of unrest, which will manifest it-

self in the hunger for the ideal. This
has been the history of the church.

It is only after the church has pre-
pared the way by sending its best
men and women into darkened lands
—who often suffer death—and poured
millions of dollars into these fields,
that the professional social agitator
steps in and builds upon the founda-
tions already laid by the church.
Then, in all likelihood, he will turn
around and denounce the church for
its non-effectiveness. HE never lays
the foundation. HE never makes the
sacrifice. He is simply the irrespon-
sible critic, whose very safety and
comfort has been made possible by
the devotion of the martyrs whose
blood was sacrificed for him.

Have you ever heard of a cannibal island
propagandist going to a cannibal island
to build up an ideal social system?
THEY surely need his help. But not
much! It's easier, and safer, too, to
remain in even a "so-called" Christian
land, and do business there.—Rev.
Charles Stelzel.

THE SLAVERY OF IMITATION.

We hear a good deal just now about
the simpler life. We hear every day
that we shall only arrive at it by a
more rigid form of diet, and yet all
that one sees and hears indicates that
the luxurious life is the one that is
really being lived, and is likely to be
lived, at all events in the immediate
future. Such an outlook, one cannot
pretend is an encouraging one, for un-
doubtedly, it must end in disaster.
Never yet has a nation maintained a
luxurious standard and permanently
flourished. Therefore to advocate the
simpler life is not, as some erroneously
suppose, to strike a blow at trade,
but, contrariwise, to keep it more
evenly supported and to avert the de-
struction which must inevitably be
brought about if people continue to
live on an ever-increasing scale of lux-
uriousness. We cannot blind our-
selves to the fact that it is on this
scale that the people have been living
of recent years. In every class of so-
ciety this disposition has been all in
the direction of display and extrava-
gance and though this may seem to
circulate money, it really brings it in
due course to a standstill, since this
state of affairs tend to thriftlessness,
to debt, and, consequently, to general
bankruptcy. But extremes are always
bad. While on the one hand over-
luxuriousness spells ruin, the simpler
life, on the other hand, need not in-
dicate meanness and dreariness. All
that is asked is that people should es-
cort to live within their means, and ac-
cording to their station in life.—If all
did this there would be more money
for everybody. And this is the matter
which specially concerns women.

They are largely responsible for the
foolish extravagance of the age, and
on them depends whether or not we
shall attain to the desirable simpler
life, which, in other words, means liv-
ing on the plane whereon we have
been set instead of trying to imitate
those of a higher stage. If only peo-
ple could be persuaded that they can
have quite as good a time—and, in-
deed, escape the burden of heavy an-
xieties—by living within their means,
and with no pretensions to be other
than they are, we would need to hear
nothing more of the simpler life or of
desperate means to bring it about. It
has been well said that people can-
not be made moral by passing laws,
and assuredly they will not after their
whole standard of living at the bid-
ding of a few enthusiasts. This kind
of thing comes but by the exercise of
common sense and the display of fine
sense of dignity. Pretentiousness is
never dignified. One can but hope,
therefore, that women will show their
superior wisdom by discouraging in
all ways the foolish expenditure and
the craving for seeming other than
we are which is the root of most of
the evil of modern life.—O. I. See, in
Asheville Sayings.

THE WEATHER.

The weather is always an interest-
ing question for discussion. The spring
has been unusually cold and back-
ward, still Nature is very busy in her
work, and there is an old saying that
the leaves in this section are always
grown on the 10th of May. Further-
more, we have never known this to
fail. Nature is always true to her
children. If children were as true to
mother Nature, obeying her laws as
they should, there would be fewer
drug stores in the world, a smaller
number of hospitals and a much smaller
number of doctors. It is not only
right to obey her laws, but it pays to
obey them.—Goldshoro Record.

WHAT UNIONISM IS DOING.

