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WHEN THE OLD SUBSCRIBER QUIT

'Twas market day, and people came
From miles and miles around
To gather at the corners or
Upon the courthouse ground,
To sell their truck, to buy new duds,
To talk of this and that—
And each browned face its pleasure smiled
Beneath a broad-brimmed hat.

And at the business office of
The *Weekly Clarion* stood
A long line of faithful ones,
To make their standing good:
And as each in his turn advanced
And his subscription filed,
The editor, beside his desk,
Just smiled, and smiled, and smiled.

For it was good to hear the clink
Of money, and 'twas fine
To know the *Clarion* was the guide
Of all that eager line;
'Twas cheering to hear that he
Had been their monitor,
And so he smiled, and smiled, and smiled,
And let his fancies soar.

Came maid and swain, came old, came young,
Their tribute then to pay—
And oh! the sun was shining fair
Upon that happy day,
Until from out the line there stepped
A hoary-headed one,
Who straghtway gloomed the cheerful sky
And blotted out the sun.

"Look here!" he said, "I tuk this sheet
For nigh on forty year
And I ain't satisfied at all
Th' way you're doin' here!
By gum, your policies is rank,
And I come t' say
As how I don't want this blamed sheet
Another single day!"

Then out he stalked, as having done
His duty as he knew it—
"By gum, he said, "I hated tew,
But I jest had t' dew it!"
And to his clerk the editor
Turned in his deep distress:
"The deacon's stopped his paper, Jim—
Go down and stop the press!"

—BALTIMORE NEWS.

BLESSING OF THE TARIFF.

White paper is too cheap. It is but seventy-five per cent. dearer in this country than it is in countries where the workingmen do not get rich on the wages that protectionism secures to them.

That will never do. The millionaires of the paper trust, like the millionaires of the coal trust, must have more money. Not even a hundred per cent. above the normal price of white paper would compensate them for what they do for the American workingmen. It is true their American workingmen are frequently imported; but that, too, is a beneficence because it brings more men for the farmers to feed.

Now the men who do the work do not accept the millionaire's view of the magnificence of the wages the International Paper Company pays—when forced to pay. They have asked for higher wages at the great Glen Falls mill of the trust, and the magnates, looking at the subject from the principle involved—they don't care a fig for the money—have declared they will close all of the trust's thirty-three mills before they will yield to the shameful and dishonest demand for more wages.

Meantime, with the high tariff duty to protect the consumers from using the imported and pauper-made paper of Canada or Europe, the trust doesn't care how much the price of paper advances. It will be sure to advance if the supply is exhausted in this country, for foreign paper cannot complete because of the tariff.

The protective tariff is a great blessing. The trusts could not exist without it. And then white paper is too cheap anyhow.—*Portsmouth Star.*

Labor Notes.

The Boston bakers who struck for higher wages and shorter hours won their fight, as the largest concerns in the Master Bakers' Association granted their demands at once. This averted a bread panic.

According to the last count there are now 35,000 women trade unionists in Chicago. There is scarcely a trade in which women are employed which is not unionized.

A formal blacklist against the New Haven road was issued by President McNeil, of the National Boilermakers' Union. Every union Boilermaker in America is forbidden to work on boilers for the Consolidated Railroad.

In accordance with the summons of the Governor, after the Government's defeat in Parliament last week, Mr. Watson, the leader of the Australian Labor party, has formed a ministry. It is composed entirely of members of the Labor party, except in the case of the Attorney-General.

The Boston Central Labor Union has published in pamphlet form the reply to the address of President Eliot, of Harvard, delivered under its auspices in Faneuil Hall, February 21, by Frank K. Foster, of Typographical Union No. 13. Copies may be obtained by writing Secretary Henry Abraham, 11 Appleton street, Boston, at 10 cents each, or \$5 per 100.

Fifty unions in Porto Rico have been formed since the island became a United States possession. Most of them are chartered direct by the A. F. of L., the others being branches of the carpenters', bricklayers', painters' and printers' international unions, whose headquarters are in the United States.

An attempt by Master Bakers of Chicago to import twenty-nine bakers from St. Louis to fill the places of strikers resulted in the kidnapping of twenty-seven. Within half a block of the shops they were surrounded by several hundred union bakers' sympathizers and hustled off before the police arrived.

Two thousand Chicago picture frame workers went on strike May 2d, to resist an attempt of the picture frame molding manufacturers' association to return to a ten-hour workday. Although a few of the smaller manufacturers have renewed last year's agreement with the union, the strike will practically tie up the industry in Chicago.

District No. 1 of the Anthracite Mine Workers, some 75,000 in number, have sent a petition to President Roosevelt asking him to intercede in the Colorado strike. The President is asked to institute immediately an investigation under Federal jurisdiction for the purpose of giving the people of the country complete knowledge of the situation and to restore liberty to the citizens of Colorado.

COLORADO AN EXAMPLE AND A WARNING.

