

THE LABOR NEWS.

ORGAN OF THE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

ENDORSED BY GREENSBORO TRADES COUNCIL.

MOTTO: ORGANIZATION, EDUCATION AND ELEVATION.

VOL IV

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NUMBER 2.

DIVIDED THEY VOTE.

The whistle has blown and each man takes his place
To toil for the world at a death-dealing pace.
Each movement is skillful, each brain is alert,
While they patiently work in the factory dire.
Just look at that picture and then make a note,
That united they sweat, but divided they vote.

The machines and the belts and the shafting are still,
And not a wheel turns—there's a strike at the mill.
A strike! Every workman has solemnly vowed
To stand by his mates till their claims are allowed.
'Tis a brave thing to do, but don't fail to note
That united they strike, but divided they vote.

The sun brightly shines as there passes along,
In holiday raiment, the Labor Day throng.
Each man is decked out in his Labor Day best—
"Labor omnia vincit," the banners attest.
Yes, labor may conquer, but never, please note,
While united they march but divided they vote.

—Ellis O. Jones, in Trades Union News, Philadelphia.

WHAT IS THE WORKING MAN IN POLITICS?

Raleigh, N. C., June 27, 1908.

Editor Labor News:—In reading the "Raleigh Daily Times" a few days ago, I found among the editorials a comment, which caused me to "sit up and take notice." Among other statements this editorial informed the readers that Mr. Samuel Gompers had attended the Republican national convention at Chicago, for the purpose of making a trade for the Labor vote, and had secured some concessions from that convention in the interests of the working people—the labor voters of the country. The editorial then warned the national Democratic convention, which will meet in Denver, against any sort of compromise with the same Samuel Gompers, who will probably attend that convention, because, it stated in the editorial, the said Gompers has not the power, is not able to deliver the goods, for this reason: the conservative laboring men will vote as their political preference shall dictate.

I have nothing at all to say against the editorial. I am afraid there is too much truth in it, and I shall certainly not contradict the editor who wrote article. Isn't it the truth? Of all the boasts that have been made, that the working men can carry an election either way they see fit, because the working men do most of the voting in every election; still the records of the past show that we have, like Sampson, of old, allowed ourselves to be "horned of that strength," because we belong to a political party. We are "Democrats," we are "Republicans," and when the candidates have been nominated, we "burrah" for our own party candidate, and like a drove of cattle, with as little thought for our future, we march to the polls on voting day, and cast a ballot for our party candidate, because he is our party candidate, without giving a thought to the effect of his election will have toward bettering the condition of the working people or if he will be a help or a hindrance to our cause. We vote for him because he is a Democrat (or Republican), he represents us, is supposed to be our servant, the public's servant. Many of these officers after election show us little appreciation to the working man for his votes as the swine does the man who shakes the acorn tree to furnish him food to eat, never so much as looking up to see where they come from, or how they get there. Is not this true? Again, you know in these days, and in this free country of ours it takes money to get a nomination for office on the Democratic ticket in North Carolina, because nomination means election. You know that no poor man (without he has money furnished him) can afford to buy a nomination. This often keeps out many good men, who are too poor to pay the price. Guess how much money has been spent in nominating a Democratic candidate for governor! Don't you know every little ward politician must be paid for his influence, whether he has any or not, and isn't it true that many times the money spent in getting a nomination is more than the income of a full term of office? Now, with these facts in plain view, is it any wonder that we are sometimes tempted to question the honesty of men who gain office by any such methods? Yet somebody must hold office, and as this is the only method which is effective, we are powerless. Will the day ever come when we will have a clean, honest set of officeholders, elected for their merit, and not for their money? Isn't it true that if this day shall ever come it will, it must, be brought about by and through the united vote of the working people?

G. T. NORWOOD.

GET READY FOR SPRING BY USING VICK'S TAR HEEL SARSA-PARILLA, \$1.00 SIZE FOR 50c. AND WORTH \$1.00 TO YOU OR MONEY BACK.

ANOTHER NOTE OF ALARM BY THE ENEMY SILENCED.

To the Editor of the Labor News:—I respectfully request that you give me space in your valuable paper to reply to the editorial which appeared in the Raleigh Evening Times June 24.

