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NO. 5.

READ AND CONSIDER

The relation which the atom bears to the organism in physical nature is the relation which the individual bears to society. The social organism is an aggregation of the atom man. Man represents in the creative sense a perfect harmony of animate forces, the co-association of energy with intelligence in the highest form of manifestation. From the laboratory of nature, and from out the cruder elements has evolved this wonderful and complex being. Man is, therefore, a being of the earth, and his welfare depends entirely upon the conditions surrounding his existence upon the earth.

The primary instinct of man is the preservation of life. The earth provides the means for his preservation and support, and by labor alone can he procure from the earth those things necessary for his support, which are food, raiment and shelter. That he may enjoy these things essential to life, he comes upon the earth with force sufficient to produce them. Thus the justice of the divine decree becomes naturally established: "In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat bread."

But through a failure on the part of society to recognize the importance and the justice of these primary principles, we see upon the earth classes who toil not for the bread they eat. These classes, who are in possession of the means of production and distribution, and all the machinery of the government, impose upon the toilers the burden of their support.

These conditions necessitate a class conscious movement upon the part of the working class. Numerous efforts have been made to remedy these evils, the most notable in America being the financially weak and imperfect system of organization of the once numerous but now corrupt and disintegrated Knights of Labor, and more recently the trade aristocracy and craft division of the A. F. of L. But the condition of the workers as a class is gradually becoming worse, and the attitude of the privileged employing class more arrogant and oppressive.

Believing, therefore, that the time has now come when an epoch will be marked in the history of the labor movement of America and the world, denoting either its progress or decay; and believing that the necessities of the times, as evidenced in recent industrial developments, indicate that perfect INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM, accompanied by independent working class political action, is the only form of labor organization that can successfully cope with the recent aggressions of capitalism on the industrial and political field, and feeling the incapacity of the workers otherwise to obtain for themselves that which by right belongs to them, we have formed the AMERICAN LABOR UNION, for the purpose of concentrating our energies and consolidating the labor forces.

The principle of Industrial Unionism, upon which the AMERICAN LABOR UNION is based, and the accompanying policy of independent, working class political action that it recommends, have both been in the process of development in several local, sectional and one international industrial organization (The United Brewery Workmen) before this organization was founded; but neither of those principles ever found intelligent, concrete expression from member to local, from local to national industrial, and from international industrial to general industrial organization until the amended and perfected Constitution of the American Labor Union was put before the world of labor, with the standing and perpetual challenge to any one in the world to successfully attack the principles and plan of organization therein set forth.

The AMERICAN LABOR UNION differs from the Knights of Labor in this that its industrial plan provides a sane recognition of trade rights, and at the same time embodies perfect working class unity at points involving the welfare of the working class as a whole. And in its Referendum Government, Central Defense Fund, and authority to compel every united body to support any injured members, it differs radically from other existing organizations on points essentially important in meeting modern industrial conditions. To say nothing of the wider and greater purpose of so organizing and educating the working class, industrially and politically, that finally the workers of the world shall truly be their own masters.

This is a new movement, born from the terrible struggles and bitter experiences of the Western working people.

Its advanced principles and correct policies have already shaken the older forms of organization from center to circumference.

It is becoming stronger and more effective in proportion to the growing intelligence of the working class.

Wherever it has thoroughly organized a district or an industry, it is as the Rock of Gibraltar before the onslaughts of the employing class, while the older and planless organizations of the past decay and crumble away as a consequence of the unbroken series of defeats they are now suffering, from Maine to California, and from Mexico to the Arctic Ocean.

The A. L. U. has already united together almost One Hundred Thousand of the best fighters in the American labor movement.

It provides financial protection for distressed members during strikes or lockouts, although it does not believe in strikes except as a last resort, and then only after the most thorough preparation for the contest.

Its members are consistent unionists, and never remain at work in a shop or industry where other men strike, regardless of the grievance or affiliation of the strikers.

Its guiding principles are "One For All, and All for One," and "An Injury to One is the Concern of All."

There is no "one man" power in selecting officers, making laws or deciding policies. The supreme authority is vested in the collective membership, and is expressed through the referendum vote thereof. There is the widest expansion of power in legislation; but, on the other hand, there is absolute centralization in administration. Thus, when a course of action is once decided upon by the collective membership, there is a direct execution of that plan, without pleading with each union separately, and with a righteous contempt for "appeals" and "resolutions of sympathy."

And through the whole system of organization runs the plan so to organize the workers of the various industries, and so to equip them through industrial organization, that the workers can finally take possession of those industries for themselves, peacefully through the ballot if possible, and operate them under the administration of a working class industrial government; thus insuring to every worker the full product of all useful labor of hand or brain.

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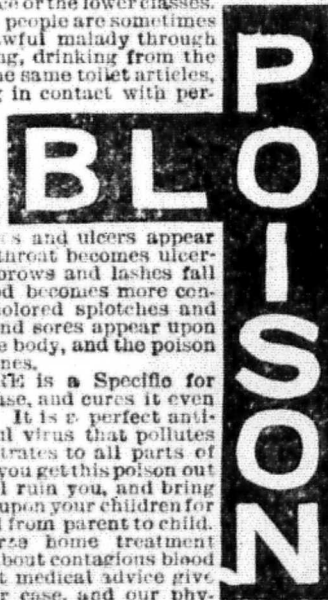
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THE WOLF HAS SHOWN HIS TEETH.

Voice of Labor

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ASSASSINATION NEXT.

(WRITTEN BY GEO. ESTES.)

THE WOLF HAS SHOWN HIS TEETH.

The cheap, paltry disguise of the "Civic Federation" which the ravenous "Trusts" are using as a sheepskin, in hopes of concealing the wolf of capitalistic greed beneath, deceives no one but the Trusts themselves.

August P. Belmont, multi-millionaire and representative of the Wolf, is President of the sheepskin Civic Federation, of which Samuel Gompers, President of the A. F. of L., by grace of Capitalistic influence, is the Vice President, making the A. F. of L. an appendix of the Civic Federation, or the tail of the sheepskin, which will, when the workers are fully awakened, effectually "CAN" these worthy Friends (?) of Labor.

But the Wolf, in desperation at the discovery of its sheepskin disguise, is showing its true character, and assassination, both figuratively and physically, has become part of its policy of extermination, of which the following facts give presumptive evidence:

The great State of Texas contains no large cities, and is therefore to some extent free from the terrible, grinding poverty of the more congested centers of population farther East.

Its vast distances and great expanse of territory generate freedom and independence of character in its ever-growing population, and this is a fertile soil for the growth of Industrial Unionism, which means power to resist the attacks of the Wolf of corporate greed, disguised by the sheepskin of the Civic Federation and its tail, the A. F. of L.

Industrial Unionism is gaining strength in Texas, and the Trusts are so greatly concerned therat that a "UKASE" has been issued to the A. F. of L. tail of the Civic Federation, decreeing that Industrial Unionism must be "STAMPED OUT" in Texas, no matter what extremes may be necessary to accomplish that end.

One Woodman, Organizer of the A. F. of L., embryo editor and officer of state and city Federations of Labor, located at Fort Worth, was recently ordered in a letter from Samuel Gompers, to go to San Antonio and destroy the United Brotherhood of Builders in the Alamo City.

The U. B. of B. is an Industrial Union, that is to say, it admits to membership all persons employed in the Building Industry, and it is united with the A. L. U. It has acquired a good start in San Antonio, and there are indications that workingmen engaged in the building trades all over North America are beginning to turn their attention to the U. B. of B. as the only solution of the fruitless jurisdiction battles and strike failures which have been the record of the class order form of union in the building trades hitherto.

The U. B. of B. therefore, which really offers an effective defense from the ravenous greed of the Wolf, has been ordered destroyed by the puppet which does the Wolf's bidding.

But the members of the U. B. of B. in San Antonio are fully informed of the "UKASE" and are familiar with

the regulation A. F. of L. methods of destroying, or attempting to destroy, A. L. U. or any other effective unions.

The A. F. of L. Grafters may be expected to make an agreement, if possible, with the contractors or employers of the A. L. U. members in San Antonio, to the effect that if the contractors or employers will discharge all of the A. L. U. men the A. F. of L. Grafters will furnish all the "Scab union" workmen the employers require, at lower rates than the A. L. U. men are working for. This was done by the A. F. of L. Grafters during the A. L. U. strike in the Kindell Mattress Factory and the paper mills at Denver in 1902.

Failing in this the Grafters will endeavor to win away the locals of the A. L. U. by circulating falsehoods against the A. L. U. and its officers, as is now being done or attempted by A. F. of L. organizer M. Grant Hamilton in Montana, who has gone to A. L. U. locals at Butte, Anaconda, Helena and other points in that state and tried to disrupt them.

If this method of warfare does not accomplish the purpose then the A. F. of L. Grafters usually attempt to start a "FAKE" strike of their own members, knowing that A. L. U. men will not scab from principle, and will attempt to pull the A. L. U. men out on strike with them, and then arrange, if not already prearranged, with the employers, if possible, to put their own men back to work, regardless of conditions they work under, and leave the A. L. U. men out, so as to destroy the A. L. U. unions in that way. The question of improving the conditions of the workers being of no moment compared to the paramount necessity, to the Capitalist class, of destroying Industrial Unionism.

This was done in Denver in May, 1903, when a general strike was started by the A. F. of L. Grafters that involved all of the A. L. U. unions of the city, and after all were out to help the A. F. of L., settlement was then made or attempted by the A. F. of L. on a basis that would leave the A. L. U. members out of employment and blacklisted.

Of course such utterly disreputable methods as these are so degraded in character that a Zulu, an inhabitant of the Fiji islands, or even a cannibal of the South Sea, would scorn to employ them, but they are well and commonly known to be the accepted methods of the A. F. of L. Grafters, and Industrial Unionists expect nothing better from that source.

Should all these "Honorable" methods fail there is still another plan open which has long been suspected but never openly talked of by the A. F. of L. publications until recently.

The monthly Journal of the International Union of Steam Engineers (A. F. of L.), issued under date of Dec. 15, 1904, speaking of Wm. Kehoe, President; James Trainor, Vice President, of Local 308, A. L. U., and other members of the A. L. U. in New York City, quotes an alleged statement from a supposed member of the I. U. S. E. to the effect that the only way to get rid of A. L. U. men is to "KILL A COUPLE OF THEM." This statement will be

found on page 648 of the I. U. S. E. Journal for December, and it is the real keynote to the methods of warfare now to be resorted to by the capitalist class and its sheepskin Civic Federation and the tail thereof, the A. F. of L., to exterminate Industrial Unionism.

There are many sidelights which go to prove the theory of assassination as the final weapon to be employed against Industrial Unionists.

At the New Orleans convention of the A. F. of L. in 1902, the Associated Press quotes Gompers as saying that bloodshed was probable over the question of jurisdiction.

The paid business agents of the A. F. of L. in the Stock Yards District of Chicago recently passed out the word that any attempt of A. L. U. representatives to talk on the platform or organize in that district would be met with personal violence.

The I. U. S. E. Journal comes out boldly and says the proposition of killing A. L. U. men has already been advanced.

The Texas Federation of Labor, composed of capitalistic A. F. of L. Class Unions, at its meeting in Galveston in last September, passed a resolution requesting all of the so-called "Trade" Unions in that state to co-operate immediately in "STAMPING OUT" the A. L. U. and U. B. R. E. in Texas, fearing the loss of the grafts that have been so long enjoyed by the Fake leaders of the so-called Trades Unions, and although the resolution, as published, does not say how far their purblind dupes are expected to go in the "STAMPING OUT" process, yet it is easy to see, in the light of past and current events, the real meaning of all of the surface indications.

W. L. Barnes and Jos. Hanselman, Organizers for the U. B. R. E. in Texas and Minnesota respectively, both honorable men, doing well at the work and not indebted to the Brotherhood or any of its Divisions, entirely disap-

peared, as if swallowed up by the Earth, in April and May last.

All of the clothing, effects and mail of Hanselman are retained at his boarding place in St. Paul, unclaimed, and he cannot be found.

All of Barnes' belongings, together with his mail, are being held in Houston at the office of the Agent of the U. B. R. E. and the country around Beaumont, where he was last seen, has been scoured in search of him, but no trace of him can be found.

In his case in particular, all evidence and the circumstances surrounding his disappearance, point in one direction, namely, that he has been made way with by those most interested in getting rid of him.

Barnes' entire work for the Industrial Union movement was in Texas, and his last work at Galveston and Beaumont. He opened a good Division of the U. B. R. E. at Galveston and was about to open a Division at Beaumont, having already taken many applications for membership at that place, when he disappeared.

His father and brothers have received no communications from him and his sweetheart, with whom he had corresponded for five years, has heard from him no more.

After the pitiless heat of a Southern Texas sun, during a Summer yet to come, has laid bare the bottoms of the more shallow bayous near Beaumont or along the Sabine River, the world may be startled for a day by the reported finding of a human skeleton, bleaching in the sun-baked mud, whose only mark of identification is the Industrial Union button of the U. B. R. E.

The sheepskin is falling away and the Wolf is becoming more and more apparent.

Its nature is always and will always remain the same, regardless of the temporary garb which it may assume.

THE WOLF HAS SHOWN HIS TEETH.

INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM.

This journal has on several occasions during the last two years discussed in plain terms the future of the labor movement. We have pointed out that while the organizations of labor in their present form may undergo great changes and even be completely annihilated, still the organization of the workers is a necessity from which there is no escape.

Organization is the spirit of the age in which we live. Our present form of society demands it. Capitalist industry makes it inevitable.

Therefore, while any particular form of organization may, in the struggle of classes and the strife of interests be greatly changed or entirely destroyed, the fact of organization itself is vital, and the new and better form will ever rise to take the place of the old.

Organization is a necessity; that alone insures it as a permanent means of progress and betterment to the working class.

The question of what is the better or best form of organization for the working class should ever be of vital importance to the members of that class. If a better form can be had there should be no delay in securing it.

The fact that we have one form under which we work now, should in no degree deter us from investigating another.

And when we are satisfied that results more satisfactory can be accomplished on other lines from those we have been following, it would be suicidal not to follow the dictates of a broadening intelligence and the course that experience suggests.

We believe it will be contended by none that the prevailing form of organization, dividing the workers, as it does, into separate and often conflicting divisions in the same establishment, is the best form. We declare that it is chaotic and harmful to working class interests.

The growing sense of solidarity among the workers

defects its weaknesses; experience condemns it and industrial conditions must inevitably force a change.

The change must, in our firm belief, be along the lines of industrial organization.

With the sole purpose of learning what is best to be done, without prejudice and freed from the influence of individual interests, consider the real situation as it exists to-day.

In an establishment employing five hundred working people, skilled and unskilled, there are represented five or ten different organizations. Each has its own methods, rules, agents and obligations. Each holds a certain relationship to a fifth or a tenth part of the people employed in the shop.

There are five or ten divided and conflicting interests to be conserved.

Each organization stands upon its own policy, and necessarily strives for advantages for its own members.