The modern trade union is the
champion and protector of childhood
and womanhood. It is the trade union
that is agitating and fighting to rescue
the child from the grudgery of factory
life and place it in the school just as
the same agency is demanding an
equal wage for men and women for
equal work performed. It is the trade
union that has abolished the sweat-
shop conditions existing in thousands
of workshops, thereby enabling thou-
sands of women to receive better
wages and improved conditions. It
is the trade union that today saves
thousands of young women from sell-
ing their honor on the street. The
trade union is the greatest moral in-
fluence of the twentieth century, and
it has done, and is doing more to up-
lift the toiling masses than all other
agencies combined.—Industrial Ban-
ner.

The Brotherhood of Boilermakers
and Iron Shipbuilders of America will
meet in convention at St. Paul on
June 1.

BOOKBINDERS.

Secretary Dougherty reports that
the eight-hour assessment receipts for
March exceeded those for February
by \$6,543. That's going some.

The international convention meets
in Cincinnati, June 8. It will be a
large gathering, judging from interest
taken.

The big firm of Meyer and Thal-
mer, Baltimore, Md., swung into line
for the eight-hour day.

CARPENTERS.

At the regular meeting of the Car-
penter's Union, held on Thursday
night, \$20 in sick benefits were grant-
ed and the scale committee reported
that four additional contractors had
signed the wage scale, making now
forty-four contractors who have
signed up.—Reading, Pa., Advocate.

According to Secretary Duffy's last
report the membership of the United
Brotherhood of Carpenters and Join-
ers is approximately one hundred and
eighty-six thousand, comprising 1,924
local unions.

The Carpenter's union has occasion
to rejoice over present conditions and
future prospects. The season has
opened well for it with not a ripple on
the surface of its requirements, with
wages or working requirements, with
plenty of employment in prospect, and
with nearly all of its 1,200 members
already employed.—Minnesota Advo-
cate.

CIGARMAKERS.

At the meeting of the Cigarmakers'
Union Monday evening it was re-
ported that all of the strictly union shops
were working full time, while the
open shops are working on better
time than for some months. All of the
members of the union are working.
Three new members were elected to
membership, and \$55 relief money
was paid out. All of the machinery for
the printing house that will be run
by the cigarmakers has arrived and is
being placed in position.—Reading,
Pa., Advocate.

In twenty-eight years the cigar-
makers have paid in benefits \$7,786,
527.87. Last year it paid \$473,270.58.
Since establishing the traveling bene-
fit it has paid \$1,092,492.05.

After persistent years of hard work
and agitation the making of cigars in
the penitentiaries of Michigan has
been abandoned, says the Cigarmak-
ers' official journal.

BRICKLAYERS.

Bricklayers and Stonecutters.

At the international convention of
the Bricklayers and Masons Union re-
cently held in Detroit, steps were
taken with a view to promoting harmony
between the bricklayers and masons
and the Journeymen Stonecutters'
Association. A plan to create a re-
serve fund large enough to meet any
and all contingencies was adopted.
Reports from the various sections of
the country show that a large propor-
tion of the unions have secured the
eight-hour day and that wages have
increased very materially. The in-
crease in membership during the last
two years has been phenomenally
large upward of 200 new unions with
an aggregate membership of 20,000
being added to the original roll.

CLERKS.

Forced into Organization by the Far-
mers.

The organized farmers down around
Sherman and Dennison, Texas, have
given the workmen in cities and
towns a fine illustration of doing
things right. The perniciously clerks of
Sherman couldn't organize. Oh, dear,
no! They were not workmen!
Didn't they wear white shirts and creases
in their trousers, and weren't they
likely to be eight dollar clerks today
and proprietors of department stores
a week from next Tuesday?

But the hayseeds in the backwoods,
who got the organization fever good
and proper, passed the word along the
line, and when they hitched up to go
to town for the purpose of doing their
trading and arrived at the forks of
the road the procession, instead of go-
ing into Sherman, drove over to Den-
nison, where there was a Retail
Clerks' Union. In other words, the
union farmers quietly put a boycott
on Sherman, for they wanted to be
waited on by union clerks who had
sense enough to organize.