The editor either has no knowledge of public affairs or maliciously attempts to distort facts, and question the honesty and integrity of one of the grandest and brainiest men this country has ever known.

The following is quoted from the editorial in question:

"Gompers at Denver.

"Mr. Gompers will be at Denver, of course, as he was at Chicago, bringing the terms of a trade for the labor vote which he is powerless to deliver, even if the terms are accepted, and which received consideration at Chicago more in form than in substance.

"Will the democrats follow the example of the Chicago convention and straddle Mr. Gompers' anti-injunction proposition, or will they yield to the demand for class legislation and invite defeat before the country by bidding higher than the Republicans for the labor vote?"

The editor of the Raleigh Evening Times evidently does not know Mr. Gompers, who nor how many people he represents. Neither does he seem to know by what authority Mr. Gompers acts, and I dare say that should anyone attempt to enlighten him he would be none the wiser—judging him by his editorial.

"He who is convicted against his own will is of the same opinion still." It appears to me that the editor of the Raleigh Evening Times has some ulterior motive other than the safe delivery of the Democratic party. Even that is questionable.

Mr. Gompers has not, and will not attempt to trade the labor vote. Mr. Gompers has never and will never betray the confidence of three and a half million members of organized labor by attempting to sell out to any political party for a mess of pottage.

Mr. Gompers, who is acting at the behest of organized labor, has no other motive than to endeavor to have enacted laws which will secure an impartial judiciary that will not attempt to govern the people by arbitrary injunctions of the courts, nor act as the pliant tools of corporate wealth.

Mr. Gompers has not and will not promise either political party that he will deliver or cause to be delivered one single vote.

Mr. Gompers' honesty and integrity has not and cannot be questioned by the men who have been honored by being elected to the highest office in the gift of the citizens of these United States, and should not be by a half-dressed tyro at "editing."

If the editor of the Raleigh Evening Times could command the respect and enjoy the same confidence of the citizens in the community in which he lives as Mr. Gompers enjoys throughout the entire United States and Canada, and were he blessed with half the intelligence and good judgment with which Mr. Gompers is blessed, and had he a general knowledge of public affairs which Mr. Gompers possesses, he would not be forced to drive the pencil for a little insignificant, apparently subsidized evening sheet.

W. H. SINGLETON,
Raleigh Bookbinders' Union, local No. 39, International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.

WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE SALOON?

By Rev. Charles Stelzle.

I have been asked to write a book on the Saloon and the Labor Problem, which is to be given wide circulation and which will serve as a textbook for those who are studying this question. It will be quoted quite extensively in public addresses and newspaper articles. I am, therefore, anxious that the statements which I make shall be absolutely verified, especially with regard to the attitude of labor toward the saloon proposition.

It will be greatly appreciated if the readers of this journal will send me information concerning this subject, answering as fully as they can the following questions:

First. To the best of your knowledge, what percentage of the working men in your shop are total abstainers?

Second. To the best of your knowledge, what percentage of the working men in your shop frequent the saloon?

Third. What is the general attitude of the membership in your craft toward the saloon question?

Fourth. What is the chief attraction of the saloon to the workingman?

Fifth. Have you any suggestions to make as a substitute for the saloon?

Sixth. Has your national organization passed any resolutions with regard to the use of intoxicating liquor by your members?

Seventh. Has your national organization any rules with reference to receiving sick or death benefits in the case of a member who was injured or killed while under the influence of intoxicants?

Eighth. Has any legislation been enacted by your national body with reference to meetings of locals being held in the rear of or over saloons?

Ninth. Has the Central Body in your city passed any resolutions with regard to the use of intoxicating liquors by its members in and about the meeting place?

Tenth. In the matter of securing employment to what extent does the use or non-use of intoxicants, or the patronage of the saloon, have any influence in securing a position?

Eleventh. To what extent have

employers in your craft prohibited the use of intoxicants by those in their employ?

If there are any other facts with reference to this subject, or if you have any personal suggestions to make, I shall greatly appreciate your co-operation in giving me the benefit of your thought and experience.