The result is disaster when the interests of employer and employed are in conflict. Then it is found that there is no cohesion between the five or ten parts constituting the working force in the shop. The elements lack logical consistency.

Of the five hundred employed, one-fifth or one-tenth are in trouble with the employer. They may be skilled or unskilled workers. In either case they are an essential factor in the operation of the shop, or they would not be there.

They are engaged in producing one thing or a number of things. Their joint labor is necessary to the production. The product results from their co-operative labor.

The few may have a real grievance, and work is suspended in their department. All the rest may or may not be affected—they usually are; in spite of themselves and without choice on their part they are involved in the difficulty, or else their individual economic interest and the conservation of their own organization has the effect of

deciding them to keep hands off and extend neither moral nor other support to the few.

This latter is more frequently the way it works, and the final outcome, as experience shows, is strife, bitterness and disintegration. All of which means loss to the workers and gain to the employer. The cause of the working class is weakened, while that of the master class is strengthened.

The economic interest of the five hundred employed in the shop is the same; their wages come from the same source—the sale of the product of their joint labor. Yet they are organized on the lines of their different trades.

They are working for one master, yet they are divided into groups and are often powerless to help each other.

They use different tools, but all contributing to the same end.

They have one interest in common, yet the "trade" organization, which professedly exists for their protection, is often a hindrance and always has the effect of blinding them to their class interests.

It suits the average employer to have this condition perpetuated, because it fits in with the scheme for promoting his interests. But there can be no consistent argument advanced for the continuance of such a system.

Both reason and experience point to the industrial form of organization, as vastly better. It tends not to class divisions, but to true working class solidarity.

There is no reason why the five hundred workers, em-

ployed in one shop and contributing to one result, should not be associated together in one organization.

Their interests are in common; they should be so organized as to be able to deal with their employer in common.

It is a noticeable fact worth mentioning in this connection, that the employing class itself has been quick to see the economic and strategic advantages in organization that included all engaged in slightly differing divisions of the same general industry. And this they can be depended upon to do more and more in the future.

It is, therefore, incumbent on the working class to equip itself with this more effective weapon of attack and defense—industrial unionism.

We need and must have a unionism that UNITES in place of a unionism that DIVIDES. To fulfill its mission—the establishment of the Co-operative Commonwealth—the working class must have the training which the school of industrial unionism alone can give them.

For this principle in working class organization the Metal Worker stands. Let all those who work for a single employer, whatever they may be doing as wage-takers, consider the matter. It is fraught with great benefits to them; it is the key to the supremacy of the highest unionism, the mastery of the working class over its essential means of employment and life.—The International Metal Worker.

ECONOMIC DETERMINISM.

BY THOMAS J. HAGERTY.

MORALS, education literature, laws and, in general, all social standards vary and shift with the progress of industrial development. A new machine affects the world's ethics more powerfully than dozens of volumes of theology, no matter how much the theologian, to borrow the words of Victor Hugo, may try, like Cuvier, "with one eye on Genesis and the other on nature, to place forms in harmony with texts and let Moses be flattered by the Mastodons." The prevailing methods of wealth production set the measure for government; broaden or limit franchises; and modify written constitutions.

The Railway World, Dec. 24, 1904, gives editorial recognition to this fact when it states that "it is to be very much questioned if the economic conditions which have given rise to powerful national corporations are not working a change in constitutional interpretation." State's Rights and similar doctrines were correct principles in the day and generation when economic forces were confined for the larger part within State boundaries. To-day the economic environment of the American people has become, through the transportation system, a National one, and in consequence old principles are no longer applicable."

Interstate Commerce Commissioner Charles A. Prouty, in an interview published by the Chicago Record-Herald, Dec. 31, 1904, makes a statement which furnishes the logical sequence of the capitalist's recognition of changed economic conditions: "The railroads, it is well known, own many of our courts, and other public bodies, but not because they have of necessity bought them by the expenditure of money. They have a different way of doing things. They see to it that the right men, the men of friendly inclinations, are elected."

Governor La Follette, of Wisconsin, in his message to the Legislature, declares that the railroad corporations control the commerce of Wisconsin, and through control of that commerce determine whether villages shall become cities, what cities shall become great markets, and dictate as to business supremacy in every industry. Ownership of the courts in furtherance of such control is shown, for example, by the following letters, written by two judges of the supreme court of Colorado to the attorneys for the Union Pacific Railroad:

"Denver, Aug. 29, 1903.

"State of Colorado, Supreme Court Chambers:

"Gentlemen—Please accept thanks for transportation inclosed in your favor of to-day. W. H. GABBERT."

"Messrs. Teller & Dorsey, City."

Denver, Colo., June 16, 1904.

"State of Colorado, Supreme Court Chambers:

"My Dear Sir—I thank you most sincerely for your favor. I asked Mr. Rogers to speak to you, because he knew better than anyone else what I had done for the railroad attorneys, and stand ready to do whenever I can. I hope to be able to prove my appreciation of this favor. Yours very truly,

JOHN B. COOKE."

"C. C. Dorsey, Esq.

A special telegram to the Chicago Record-Herald, under date of Jan. 12, 1905, from Albany, N. Y., informs us that "bills of members of the legislature of that state contracted in hotels and poolrooms were paid from a fund of \$23,000 raised by the New York State Liquor Dealers' Association to influence legislation." The testimony showed that \$9,000 was set aside for the separate purpose of influencing the state excise department. The machinery of law being cumbersome, capitalists cannot always wait for the organic changes in the structure of law which naturally follow new economic adjustments; and in consequence, we have much virtuous indignation wasted in press and pulpit over what is termed bribery of the lawmakers. The truth is that such bribery serves only to hasten the inevitable.

The decision against the closed shop, the fellow servant liability law, the injunction, the laws against picketing and boycotts, and the new property qualifications are all in response to fundamental revolutions in industry. It matters little whether the response comes spontaneously or through the forcing influence of bribery, political corruption or trickery in management of popular elections or not; the fact remains that economic determinism, or adjustment of social canons to industrial conditions, in the long run will bring about such alterations in existing statutes, ethical and commercial codes and habits of thought as will correspond to the transformations in the processes of production and distribution.

The philosophy of Socialism clearly demonstrates that, in

the main, civilization is governed by the material interests of the race and morality dominated by the prevailing economic methods. Thus, for example, as I have pointed out elsewhere, during fourteen centuries the Church condemned the taking of interest on money as a grievous offense and enacted severe penalties against it. The old doctrine of Aristotle that money is a barren metal remained unquestioned until the days of his erudite disciple, Thomas Aquinas, when the pressure of changed economic conditions, especially in the growing maritime commerce of Venice, slowly forced a modification of the Aristotelian argument.

The early fathers, Ambrose, John Chrysostom, Basil the Great, Jerome, Gregory the Great and their contemporaries, denounced interest-taking as a most heinous crime. The Council of Elvira in the year 306, the Council of Arles in 314, the Third Council of the Lateran in 1179, the Fourteenth Ecumenical Council under Popé Gregory X. in 1274, and the Council of Vienna in 1321, presided over by Pope Clement V., all pronounced the lending of money at interest a deadly sin. Why is it that we never hear the clerical henchmen of capitalism quoting from these great churchmen of the past on this point? Simply because present-day industrial conditions have more or less unconsciously wrought a change in the very language of theology and robbed the ancient word "usury" of its first meaning, which signified charging any amount whatsoever for the "use" of money.

Without formally admitting the law of economic determinism, Pastor, an ecclesiastic historian of high authority, attributes the so-called immorality in the middle of the fourteenth century to "the altered conditions of civilized life." Commercial progress, facilities of intercourse, the general well-being of all classes of society in Italy, France, Germany and the Low Countries, had gradually increased during the latter part of the thirteenth century. Habits of life changed rapidly, and became more luxurious and pleasure-seeking. The clergy of all degrees, with some honorable exceptions, went with the current. Gold became the ruling power everywhere. Alvaro Playo, speaking as an eye-witness, says that the officials of the Papal Court omitted no means of enriching themselves. No audience was to be obtained, no business transacted without money, and even permission to receive Holy Orders had to be purchased by presents." (History of the Popes from the Close of the Middle Ages, Vol. I., pp. 97, 98. London, 1891.)

To-day we find the same law of economic determinism at work in the Church's opposition to the international working class movement for the abolition of the capitalist system. The clergy of all degrees, with some honorable exceptions, now as then, go with the current. They own stock in the labor-crushing trusts, their names are found among the patrons of strike-breaking institutions and they are fully represented in the councils of the National Civic Federation. Like the various officials of government, they receive free passes or ride in private cars, placed at their disposal by the railroad corporations, not because these corporations are actuated by lofty motives of religion, but because their material interests are best served by securing, through such gentle blandishments, the active support of the clergy in upholding the present social system. And the clergy yield to these inducements because the law of economic determinism is stronger than dogma and greater than artificial moralities.

When chattel slavery was uppermost in the South, as the method of wealth production, there was no general questioning of its righteousness. It was defended from the

pulpit with texts of Holy Writ as overwhelming in their conclusiveness as the texts which were afterward quoted against it. The chattel slave, being the property of his master in the same sense as the horse or cow, the reproduction of his kind was regulated by the same rules as those which applied to the breeding of cattle. Marriage relations, in consequence, were established on principles absolutely at variance with the principles governing the "free" workers. When, however, chattel slavery gave way to wage slavery as the prevailing economic system, press, pulpit and judiciary receded from their position of championship in favor of the new industrial method. The literature, law and moral codes of the land underwent a corresponding change, and chattel slavery with all its customs and loose sexual modes, became immoral and illegal.

Contemporary history gives evidence of a reversion, here and there, to the coarser moralities of earlier industrial stages, which proves how flimsy is the structure of the present moralities. Where primitive circumstances of labor still survive in countries invaded by commerce from more highly organized and refined social groups, the elemental struggle for economic supremacy breaks through all the carefully contrived conventionalities of civilization and shows ugly and unrelenting in the nakedness of its brutality. Fine phrases of law and preaching of human rights give way to the song of the bullet and the cannon's roar.

This is particularly true of the Belgian syndicates in the Congo slave states under whose direction "an army of 30,000 is forcing the natives to bring in rubber and ivory. "If enough is not produced, this army holds women as "hostages, flogging and torturing them. This army chains "men to posts, cuts off the hands of little children, engages "in wholesale massacres of towns and villages, and practices almost every conceivable barbarity."

Edmund De Morel, who has written extensively of affairs in West Africa and French Kongo, lays bare in his latest book, "King Leopold's Rule in Africa," many of the cruelties perpetrated upon the simple natives.

"In four years the natives of the Kongo territories have been robbed, in the name of philanthropy and civilization, of produce collected by them to the tune of nearly £6,000,000. And that is the least count in the indictment. The number of human lives that have been sacrificed, directly and indirectly, in the process is appalling to contemplate. One of the largest of the trusts, Mr. Roger Casement tells us, expended in three years 72,000 cartridges 'in the production of india-rubber,' and he quotes a diary shown him testifying to the usage by the Government of 6,000 cartridges in six months on Mambozo River, 'which means that 6,000 are killed or mutilated, because for every cartridge used the soldiers must bring back a right hand.' The diary adds: 'It means more than 6,000, for the people told me repeatedly that the soldiers kill the children with the butt of their guns.'"

It is noteworthy that the Belgians at home are considered an eminently Christian people. Their land is dotted with schools and convents and they have no lack of courts and judges. Yet in spite of all this, when they enter upon wealth production in the different economic environment of Kongo, their habits of thought and customs adjust themselves to the dominant industrial methods; and we have an additional illustration of the classical formula of Dr. Alfred Russell Wallace, "The child and the man are alike the product of heredity and environment. No one deserves praise or blame, reward or punishment, for conduct due solely and inevitably to his heredity and environment."

COOING ROUND THE CAPITALIST THRONE.

"There was a little incident come to light last week which needs no account. 'Comrade' Parry is sending out circulars to the 'Appeal to Reason,' Berger's paper and others of the kind, asking them to club their papers with

the organ of the American Manufacturers' Association, i. e., Parry's national organ. Surely 'Comrade Parry was fighting for us.' Do the trades unionists fully grasp the intent and purposes conveyed by that incident?"

The above paragraph is taken from the editorial columns of the United Mine Workers' Journal, the official organ of the United Mine Workers and the unofficial organ of the United Mine Owners and the Civic Federation. The name of the editor of this paper is Sexton. It is so dead and full of rank odors that it should properly be in charge of a sexton or coroner.

Some time ago the Herald in discussing Parry alluded to him as "Comrade" Parry in a vein of satire which everybody understood except the long-eared Sexton who tolls the bell for the mine-owning class while drawing pay from the poor coal diggers who dig coal for their masters while digging graves for themselves.

Everyone with as much brains as a gallinipper knows that Parry hates Socialism with the venom of an adder, and that between Parry and Socialists there is war to the death; and the asinine attempt of Mitchell's official organ grinder to make it appear that Parry and the Socialists are in collusion exposes his peanut caliber, and will be laughed to ridicule by his own followers.

The same issue of the U. M. W. Journal contains on the first page a three-column portrait of August Belmont, financial agent of the Rothschilds in the United States, Railroad Magnate and Labor Fleecer, Arch-type of the capitalist exploiter, recently elected president of the Civic Federation, with whom Mitchell and other alleged labor leaders dined in high style in New York recently, while thousands and thousands of miners are working half time or not at all, as in Colorado.

The name of Parry, the avowed capitalist, who stands squarely on his ground and fights labor, free from hypocrisy, throws these fakirs into fits, but they find it perfectly consistent to put their feet under the mahogany tables of the plutocrats and drink costly wines with the Belmonts, the Carnegies, the Easleys, the Morgans and the Strauss, while a dozen courses of scab menu are served them.

The labor fakir knows his master's banquet as "the ox knoweth his master's crib." Parry does not banquet the Benedict Arnolds of organized labor and so the Sextons have no use for him, but they fall down on their knees in adoration of the Belmont gang of pirates whose names are synonymous with the robbery of labor and the crushing of their helpless victims in subjection beneath the iron heel of capitalist despotism.

The U. M. W. Journal waxes wroth with counterfeit virtuous indignation at the thought of Parry treating Socialists with some mark of respect. Be it noted that Parry and every other exploiter of labor is compelled to respect Socialists, much as he may hate them, for he knows that they do not truckle like sycophants and crawl like vermin; that they do not attend plutocratic banquets and drink the blood of their victims; that they are honest and cannot be bought, and even the editor of the U. M. W. Journal in his heart respects them unless his servility to the mine owners has caused his heart and kidneys to change place and functions.

What has the Sexton of the U. M. W. Journal to say about John Mitchell, the National President, being decorated with elaborate diamond badges purchased by mine owners with the money wrung from the sweat and agony of the black-faced coal diggers whose scant wages are filched to pay him a salary to protect their interests against their exploiters?

It would be a crushing answer to Sexton if every miner in America could see the luxuriant banqueting board scene (full page illustration) in Harper's Weekly for Dec. 31,

where the tables are loaded with the costliest foods and long arrays of bottles of choicest wines and surrounded by the sleek and smooth plutocrats and their professors and priests, while wedged in between, as if to leer and mock at labor, are its alleged leaders toadying to their masters in furnishing a Civic Federation, the very contemplation of which arouses honest men to loathing, indignation and contempt.

