

THE LABOR NEWS.

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ORGAN OF THE STATE FEDERATION OF LABOR.

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MR. VAN CLEAVE'S INCONSISTENCY.

Praised for Political Activity, But Mr. Gompers' Energy is Denounced.

While President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, is being denounced and berated for his alleged "agreement to deliver the vote of organized labor" to Bryan, we hear no condemnation of President Van Cleave, of the National Manufacturers' Association, who has undertaken to deliver the vote of organized employers against Bryan.

If Gompers is engaged in political work that is reprehensible, what better work is Van Cleave engaged in?

Gompers has gone no further than to say he will support Bryan and to tell why he believes that other members of labor unions should do likewise. Van Cleave has sent to all parts of the country letters calling upon all members of his organization and their friends to "take the hide off Bryan at the coming election and nail it to the fence for all time."

If it is right for Van Cleave to take the organization of employers of which he is the head in politics, why should it be wrong for Gompers to do the same thing with his organization of laborers? And, also, if this organization of employers may properly take an active part in politics as a body, why should not an organization of employees do the same thing with equal propriety?

Men and newspapers ought to be fair with labor leaders and labor unions, even if they do not agree with them politically. The Leader does not agree with Gompers politically, but we contend that he and the Federation of Labor can with the same propriety and have as much right to support Bryan as have Van Cleave and the Manufacturers' Association to oppose him.—Pittsburg Leader.

KERN TO SPEAK HERE.

Democratic Vice-Presidential Candidate Coming to Greensboro.

Democrats in this section will be greatly interested in the announcement that Hon. John W. Kern, of Indianapolis, Ind., the Democratic nominee for vice-president, will deliver an address in Greensboro on the night of October 6th.

This announcement was received by Mr. T. C. Hoyle, chairman of Mr. A. L. Brooks' campaign last evening in the form of a telegram from National Chairman Norman E. Mack. While out west Mr. Brooks extended an invitation to Mr. Kern to visit Greensboro, but did not receive any definite promise from him.

The people of Greensboro have never heard Mr. Kern, but it is safe to say that he will be greeted by a tremendous crowd when he comes here. It is presumed that he will speak in the Grand.

John Mitchell's Position.

Much is being said about John Mitchell not being in favor of Samuel Gompers' political policy. The following is a statement made by Mr. Mitchell to a newspaper reporter at Denver, Col., immediately after the Democratic convention in that city:

"I think I may say that we are all satisfied with the Democratic anti-injunction plank. It is good—very good. It is particularly gratifying to us to have included in this plank the right of the workers to organize. That is what we have fought for so long and that is what is now made a crime by the interpretation of the Sherman anti-trust law by the Supreme Court of the land.

"It is necessary that labor organizations should be considered legal in order that the industrial tranquility may obtain in this country. The jury trial for contempt cases is another feature with which we are extremely pleased."

The Sun Roasts Taft.

So Mr. Taft has become a member of the International Association of Steam Shovelers! Well it is only a step from the steam roller to the steam shovel, and we suppose it is becoming that we congratulate both the union and its new beneficiary. All the same we wish that Mr. Taft had not taken this step. He can have had no motive in doing so but to get votes, and we think he would have got more votes had he declined the honor—we mean more union votes. We think that sensible and self-respecting wage-earners all over this country are impatient with being coddled and wheedled by politicians who want their suffrage.—New York Sun.

Quite a Difference.

Of course, there is nothing in the present political situation that need work for forfeiture by any member of organized labor of his right as a citizen to support that party which best meets his views. Equally of course, the members of organized labor are at liberty to accept nomination for office on any ticket. All this may be taken for granted. At the same time, we cannot help thinking that those trade unionists who may differ from the majority concerning the proper policy of labor in the present circumstances might well waive their rights so far as to refrain from running for office on the ticket of labor's avowed enemies. It is one thing for a trade unionist to exercise his right to differ with other trade unionists in political matters; it is quite another thing for such trade unionist to go bodily into the line of the other side.—Coast Seaman's Journal.

MR. W. B. SCOTT ANALYZES MR. ELWOOD COX.

The Republican party is now before the people in its true light. It has named as its standard bearer J. Elwood Cox, of High Point. As a banker, manufacturer and railroad director, he is a success.

Why should the Republican party depart from its custom of nominating a professional politician and call as its leader a man from business life? "There's a reason."

