

UNITY MAKES FOR PROGRESS

Labor Movement's Advance Has
Been Steady and Sure.

METHODS MAINLY PRACTICAL

Trade Unionism Has Been Wisely Guided by Its Leaders—That the Policies Pursued Have Been Safe and Sane Is Proved by the Splendid Results So Far Attained.

So long as the workers preserve their unity they will advance. So long as each exercises an intelligent interest in the others, just so long will the safety and welfare of all be assured, but the history of every movement for the betterment of the workers points with unerring accuracy to the cunning of the interests in promoting discord and destroying harmony in the ranks of the toiler. They contrive to so manipulate things that the workers are torn apart and pitted against each other in bitter strife. Sometimes this is done by cleverly injecting false yet plausible issues into the movement through the instrumentality of honest fools or crooked self seekers. Frequently tempting bait is held out to lead astray the short sighted and selfish and thus cause friction and factions. Occasionally the shrewd and crafty interests lull the toilers to sleep through flattery and praise and the assurance that they are deeply concerned for the welfare of the downtrodden and the oppressed.

The labor movement has made marvelous progress in America during the past century, and particularly since the establishment of the American Federation of Labor, but this progress has been due to the good sense and the loyalty of the men and women who make up the membership of our unions and not to the waving of magic wands by fairy queens who would have us follow them into the unexplored regions of Utopia.

The toiler is better off today than he has been in any period of history because he has faced forward and marched straight ahead, beating his way through the solid walls of opposition without any of the detours or parleys urged by the visionary and impractical. The struggle has been a long and tiresome one, but the perseverance of the workers has not lagged or weakened through it all and will not do so until industrial justice has been ushered into our scheme of things in enduring form.

There are those who complain that our progress has not been rapid enough to suit them, and we must admit it has traveled at a slow pace, but we have gone forward with as much speed as the vast army of toilers has been able to follow. It is perhaps true that here and there more rapid strides might have been taken had our desperation driven us to the gambler's chance, where either all is won or all is lost, but this is mere speculation based upon theory and not fact.

The unions are here after the strenuous fight—strong, healthy and prepared to continue the struggle in the interest of the membership—and this in itself

is evidence that the policies pursued have been in the main such as will bring us constantly nearer to our goal and keep the organizations in condition always to do the work that called them into being.

The industrial field is strewn with the skeletons of organizations that have gone down to death without having accomplished their designs, and an examination into the causes of their failure invariably leads to the dreamer reaching for the unattainable. Dreamers sometimes spin great yarns and occasionally leave loose ends that can be picked up by practical men and woven into useful shape, but the dreamer is never a leader capable of guiding his forces in a manner that will produce practical results.

The labor movement is a down on the earth bread and butter proposition calculated to benefit the membership now as well as in the future.

Those who have guided the destinies of the movement have not deemed it wise to follow every person who has held out before them plans for bringing about ideal conditions some time in the distant future, and the trend of events has demonstrated beyond the possibility of doubt that we owe our present proud position to the soundness of their judgment.

May all future actions be guided by the same high purposes and correct decisions which have made such splendid history for the toilers of our land in the years that have passed. Unity means progress.—Labor Clarion.

ORGANIZATION PAYS.

Policies of Two Labor Unions Contrasted on Results.

Writing in the official journal of the Brotherhood of Teamsters, Secretary Solem of the Minneapolis Milk Wagon Drivers' union contrasts the policy of that organization and a former local in the same calling at St. Paul. Both unions were organized about three years ago. After six months St. Paul demanded wage increases that averaged \$1 a day per member and refused to compromise. In another six months the union disappeared, and since then these drivers have suffered a five dollar per month reduction and are now working for \$50 and \$55 per month, with no vacation.

The Minneapolis drivers adopted a more cautious plan. By thorough organization they put all employers on the same competitive basis and then began improving working conditions and raising wages. Their present rate is \$75 a month, with two weeks' vacation.

A. F. of L. Office Building.

Labor's first representative in a president's cabinet—William B. Wilson, ex-secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America—removed the first spadeful of earth for the American Federation of Labor office building in Washington recently. President Gompers removed the second shovelful and Secretary Morrison the third. The building will be five stories in height, with a basement. The structure will be completed next spring.

Define "Domestic Servant."

The state attorney general of Texas has ruled that a "domestic servant," within the meaning of the compensation law, is a person engaged in the master's household and who is actually or substantially a member of the household. Walters in club houses cannot be classed as domestic servants and are therefore eligible to benefits under the new industrial accident law.

LABOR, ORGANIZE.

Let us continue to increase our strength and to fortify our position. Organized labor needs to control more industries and to exercise a greater power in commerce through the demand for union label goods. This will help us to oppose the products of poorly paid European labor in our markets and will help us to control the competition of the poorly paid European laborer who may come to our shores after the war is over.—Shoe Workers' Journal.

CHILD WELFARE EXHIBITS.

Federal Department of Labor Bulletin Suggests Methods of Work.

"Child Welfare Exhibits" is the title of a bulletin issued recently by the children's bureau of the federal department of labor. This has been prepared in reply to the many inquiries received by the bureau about exhibits, and single copies may be had for the asking. The bulletin will give those who expect to observe the nation wide baby week next March or those who are planning a baby show, a children's health conference or any kind of children's exhibit the benefit of expert advice and practical experience in successful exhibit work.

The bulletin is full of suggestions for communities of all sizes. It describes effective small exhibits of one or another phase of child problems. It defines a "child welfare exhibit" in the title of which the name of the city or state appears as a "well rounded presentation of the whole question of the welfare of the community's children" and sounds a warning against undertaking such a general exhibit without the co-operation of all the social agencies of the community.

The results of child welfare exhibits are emphasized. "A new factory inspector in Kansas City, a housing inspector in Louisville, a \$25,000 school building in a congested district of Northampton, increased sewer connections in Easthampton, where the ice supply of the town was menaced, are types of results which have been secured in practically every community that has devoted sufficient time and thought to the planning of a child welfare exhibit. In cities where no organized combination of social agencies exists to interpret and carry out the legislative program suggested by an exhibit the exhibit organization itself is often a first step to such combination."

The bulletin includes a complete list of all child welfare exhibits owned by state departments Jan. 1, 1915, and a copy of the record blank used at the children's health conference of the children's bureau.

W. and L. Has Midget Quarterback.

The Washington and Lee eleven has a featherweight quarterback. His name is Bagley, and his weight is 120 pounds.

"Safety First" in Woods.

In preparation for the winter season in the northern woods the Wisconsin state industrial commission is arranging to carry its "safety first" campaign into the logging industry. The commission states that 271 men were injured last year while handling axes and that 211 were injured by falling limbs.

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