In the same issue of the U. M. W. Journal there is yet another editorial paragraph crowing lustily over Mitchell's re-election and citing this as proof of his vindication for forcing down the miners' wages a year ago. It is only necessary to say that the mine owners are in control of the mine workers' union. To prove this it is sufficient to say that the mine owners collect the dues of the union miners by withholding them from their wages, and if the miners object to having the dues taken from their wages, they are discharged. In other words, the miners are compelled to pay their dues into the union or lose their jobs, and under such circumstances it is not strange that Mr. Mitchell was "vindicated" by re-election. The mine owners saw to that, for they have in Mr. Mitchell too valuable an ally to lose. We have any amount of proof that miners who objected to having their dues docked down from their wages to support Mitchell, Sexton, et al., were promptly threatened with discharge. This tells the story and the whole of it, and no amount of squirming will alter the facts and in due time they will be known and the misleaders of labor who are now toasted and banqueted will be remembered, if at all, for their infamy.

When such a notorious labor hater and scab sheet as Harper's Weekly, the private organ of Jno. Pierpont Morgan, that never had a decent word for labor in all its career, nor anything but venom for any honest labor leader—when such a sheet pours its fulsome editorial flattery on a labor leader as it now does on John Mitchell and Sam Gompers, it is time for union men to open their eyes and do some thinking, for there is surely something going on that will bear investigation.

Not long ago the same U. M. W. Journal had an editorial attack by cowardly innuendo, that is characteristic of that organ. No name was mentioned, but it was plain that it was aimed at Comrade Eugene V. Debs. The editor wanted to know what right Debs had to say that the miners would have to take a reduction of wages and afterward condemn John Mitchell for making the reduction. He then asks how these positions can be reconciled and closes by delivering himself of the coarsest and vilest abuse.

Does Sexton really want this question answered? Is he sincere in wanting light where there is now darkness? Let us test the honesty of this gentleman. Will he have John Mitchell ask that question of Comrade Debs on a public platform or anywhere so it can be answered in public? We will guarantee that the question will be answered and furthermore that it will be an eye-opener to no one more than the miners themselves.

Here we have a square issue. No evasion, no crawling, Mr. Sexton! You will toe the scratch or stand convicted as a cowardly slanderer.

You and your associates have repeatedly attacked Mr. Debs and other Socialists in your columns—squirting your poison at them at long range and you do not dare to meet them face-to-face where they may have a chance to tear the masks from the faces of hypocrisy and show union men their misleaders in their true colors.—Social Democratic Herald.

THE NEED OF A LEGAL DEPARTMENT.

In considering the benefits which would accrue to labor unions and their members through the existence of a legal department created especially for their service, attention is called to the great extent to which the courts enter into the affairs of organized labor. No phase of the labor move-

ment has been more striking than the remarkable change which has taken place during the last decade in the methods used by the foes of unionism to accomplish the defeat and subjugation of labor organizations. When we consider the measures formerly resorted to to effect the dis-

ruption of organized resistance to the soul-crushing demands of the masters of combined wealth, the only logical conclusion to be drawn is that their failure to produce the desired end is but further proof of the strength and virility of the cause of labor—the greatest force operating for the betterment of humanity to-day. The private armies employed by the large corporations a few years back are no longer in evidence in time of trouble, and even the State militia is out of favor as a capitalistic argument. The mercenaries formerly supplied by the Pinkerton Agency to "suppress" labor demonstrations have been found to be no more effective, as a means of defeating the fight for industrial freedom, than were their prototypes, the murderous Hessian soldiers hired by King George III. to slaughter our forefathers while engaged in a similar struggle for political liberty.

What, then, are the means employed by organized capital to strengthen and perpetuate its despotism? This question is best answered by the following quotation from Eugene V. Debs: "It has been found after repeated experiments that the courts are far more deadly to trades unions, and that they operate noiselessly but with precision. The rapid fire injunction is a great improvement on the Gatling gun. Nothing can get beyond its range, and it never misses fire." In every open conflict which occurs between labor and capitalism at the present time, immediate recourse is had by the employers to the courts, and the lack of discretion shown in many instances in granting the demands or obeying the commands, of the self-styled captains of industry, shows plainly the control that is often exercised over these safeguards of our constitutional rights. The extent to which the courts figure in labor controversies has greatly increased since the discovery of the efficiency of this new capitalistic weapon. Farther and farther have they encroached upon the rights of American citizens in their efforts to restrict the power of organized labor and weaken its structure until it is left helpless, incapacitated and unable to recuperate for future contests. Injunctions have been issued prohibiting union men from striking, from holding public meetings, from lawfully using the public streets, from peaceable conversations with those engaged to fill their places, from voting or levying assessments for strike benefits, or from in any way asserting many of the privileges of citizenship which are opposed to the attempts of concentrated wealth to strengthen its grasp upon the affairs of mankind, and to perfect the system of slavery which is rapidly being forced upon the vast majority of our people.

The power and importance of the courts in their relation to this problem are not fully realized by the rank and file of organized labor, and where this power is abused

the consequences are fraught with peril to our country and its citizens. The following note of warning was sounded by Thomas Jefferson, one of the great authors of the Declaration of Independence, a hundred years ago, and its significance and gravity have been fully vindicated by the history of subsequent events: "The judiciary of the United States is the subtle corps of sappers and miners, constantly working underground to undermine the foundation of our confederated fabric. They are constraining our constitution from a co-ordination of a general and special government to a general and supreme government. * * * The foundations are already deeply laid by their decisions for the annihilation of constitutional rights and the removal of every check, every counterpoise, of the engulfing power of which they are to make a sovereign part."

It must not be inferred from the foregoing, nor is the conclusion intended, that courts are necessarily pernicious institutions. They are a necessary factor under our system of political organization, and in some form or other always will be, and when honestly administered accomplish great and commendable results. It is only when their functions are perverted that they cease to be institutions productive of beneficent results and become the instruments of oppression and injustice, and their power in labor conflicts is so great and far reaching that its misdirected energy has at time been found very useful in striking from the hand of labor every means of winning its demands for fair treatment.

If then, labor must fight so many of its battles in court it should be fully prepared to assert its rights and protect its interests by establishing and maintaining a legal department. In this period of concentration and specialization the legal profession, like all others, is rapidly narrowing along special lines, and the lawyers most skilled in examining an abstract or putting through a big real estate deal is not necessarily the most competent to supervise the legal affairs of a large corporation. As citizens all are subject to existing laws, which are supposed to provide for all contingencies which arise in the conduct of human affairs. This being true, organized labor, to be completely organized, should have a department especially qualified to secure to it the fullest measure of justice obtainable under present legal enactments, and to protect it from the invasions of those tribunals which so far forget or overlook the sacred duty they are charged with executing, and, acting in sympathy with the representatives of George F. Baer's theory of the divine right of the few to misrule and monopolize, assist in their efforts to increase the burden under which the plain people stagger along life's highway.

W. A. FLANEGAN.

PACE MAKERS.

The introduction of pacemakers in shops and factories has the effect not only of forcing the largest amount of labor out of the brain and muscle of the toiler, but of setting one worker against another and weakening the sense of class interest. Thus, according to the *Railway World*, the system of shop management which some believe is slowly but surely becoming universal in this country, was outlined before the December meeting of the New England Railroad Club by Frederic A. Parkhurst, who explained that the system is more readily adapted to a plant manufacturing a standard product, although it can also be applied to a straight job or repair shop.

"The matter of shop management," said Mr. Parkhurst, "is every day becoming of greater importance to the manufacturer. He should have the most perfect control of his organization, and that organization should be a machine of the most perfect parts available. This machine must be built for the special work which it is to do. Hence this system must be adapted to the needs of each organiza-

tion to which it is applied. If the attempt is made to use each and every detail of it to cover widely varying conditions, failure may result. The fundamental principle always remains the same, but the details of its operation must be enlarged or modified to meet the demands of the special machine to which it is applied. This fundamental principle is to reduce the cost of production to its lowest possible point and at the same time to increase the wages of the employes. It gives to the employer a daily balance in graphical form, so that at a glance he sees the work completed in his plant the previous day, what it cost, at what price it was billed, and the profit or loss on same."

After outlining the methods of handling the orders and their work through the shops, and describing the organization required to do so, Mr. Parkhurst described as follows the important and somewhat radical change the new system contemplates:

"This is the study of unit times, the intelligent assignment to each man and machine a daily task, which will not

be an easy one to accomplish and for the accomplishment of which he is paid a bonus of from twenty-five to one hundred per cent over his wages for the time taken to perform the task. This bonus is rated differently on different classes of work. In a case where it is simply a matter of manual labor with cheap help percentage of bonus is low. A higher bonus is paid on work which entails manual labor and head work, but needing no particular skill. The highest bonus is paid where strength, skill and brain work combine to the best results. The study of unit times means a careful analysis of each and every operation into its various elements. With the aid of the stop watch all times are noted and tabulated for future reference. In a short time the planning department can have on file correct records as to time taken in handling and moving different kinds of work of various weights, and the time required to perform different operations on different classes of work. Thus, by a scientific analysis of each of the various elements connected with any operation in the shops and with correct data regarding tools, machines, etc., it is possible for the planning department to issue instruction cards which give exactly the time each operation should

take. The man must be considered when these times are set, as no two men work at just the same speed.

"It is this study of unit times which makes this system stand out so differently from all forms of piece work. In this system the employer knows exactly how long it takes to do a piece of work and is thereby able through his functional foreman in conjunction with the planning department to show his employes how to do the work in the quickest possible time by the best methods. Thus the system accomplishes its purpose of increasing the output of a plant. The employe is given an opportunity of increasing his wages by performing an assigned task daily and a bonus is added to his wages for obeying absolutely his working instructions and doing the work in the time set. The bonus is his reward for exerting himself to his utmost."

This arrangement of unit times shows quite conclusively that the worker is simply a cog in the machine of production. All the Civic Federation's maudlin sentiment aient community of interests between laborer and capitalist melts into the muck of profit-making before the fierce heats of the pace-making system of shop management.

POISONING THE WELLS.

Capitalism exists solely for profits. It knows no morality and is a stranger to love or hate or human kindness. Nothing is sacred to it which stands in the way of dividends. Human life is its plaything and helpless babes are poisoned that another figure may be added to the bank account of its votaries. A paper read before the Section of Chemistry of the American Association for the advancement of Science by Dr. Leon L. Watters calls attention to the jeopardy in which life and health are placed by wholesale adulteration of chemicals and foodstuffs.

"Labels have come to mean nothing, and even in the case of chemicals for the use of men who are supposedly best able to detect adulteration the designation 'C. P.' often comes nearer meaning 'crude product' than 'chemically pure.'

"The results of my investigation have brought to light the existence of evils such as would surprise even you who are chemists and who are of necessity brought more or less into contact with their manifestations.

"So far, indeed, has the evil extended that I venture to say that it is almost, if not quite, impossible to obtain certain articles which are true to their name.

"For instance, I doubt if pure olive oil is to be had in the market, except from dealers of the highest standing, and cottonseed oil sold under that designation is almost universal. I have found that in almost every case the vinegar sold at low prices is fortified by the addition of mineral acid, a substance which, whether injurious in a greater or lesser degree, would not be knowingly imbibed

by the purchaser. Cocoa is adulterated with an excessive amount of starch or with ground shells and sugar.

"It is an old story among food chemists that ground coffee is duplicated by drying, baking, and powdering hog's liver, which is mixed with chicory and sufficient coffee essence to give it flavor, while even the whole coffee bean is duplicated by an artificial article of such a form as to defy casual detection.

"Baking powder is loaded with excessive amounts of starch or other fillers and substances which impair the digestion and ruin health.

"Tincture of Jamaica ginger is reinforced with capsi-cum; mustard is loaded with flour. The greater part of our ground spices are adulterated.

"I was once called upon to analyze a shipment of alkali which had been tendered to one of the departments of the city of New York as 'pure caustic potash 90 per cent.' Upon opening one of the cans the brownish yellow powder was observed. It was submitted to analysis with the result expected, namely, that it was impure carbonate of soda. I have in my possession samples of borax which have been delivered to the city of New York marked 'pure Pacific Coast borax,' which contained not a trace of that substance.

"One of the most baleful manifestations of the nefarious operations of the adulterator is in connection with drugs and medicines. Even the danger to human health and life does not act to deter them, and I have heard the statement made by a practitioner of long experience in public hospitals to the effect that the failure of many drugs to act as their properties would indicate is attributable to adulteration."

DISCUSSION OF POLITICS IN THE UNION.

There are some very difficult problems to be solved by the labor movement of our day. In former years, before the advent of large corporations and trusts, the working class were, in a large measure, able to improve their condition through organization upon purely trade lines without reference to any general class struggle. Capitalism was not as highly organized as it is in the present age; and, therefore, when one employer became involved with his employes, his competitors would hire those employes and thus enlarge his own business. The individual employer could not endure a protracted strike, in most instances, without being seriously crippled in finances and,

consequently, was forced to grant some or all of the demands of the striking workmen.

In those days the employers were not organized either on the economic or political field. But as concentration of wealth grew apace, the necessity for combination against the workers for control of the forces of government to the same end became more and more apparent. Capitalist organization came, therefore, as a natural response to that necessity.

In the great strikes which have occurred in this country during the past fifteen years, at Homestead, Pana, Hazelton, Chicago, the Couer d'Alenes, Cripple Creek and Croton

Dam, the powers of government were manipulated in behalf of the capitalist class. The question naturally arises, How did the capitalist class get control of the powers of government? They could not elect any one to office by their own votes alone, since they constitute only about one-tenth of the voting population. They succeeded by creating a lot of bogus issues and hiring politicians who cleverly fooled the workers with catch-penny phrases and cheap patriotism.

Mr. Havemeyer, of the Sugar Trust, testified before the Interstate Commerce Commission that the Sugar Trust contributed to the campaign funds of both the Republican and Democratic parties. Jay Gould said, "In a Republican State I am a Republican, and in a Democratic State I am a Democrat, but in all States I contribute to the campaign funds of the predominating party, for I want my interests protected and sometimes I want favorable legislation."

It is by such methods that they induce one-half the working class to vote the Democratic ticket and the other half the Republican ticket. The trades unions, in the meantime, wanted various laws passed in behalf of their particular crafts, but mostly without reference to the general welfare of the entire working class. Accordingly, the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen sent lobbies to various State Legislatures; the O. R. C. did likewise; and other internationals of trade unions followed their example. Not recognizing the class interests of all the toilers as the supreme issue, they saw no necessity of the entire working class going into politics for themselves as a class.

The capitalists were shrewd enough, in many cases, to realize this fundamental weakness in craft unionism and to foster that form of disorganization by advising the workers to "keep politics out of the unions." Therefore, to-day the working men come together in their trade union meeting, serve on committees, pass resolutions of fair and

unfair against individual capitalists or corporations, and adjourn without having accomplished anything for their own education.