I am seeking to get information on both sides of this question, and shall be glad to have you give a frank expression of your opinion concerning it. Address me at 156 Fifth Ave., New York.

PRACTICAL TRADE EDUCATION.

Unique Effort of Typographical Union to Offset Lack of Apprenticeship System.

The International Typographical Union has gone into the trade educational field with much determination and some zest. This would seem to refute the popular belief that trades unions are opposed to industrial education. Union men say their opposition is reserved for those systems which are spurious or do not aim to elevate the student, but have some ulterior purpose in view. The union's course does not undertake to "make" printers in a few months or years. It does aim to aid the man at the business who is suffering from a lack or lack of apprenticeship system to come a more proficient workman.

Conditions in the trade make it impossible at this time to establish schools with an adequate equipment at a sufficient number of points to make them effective. Fortunately, however, important phases of the craft lead themselves to instruction by correspondence if effective methods are used. And these methods the Union's commission on supplemental education believes it has developed.

It even thinks it has a system which will meet the needs of compositors more satisfactorily than the old apprenticeship system could. The student will be thoroughly grounded in the principles underlying present-day printing and then taken through various branches of the trade. Having firmly grasped the fundamental principles, the student's mental powers will be fired to know and do. Under the tutelage of the instructors of the course he will travel farther and on a safer road than he could if learning by the rule of thumb, picking up ideas or half-developed ideas here and there without any well defined conception as to their origin or purpose.

The printed lessons of the course are a mine of information to almost every printer, but the merit of the course lies in the detailed criticism of his work which is given every student by an expert on the subject of the lesson. This close touch does not cease with the thirty-seven lessons, but continues indefinitely—that is, the successful student may at any time consult these experts on any technical problem which may arise to vex him. The advantages of this will be apparent to every artisan who has at times yearned to know what he should do and why he should do it.

The course costs but \$20 (which includes an outfit which would retail at about \$5). This is as near actual cost as could be approximated. To encourage printers in taking the course, the Union offers a rebate or prize of \$5 to every one who shows persistency and diligence. Employers are invited to supplement the Union's prize and some are doing so. This system of reward was adopted in preference to giving prizes to a few of the exceptionally proficient because it is more equitable and the Union is particularly desirous of reaching and helping the average man, who is the greatest sufferer from our lack of an apprenticeship system. Full information can be obtained by writing the I. T. U. Commission, 120 Sherman St., Chicago, Ill., which is charged with the duty of promulgating supplemental trade education among printers.

TWO NEW LABOR LAWS IN OKLAHOMA.

As a result of their activity the trades unions of Ohio have secured the passage of two bills by the present legislature which are of practical benefit, the Reynolds child labor bill, and the Metzger's employers' liability bill. The first one, introduced by Representative Reynolds, a member of the executive board of the International Association of Machinists, provides that no child under fourteen years of age can be employed and none under sixteen years employed more than eight hours a day. The Metzger bill is in substance the same as the national employers' liability bill. The initiative and referendum was defeated, however, and the Toledo Union Leader asserts that this action means complete obedience to those who fear placing a weapon in the people's hands whereby they could rule themselves.

MOUTH AN INDEX OF CHARACTER.

A large, shapely, mouth signifies breadth of mind and toleration of others' peculiarities. Thin lips denote covetousness, greed, selfishness, and unless strongly contradicted by some other feature, intense love of power. The more curved and flexible the lips the more yielding the nature, says the New York Weekly. The more straight and firm the lips the more severe the nature. Lips that close as if they had been pressed into a straight line show self-repression, nervousness and obstinacy. A mouth to be perfect should be large and shapely, the corners straight or very slightly inclined to droop; lips neither thick nor thin, and firmly but easily closed.

TRUSTS AND UNIONS.

The Toledo Union Leader shows the difference between trusts and trades unions and delivers a few timely sledge-hammer blows in the following manner:

"How can any one but an economic dunce or a blatant grandstander declare that labor unions are trusts?"

"Who ever heard of a trust favoring any policy but one that limits the beneficiaries?"

"Who ever heard of a labor union that did not pour out its money for organizing purposes?"

"Who ever heard of a labor union that ever stood for anything but that each should contribute his share?"