Serious men throughout the country, all men capable of thought beyond their immediate daily personal concerns, are appalled by the condition of things in Colorado.

There is civil war in an American State. Battles are being fought between citizens and the militia, following upon acts of violence committed by striking miners and upon striking miners by the mine owners and their associates. The civil officers have been compelled to resign with ropes around their necks—placed there not by the strikers, but by the Citizens' Alliance, composed of employers. Many lives have been lost, and much property has been sacrificed, and each side to the conflict accuses the other of excelling in murder and destruction. Finally the law has been suspended, and martial rule has taken its place.

What is the cause of this frightful state of things?

"The tyranny of the miners' union—its attempt to drive non-union labor from the region"—that is the answer currently given.

It is a shallow and an untrue answer. The cause goes much deeper, a cause which is operative in other States than Colorado, and everywhere must in time produce like results if it shall be allowed by the American people to continue to operate.

Ray Stannard Baker, an impartial investigator and witness, writing in McClure's Magazine for May, lays bare the whole story of how lawlessness has bred lawlessness in Colorado. He does not spare the miners, but neither does he spare the wealthy and eminently respectable citizens who deliberately created the present situation.

The Western Federation of Miners sought to organize the men working amid the poisonous fumes of the furnaces twelve hours out of each twenty-four, with the object of procuring for them an eight-hour day. The miners of Cripple Creek and Victor went on a sympathetic strike. The struggle was carried into politics, and the Legislature passed an eight-hour law. This statute was declared unconstitutional by the State Supreme Court, although the United States Supreme Court had previously upheld a similar law passed in Utah, and though such legislation has been held valid in Kansas, Nevada, Arizona and elsewhere.

The labor unions appealed to the people of Colorado at large, and in November, 1902, an eight-hour law amendment to the constitution was adopted by the tremendous majority of 46,714 votes. Both political parties pledged themselves in their platforms to pass a law in accordance with this amendment.

Mr. Baker records what happened when the Legislature of 1902-3 met:

At once a powerful lobby appeared, such prominent citizens of Colorado as J. B. Grant, representing the American Smelting and Refining Company (the Smelter Trust); Crawford Hill, of the Boston Smelting Company; Caldwell Yeaman, of the Victor Coal and Coke Company, and J. C. Osgood, of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, one of the greatest corporations of the West—these were the same interests that had fought the former eight-hour law. They now appeared before the Legislature, they and others, confusing the issue with multitudinous suggestions disagreeing, "jockeying"—but all the time really endeavoring to prevent the passage of the law necessary to make the amendment effective. It was nothing to them that the people of Colorado had declared such a law to be their will by an immense majority; it interfered with their business interests! And they had a lawless Legislature to deal with. * * * By the wording of the amendment it was made mandatory on the Legislature to pass the eight-hour law—"The General Assembly shall provide by law"—and yet they adjourned without passing it.

RARELY, INDEED, HAS THERE BEEN IN THIS COUNTRY A MORE BRAZEN, CONSCIENCELESS DEFEAT OF THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE, PLAINLY EXPRESSED, NOT ONLY AT THE BALLOT-BOX, BUT BY THE PLEDGES OF BOTH PARTIES. AND THE GREAT CORPORATIONS OF COLORADO CONTINUED SNUGLY WITH THEIR NINE, TEN

AND TWELVE HOUR DAYS—EARNING A LITTLE MORE PROFIT

And this happened at the capital of Colorado commonly happens at every State capital—conspicuously at Albany—whenever private interests come into collision with public interests. PULL AND BOODLE PREVAIL.

"Obey the law," the restive workingman or other citizen is told, and rightly. "If the law does not suit you, go to the ballot-box and change it. This is the American way. It is your only remedy. Try any other and you will be met by the club of the policeman and the gun of the soldier. It is society's duty to itself to maintain the supremacy of the law."

So it is. But it is also equally incumbent upon society to see to it that the law is just—that it is worthy of respect in its origin and not a thing born of corruption and designed to protect greed and crime.

THE WORST OF CRIMINALS IN THIS REPUBLIC ARE THOSE WHO POISON THE LAW AT ITS SOURCE. They are the foremost and most efficient promoters of anarchy, for when they procure or prevent legislation by bribery they destroy faith in the potency of the ballot, and so invite violence.

Colorado is an example and a warning. Wealth without moral restraint or sense of public obligation has made a mockery of the law there. By its own lawlessness it has provoked answering lawlessness.

It is not only the striking miners that are suffering the consequences of legislative corruption and a partial judiciary in Colorado. The entire State is in a turmoil. Business throughout the commonwealth is profoundly disturbed and in some places utterly disorganized. Idleness has fallen upon thousands of workers, and merchants find their sales dwindling for lack of customers. Stockholders in corporations are going without their dividends. Taxes have risen and must long continue high in order to pay the cost of a militia kept on a war footing for months. The corruption of Colorado's Legislature in the interest of her selfish and criminal corporations has brought loss to every home in the State and want and misery into many.