We find that those who are most active in raising points of order against the discussion of politics in the union are the very men who are up to their necks in politics, or their dupes who are looking for political jobs. If political discussion were allowed in the union, their career might be reviewed and their graft exposed; and as their graft depends on their prominence in the union, they might be cast into oblivion. Mr. Warner, former secretary of the U. W. M. of A. in Pennsylvania, did political work for Mark Hanna by issuing a circular stating that Hanna was the friend of labor; Samuel Gompers issued a statement in favor of one of the Assemblymen of New York; and Max Morris, one of the A. F. of L. vice presidents, stumped the State of Colorado for one of the so-called friends of the oppressed toilers.

A novel method is employed at the Chicago Stock Yards in killing beef. A trained bull leads the procession of cattle to the slaughtering pen, and just before the door is reached, he slips into a safety through a side gate. Is there not a striking similarity between this trained bull and the labor misleader who lures his fellow workers to the slaughter pens of capitalism by shouting, "No politics in the union?"

Let politics of all kinds be freely discussed in the union, and the class struggle will inevitably come uppermost. The workers will learn that their interests are one against the exploiters. They will perceive that they alone are the only producers of wealth and the only rightful owners thereof through social co-operation. Capitalism cannot long bear the searchlight of free discussion.

I. SIENKAN.

REPORTS FROM ORGANIZERS

OREGON.

Organization work for the A. L. U. has not been pushed in this state as vigorously as it should have been, but it will not be neglected in the future. It is my intention to deputize local organizers in every city or town of importance in the state. Of course the work of these local organizers must be voluntary, or on commission; but there are plenty of men in this state who have the industrial union movement at heart, and who will gladly serve the American Labor Union in any capacity.

The U. B. R. E. is well established at Portland, and the A. L. U. federal here is also showing more activity.

W. R. APPERSON, Organizer,
Alisky Building, Portland, Ore.

CALIFORNIA.

Lumbermen's unions in Del Norte County are in good condition. We are helping in the work of organizing the lumbermen of the South.

Humboldt County was once thoroughly organized under the A. F. of L., but when trouble came that organization deserted the lumbermen's unions, and they have now all been destroyed. When our men were on strike twenty months ago, the A. L. U. stood by us nobly, and we won a sweeping victory.

We are glad to know the lumbermen of Louisiana are organizing under the American Labor Union, and we extend to them the hand of fellowship and brotherhood.

J. R. GORDON, Organizer,
Crescent City, Cal.

NEVADA.

Goldfield Union is growing rapidly and will be among the most solid and substantial locals of the A. L. U. Officers and business agent for this term are earnest, capable men, and have the interests of the A. L. U. at heart.

Have recently organized hotel and restaurant employes at Tonopah, and will reor-

ganize federal at that place. A division of the U. B. R. E. could also be organized here.

The Western Federation of Miners has great strength throughout the entire state.

JOS. M. MOORE, Organizer,
Box 247, Tonopah, Nev.

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Little organization work has been possible the last year, but conditions are improving in this direction and unions can probably be formed at several points in British Columbia.

At Phoenix the federal controls common labor and trades not organized in other unions. Cooks and Waiters' Union is holding its own.

JOHN RIORDAN,
Organizer, Phoenix, B. C.

HAVRE, MONTANA.

Recently organized unions of workingmen, barbers and laundry workers are doing well.

I am now about to organize the colored people under a separate charter. They are numerous here and will make good union men.

O. H. WEBBER, Organizer,
Havre, Mont.

MONTANA.

Farmers of Montana are pretty well organized into the American Labor Union, especially those in Missoula, Ravalli and Carbon Counties. Our unions have been of some service to us already, but we are going to make them more perfect in scope and more effective in operation.

Farmers of other parts of the United States are invited to correspond with us, with a view to forming a great international alliance completely covering the farming industry.

G. W. DAWSON,
Organizer, Red Lodge, Mont.

UTAH.

Thousands of Greeks have been imported into this state by the corporations, but I

am glad to say these foreigners are turning to unionism and will be organized the same as the old timers. We are now figuring on having Constitutions and By-Laws and literature printed in the Greek language to help in the organizing work.

A. W. CHARTERS, Organizer,
West Jordan, Utah.

COLORADO.

There appears to be a reaction towards unionism after the last two years of Peabodyism, militarism and citizens' alliance domination of the state.

The legislature is in session, and efforts are being made to secure an eight-hour bill, which the voters of this state declared for by more than 40,000 majority. The corporations and mine owners' association appear to have the legislature within their grasp, and the chance of getting the eight-hour law is very remote.

M. E. WHITE, Organizer,
Box 780, Denver, Colo.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

Organized a good union here Wednesday night. President McDonald attended the meeting and helped us to organize. We have some of the oldest men in the Minneapolis labor movement. The A. L. U. is safe in such hands. There is no doubt that this union will grow rapidly, and that it will be followed by others during the next few months.

W. J. BRADLEY,
Organizer, 25 Central Ave., Minneapolis, Minn.

MISSOURI.

The shoeworkers' locals are being strengthened as a result of earnest work by the officers and members. A large number of initiations and reinstatements at every meeting of each local.

Wagon workers have all withdrawn from A. F. of L. International. They give as their reason opposition to the reactionary principles and compromising policy of the

leaders of craft unionism. Only a question of time when all will unite in the Industrial Union movement under the banner of the A. L. U.

The federal will be made an educational factor in A. L. U. work in this city.
F. CLEMENS, Organizer,
 2241 O'Fallon St., St. Louis, Mo.

THE SOUTH.

Ruston, La., Jan. 17, 1905.

Things are "doing" in the old South at last. And, after all, it is not true that the working people of the Southern States are densely ignorant and naturally slavish. The spirit of resistance to tyranny is just as strong here as elsewhere. The workers are willing and anxious to throw off the yoke of capitalist domination. They come to the American Labor Union like ducks to water. They like fighting blood, and they will make great fighters, themselves, when given the opportunity for development in a union that means something for them.

Three months ago Organizer John W. Davis commenced work in the lumber district of Northern Louisiana, and to-day we have eight working locals. These are the unions already organized:

Workmen's Industrial Union No. 526, Minden, La.—President, Thos. Seaton; Recording Secretary, Jaspas Houston.

Dodson Workmen's Union No. 527, Dodson, La.—President, J. C. Lee; Recording Secretary, G. W. Hendricks.

Wyatt Workmen's Union No. 528, Wyatt, La.—Secretary, M. L. Stewart.

Jonesboro Workmen's Union No. 529, Jonesboro, La.—President, J. C. Douglas; Recording Secretary, J. B. Hill.

Bernice Workmen's Union No. 531, Bernice, La.—President, J. B. Atkins; Recording Secretary, Bob Elliott.

Magnolia Union No. 531, Dubach, La.—President, J. W. Dailey; Recording Secretary, G. M. Conn.

Hodge Workmen's Union No. 533, Hodge, La.—Secretary, J. F. Jackson.

Selma Workmen's Union No. 538, Selma, La.—Secretary, R. B. Darnall.

Of course, at the beginning all of these locals were experiments. However, it now appears that the time was exactly ripe for organization, and I believe every one of these locals will stick, and will grow larger from week to week until practically all of the lumbermen in their districts are union men. Some of the camps are small, and in these small camps, 50 or 100 will be the maximum strength that the locals can reach. But in others, such as Jonesboro, Dodson and Minden, for instance, there is no reason why the locals should not develop to 500 or 1,000 members each.

The employers and mill owners are bitter in their opposition. When Davis commenced work the hired thugs and sluggers of the employers used personal violence to break up his meetings and run him out of some of the camps. But John Davis is no quitter. He is true as steel to principle, and brave as man ever was. In only one place has he failed to organize where he has undertaken the job, and he will organize there yet, just as sure as fate.

We have obtained correspondence between the Summit Lumber Company of St. Louis and the Pine Tree Lumber Company of Oklahoma City proving that a close organization of mill owners has been formed to fight us. That they will resort to any means to accomplish their purposes (even to murder) is shown by the threat they sent Davis that his life would not be worth a cent if he continued agitating among the lumbermen. The Summit Lumber Company closes its letter to the Pine Tree Lumber Company with the significant statement, that "we will join any organization, or be a party to any plan" to meet the situation.

Conditions are worse than any Western man could imagine. For three months this winter the men have been working from 11 to 12 hours a day for \$1.35. Very few of the so-called skilled men get \$2 or over. If ever men needed organization, these men do. But we will organize them, and their conditions will be improved, too, before we get through with this job. We must have the help of other unions and other organizers. Even the members of local unions can be a help. Everyone write a letter of encouragement to each one of these new unions. Show them that the feeling of brotherhood exists in the A. L. U., and that you, wherever you may be, are interested in the poor, overworked, underpaid lumbermen of the South. Remember, not one out of a hundred of these men have ever belonged to a union before. Show them that membership in the A. L. U. really means something to them.

Next month I will write something of the system of internal organization of these unions, showing how every branch of the lumber and logging industry is looked after and protected as rigidly as would be possible under craft autonomy, but with the greatly increased strength and solidarity of industrial unionism.

J. C. BARNES, Organizer.

RENEGADES!

Hope Labor Union No. 238 wishes all decent men to know that the six or seven menials who are doing repair work for the Hope Lumber Company, are moral outlaws from every honest principle of manhood.

ELLIS DRAKE is a deserter from the union, which helped him in the time of need by an advance of \$19 a day or so before he went on the roster of dishonor as a scab.

JAMES BLACK was a former officer of the union and is a member of a Spokane Hede-carriers' Union.

ANDREW JOHNSON and **LOUIS HEWITT** were formerly members of Hope Labor Union. Johnson is undoubtedly one of the instigators of the cut in wages. He tried the same thing last spring. He is absolutely void of self-respect and manhood.

THE TRUE RING.

Milwaukee, Jan. 22, 1905.

To the Editor of VOICE OF LABOR.
 The bundle of VOICE OF LABOR was duly received and distributed. All who received a copy were compelled to admit that at last labor has found a sterling champion of class conscious industrial unionism.

The VOICE OF LABOR sounds a far clear call to the scattered hosts of labor. Its exposition of the principles of industrial unionism is so clear and simple that all may understand. You may send me a larger bundle of the February number, for which you will find enclosure. I feel sure that the VOICE OF LABOR will at once secure a goodly number of subscribers in this city.

This city ought to be the most powerful industrial union center in America and it will be if present indications do not altogether fail. We have, as you perhaps know, many who pose as industrial unionists and who are fairly loaded down with all sorts of "whereas" and "be it resolved" on the subject, but when it comes to a practical application of those principles are like the old lady who told her charming daughter that she might go to swim, but not so near the water. The rank and file are, however, waking up to the fact that something more than platitudes are needed if organized labor is to successfully meet modern industrial conditions. They feel that the A. F. of L. has become the mere tail of the Civic Federation and that to continue such a relationship is to invite certain destruction. They are beginning to close their ears to the walls of chairwarming officials and other petty beneficiaries.

They are also catching on to the fact that while in theory there is a place for all wage workers in the A. F. of L., yet in reality there are untold thousands of the working class for whom there is no place and who, because there is no place for them in the A. F. of L., are found lined up against labor whenever a contest takes place.

It is becoming plain to them that labor to be really effective must join together in one real union, in which there will be centralized power based on democratic authority through the referendum. It is also becoming evident to the rank and file of Milwaukee that the hundred or more international which compose the A. F. of L. do not constitute a real federation at all, but merely an aggregation of as many selfish interests each intent on devouring the other. With these views being generally held by the bulk of organized labor of Milwaukee, it will not be surprising if they should decide to espouse enmasse the victorious principles of the American Labor Union. Fraternally.

EUGENE H. ROONEY.

ENERGY IN THE BAY STATE.

Lynn, Mass., Jan. 14, 1905.

Last Tuesday night we installed the following officers of Grain Counter Workers' Union for the ensuing term: President, William Eastman; Vice President, Charles Murphy; Recording Secretary, George Leck; Financial Secretary/Treasurer, John M.

Donovan; Trustees, Philip Dundon and William Weaver.

All the officers pledged themselves to strengthen the union in every possible way.

The manifesto sent out by the conference of industrial unionists in Chicago was read with interest here. It is the general belief among our members that this proposed organization is in line with the policy and plan of organization of the A. L. U., and that, if the industrial union movement can be advanced thereby, the A. L. U. ought to be represented in the convention at Chicago June 26th, 1905.

JOHN M. DONOVAN,

Secretary Grain Counter Workers' Union No. 261, A. L. U.

UNFAIR SHOE FACTORIES

Members of the American Labor Union are requested to take notice that the following shops are unfair to our brothers of the St. Louis Boot and Shoe Workers. Union men should avoid their goods when making purchases:

The WERTHEIMER SWARTS

SHOE CO.'S Clover Leaf brand shoes.

The JOHN MEIRE SHOE CO.'S shoes.

The HAMILTON BROWN SHOE CO.'S shoes.

The JOHANSEN BROS.' shoes.

The SOUTHERN SHOE CO.'S shoes.

The ROBERTS, JOHNSON & RAND SHOE CO.'S shoes.

All these firms have either locked out their employes or coerced them into joining the International Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

These names are furnished by the Joint Executive Board, United Shoe Workers' Union, St. Louis, united with the American Labor Union.

PATRONIZE A. L. U. LABEL.

Members and friends of the A. L. U. can do a real service to the organization by patronizing products bearing the label of the American Labor Union. The following products now bear the universal label of the A. L. U., and deserve the loyal support of all progressive unionists and their friends:

Crackers, cakes, etc., manufactured by Chicago Biscuit Company. Demand the A. L. U. label on these products that you or your family buy. If your grocer cannot or will not supply those bearing our label, trade where you CAN get the label.

Shoes, made to order. Louis Boulter, 1718 Franklin avenue, St. Louis, Mo. Made to measure shoes, or shoes made to standard sizes, for \$3, \$3.50 or \$4, according to quality. Send money with order by registered mail.

Clothing, suits, coats or pants. Charles Tyl & Co., 772 South Halsted street, Chicago. Suits made to measure. Prices, samples and blanks for measurements upon application.

Packing house products. Colorado Packing Company, Denver. Can be bought in any city in Colorado or neighboring States. Insist on the A. L. U. label. Your grocer can get the products if he does not carry them in stock.

Voice of Labor

Published by the American Labor Union.

OFFICERS:

President—Daniel McDonald, Haymarket Theater Building, Chicago, Ill.

Vice President—David C. Coates, Wallace, Idaho.

Secretary-Treasurer—Clarence Smith, Haymarket Theater Building, Chicago, Ill.

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Office, No. 3 Haymarket Theater Building, Chicago, Ill.

Address all communications, remittances, etc., to Clarence Smith, Manager, Haymarket Theater Building, Chicago, Ill.



Applied for entry at Chicago, Ill., Postoffice as second-class matter.

The militia is never called out to suppress the enemies of the working class, but always for the purpose of strengthening the capitalist's hold upon his wage slaves.

The class struggle never loses sight of the supreme value of human life. It repudiates alike the swift assassinations of the gatling gun and the slow murders of the sweat shop.