Class lines are being closer defined every day, class consciousness arrays the capitalist against the awakening army of workers. Where a man's interests are there will that man be found. In the ranks of the Republican party, the captains of industry, the trust lords, bankers and railroad magnates have taken their stand and today Republicanism means nothing less than the rule of the moneyed interests.

Now that the workers, through the effects of Republican prosperity, are no longer gorging themselves from the full dinner pail, they have had time to think. Some new ideas have been bumping against that old partisan rot handed them year after year by pie-counter politicians. They are learning that Republican laws and policies benefit only one class and that class is the capitalist. Republican politicians have watched this growing discontent but they were not dismayed. Might makes right and the almighty dollar yet rules.

William Taft's labor record makes him a fitting puppet for capital to place in the executive chair. Had Taft not been perfectly acceptable to the moneyed interests his nomination would have been impossible. To counteract the loss of the enlightened workers it was up to the Republican bosses of this state to select a man who could pull the Democratic business men into the Republican party forming a community of interests "against insane legislation."

That Mr. Cox is satisfactory to the Democratic capitalist, is shown by the many letters and telegrams urging his acceptance of the nomination and pledging support. Nominally, Mr. Cox is the candidate of the Republican party, actually, he is the candidate of the capitalists, the railroads, bankers, and manufacturers.

If you are either of these, you are a fool if you do not vote for him, or at least you are woefully ignorant of your own interests, and if you are neither of these and you vote for him, you are a fool or else you are densely ignorant, for you have nothing in common with him nor those things for which he stands.

Mr. Cox is a banker. As governor, he would advocate such measures as would aid the bankers to make more money. Have you a dollar in a bank? If that bank through its gambling operations should fail, do you think you would get that dollar? Does Mr. Cox's party stand for guaranty of bank deposits? Postal savings banks would be safe institutions and every cent you deposited would be backed by the United States government. Does Mr. Cox stand for postal savings banks? No. Private bankers take the money that you deposit with them, and loan it again and again, at high rates of interest, reaping a golden harvest through manipulation of your savings, and Mr. Cox stands for bankers making more money.

Mr. Cox is a railroad director; if governor he would support such measures as would give the railroads greater freedom in robbing the people. As railroads are public service corporations, franchised by the people, they should be operated for the benefit of all the people, transporting passengers and freight at an equitable rate. Mr. Cox would annul the authority of the corporation commission, remove all restraint and allow the railroads to charge excessive rates for inadequate service. As he rides on a pass and ships in car load lots, passenger fares do not bother him and he receives the minimum freight rates. If you own a railroad or two vote for Mr. Cox.

Being a manufacturer, if elected governor, Mr. Cox would do the bidding of those who placed him in power. Such legislation as they desired would be promptly passed, while such legislation as was beneficial to labor would suffer abortion. Do you think Mr. Cox would favor the eight-hour day? the employers liability act? an effective child labor law? sanitary shop conditions? increase of wages? an anti-injunction law? the union shop? If you think Mr. Cox would favor these things, you forget the reason of his nomination.

Mr. Van Cleave is more than pleased at Mr. Cox's nomination, as they are bound by ties of common interest—gathering in the dollars produced by the sweat of labor. What is Mr. Cox's record at home? A shuttle block monopolist and head of the furniture trust. What has he done for labor? He was one of the chief priests at High Point's degradation of labor, when nearly a thousand workmen, because of their adherence to the principle of liberty of thought and action were deprived of their jobs and starved into submission. Mr. Cox was principal in the lockout.

If your interests are identical with Mr. Cox's, vote for him; if you earn your bread with the work of your head and hand, seek elsewhere for your leader. Remember the lookout.

Contentment is natural wealth; luxury is artificial poverty.—Socrates.

TRADES UNION PUBLICITY.

IX.—The Personal Element in Advertising.

By Rev. Charles Stelzie.

Most advertising is decidedly perfunctory; it lacks life and personality. To relieve the monotony of the average advertisement, some writers have introduced "outside" material which adds interest and gives information concerning the article advertised. They will tell you how a certain article was manufactured or they will narrate some other interesting facts in connection with its production. Many department store advertisement writers print daily at the head of their full page advertisements, about 100 words of store news, taking the readers into their confidence concerning some phase of life in connection with the store. It may be something about its bigness, its management, its esprit de corps, the story of an unusual development in one of its departments or some other feature which will give the public a greater interest in the enterprise. Both these methods may be employed in trades union advertising.