It is no credit to the Sherman clerks
to add that, after the merchants
learned why the farmers gave them
the go-by they compelled their em-
ployees to form a union. But perhaps
in the fullness of time the Sherman
clerks will forget their sissy ideas
and learn that they owe something to
the useful people in society who put
up with their boorishness.

There are some clerks in this town
who should be given a dose of the
same medicine. Organized workmen
ought to demand their union
cards, and, if they don't produce them,
trade with those clerks who have
paid up cards.

DO IT NOW AND SAVE TIME
AND DOLLARS BY USING VICK'S
SPRING TONIC AND BLOOD PURI-
FIER, TAR HEEL SARSAPARILLA.
\$1.00 BOTTLE FOR 50c.

The Commercial Telegraphers' Union
of America will meet in Milwau-
kee June 8.

PRINTERS.

Proud to be a Union Printer.

George W. Peck, ex-governor of
Wisconsin, in a humorous article on
his early days in a printing office,
says: "From what I have confessed
you will agree that I am proud to be
an old-time union printer, and among
my assets when I get my last 'take'
and have my 'string' measured up by
St. Peter, the foreman, that old union
card from New York City will be
about the most valuable thing I shall
leave to the boys. The printers of
this country compare well for honesty
and good fellowship with any class of
citizens. They are generally poor,
thus they are lucky. None of them
are the greatest people in the world,
but the whole bunch will do to tie
to, and I had rather be with them at
a convention than attend a national
convention of any political party."

Four million dollars is a very re-
spectable sum of money, even when
measured by the standards of a
Rockefeller or a Morgan; nor does it
grow less when it is remembered that
it was assessed upon and paid out of
the earnings of the working members
of the I. T. U. Generalship which
required such an amount to carry out
its plans is entitled to touch elbows
with the frenzied financiers.

On Wednesday, May 20, the mem-
bers of the International Typographi-
cal Union of North America will elect
their officers: President, Vice-Presi-
dent and Secretary-Treasurer for the
ensuing two years.

RAILROAD NOTES.

Time Increased.

The Reading Railway Company yester-
day put its 650 car shop employes
on ten hours a day. They have been
working only nine hours a day for a
long time past.

Big Four Shops Reopened.

The Big Four shops at Bellefont-
aine, Ohio, the largest on the sys-
tem, resumed work last Monday
morning, after a shut-down of some
time. Six hundred mechanics were
at their posts on Monday.

S. P.'s Big Engines.

Four tremendous locomotive en-
gines, the largest ever operated in the
South, have been ordered by and de-
livered to the Southern Pacific Rail-
way Company by the American Loco-
motive Company from its Schenectady
plant. The weight of each is 249,
000 pounds, with 160,000 on the driv-
ers.

Union Pacific Reductions.

According to reports among rail-
road men the Union Pacific has made
some drastic reductions in operating
expenses that are beginning to be felt.
The net earnings for the second week
of April are said to compare favora-
bly with those of a year ago, while
those of the Oregon Short Line actual-
ly show a slight increase. Southern
Pacific shows a decrease in net of
only about 3 per cent.

300,000 Men to Go to Work.

Several thousands of idle men are
to be given work on spring repairing
of tracks, buildings, bridges and
equipment on the railroad lines enter-
ing Buffalo within a few weeks. The
railroads have permitted this work to
remain undone during the period of
depression, and things have run down
to an extent where extensive repair-
ing is now necessary. No less than
300,000 men will be put to work on
all the lines of the country.

Ireland Scores One.

An Irishman and a Yankee were
standing together in one of the busy
streets of London watching some
builders at work building a house,
when the Yankee, with an air of
pride, turning to the Irishman, said:
"Why, Pat, in America they could
build a house in a week."