"It should be understood that an army is an instrument of murder, that the recruiting and drilling of armies which Kings, Emperors and Presidents carry on with so much self-assurance are preparations for murder."—Tolstoi.

The "Line-Up," a new Socialist paper published at Kansas City, Kan. (Box 303), takes a commendable stand in favor of industrial unionism and is not afraid to give proper credit to the A. L. U. for its work in that field.

According to the Manchester Evening Chronicle, the Fylde Board of Guardians approved the breaking of sandstone by the female inmates of the workhouse. Poverty, it seems, is punished in Great Britain quite as severely as in any other domain of capitalism.

Roosevelt's "fair play" in discharging the letter carriers' committee from public service suffers no abridgment by that act. In the present social system, "fair play" cannot apply to wage slaves. It is merely the 20th century equivalent of the feudal code whose fine terms were never stretched as far as the serf and his class.

The election of Samuel Gompers as vice-president of the National Civic Federation is a fitting tribute to the services which craft unionism has rendered the capitalist system. The placing of his picture in the official publication of the Civic Federation on a line with those of Cleveland and Phipps suggests the Un-

holy Trinity of capitalist politics, capitalist industries and capitalist unions.

We reprint "Cooing 'Round the Capitalist Throne" from the Social Democratic Herald, and respectfully call its editor's attention to the imminent "conflict in the organized labor movement that the Socialist movement will have to beware of." It is just such things as that article reveals which are forcing the conflict and which will, in the long run, compel the Socialist party to go on record against the disintegrating evils of craft unionism and in favor of economic organization of the working class.

The sub-title of the International Railway Journal, to wit, "A Magazine of Railroad, Steamship and Transportation News," indicates the general economic groups in which industries are arranging. In obedience to the forward stress of evolution, the scattered and disjointed forces of commerce are forming in great departments of production and distribution, thus wiping out both the waste of labor and the extravagance of competition. The workers must meet these new adjustments by a like disposition of their ranks. Industrial unionism is the counterpart to the advancing organization of industries.

The machinery and equipment in the abandoned plant of the National Biscuit Company at Sioux City, Iowa, were demolished in order to prevent them from getting into the hands of competitors. At the request of William Rockefeller, the postoffice was removed from Brandon, N. Y., to the heart of his 52,000-acre Bay Pond estate, and notice was served by Rockefeller's attorney that Oliver La Mora of Brandon is to be prosecuted for trespass for going through Mr. Rockefeller's ground to the new postoffice. The town of Brandon is in the way of Rockefeller's baronial estate and must be wiped out. The National Biscuit Company and Mr. Rockefeller and his class have the power to make or mar civilization and commerce because they own the tools.

"Those men," says the Social Democratic Herald, "who are trying to start a new labor organization in opposition to the A. F. of L. are respectfully reminded that one Daniel De Leon has a left-over opposition organization that he will close out at a bargain, as he is no longer knows what to do with it." This, we presume, is a conclusively Marxian argument against industrial unionism. Shorn of its heavy British wit, it means that, because the S. T. & L. A. failed to make universal headway against the capitalist-owned A. F. of L., the working class must wait for economic unity on class lines until the pure-and-simple trades union socialists shall have won their strike at the ballot box with the votes of craft-divided toilers who scab on one another 364 days out of the year. That happy consummation will have been reached when the dwellers on Mars begin to operate an interplanetary airship transportation department.

BREAKING THE ICE.

The United Metal Workers' International Union has taken a referendum vote on withdrawing from the A. F. of L., and the Metal Polishers, Buffers, Platers and Brass Workers' Union of North America, has

taken a referendum vote on the proposition of leaving the American Federation of Labor and uniting with the American Labor Union. That discontent with the suicidal principle of craft division is organizing in intelligent revolt against the A. F. of L. is further demonstrated by the following resolutions copied from the Tailors' Journal:

Stockton, Cal., December 17, 1904.

John B. Lennon, G. S.:

Dear Sir and Brother: At a meeting of this local December 9 it was the sense of the meeting that we recommend to the convention the cutting down of the reinstatement fee from \$10 to \$4 as formerly, as we have found it a detriment to our local in many ways.

Second, that the J. T. U. of A. withdraw from the American Federation of Labor and join the American Labor Union.

And we do hope that the delegation will give this their kind consideration. I am sorry to say that our finances do not permit us to send any representative to said convention, and we ask again the deepest study of these two propositions.

Very thankful in advance, I remain,
F. Casey, Secretary.

TIME-SERVING DIPLOMACY.

Commenting upon the fact that the American Labor Union has been steadily gaining ground in what it is pleased to call American Federation of Labor territory, the Social Democratic Herald sounds a note of warning to the pure-and-simple political socialists. The progress of the A. L. U. "forecasts a conflict in the national organized labor movement that the Socialist movement will have to beware of. It complicates our problems growing out of the policy of our party tying itself to no particular organization as against another. We must not be drawn into the conflict."

The time has passed when any charter from Washington or franchise from the Civic Federation can give the American Federation of Labor territorial sway over the working class of this country. We refuse to recognize the caliphate, seneschalship, suzerainty or dynastic rights of the A. F. of L. to a single toiler in any part of America, north, south, east or west. The socialist who resents the spread of the American Labor Union does so either from ignorance of the essentially economic nature of Socialism or from inborn craft jealousy, and not because he has at heart the industrial solidarity of the working class.

The objection to conflict in the so-called national labor movement holds good in regard to the national political movements. Thousands of workingmen, for example, believe that the Democratic party best promotes their interests. Therefore, according to the logic of the Social Democratic Herald, the Socialist movement will have to beware of conflict in the national organized political movement of the Democratic party, because attacks upon that party are likely to beget divisions among the workingmen who uphold it. The Democratic party represents their interests in politics much better than the A. F. of L. does in economics. It is the tool of only a portion of the exploiting class; whereas the A. F. of L., by reason of its alliance with the Civic Federation, is the instrument of the entire capitalist class, irrespective of party.

The Socialist movement is not a dress parade of

carpet knights. It is a class struggle whose antagonisms penetrate every department of human activity. It need beware of no conflict which is carried on along the line of cleavage between the class interests of the workers and the shirkers. Without fear or favor, it must oppose the principles of all labor organizations which serve the purpose of the capitalist by splitting up the toilers into warring craft factions and thus hinder the consolidation of the working class on the industrial field.

The Socialist party, as the organized political expression of the Socialist movement, may not tie itself to a particular labor organization as against another; but it ceases truthfully to represent the Socialist movement whenever it fails to declare in favor of economic organization of the working class as against craft divisions in the ranks of toil. Any other procedure is mere vote-getting subterfuge and compromise.

A FAIR TEST.

The Labor Clarion, published at San Francisco, contends that "if trade unionism placed any restrictions in the way of the non-unionist becoming a unionist, the position taken by its adversaries would be unassailable. But such is not the case, for millions of dollars are being spent for organization purposes."

The fact that millions of dollars are being spent for organization purposes does not prove that trade unionism places no restrictions in the way of the non-unionist becoming a unionist; for it can easily be shown that trade unionism does put obstacles in the path of the worker seeking admission to its fold. In numerous instances it endeavors to establish monopolies of certain trade unions at the expense, not only of the unorganized, but also of other trade unions within the same general industry.

The Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' local in New York City charges \$100 as initiation fee, which is certainly a restriction upon the non-unionist with empty pockets who is looking for work in that trade union's jurisdiction. No amount of fine-spun theory will explain away the sharp reality of that \$100 restriction.

The bricklayers' union, through its inner ring, has an absolute monopoly on all catch basin work for the city of Chicago; and, according to a recently issued open letter from 700 members of Local 21, of Illinois, its international president is one of the principal contractors in the Washington Construction Company which operates that monopoly.

In the home town of the Labor Clarion, the Teamsters' Union and the Carpenters' union have placed restrictions in the way of the nonunionist becoming a unionist by initiation fees of \$25—an exorbitant demand upon the penniless, propertyless unemployed.

Trade unionism, notwithstanding the millions of dollars which it has spent, serves only the craft interests of the favored few against the class interests of the many in the ranks of toil. Industrial unionism is the reverse of trade unionism in everything which makes for the welfare of the entire working class. It places absolutely no restrictions in the way of consolidating the workers of every trade in a uniform organization of toilers, looking to the end always of complete emancipation from the thralldom of the wage system.

Department of International Musical Union

Edited by W. SHURTLEFF, General Secretary

CLEVELAND MUSICAL UNION, LOCAL NO. 1, I. M. U.

The Cleveland Musical Union was organized seven years ago as a Knights of Labor Union. About two years after its birth the A. F. of L. chartered a rival organization known as the M. M. P. A. This dual union caused more or less trouble from the beginning by accepting as members every trade union scab whom we expelled and filling all musical engagements which we canceled when we wished to assist the trade unions in their various boycotts.

Thus, for example, when our union canceled all engagements in Halth-north Hall (now fair) in order to uphold the A. F. of L. central body's boycott, the A. F. of M. filled the engagements, and one of their orchestras had a large sign across the hall with the legend, "Union Music Here." In their ranks to-day are men who worked behind the militia in the Brain strike while our men went to jail for doing picket duty. When we expelled a man for scabbing on the Laundry Workers they took him in and made him an agent for a while to post up cards against us. When we suspended a bricklayer for scabbing on the Bricklayers' Union they took him in, and he is a member to-day. The Electrical Workers, Paper Hangers and other building trades charge them with employing none but scabs in fitting up their headquarters.

In spite of all their scabbery and their bitter opposition to us, our union has held its own, and we have to-day headquarters open all the time and a fair treasury. It was through the Cleveland Musical Union that the first convention was called and the International organized three years ago. Since then we have gone steadily forward. Our members are employed about all the time and our patronage is growing among men who recognize the uncompromising unionism which animates our organization.

Yes, be sunny.

Don't be a snag.

Help us to help you.

Leave worry to the other fellow.

Subscribe for the VOICE OF LABOR.

Well-earned money is best money.

We are all partners in the world's business.

Musical business becoming more and more a science.

Mountains dwindle to milestones with the energetic.

A good musical reputation, to be maintained, should be lived up to, not on.

The self-made man exists only in the imagination of the conceited and their flatterers.

There is no honesty in an ambition that would lift up one side of human nature and drag down the other.

Many who sing, and paint, and play, despise the man in overalls, little suspecting that he may be pursuing a lofty ideal, and not realizing that it is by him alone they live and are able to pursue their chosen profession.

EPIGRAMS OF JUTZO.

Drink won't drown trouble; it only fattens it.

The greatest wisdom is to have learned to think.

A lofty mind despises the hate of the envious.

Discouragements only make the brave more resolute.

Fools are always congratulating themselves on their wisdom.

There is some hope for the fool who discovers he can be mistaken.

Childlike faith may do in religion, but it won't do in the music business.

Envy, hatred and malice are never missing in the mirthful train of success.

You can't discover prosperity by looking for it through the bottom of a tumbler.

Allmomy is the fine a man pays for having made an unsuccessful experiment.

There are people who never will get into the heavenly orchestra because they refuse to play anything but first fiddle.

PRAISE OF MUSIC.

Music is the natural expression of lofty passion for a right cause.—Ruskin.

Music resembles chess; the queen (melody) has the most power, but the king (harmony) turns the scale.—Robert Schumann.

In the abstract we may regard melody as the moving element; harmony, on the other hand, as the stable element in music.—Moritz Hauptmann.

True virtuosity gives us something more than mere flexibility and execution. A man may mirror his own nature in his playing.—Schumann.

The elements of orchestration are those of painting. The composition per se represents the design; the melody the outline; harmony the light and shade, and instrumentation, the coloring.—J. Raff.

Musical art recognizes two kinds of music—artistic music, the production of the artist, and national music, the production of the people. If we liken music to flowers, the former would be the cultivated, the latter the wild flowers.—Christiani.

St. Louis, Mo., Jan. 5, 1905.

At a large and enthusiastic meeting of the St. Louis International Musical Union, No. 2, held at their headquarters, Military Hall, 12 Market street, Friday, Dec. 30th, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—John R. Broughton.

Vice President—Arthur Knoll.

Secretary—R. W. Tietz.

Treasurer—F. W. Kahler.

Sergeant-at-Arms—Mitchell Bernall.

Business Agent—F. W. Kahler.

Trustees—Andrew Duerst, Edw. Graff, Frank Annis.

Brother John Fechter is now in Chicago and will undoubtedly visit our locals there.

R. W. TIETZ, Secretary.

**BOHEMIAN MUSICAL UNION
OF CHICAGO, NO. 26,
I. M. U.**

At the last meeting in December of the Bohemian Local, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President—Anton Janda.

Vice President—Jas. Svanberg.

Recording Secretary—F. J. Triska.

Financial Secretary—Fr. Kovarik.

Treasurer—Jos. Jedlicka.

Guard—Jas. Kessler.

Sergeant-at-Arms—Thomas Kroupa.

The American Labor Union is having a great growth in Chicago, 29 locals being now united with the central body. Since our affiliating with the International, there seems to be a general movement of the musicians of this city to our organization, and I believe the end of the year will show our organization at least a thousand strong. Fraternally.

FRANK J. TRISKA,
Secretary, 797 West 18th Street.

I was traveling through New York State recently when I met a musician whose books showed \$5,000 worth of business for the preceding twelve months for an orchestra of seven, of which he alone was the only man who devoted his entire time to music. He told me that he belonged to no union. I asked him how he did it, and he said: "Simply by hustling." He stated that he generally got union prices, sometimes more, occasionally less, but that hustling was the whole secret of the business. Had the union men of that town hustled, this man would not have been able to do such big business. The trouble is, our average union musician lies down and waits for the leader or the job to come to him.

We believe that the trades union men who are not musicians and who, therefore, know nothing about the music question except what is told them by job-hunting musicians, should cut the music question out and recognize all musical unions or none. The musicians would soon settle their troubles. But the mischief of the matter is that men who are not musicians take sides when they ought to remain neutral. They hold form of organization above unionism; and, in some cases, actually support blacklegs and scabs on their own trade union in support of the organization which happens to be affiliated with their own national body.

COURAGE OF MUSICIANS IN FACE OF DANGER.

In case of great danger, the musicians have from time to time shown themselves cool and self-sacrificing, and it is with pleasure that we record the action of Frank J. Triska's orchestra in Chicago recently. Brother Triska and his orchestra, all members of the Chicago Bohemian Musical Union, International Local No. 26, were playing New Year's eve at Slavia Hall, when the place took fire. During the confusion and while the police were getting the people out, the orchestra kept on playing, thus preventing a panic, and were the last to leave the place.

In the days of Elizabeth music was not left to a few people who played popular airs for a compensation. Everybody was musical, and it was a disgrace not to cultivate this most charming art. In this "practical" age, there are many who boast that they know very little of this elevating influence, and it isn't hard to believe them. I think that music should be, and that the time is coming when it will be a part of our every day education.