More should be said of the history of organized labor. Something might well be said concerning its struggles. Such a phrase as this may be properly employed: "For many years the common people fought for a religious democracy, and they won. Then they took up the battles in behalf of a political democracy and they conquered. They are now making the fight for an industrial democracy, and they are sure to win."

To thoroughly analyze the characteristic or predominant feeling in a community with regard to the labor union will be invaluable in approaching the people through an advertising campaign. To speak directly to this situation will attract and interest them. A series of letters might be sent to certain individuals whose interest it is desired to secure, or a series of statements might be printed in the newspapers. The first might deal with the personality of the men who are in the labor union, the character of the talk depending, of course, upon the particular point that one is trying to make. If, for instance, it is desired to impress a community with the sobriety and general religious feeling among the men in the union, one might state of the total number, so many are abstainers from intoxicating liquors, so many are members of the church, so many own their homes, so many have deposits in the banks, so many are heads of families—all of which, and much more that might be said, indicates that the men in the union are a good class of citizens.

The second letter might deal with the spirit of democracy which is found in the labor union, giving some points as to how this spirit is manifested, in the free and full discussion of every question that is presented, and in the equality of rights. Other points will no doubt suggest themselves. If three or four of such letters were issued, they would be sure to make a favorable impression upon the outsider.

DOES THIS PAPER SUIT YOU?

A Dozen Ways You Can Help to Make It Better.

No one knows the struggle a labor paper has except those at the helm; those who are responsible for its advancement; those whose very existence depends on the paper being a success. You don't know, nor can you know, the trials and tribulations that beset a newspaper published in the interests of the workers.

If you did, it would surprise you at the lack of interest taken by the very men whose cause the paper aims to push forward; whose interests the editor has at heart and desires to advance.

In the hope of bettering conditions for the labor press, I would offer the following suggestions:

1. Subscribe for the labor papers, and see that your benchmark does likewise.
2. Pay your subscription when it is due, and don't grumble about the price.
3. Read the paper and give thought to the various articles, for they have found space in the paper because of their educational qualities.
4. Ask your merchant to advertise in the labor papers.
5. Buy from those merchants who ask for your patronage through its columns.
6. If there is any news concerning the shop or the union, see that the editor gets it.
7. Have a member of the union appointed as correspondent to the paper, and see that he does his duty.
8. If there is any certain article that does not please you, don't knock the paper, but go see the editor. He had good reasons for printing it, and can explain to your satisfaction.
9. Remember, there is only one labor paper to three hundred other kinds, and they mostly belong to the capitalist class. All the more reason you should support the labor paper with all the power at your command.
10. Don't knock the paper because it is smaller than a Sunday edition of a daily or has less features. The reason it is not on a par is that the support you give it is not on a par with that you give the daily. Every dollar a labor paper earns, and many of the editor's private stock, provided he has not been in business very long, goes toward increasing the paper.
11. A labor paper is a part of the organized movement, and as essential to the movement as the members and should be considered as such by all concerned.
12. Boost the paper at every opportunity.

unity; the merchant and the capitalist will respect you for it, and say that man has the principle in him, and it is no use to offer him a reduction.

ROOSEVELT AND TAFT.

Must Think Working People Are Body of Habitual Criminals.

It is about time the workmen of this country began to resent the insult tone in which President Roosevelt always addresses them, and which Candidate Taft is imitating just as he imitates every other habit and mannerism of his patron. "You have a right to organize, but you've got to obey the law"—that is the one stock phrase each of these men has ready whenever he finds himself before an audience of workmen. One might suppose that the working people were a body of habitual criminals, to hear these politicians lecture and warn and threaten them.

But Mr. Taft, in his speech at Athens, last week, did not content himself with thundering at the labor unions about the majesty of the law. He had the temerity to say, "The labor organizations must exercise their power within the law exactly as combinations of capital exercise their power within the law."

We have had some investigations in the last few years. The insurance companies have been investigated and a number of the big banks and trust companies, and great railway corporations, and rich municipal franchise corporations and the meat trust, and the Standard Oil Company, and a good many others. The one result of these investigations has been to show that the combinations of capital do not exercise their power within the law except when the law happens just to suit their purposes, that any law which conflicts with their schemes is a laughing stock for them; that, with few exceptions, the great capitalists in control of them are guilty of perjury, bribery, breach of trust, misappropriation of funds, and a whole series of offenses against the common and statute law, and that the party which has nominated Mr. Taft at Mr. Roosevelt's command is a regular partner in a large number of these crimes and has systematically conspired in the law.