"Who ever heard of a trust going into the by-ways and urging people to enjoy its benefits?"

"Who ever heard of a labor union demanding legislation ONLY FOR UNION MEN AND WOMEN?"

"Who ever heard of a trust lobbying for business competitors outside its monopoly?"

"Who ever heard of organized labor battling in legislative halls for an eight-hour day just for its own members?"

"Who ever heard of a trust battling for any thing but special privilege?"

"Who ever heard of a union demanding machinery-protection laws just for union men?"

The successful attempt to put labor unions in the list of monopolies was never dreamed of by the authors of the Sherman anti-trust bill. In every civilized nation of the globe unions of workers are exempt from anti-trust and anti-monopoly legislation.

"LABOR IS NOT A PRODUCT. LABOR DOESN'T SELL A PRODUCT, and that's where your economic dunce and blatant grandstander stabs his toe. LABOR SELLS LABOR POWER."

"LABOR POWER CONSISTS OF MUSCLE, BRAIN, A SOUL, INSPIRATION—EVERYTHING THAT GOES TO MAKE A DEPENDENT BEING."—Progress.

PRESIDENT GOMPER'S POSITION.

A Chicago dispatch quotes President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor as saying:

"Before organized labor can obtain its best and highest ideals and accomplish the best results, there must be a complete end of fealty to the old political parties. And such conditions prevail to a far greater extent than is imagined by those who are not intimately acquainted with organized labor. In fact, this feeling of political independence exists among us to a degree greater today than ever before in our history. The time will come, and it is not far distant, when organized labor will stand completely free from the domination of or fealty to any political party."

"We stand entirely free industrially but as to whether that freedom from allegiance to the old parties will mean the creation of a distinctive labor party, I do not care to express any opinion at this time."—Laborer.

JUST A POLITICAL DARK LANTERN.

Among the leading lights of the plutocratic press stands the Atlanta Constitution.

Plumming itself on the results of the recent primary in Georgia, the Constitution says:

"As a result of the most remarkable fight in Georgia in many years, the stock ticker announced that Georgia Railway and Electric stock went up ten points. That the market is optimistic since the result is known is decisively shown."

Hon. Seaborn Wright, challenging the Constitution's purpose to cite this rise in stock as an indication of restored confidence says:

"It would have been a thousand times better if there had been heralded as a result of the great victory a 10 per cent. raise of wages. The owners of the railroads have no empty dinner pails, and this result of the victory will not fill the half-full pails of the thousand men who work for the Georgia Railway and Electric Company."—Central Union Times.

SHOW PRINTING HOUSES SIGN WITH PRINTERS.

The city council in Covington, Ky., has passed an ordinance providing for the union label on all public printing.

The firm of John S. Bridges & Co., Baltimore, which has been conducting a non-union job office for 33 years, has signed the union scale.

The Riverside Printing Co., of Milwaukee, a commercial and show printing house, is now a strictly union establishment, after operating with a force of non-unionists for the past ten months. The Riverside Company conducts one of the largest plants in the Wisconsin metropolises.

The Penn Show Print, Philadelphia, which has been in the theatrical printing business for more than 35 years, has secured the union label.—Tobacco Worker.

A PROGRESSIVE ORGANIZATION.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners has advanced the wages in hundreds of localities throughout the country and placed fully \$6,500,000 more in pay annually in the pockets of its members. It has reduced the hours from nine a day to eight in 480 cities, and from ten a day to nine in 791 other cities, not to mention many other localities in which it has established the eight and nine hour workday. Through the shortening of hours upward of 30,000 more workmen have secured employment throughout the country.

THIRTY-TWO YEARS OLD AND HAS HAD THIRTY CHILDREN.