In a moment Pat turned around to
the Yankee and replied: "Shure,
that's nothing to what they can do in
Old Ireland. I've seen them laying
the foundation of a house when I
would be going to work in the morn-
ing, and when I would be coming
home to my dinner, be jabers, they
would be turning the people out for
back rent."—Liverpool Mercury.

Pat Was Going Some.

An Englishman, an Irishman and a
Scotchman were one day arguing as
to which of the three countries pos-
sessed the fastest trains.

"Well," said the Englishman, "I've
been in one of our trains and the tele-
graph poles have been like a hedge."

"I've seen the milestones appear
like tombstones," said the Scot.

"Be jabers!" said Pat, "I was one
day in a train in my country, and we
passed a field of turnips and a field
of carrots, also a field of cabbage and
parsley, then a pond of water, and
we were going that quick I thought
it was a broth."—Judge.

The Modern Way.

"Will you have this woman to be
your lawful wedded wife?"
"That's what I 'lowed I would."
"Will you love, honor and obey
her?"
"Ain't you got that switched around,
parson?" asked the bridegroom.
"John," said the bride-elect, "don't
you reckon the parson knows his busi-
ness? Answer that question!"
"Yes, sir," said the bridegroom,
meekly. "I reckon I'll have to."—
Atlanta Constitution.

LABOR NOTES.

A bill to prevent the "shylocking"
of wages has been introduced in the
New York assembly.

The printers were the first craft of
any importance to extend their organ-
ization throughout the entire country.
The National Typographical Union
was established in 1852.

The pressmen of Louisville have
been on strike for nearly two months.
The pressrooms are in a demoralized
condition and the end of the strike
victorious to the union, is in sight.

President Riggs, of the Chester, Pa.,
Traction Company, has agreed to take
the striking motormen and conduc-
tors back at the wages they were cut
to at the time of the strike, the pay
later to be increased.

Poor housewives and bad cooking
is a cause for the increase in the
drink habit. Woman, take notice!
and don't waste your time talking lo-
cal option, but study how to cook.—
Fox River Leader.

Unless the contracts of Reno, Nev.,
employ none but union labor the \$100,
000 Catholic church, which is being
constructed at that city, may be de-
layed indefinitely. Father Thomas M.
Tubman, head of the parish, refused to
allow non-union men to work on the
edifice.

Indictments were returned at Park-
ersburg, W. Va., by the federal grand
jury against the Colonial Trust Com-
pany, the Baker Contract Company
and the Sheridan Kirk Contract Com-
pany for alleged violation of the eight-
hour law in employing men in the
construction of locks and dams for
the government on the Ohio river.

What a wonderful change there
would be in the labor organizations of
the country if the laboring people
throughout the land would buy noth-
ing but union made goods. There is
hardly an article used by any of us
today, but is produced by union hands
and bearing a union label.—Rochester
Labor Journal.

Fifteen hundred machinists, boiler-
makers and members of kindred
trades working in the Denver and Rio
Grande shops went on strike recently
in response to an order issued by W.
J. McQueeney, representing the ma-
chinists' national organization, after
a final conference at which Manager
A. C. Ridgway, of the railroad, re-
fused any concessions.

Telegraph operators who were put
on a basis of eight hours a day, to con-
form to the new law limiting their
working day to nine hours, are said
to be organizing to protest against a
cut which it is said, unofficially, will
be made in their wages.

New York labor unions have con-
tributed about \$5,000 to the fund
asked for by President Gompers of
the American Federation of Labor to
fight the injunctions issued by the dis-
trict of Columbia courts in the suit
against the federation by the Buck's
Stove and Range Company.

President Underwood of the Erie
railroad has denied a report from
Hornell that any general reduction of
10 per cent. in wages had been or-
dered. He added: "The Erie has
contracts with its engineers, firemen,
conductors, trainmen and operators
fixing the rates of any hours of ser-
vice, and the company would be violat-
ing these contracts by issuing such an
order."