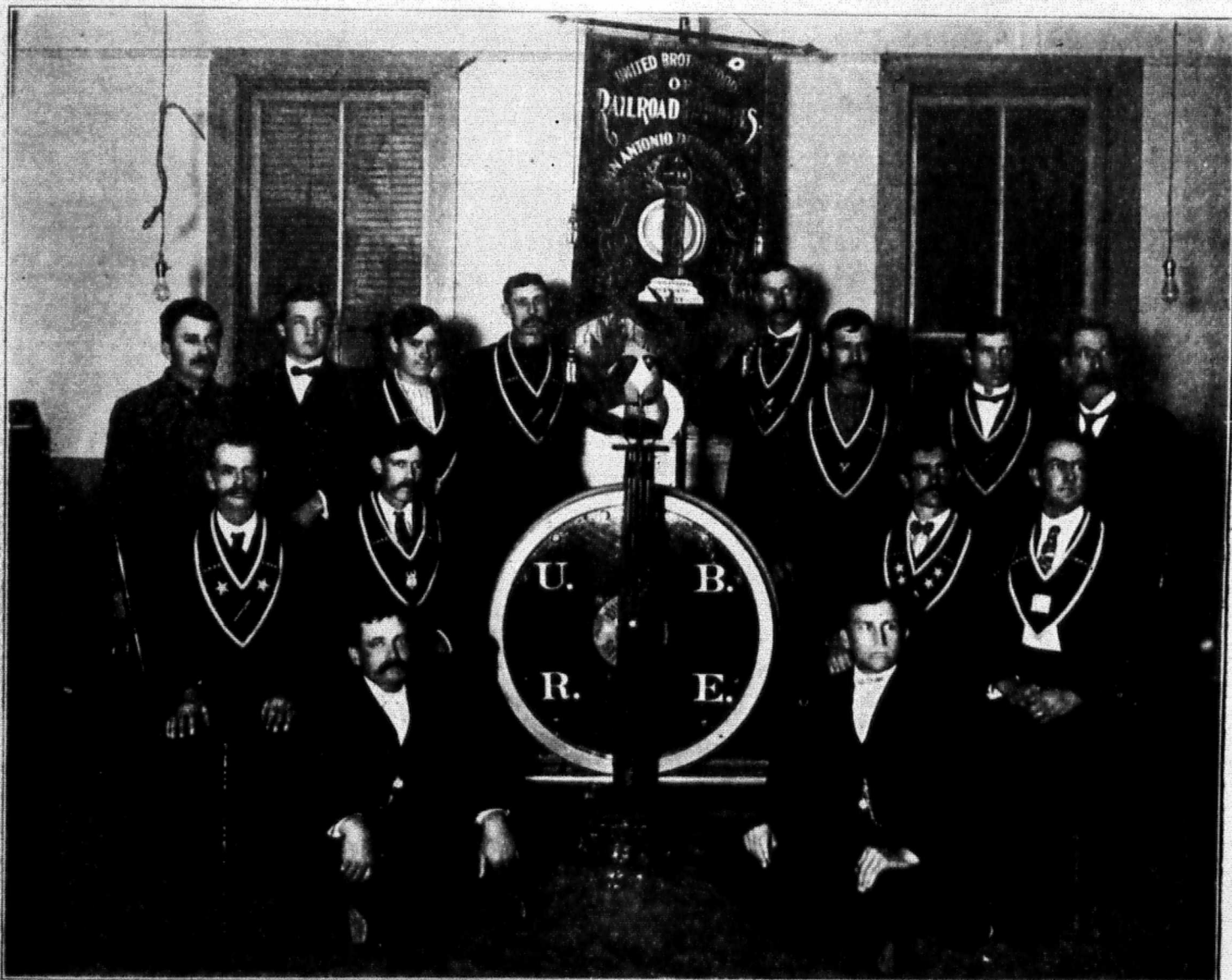
A SUGGESTION.

The Parson—Now, Patrick, I intend to pray that you may forgive Casey for having thrown that brick at you.

Pat—Mebbe yer riv'rence would be savin' toime if ye'd jest wait till Oi git well an' then pray fer Casey.

Department of
United Brotherhood of Railway Employees

Edited by W. L. HALL, General Secretary-Treasurer



REASON TO BE PROUD.

San Antonio, Texas, Jan. 6, 1905.
 San Antonio Division 24 held its regular meeting last night and installed its new officers for the year 1905.
 The division feels so much pride in having such a fine-looking set of officers that we want the whole world to enjoy them with us. So we requested a photographer to bring his machinery into the division room and take a "snap shot" at them. Under separate cover I am sending you the result, and if you think it worth while we would ask that you have a cut made and published in the VOICE OF LABOR.
 The following new officers were installed:
 Manager—T. C. Ferguson.
 Superintendent—J. D. McLennan.
 Engineer—J. J. Moran.
 Conductor—G. T. Burger.
 Watchman—L. Hillock.
 Flagman—G. W. Miller.
 Prelate—C. F. Fisher.
 Agent—C. F. Denys.
 Auditing Committee—D. Delaney, J. J. Moran.
 Chairmen Boards of Adjustment—
 J. J. Moran, Carmen.
 F. W. Johnson, Bridgemen.
 J. L. Rice, Clerks.
 D. Delaney, Blacksmith.
 F. Batot, Track Department.

M. A. Fisher, Switchmen.
 W. J. Ochse, Brakeman.
 T. E. Moses, Operator.
 C. M. Olney, Engineer.
 Our division has been compelled to file charges against Bro. Gipe for conduct unbecoming a member of the brotherhood. He belongs to Division 46, which has been duly notified of our action.
 The Southern Pacific Company has been reducing its shop and bridge forces lately, and times are very hard in this part of the country. I would advise members in other parts of the country, who might be thinking of coming down this way, not to do so for the present.
 Division 24 has started in the new year with a strong determination to make the year 1905 a prosperous one for the brotherhood.
 I remain yours, in E. U. and P.
 C. F. DENYS,
 Agent Division 24.

OUR PRAISES ARE OUR WAGES.

I have been a member of the U. B. R. E. since last July. I wondered when I joined it why someone had not gotten up just such an order before; but, as necessity is

the mother of invention, I suppose that it is here in due time. The meetings of our division are always interesting and the members are thoroughly in earnest.
 Bro. Fitzgerald, Fourth Vice President, has been in our jurisdiction for some time, working as though he never gets tired. By his unceasing energy he has been the means of bringing 25 new applications to Division 24, and has converted many more by his lectures. There is a great deal of truth in the saying of Shakespeare, "Our praises are our wages," and I believe in giving Bro. Fitzgerald full credit for the work which he is doing for the U. B. R. E. Yours fraternally,
 D. J. McLINNAN,
 Div. 24, San Antonio, Texas.

LIVELY DIVISION 24.

Bro. Fitzgerald's visit to our jurisdiction has done wonders in stimulating interest and bringing in new members. Division 24 is determined to break all records, if enthusiasm and unflagging zeal on the part of its members can accomplish that end. We hereby serve notice on all other divisions to look well to their laurels, for San Antonio Division 24 intends to take the lead.
 Wake up, boys; put your shoulders to the wheel and let us see what we can do for

1905. Let us turn the chip over and get the worm. The best way to make progress is to attend your meetings regularly and keep posted on what is going on. Don't fall behind in your dues. Don't become delinquent because some fakir tells you a lie about industrial unionism. A very good New Year's resolution is to resolve to bring in a new member for each month of the new year. Remember Bro. Hall's offer of a solid gold watch for the man who brings in the most new members by July, 1905. If you don't hustle like the mischief, San Antonio will get the prize.

C. F. DENYS, Agent.

Do not forget that \$60 gold watch (21 jewels, Waltham or Elgin movement) and \$15 solid gold chain which is waiting for the member who brings in the largest number of recruits to the industrial ranks of the U. B. R. E. during the period between Jan. 1, 1905, and July 1, 1905.

ORGANIZED SCABBERY.

BY GEO. ESTES.

As unions grow older the policy of their membership under certain conditions becomes settled and well known to the world.

There are organizations of railroad men, for example, which are known to act from principle alone, during trying periods, irrespective of any temporary gain which might come to them were they to adopt a different policy.

Such unions embrace within their ranks the best and truest unionists the age has developed and are usually not dominated by a leader, but are controlled as to their line of conduct by the stalwart union sentiment and sense of justice of their members.

The membership of such unions is greater in principle than the declaration of objects and greater than the constitution of the union itself.

The Switchman's Union of North America is an example of this kind of union.

The inflexible adherence to true union principles, right and justice of the masses of the membership of that organization, regardless of its class limitations, has become so well known to the world that the most malignant enemies of the S. U. have never yet attempted to smirch its reputation with charges of scabbing or selling out the employes in other railway departments to gain the ends of the organization.

The reputation of the rank and file of the Switchman's Union is unassailable on the question of unionism, throughout North America.

In marked contrast to the policy of the Switchman's Union is that of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, as dominated by certain of its grand officers.

This organization was formed in 1890 from the old Brotherhood of Railroad Brakemen, the objects of the change being to absorb all other organizations in the train and engine service, which, if accomplished, would have made a powerful organization, but the leaders became weak-kneed and abandoned this object later.

The policy of the leaders of this organization (forced unwillingly upon the rank and file) is to make any deal or combination with railway managements possible, for the extermination of other orders, provided the B. R. T. secures a schedule out of the compact.

B. R. T. organization, under the domination of its grand officers, has now become generally recognized as a professional scab and strike-breaker, in the pay of the railway managers.

In 1891 the B. R. T. made a deliberate wholesale contract with the Chicago and Northwestern railway whereby all the switchmen on that road, members of the Switchmen's Mutual Aid Association (the predecessor of the present Switchmen's Union) were to be thrown out at one time and B. R. T. scabs employed in their places.

The conduct of W. G. Lee, First Vice Grand Master of the B. R. T., during the switchmen's strike on the D. & R. G. road in 1901 is well known to all.

He occupied the Division Superintendent's office at Denver and used the superintendent's telephone and call boys to place the scabs in places vacated by striking switchmen.

The D. & R. G. matter has been repeated

at Pittsburg and other places and now the general policy of strike-breaker and all-around scab of the leaders of this brotherhood (?) has become well known to all the world.

During the U. B. R. E. strike on the Canadian Pacific railway in 1903 the B. R. T. officials combined with the C. P. R. officers in assisting to fight the U. B. R. E. and the unions engaged in the strike with it.

They usually claim that they are "protecting" a contract with the management of some railway system, but in the case of the C. P. R. strike their contract was not menaced in any way as the strikers were in no case trainmen, and the train, engine or yard service was in no way affected.

In the case of the U. B. R. E. strike on the Canadian Northern railway in Manitoba in 1902, the B. R. T. officials had no contract to "protect" and their organization had never been recognized on that road, but they went to the management of the railway during the strike and said that if they were given a schedule they would assist the company in whipping the U. B. R. E. To this the company acceded and the officials of the B. R. T. proceeded with their part of the agreement by reporting to the out-of-town strikers of the U. B. R. E. that the strike was off in Winnipeg, when such was not the case, thus hoping by deliberate lies to discourage the out-of-town strikers, and in that way cause the loss of the strike. In this they were not successful, but it was not for lack of due diligence in living up to their strike-breaking agreement.

It is said, by way of anecdote, that at the beginning of the strike of machinists at Needles, California, last spring, the master mechanic of the Santa Fe road at that point, soon as the strike was on began immediately inquiring for a member of the B. R. T. and on finding one asked him where W. G. Lee could be found, as he was needed at Needles now that the machinists had struck.

A section foreman in a big yard on the Pennsylvania road was recently confronted with a strike of the entire six "Jerries" in his gang.

He treated the matter with scorn, however, and sneeringly told the men to "hit the grit," that he would have six B. R. T. men in their places before night.

This organization is employed as a blood-sucking vampire by the railroad trusts to secretly attach itself to the throats of the railway workers in other orders, suck out their life blood by taking their positions from them and throw their lifeless corpses off the right of way while their Deadly Night Shade publication, like the mouth of a sewer, ceaselessly spews forth slime, mud and filth against the true principles of unionism.

But the dawn of a better day is breaking.

There are evidences that the railway workers are learning the real meaning of unionism.

The Industrial Union which unites all men is the opposite of organized scabbery, which divides them into classes; and slowly but surely the true union principles are prevailing.

THE \$\$\$ MARK.

What are the wage earners of America doing to better their condition? In making a canvass of the mills, shops and factories, we find that only a little over two-fifths of those engaged in producing wealth are doing anything toward eliminating the sufferings which grow out of that capitalist greed which makes slaves of every man, woman and child who must have access to the tools which others own. They must wear the sign manual upon their brows of the \$\$\$ mark.

For everyone engaged in trying to erase this mark there are three who are doing all they can, in their ignorance, to deepen the brand upon their brows, and to tighten the shackles upon their fellow workers. There must be some reason for the apathy of three-fifths of the wage earners toward labor organizations which seek to unite them. If you ask them for that reason they will answer: "We were burned once, and a burnt child dreads the fire."

They were betrayed by the class orders in which they found no community of interests, no standing together all for one and one for all, and no class-wide solidarity of motive and action. Can you blame them when they turn deaf ears to the pleadings of labor organizers?

The crying need of the day is more

teachers in the industrial union movement. Every industrialist should educate himself in the principles and logic of economic organization so that he may become a missionary to his fellow wage slaves. He must show why the class orders are powerless. Take, for example, the switchmen's strike on the Pittsburg division of the Pennsylvania railroad. It was a failure because the selfishness and craft narrowness of the other class orders contributed to help defeat it. We must show the workers how absolute unity of purpose and class-wide solidarity of interests against the capitalist will make the working class invincible. FRED H. HOPKINS, JR.

PROGRESS IN CHICAGO.

Since my December letter some great changes have taken place in the Chicago labor field. The International Association of Railway Clerks has decided by unanimous vote to unite with the U. B. R. E. The Car Workers are about to do the same here in Chicago. Since moving the general offices to Chicago, we have followed the educational plan amongst railroad men. We have shown them that only by uniting all employes in one organization on industrial lines for the full protection of all concerned can the labor problem be solved.

We are starting the year 1905 with very bright prospects for the Central District. Divisions 59, 76 and 197 will all increase in membership this month to the extent of at least 50 new members. On Jan. 19th, a new division was instituted at Kensington, Division 108, by President Estes and myself. On Jan. 27th we instituted a new division at Hammond, Ind. Both of these new divisions are made up of railway clerks, who will make good members of the U. B. R. E. The other divisions of clerks will be instituted as rapidly as we can reach them.

Now, all you brothers who have at heart the interests of the U. B. R. E., get busy and secure at least one new member. You should bear in mind that everyone of you is a stockholder in this organization and its success or failure depends on you. You have the 20th century organization, whose principles will triumph. If you will work for their fulfillment, so, stop knocking. Let us all get together and do our utmost to increase the membership for 1905! Every little helps. Let us all put our shoulders to the wheel of progress. Yours in E., U. and P. FRANK McCABE, First Vice President.

SLOWLY BUT SURELY.

The industrial movement is gaining ground slowly but surely, as do all good things. We must not despair, therefore, at our rate of progress, because we are bound to win. The industrial movement is just as sure of adoption as was the Declaration of Independence. It took 69 years for the people to see the need of the abolition of chattel slavery, or, speaking more correctly, it required that length of time to bring about the economic changes which made chattel slavery untenable.