The fruits of government by the trusts for the trusts—government by private interests for private interests; government by pull and boodle—are being gathered by the people of Colorado.

And these same fruits must inevitably be gathered by the people of every State, sooner or later, where the trusts are allowed to rot the government for their own profit, regardless of the public welfare.

The trusts, which go sack in hand to the State capitals, are the most dangerous of the Republic's enemies. They kill faith in ballot, break down respect for law, rouse class against class, spread a spirit of desperation, and in their blind greed and brainless contempt for consequences prepare the way for violence. They turn baffled and angry men's minds toward what should be the last thought to occur to the citizens of a manhood-suffrage Republic—rebellion and revolution.

The problem raised by Colorado is not how to suppress violence, but how to prevent violence by attacking the cause.

Trust corruption, trust lawlessness—how is this to be met and conquered?

The question goes to the pocket as well as to the patriotism of every honest man in the American Union.

—New York American.

The Bishop of Stepney told a striking story when addressing the Federation of Workingmen's Clubs the other day. He described the confusion and noise at Liverpool street Station one night when the suburban trains, workingmen's trains and a number of excursion trains were being rapidly dispatched one after another. In the midst of the noise and push there stood a porter so calm good tempered and helpful as to be remarkable. At last the bishop went up to him and said: "My friend, how can you do it?" and the man replied: "Why, sir, you ought to know. The grace of God!"—*London Mail.*

Call it Hearst and let it go at that.

MITCHELL AGAINST PEABODY.

ALSO AGAINST EVERYBODY WHO IS FOR HIM.

President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, was before a mass meeting of labor hosts in Coliseum Hall, in Denver, recently. He said:

If I have a friend in Colorado, if there is a trades unionist in this State, if there is a good citizen in Colorado, who believes my judgment to be good, I say he should repudiate the acts of Governor Peabody.

"Governor Peabody has said recently that he advised the coal companies to treat with their own employes, and the companies replied that they were willing to treat with their men, but refused to meet committees of employes dictated to by John Mitchell.

"I say publicly that last December, when I talked to Governor Peabody, I urged that the companies treat with their own men. I offered to withdraw all officials of the United Mine Workers from the field. I was always willing that the companies treat with their own men. When the Governor says to the contrary, he lies. At that time he even had the chance to name a committee of miners to treat with the companies.

"I repeat, that every person in this State ought to repudiate this Governor, and I say, as a Republican, that the Republican party of Colorado ought to repudiate him. I further say that every Republican workman in Colorado ought to work against him.

"I say this as an admirer of the President of the United States. You in Colorado have been through the mill—I want to make myself square—as far as I am concerned, and as far as every coal miner in the State is concerned—we're not for Peabody—we're against him.

"If there's one's union coal miner in Colorado that is for Peabody—I say this as far as I am concerned—he will be put out of the union. I say this with a full realization of what it means.

"I'm called a conservative leader—in fact, in this western country, I'm accused of being too conservative, but I want to say to the most radical among you—as far as I'm concerned—I'm against Peabody. I'm against the man that's against the common people. If a Republican stands for the people, fight for him; if a Democrat is for the people, fight for him, and if a socialist is for the people, fight for him.

"I'm against any man from any party that's against my people, and I'm for any man that's for my people—and I stand for the men who stand for my people—and my people are the working people. I want to make this impression—I want to say as a personal friend of President Roosevelt, and a member of the Republican party, I repudiate absolutely the acts of Governor Peabody.

"I say this with a full realization

of the significance of what it means. If the Republican party doesn't repudiate absolutely what Peabody has done, then I say vote against the party. Governor Peabody has not only disgraced the Republican party of Colorado, but of the entire country.

"Again as a workingman and a Republican, I repudiate him—and I wish to repeat that I mean what I've said about him. He's no friend of yours; no friend of government; no friend of law and order. As a workingman, a Republican and citizen, I'm against him."—*American Industries.*

MISSION OF TRADE UNIONISM

"The American trades union was born with a sympathetic soul. Her ear is turned to catch the whispering wails of oppression. Her tongue has always denounced the wrong and upheld the right. Her hands have always been lifting men to a higher and better life by shortening their hours of toil, increasing their environments in general. If she has erred it has been on the side of mercy and humanity, for, as an organization, she has always marched forward, only demanding the God given and constitutional rights of the American workmen, seeking to arouse them to a sense of their rights as citizens of a great republic and through organization establish their liberty. She has never thrown down the gauntlet to any one and only stood by demanding the rights of free men under a free flag. If this is un-American I pause for some one to show me where and why."—*W. H. Mahon.*

Socialism is growing more rapidly in the United States today than any radical economic idea ever grew in any country during a period of prosperity, and it is of the most pronounced class-conscious kind. Should there come a period of depression as in the latter '80's it will grow many times faster, and should a panic like that of '93' follow, nothing can save this country from political and industrial revolution. The exploiting class realize this, and they are preparing for it.—*Bismarck Banner.*

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