It is said on the best medical au-
thority that hard work or even over-
work does not cause nervous pro-
stration, but that work combined with
worry, or worry alone, will play havoc
with nerves. It is pointed out that
the real laborers in life, the men and
women who earn a day's wages and
ask nothing more than the necessities
their earnings bring each day are sur-
prisingly free from nerve troubles.
The higher we go in civilization the
more sensitive becomes the nerves
because our work is of a more deli-
cate nature and ambition has laid
hold upon us. Much thinking, con-
siderable work, and irregular habits
all combine against the health and
strength of the nerves with the usual
result of superior numbers.

A saloon-keeper of Roswell, N. M.,
is a father, and one day his little
daughter, looking up into his face
pleadingly, said to him:
"Papa, why don't you ever take me
down to your store and let me play?
Mary's papa takes her down to his
store every Saturday when there is
no school and lets her play there all
day and come home with him." On
relating the incident to a friend the
father said: "I am going to sell out
and quit. I will not continue in a
business that I am ashamed for my
children to know anything about."

Would that all saloon-keepers might
be brought to realize that their busi-
ness is one with which no innocent
child should ever become acquainted.
—Michigan Christian Advocate.

It is said that you cannot improve
the future without disturbing the pre-
sent, and to some extent you cannot
improve one man without disturbing
another. I shall go on what seems to
me the path of duty and benevolence
and religion.—General Booth.

AN OLD SAYING.

It's an old saying and a true one:
Goods well bought are half sold.
While some of them are tearing their
shirts trying to get rid of their win-
ter goods and old hard stock which
has accumulated from year to year,
we are opening up new spring goods
every day. We have just opened the
nicest line of Percales, White Lawns,
Ginghams, Embroideries, Lac Dress
Goods and lots of other things that
we have ever shown. But these goods
are not marked in such a way as to
sell them to you at half price and
taen make money on them, but they
are marked right down now while
they are new. Don't be swindled by
special sales but come where you can
always get genuine bargains every
day. We are now carrying a line of
Peerless Patterns at 5, 10 and 15c.
each. This is a line of patterns I
am sure you will have no trouble
with; it's an old line and been well
tried, so when you want a pattern
get the best. Call and get fashion
sheet, 8 pages.

The Original Racket Store,
318 S. Elm St., A. V. Sapp, Prop.

WANTED.

We want two or three men in each
county to place catalogues and ad-
vertise our Family Supply Union De-
partment. \$18.00 per week salary
with opportunity for extra commis-
sions. Permanent positions. Address
Lake City Wholesale Co., 453 West
63rd Street, Chicago, Ill.

PRIDE OF REIDSVILLE Smoking Tobacco

is made by skilled
union labor. Every
bag has the blue label
on it and is the finest
smoke that can be
produced regardless
of cost.

OUR RALEIGH FRIENDS.

Some firms who believe in helping
those who try to help themselves.

Thos. A. Partin Company

131 Fayetteville St., Raleigh, N. C.

The New Dry Goods Store.

Ladies' Furnish-
ings and Novelties
Give us a call.

T. H. BRIGGS & SONS

RALEIGH, N. C.

THE BIG
Hardware Store.

SONS OF MECHANICS

FRIENDS OF MECHANICS

We will TREAT YOU RIGHT.

Hunter Bros. & Brewer COMPANY

210 Fayetteville Street
RALEIGH, N. C.

DRY GOODS
NOTIONS
and LONG WEAR SHOES.

GIVE US A TRIAL AND BE CONVINCED

The Raleigh SAVINGS BANK

RALEIGH, N. C.

JNO. T. PULEN, President.
CHARLES ROOT, Cashier.

Capital and Surplus, \$75,000

Four per cent interest paid on
deposits.
Write for further information.