To abolish wage-slavery will not take as long, because the economic development of our day goes at a more rapid pace. Industrial unionism is one of the factors in that development, and the United Brotherhood of Railway Employes is a force working for the world's emancipation.

Chief among the obstacles in the forward swing of the industrial movement are the class orders. It is well known that it is not the love of, nor the good conditions in, class orders on railways that keeps men in them but it is the fear of the hoodlum element in class orders that causes men to unite with them and to remain in them.

Class unionism is just as much a curse to the railroad man as the U. B. R. E. is a coming blessing to him. Many of the employes are, no doubt, slow in recognizing this fact, but the majority of them will grasp it and act upon it, just as sure as the sun shines on our earth. T. F. S., Sayre, Pa.

IN THE CONTEST.

A. L. Mangone, writing from Houston Division 64, U. B. R. E., says: Please enroll my name in the army of workers for the U. B. R. E. I am not induced to take this step by your offer of a gold watch and chain, though I am going to do all in my power to win it, but because I think it the

duty of every member to buckle on his armor for the brotherhood. While I am trying to win the valuable souvenir that our General Secretary is offering, I am doing something that is of vastly more importance to the working people, and, of course, through them, myself, than would be any souvenir, however valuable, that could be offered.

LABOR IS INTERDEPENDENT.

Coming events cast their shadows before them. And the doom of craft unions is at hand. In the railway service there is a scheme of system federation that is valueless. The companies are treating with each particular organization separately, and as a result each class order's schedule expires at a different date, thus making harmonious action impossible. The Order of Telegraphers wanted increased wages on the Missouri Pacific, the others were satisfied, and when the telegraphers appealed to the other class orders with whom they were affiliated on the system federation plan they refused them assistance, and system federation on the Missouri Pacific became a "busted dream." The Trainmen's Brotherhood, without protest, took a reduction of wages for yardmen (switchmen) on the Evansville and Terre Haute division of the Frisco system.

There is no large railway system in the United States that will employ any man who is over 35 years of age and some are discharging all men who have become employees after they were 25 years of age. The various railways won't hire a man who has lost even one joint of a finger or toe regardless of the fact that he lost the same in railway service. They make you strip and pass a physical examination, and if there is the least defect the applicant is rejected. Now, I would like to ask the Brotherhood of Engineers and the Order of Conductors how many of their members can meet these requirements? About 10 per cent of the men over 30, and what are you going to do about it? Remember that very few railroads hire conductors and engineers; the Pennsylvania lines won't employ a man as a fireman or brakeman who is not physically sound and is between 21 and 25 years of age. And, for other railway employees, the "dead line" is 35. Then the Western railroads, notably the Union Pacific, and the M., K. and T. railway (where the Order of Telegraphers are striking and the other class orders are aiding the "Katy" to defeat them) compel every applicant for employment to swear before a justice of the peace that he is under 35 and his personal record is correct in every particular, without any evasion or omission whatever. Now, how many of your members but what are compelled to commit perjury in order to secure employment, and, suppose that the railway finds out that they swore falsely in order to secure work and prosecutes them, and they are convicted—would you expel the brother?

Now, can't you see that all labor is interdependent? Can't you see that if the engineer remains at work the companies can easily defeat the conductors, brakemen and operators, and if the engineers and firemen strike and the rest remain at work the plan is easy for the company to defeat the men? And here are the switchmen and trainmen fighting like Kilkenny cats, and if the switchmen strike, the trainmen promptly fill their places, using the worn-out plea, "protecting our contracts." And while the Switchmen's Union is too honorable an organization to take a striker's place, still if the trainmen struck to-morrow the switchmen would remain at work and keep the yards open. Now, where is the solidarity of labor in that? None. What is the average railway order today? A kind of a mutual admiration society, where high salaried men posing as labor leaders throw choice bouquets at each other. In other words, an insurance society that, if you pay in so much you will get a certain sum of money if you lose an arm, leg, eye, or become totally disabled. In case you die your heirs will get it. And after many years of effort you become a mere empty machine, a clog in the way of progress, and when your aged brother loses his position, through some student's fault perhaps, and can no longer pay the high insurance dues he is expelled; no longer able to secure work on railways because he is too old, no longer permitted to ride in cabooses because he has no card; he becomes a tramp, his clothes become shabby, and he soon sinks to the level of a Salvation Army

soupphouse, and then there comes a strike, the age limit and physical examination is abolished temporarily, here are jobs open and good ones, no age limit or examination. It is his last hope; like a drowning man clutching desperately at a straw, he takes a position, does the work, and breaks the strike. And you class order men say he is a scab, yet you are the responsible ones. Why not organize on the industrial plan, all men are interdependent one on the other in any industrial establishment; join the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, demand the full product of your toil, organize a work class political party, demand the abolition of the age limit and physical examinations, give them a general strike all over the United States, and best of all, strike at the ballot box to end all this exploitation by voting for the principles of International Socialism as enunciated by the last Congress, in a class conscious militant body with workmen in control. Yours fraternally,

J. CARLOS BECKER,
Organizer American Labor Union.

WELL PLEASED.

Caldwell, Kan., Jan. 3, 1905.
The members of Division 42 have all received the VOICE OF LABOR for January and to say that we are well pleased with the change is putting it mildly. We think the right step has been taken, in amalgamating the two journals. It will now have a broader field of usefulness.

Division 42 will show quite a number of new members for the coming month, as everybody is getting interested, and the members seem to have a new inspiration and hope in industrial unionism. Like all divisions, I suppose, we have a few delinquents, but most of them will reinstate themselves next pay day.

Were it not for this matter of delinquents, the union labor problem would not have many difficulties to encounter; the working people must be made to understand that the union is all that he has to depend upon, and that he must stay with and support it at all times and for all time. I remain yours, in E., U. and P.

E. P. R., Agent Div. 42.

HELPLESSNESS OF APPLICATION BLANKS.

Newline, Tex., Jan. 16, 1905.

Please send another supply of application blanks to reach me at Childress, Tex. I find these particular blanks to be very popular among the railway men of my district, and wish to be provided with a sufficient supply to satisfy all demands upon me for them.

I have been "up against it" for the past two weeks on account of the weather. North Texas is frozen stiff. If you were in this part of the country you would naturally think that the Chicago climate was transplanted to the "Sunny South."

The weather, however, is moderating and I will have better walking for the balance of the trip over my district.

I encounter a great deal of ignorance among the railway men, with reference to industrial unionism, but when its character and great purposes are intelligently explained they are as anxious to take advantage of it as anyone.

It seems that the selfish, anti-union sentiment prevailing with the class order men in the train service, due to the influence of the class organizations, is having a most depressing influence on the employes of the unorganized departments.

They feel that the O. R. C., the B. of L. E., the B. of R. T. and the B. of L. P. are instruments in the hands of the railway corporations to prevent the successful organization of the other departments in the railway service. Innocent instruments, if you will, but instruments just the same; and the men working in the other departments who have suffered for lack of organization realize why it is that they have been repeatedly defeated in their efforts to organize, except possibly in some little class order that could not serve any purpose for them, and they are depressed and hopeless. However, they are union men at heart and are ready to respond to the call of the U. B. R. E. and its principles of equality, unity and protection.

I go from here to Childress, Tex.; from there to Ft. Worth, reaching the latter city about the 15th of February, if possible.

GEO. N. CAMPBELL, Organizer.

O. R. T. AND PUMPS.

I am stationed at East Bernard. In May, 1904, I was transferred from Del Rio division to the Gladden division with the promise of a gasoline pump, which was to be put in at a station called Schirtz. The gasoline pump not being ready when I reached the division, I was ordered by the railroad officials to go to East Bernard and operate the pump here until the one at Schirtz should be ready. The gasoline pump was installed at Schirtz in December and I expected to go there to run it, but found that the agent at that place is operating it for \$10 per month.

I was talking to the agent at East Bernard about his fellow agents calling us pumpers scabs because at some pump stations on this division we are forced to do agent's work owing to the fact that we have no contract with the railroad defining the limitations of our duties. Although we get \$10 extra for doing that work we don't want to do it. The agents have pump work specified in their contract at \$10 per month for gasoline and \$15 per month for steam pumps. They thus contract to scab upon us pumpers, and when we are compelled to do agent's work they call us scabs. They claim that the only way they can get contracts for their order is to agree to do pump work.

It is a mighty poor sort of a union which can get no better contract than on such terms as that. Industrial unionism, as practiced in railway service by the U. B. R. E., would solve the problem and protect the agents, pumpers, shop men, and in fact every worker engaged in the great industry of transportation. C. B. FRANKLIN.

WHAT FOOLS THESE MORTALS BE.

Threadbare as it has grown from much repetition, no truer saying was ever penned or spoken than this. What is true in an every day humdrum battle for existence can be recorded as a final conclusion when the non-union and class order people are considered. What fools these non-unionists and class order men be! Traveling as they are in a storm of helpless discontent, they see the beacon light of Industrial Unionism beckoning them to shelter and comfort; but they heed it not and plead on in a tempest of low wages and worse treatment, unmindful of their own folly in so doing.

They will grumble and growl and gnaw the bone of discontent, but they are blind to the fact that a dollar placed in the U. B. R. E. brings them returns than a thousand spent over the bar. I know dozens who would rather furnish diamonds, fine linen and downy couches for the rum-seller than invest a few dollars for their own future welfare, who would rather risk their hard-earned wages on the turn of a card than contribute a tenth of the same to insure better wages, better hours and better treatment. Verily, what fools these mortals be!

Blinded by prejudice and self-conceit, they do not perceive the handwriting on the wall, which warns them of their imminent downfall. Having been compelled to eat humble pie in the near past, a dish of dainty crow in the shape of a flat refusal for any future conferences will round out the palatable spread which the officials are now ready to serve them. Defeat after defeat only shows how untrustworthy and unprofitable are their ancient methods of procedure. Pomposity and "chestness" and snubbing of those who are every inch their equals are gaining them nothing in this advanced age. What fools these mortals be!

Gompers, Mitchell & Co. are living on the blind discontent of the wage-earners of America. Class orders and craft unions keep them in power and foster the ignorance upon which they fatten. What fools these laborers be!

CERT. 91, DIV. 27.

We know that the bulk of our membership need no artificial stimulus to spur them to the best endeavor. Nevertheless, the \$60 gold watch and \$15 solid gold chain constitute a reward for effort and a precious heirloom which is worth winning.

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILWAY CLERKS LOSES ITS EASTERN MEMBERSHIP.

On Jan. 17 last the following lodges of Railway Clerks of the B. R. C. of A. seceded and formed another organization known as the Order of Railway Clerks: Boston, Lowell, Worcester, Nashua, and Portland, Me.

They elected H. E. Pilchor, of Boston, Grand President, and George H. Streeter, also of Boston, General Secretary-Treasurer.

They expect to swing away from the B. R. C. most or all of the other locals of that organization in the East.

They are starting an active campaign in that direction against the organization with which they were formerly affiliated. It is scarcely possible that either of these dismembered organizations will be able to maintain existence, being separated as they now are, and their forces divided and expended in fighting each other, as they necessarily must be from this time on until one or both are destroyed.

CLERKS' BALL.

The International Association of Railway Clerks, now a department of the U. B. R. E., gave a ball at the Coliseum Annex, Wabash avenue and 15th streets, in Chicago, Jan. 18. The attendance was very good, there being over three hundred people in the grand march, shortly after 9 o'clock.

The grand march was led by Dan W. Richmond, General Secretary of the International Association, and Miss Bertha Estes.

The ball was a grand success socially and was a credit to the intelligence and activity of the railway clerks of Chicago.

The clerks will give another ball on May 6, of which due notice will be given later.

John McNeil, President of the Boilermakers' Union, has been suspended from his office by the Executive Council of that organization, because of charges that were made against him that he did not work for the best interests of the union during the strike of boilermakers and machinists on the Union Pacific Railway in 1903.

It will be remembered at the close of this strike that the statement was issued by this organization that its strike on the U. P. was won. If so, why suspend its president for winning a strike?

John T. Wilson, president of the International Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, writing of the U. B. R. E., says that on a large Western road a great many of the men belong to the U. B. R. E., and his organizers did not collect enough from applicants for membership on that road to pay their salaries and expenses

and his Grand Lodge had to pay the balance.



DAN W. RICHMOND.
Founder, Organizer, General President
and Later General Secretary, Inter-
national Association of Railway
Clerks.

A LIE NAILED.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 23, 1905.
Editor VOICE OF LABOR.

I note by the press reports of yesterday (Sunday) that the Freight Handlers' Union is to inaugurate a war of extermination against the International Association of Railway Clerks, owing, as they claim, to our having broken an agreement with them. On behalf of our organization, I desire to deny this in "toto," and would state that on Nov. 9th last an agreement was entered into between us that a referendum vote be taken on amalgamation of the two organizations. This agreement was witnessed by President Gompers, Secretary Morrison, Treasurer Lennon and Vice President Mitchell, of the Executive Council of the A. F. of L., and was sanctioned by them. Immediately on this being published, two other organizations both desiring the Railway Clerks, submitted propositions for amalgamation and requested that they also be submitted to a referendum vote, which, under our constitution, they were entitled to.

One of these organizations was the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, an independent organization, with headquarters in Kansas City, Mo., the other being the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, connected with the American Labor Union. Our entertainment and submitting of these other propositions on the same ballot with that of the Freight Handlers immediately aroused the ire of President L. J. Curran of that organization, who claimed that we had no right to entertain them, after his had been submitted to us, and then threatened us with extermination. His passing strange that President Gompers, whom I acquainted with these facts, did not discover any violation of agreement in this matter; on the contrary, he recognized the justice and rights covered by the referendum.

President Curran was repeatedly invited by myself to appear before our meetings, together with representatives of the other organizations, and argue for his proposition. Every one of these invitations was either refused or ignored. He saying that if we did not come with him he would take us any way.

The result of the referendum vote was that our members voted to amalgamate with the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, the vote being almost unanimous in Chicago, only three (3) votes here being cast for the Freight Handlers. Our locals

will be chartered by that body on Feb. 1, and we will become part of the A. L. U.

The Railway Clerks are averse to being under the domination of any one man. If war is to be waged on us, we will meet it, although we are not seeking it. The Railway companies will undoubtedly welcome a war of class against class in our movement. It will further demonstrate the fallacy of class organization and strengthen the cause of Industrial Unionism, for which we have voted. As for myself, I wish to state that I have resigned my commission as volunteer organizer for the A. F. of L., and will take the field on Feb. 1st for the U. B. of R. E. and the A. L. U.

Very truly,
DAN W. RICHMOND,
Secretary I. A. R. C.

AMALGAMATION.

*International Association of Railway Clerks
Amalgamated with the United Brother-
hood of Railway Employees.*

(BY GEO. ESTES.)

In April and May, three years ago, The International Association of Railway Clerks came into existence in the city of Chicago, under the direct auspices of the American Federation of Labor.