If Mr. Taft wants to preach obedience to the law, let him get together an audience of bankers, railway presidents, manufacturers, merchants and contractors, and tell them that they have got to obey the law as faithfully as the average union workman actually does. We should like to see him try it. But if he is prudent, let him accompany the speech with a very obvious wink. For if he should ever convince the big business men that he really meant to try to make them obey the law the result would be to convince the most "respectable" elements in his party that Bryan or even Hearst is a "safer and saner" candidate than he.—New York Evening Call.

TYPOTHETAE'S HUMILIATING FLOP.

The New York branch of the United Typothetae of America will present the following proposition to the national convention of their organization—that is, if enough members remain to constitute a convention—for the approval of the few who survive in a contest that was lost to them from its very inception:

"We believe that the United Typothetae of America should remain an association broad enough in its policy to include all printers, whatever their opinions concerning expediency or inexpediency of employing union labor or making union contracts."

Ye gods! How the mighty have fallen! Why, these are the people who said not long ago that when a member of the N. T. A. signed a union contract his membership then and there terminated; and these are the people who snobbishly turned down the printers' international officers' proposition to enter into an agreement whereby the eight-hour day and union shop could be "eventually" accomplished without resort to strike and the consequent loss of business on the part of the employer; and these are the people who permitted an exaggerated ego to displace common sense and wise judgment in an attempt to defeat an organization which never has and never will accept anything short of victory, even if it requires years and years to win; and these are the miserable remnants of a once strong and powerful combination of business men, respected by the union printers and the public, but who made the fatal mistake of running off after false prophets like Ellis, McIntyre and Neumacher, only to fall at last under the heavy millstone fastened about their necks by their discredited and humiliated "leaders."

Moral—Chickens will come home to roost.—Nashville Labor Advocate.

A Great Responsibility.

In its appeal to organized labor to stand by its friends and defeat its enemies, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor uses this language:

"No man can fall to bear the responsibility toward himself and his fellows today, and for generations to follow, without being recreant to his own conscience and the moral obligation devolving upon him."

Brother, isn't this putting the question up to you in as strong a manner as it could be done? Isn't it about time you were thinking of the immensity of your part in the running

of the government—whether you shall shoulder the responsibility like a man, or whether you shall shirk it by voting for labor's enemies, thus placing fresh shackles upon yourself as well as upon all the rest of the working host?

Think it over seriously. It is a mighty important matter.—Nashville Labor Advocate.

LET TAFT FEEL THE STING.

Time Has Arrived for Organized Labor to Defeat Enemies.

In William Taft, candidate for the presidency, we behold an ex-injunction judge, the father of anti-labor injunctions.

Organized labor is requested to support him. Will organized labor comply?

The time has arrived when organized labor should put its stamp of disapproval, and in an emphatic manner, upon the aspirations of any candidate for political honors who has shown partiality to labor's enemy. To approve or endorse the candidacy of William Taft would mean to endorse the recent decisions of the United States Supreme Court; to vote for and elect him would mean to seal labor's doom.

Judge Taft, as an injunction president, would be placed in a position to inflict even greater injury to organized labor.

Let the man or party who will rob labor of its rights feel the sting of our displeasure at the ballot box. In vain has nature provided any beast or insect with means of defense if he fail to use the weapon given him. And utterly useless is the priceless ballot in the hands of workmen if they are too lavish to employ it in their own defense.—Industrial Weekly.

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 the 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 contend 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 they probably would not notice it. They cry hard times; they tell you the working 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. Yours for business, The Original Racket Store, A. V. SAPP, Prop. 318 South Elm Street.

WE WANT YOUR PATRONAGE.

All kinds of China, Glass-ware, Tin-ware and household necessities at reasonable prices. Hagan's China Store.

DON'T FORGET US WHEN YOU have to buy a wedding present. We sell out glass, hammered brass, fancy china, fancy lamps, etc., at reasonable prices. Hagan's China Store.

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These two words mean a great deal. Purity of drugs and accuracy of compounding are of the utmost importance when it is a particular case, and you want to be absolutely sure. Come to us. We appreciate your business and you are always welcome whether you buy or not.

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