Caldwell, N. J.—Four boys were born to Mrs. Abram Gotofsky, of Troy Hills, N. J., Wednesday. The combined weight of the quadruplets is sixteen pounds and four ounces. Mrs. Gotofsky, who is thirty-two years of age, is the mother of thirty children, fourteen of whom are living. She was born near Warsaw, Poland, and came to this country in 1891. She was married in New York in April, 1892, and immediately left for her new home on an eighteen-acre farm near Troy Hills. Mrs. Gotofsky gave birth to twins March 22, 1893. Both are living. Since then the Gotofsky family has had an annual increase of one, two, or three members. In 1894 two, one came, and that died within a week after its birth. Twins followed in 1895, and in 1896 triplets, all of whom are living. The twins born in 1897, 1898, and 1899 all died in infancy. Mrs. Gotofsky gave birth to one child only in each of the two following years, but in 1902 she was again the mother of twins. For the next three years one child was born annually, and then in 1906 triplets came. Last year they were twins, and the four which were added on Wednesday making the total number thirty. Besides raising the family, Mr. Gotofsky has had time to farm so successfully that he now owns his own place, with no mortgage, and has added over 20 acres to the original bought ground.

JUST A FEW THOUGHTS

Before You Part With Your Hard-Earned Cash.

Did it ever occur to you why it was any merchant would have a "sale?" No doubt you understood it's because he has not done the volume of business he anticipated when he bought his goods; we can tell you why. There can't be but one reason (when his goods are bought clean, new, and up-to-date) and that is he is not satisfied with a small living profit. He thinks when the season is on everybody wants his goods, no matter what the price. At the wind up he finds they have bought their goods from a merchant who was willing, and did sell them their merchandise at what they call sale prices in their great special sales. The great sale price is just the same price that you can get your goods from the Original Racket Store every day in the year, without being faked on any single article. You will notice the people who are judges of merchandise don't fall all over themselves to reach these great sales, for they know when they reach the scene of this great, grand offering of merchandise that they will be only told that the particular item advertised is out. It's a great game but it's playing out. The people are on to it, and it's like every other skin game it don't work very long. We stand and we can prove by our 21 years' business experience in one store in Greensboro that there is only one way to do business and exist, and that is to do a straight legitimate business every working day in the year. We don't profess to sell goods cheaper than the mills can make them or cheaper than they ever came through any auction house in this country for every dollar's worth of goods that is billed to us we pay one hundred cents for, but we do say we turn loose this merchandise at a smaller profit than any other merchant in Greensboro can afford to and we do it every day in the year. If we were to have one of these great gigantic sales and mark every dollar's worth of goods in our store at exactly what we paid for it, the difference at what we would sell it at then and now would be so slight you probably would not notice it.

They cry hard times; they tell you the working people are not at work. The country people are not coming to town. They give you every other excuse in the world, because they have not done the business. Right in the face of that our business is increasing every day and this year is not expected and why? Simply because every customer that comes in our store gets one hundred cents worth of merchandise for every dollar he spends and he don't have to wait for any special sale to get it. He gets it every day in the year.

We guarantee to save you money on your purchases. Get your sale price and come and see us. We will do the rest.

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The Original Racket Store,
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BEDFORD'S HEADACHE POW-DERS, SAFE AND SURE, 4 DOSES, 10 CENTS.

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We want two or three men in each county to place catalogues and advertise our Family Supply Union Department. \$13.00 per week salary, with opportunity for extra commissions. Permanent positions. Address: Lake City Wholesale Co., 453 West 63rd Street, Chicago, Ill.

FAVORABLE TO THE UNION.

Judge Walker gave a decision, based on the lines of previous ones, notably that ex-Judge Alton B. Parker of New York, declaring that men who belonged to a labor organization were bound by its rules and by-laws, and had no right to try and disrupt a union because they were dissatisfied with the action of its officials. He refused several dissatisfied men of the street car men's union an injunction to prevent the union insisting upon their discharge because they refused to pay their dues.

SPECIAL MENTION FOR BUSY PEOPLE.

PATRONIZE HAGAN'S CHINA STORE. All kinds of China and Glassware, plain and fancy lamps, novelties, wedding presents, etc., etc. Large stock. Prices right. 215 S. Elm street.

HAGAN'S CHINA STORE HAS NOW a complete line of Tin-ware, Wood-ware and Enamel-ware. All new goods and prices right. Examine their stock before buying. 215 S. Elm street.

GLASS FLY TRAPS—CATCH ALL the flies, easily cleaned, last forever. 25c. at Hagan's China Store. Stone jars, fruit jars, jelly glasses, etc. Largest stock of China and glassware in the city.

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