There were at that time two other organizations of Railway Clerks in the field, not affiliated with the A. F. of L.

The writer hereof was in Chicago when the International Association was launched, and endeavored to have the Railway Clerks organize as a department of the U. B. R. E., but the clerks desired to start their own International Organization under the A. F. of L. in the full belief that they were following the wisest course.

Perhaps the most active promoter of the Chicago Clerks Organization, among the Clerks themselves, was Dan W. Richmond, a railway clerk in the employ of one of the large trunk lines entering Chicago.

He was at first organizer, later International President and thereafter International Secretary of the Association.

Richmond is an active, industrious man, full of grim determination and boundless energy, and his tremendous labors built up the International Association of Railway Clerks until at one time it had fifty local Unions throughout North America.

At the time the Association was launched, in April and May, 1902, there was a flood-tide of unionism sweeping over the city of Chicago, and all trades organized rapidly and in many cases aimlessly, following the A. F. of L. principle of splitting the workers up into small class factions, which seemed good to the wage earners then, but the plan of dividing up the wage workers so that employers can pit one class against another contains within itself the forces of destruction and disintegration, which will invariably work upward and outward, ultimately forcing all class or "Trade" Unions either to amalgamate under the Industrial Union plan or disappear forever, and these certain and unerring forces have been constantly at work within the International Association of Railway Clerks, since the great flood tide of unionism of 1902 receded and became the ebb tide in 1904, and the leaders of the Clerks organization, having realized the necessity of amalgamation, submitted three propositions to a referendum vote of their membership in December last.

These were amalgamation with either the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks with headquarters in Kansas City, with the Freight Handlers' organization with headquarters in Chicago, or with the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees.

The result of the vote has been that the International Association of Railway Clerks has amalgamated with the U. B. R. E.

Their local at Kensington (in Chicago) being the first to transfer became Division No. 168 of the U. B. R. E. the night of January 19th. Their locals at Chicago, Englewood, Stockyards, Hammond and Kansas City will be transferred immediately and the amalgamation will be complete.

It is better that the amalgamation should have come in this way. Infinitely better than that the Chicago clerks should have started with the U. B. R. E. in 1902 and then later drawn away by A. F. of L. influence and as soon as the separation was complete, sunk forever from sight, as did the organization of express employes on the Pacific Coast, which died the day it separated from the U. B. R. E.

In 1902 the principles of Industrial Unionism were not so clear to the workers of

North America as they are now. The wage earners were blinded by the real meaning of Industrial Unionism by the constant outpouring of lies and defamation against it and its adherents by the grafters of the class orders.

But the situation has cleared materially and the true principles of Industrial Unionism are standing out firm as a rock as the only plan of organization which can survive the tremendous changes which have been wrought in the Industrial fabric of society.

The remaining official directory and members of the Industrial Association of Railway Clerks, has thoroughly tested the class order form of Organization, which offers no support other than "SYMPATHY," the standard stock in trade of the A. F. of L., and even that comes a little late at times, as in the case of the great stockyards strike in Chicago last summer, which had been on for weeks, and five days after it was lost and called off the Executive Committee of the A. F. of L. in Washington wired its "SYMPATHY" to the defeated strikers.

The amalgamation, therefore, brings to the U. B. R. E. men who have been in the very thick of the fight for three years, men who KNOW, men who have been with the class order movement and have tested it thoroughly and desire a broader and deeper unionism than the class order affords.

They have come to Industrial Unionism "RIGHT" and are there to stay.

The leaders of the former International Association, strong men and able, who have fought the three years' battle and know its real meaning, are now fighters for the U. B. R. E. and are on the right side at last, the side of principle, the side of Equality, Unity and Protection.

The United Brotherhood of Railway Employees now has the only organization of Railway Clerks in the City of Chicago, likewise the only organization for towermen, which body of men was also a part of the A. F. of L., but came over to the U. B. R. E. in 1903.

Slowly but certainly the sound principles of Industrial Unionism, backed by the irresistible force of evolution, are overcoming all obstacles and the time will eventually come when every employe of a steam railway in Chicago will wear the same button, carry the same card and subscribe to the same obligation, and when that time arrives strikes and labor disturbances in the great industry of steam railway Transportation will disappear forever.

AFTER BRO. HALL'S GOLD WATCH.

San Antonio, Texas, Jan. 8, 1905.

Division No. 24 met promptly at 8 o'clock last Friday. It was the first time that we did not initiate one or more candidates. We had to be content with installing our new officers and getting ready for this year's business. While we consider No. 24 a good division, we have resolved to make it better and more interesting. Every member has constituted himself a committee of one to work for the good of the order.

Several of the boys have entered the contest for the watch and chain, your humble servant included. I should like our division to win it, whether I do or not. We serve notice on all other divisions that if they expect to beat us they will have to hustle like a house on fire.

Our division has requested Vice President Fitzgerald to appoint Bro. C. F. Denys Organizer for this district. We believe he will be the right man for the place. We have had practically no organizer except when Bro. Fitz would take a run down this way and rustle the field for a while. We must have a regular organizer, because we are having lots of newcomers and it is a good plan to catch them as they come. There are a few sore-heads who pretend to think the U. B. R. E. a fraud, but they deceive no one for any length of time.

D. J. McLINNAN.

**RESOLUTIONS OF CONDOL-
LENCE.**

By a wise provision in nature it is appointed for all life to pass through the transition called death. It is with regret and sorrow that this division learns of the death of Esther Loretta Luby, sister of our

Brother Thomas Luby, who died at her home, 5312 Aberdeen street, on Jan. 20th.

Brother Luby is recognized as an honored and faithful member of our organization. If words were adequate to meet grief, we would gladly pour into the bleeding bosoms of the bereaved ones words of consolation.

Be it Resolved, That Erie Division No. 107, U. B. R. E., extends to them our heartfelt sympathy in this their hour of sorrow; be it further

Resolved, That these resolutions be made a part of the records of to-night and that a copy be sent to the bereaved family and a copy furnished the VOICE OF LABOR, official journal of the U. B. R. E., for publication.

OLIVER A. HALE,
THOS. HANSBURY,
JAS. MURPHY,
Committee.

NEW DIVISION IN CHICAGO.

Erie Division No. 107 is getting on all right. Last meeting night, Jan. 21st, we initiated a new member and received three applications for membership. First Vice President Frank McCabe was a visitor to the meeting and spoke in his usual happy manner on the good and welfare of the Brotherhood, after which he installed the following officers:

Manager—John Eul.
Agent—P. J. Buckley.
Conductor—Jas. Murphy.
Prelate—W. S. Kelly.
Watchman—John Thompson.
Flagman—S. McWright

P. J. BUCKLEY,
Agent Division No. 107.

CHICAGO WANTS THE PRIZE.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 20, 1905.

No doubt some of the members of Division No. 76 would like to know something about what is going on in this division. I am well aware that it is impossible for some to attend meetings, but I know that there are others who could come who don't; therefore, this is for their information. We are constantly adding to our membership. It has become a part of each meeting's exercises to initiate new members and pass on new applications. We are reinstating many of the old members who had become disheartened and dropped out of the movement because the organization had not obtained immediate substantial benefits for them before the ink was dry upon their cards.

We should always bear in mind the motto of the U. B. R. E., "One for all and all for one," and should strive to hold our membership intact and add to it by vigorous propaganda among the class order men. There are hundreds of good men who would join the U. B. R. E. if they could be made acquainted with the noble principles and sound policy of our organization. Appoint yourself ambassador plenipotentiary to every worker in the railway service who is not yet a member.

We have with us now a tireless worker in the person of First Vice President Bro. Frank McCabe, a brother in whom all the members have the utmost confidence and who can always be relied upon to do his full duty. Bro. McCabe is meeting with very good success in Chicago. He has worked long and hard, but is now beginning to reap his harvest and from all appearances there will be something doing around here in the near future. Bro. McCabe has started one division of the car workers on the Erie and has good prospects of starting one more of the same department on the L. S. & M. S. The Railway Clerks have voted to join the U. B. R. E. in a body.

I had the pleasure of meeting Third Vice President W. J. Bradley, Fourth Vice President J. E. Fitzgerald, Thos. De Young of Houston, Texas, and Bro. W. J. Pinkerton of Kansas City in the division at large the first of the year. All of them had very encouraging reports of the prospects of the U. B. R. E. from different parts of the country.

Bro. De Young was anxious to take Bro. McCabe out for an automobile ride, but I doubt if Bro. McCabe would go as he is familiar with the city ordinance and knows what a chance he would be taking.

Division No. 76 had the pleasure of having our Worthy President Bro. Geo. Estes and Bro. W. L. Hall, General Secretary and Treasurer, with us at our first meeting in January. After the installation of new

officers, Bro. Estes addressed the meeting and his remarks were very encouraging. The members all like to hear Bro. Estes, and we hope he will call soon again.

I see by the January journal where Bro. Hall makes the generous offer of a grand prize to the member securing the greatest number of applications up to July 1, 1905. This is a prize-worthy of any member's time to try and secure, and I am sure that there will be several contestants. I would like to see this prize remain in Chicago, and can see no reason why it should go away, as we have the greatest field to work of any in the country.

With the best wishes for the officers and members of the U. B. R. E., I remain yours for E., U. and P. W. H.

Read the rules governing the contest for the gold watch and chain, valued at \$75, which were published in last month's VOICE OF LABOR.

LINES FROM MANTUA TRANSFER.

The Transfer men are still alive,
And getting down to biz.
If we had kept in the rut we were in,
We'd surely have made a fizz.

Our interest is increasing,
And the drones are fast releasing;
While on knowledge we are feasting
Of true Brotherhood.

We are climbing up the mountain,
We are drinking at the fountain;
We're a happy lot of fellows,
For we're getting proper food.

The trucks we still keep running,
Always with each other funning,
All unkindly feeling shunning,
As we should.

We live but in the present,
The future is unknown.
To-morrow is a mystery,
To-day is all our own.

The chance that fortune leads to us
May vanish while we wait,
We'll all unite together
Before it is too late.

If anyone should ask you where
The U. B. R. E. does shine,
Please tell him in Div. 76. F. H.

The General Secretary-Treasurer requests all who wish to enter the contest for the \$75 gold watch and chain to send him their names and addresses.

TRYING FOR THE GOLD WATCH.

Dalhart, Tex., Jan. 2, 1905.

I have not heard from Bro. Campbell since I last wrote you and don't know what route he will take.

I have been receiving letters from Bucklin, Hutchison and Herington, asking me to come to these places and organize divisions. The men at those points are very anxious to be organized into the U. B. R. E. I have written W. J. Bradley, Vice President of the district that these towns are located in, regarding the matter, but have not had time to get a reply from him.

The division here is still growing nicely, and many of us are enlisting in the race to capture the gold watch and chain for Dalhart. Yours, in E., U. and P.

J. S. M., Agent Division 27, U. B. R. E.

Division No. 24, of San Antonio, Texas, is trying hard to get that \$75 gold watch and chain which has been offered as a prize by the General Secretary-Treasurer to the brother who secures the most new members before July 1, 1905.

LETTERS FROM LOCAL UNIONS

THE STRIKE AT HOPE.

Hope, Idaho, Jan. 18, 1905.

As the Hope Lumber Company, through its manager, is, and has been doing all in its power to defame the members of Hope Labor Union, the men feel that their side of the controversy should come before the public.

The union men have been on strike since Dec. 1, 1904, to prevent a second reduction of wages. Since that time the management has tried to bulldoze the men into submission.

Threats have been made of tearing down the homes of past employes whose dwellings were located on the outskirts of the company's property.

They have tried to buy off union men. By trickery they have secured mortgages on the little homes of some of their past employes and, holding the foreclosure of those mortgages as an excuse, have compelled one or two to re-enter their employment as scabs.

The last number in this delightful program is the farce of conspiracy. They were so utterly beaten by their own evidence in the trial that it was thrown out of court.

On Saturday, Jan. 7th, James Crisp and John Hash were going up town to spend the evening. Their route lay past the Hope Lumber Company's premises. As it was quitting time for the two or three scabs who are repairing the mill, the boys met two of them on their way home, Andrew Johnson and Louis Hewitt. It was dusk. In attempting to pass each other they collided, and the scabs called the union men vile names. The result was a clash in which Johnson was knocked down and trampled on, while Hewitt was led painfully away by the left ear. The noise and confusion aroused the nearby dwellers, who came in haste to stop the disturbance. Among the number, Phil Labonne, Austin Taylor and Frank Moore, as good citizens as ever walked the pike.

James Crisp and John Hash, after the tournament, went on up town and placed themselves in the hands of a justice. He arrested them and, after ascertaining the damage done Johnson and Hewitt, fined the boys. Next day the management of the company sent the remains of the two scabs to Rathdrum to file a charge against all the men who had witnessed the affair.

The shrewd lawyer for the company trumps up a charge of conspiracy, with a view of ultimately getting an injunction served against the union men.

On Jan. 10th James Crisp, P. Labonne, J. Hash, Austin Taylor and Frank Moore were arrested and taken to Rathdrum. The evidence given by the complainants during the trial was so absolutely worthless and untrustworthy that the trial was thrown out of court.

A sample of the evidence will show the general intelligence and reliability of the oath of a scab. Hewitt stated that there were seven men hiding behind a tree six feet from the railroad. When cross-questioned he stated there was no tree there. Further questioning by the attorney for the defense caused Hewitt to break down and weep copiously, stating he didn't know "nothing about it at all." Bartlett Sinclair of Coeur d'Alene fame, or otherwise, ably and conscientiously defended the boys.

A. WAYNE De VOE,

Secretary Hope Labor Union No. 238, A. L. U.

LAUNDRY WORKERS LOYAL.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 1, 1905.

Laundry Workers' Union No. 4 elected the following officers at last meeting: President, Chas. Joslin; Vice President, H. A. Taylor; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, George Fozard; Financial Secretary-Treasurer, T. D. Cosby; Trustees, E. Erickson, Chas. Joslin, John Pond, W. B. McGraw, Mrs. A. Patterson. Almost without exception these are men and women who have been active workers in the union since it was originally organized by the Western Labor Union (now American La-

bor Union). The officers as well as a great majority of the members, realize that the A. L. U. is the only general labor body that has ever been of service to the laundry workers of Butte.

During the past year the union has been continuously besieged by high salaried so-called organizers of the A. F. of L., who have tried to persuade this local to desert the A. L. U. The lies and misrepresentations of these imported disrupters would easily deceive men and women who know less of the A. L. U. than the laundry workers of Butte, who have been identified with it since its birth. Our suspicions were aroused instantly, because these men who have organizers titles and who never organize a union from one year's end to another, draw salaries from \$200 to \$400 a month for the work of disrupting and destroying the American Labor Union. So far as the Butte Laundry Workers are concerned, we have no axes to grind. We care only for the welfare of our members and of the labor movement generally, and the A. L. U. is good enough for us.

GEORGE FOZARD,

Secretary Laundry Workers' Union No. 4, A. L. U.

BONNER HELPS.

Bonner, Mont., Jan. 14, 1905.

Enclosed is \$10 as our January contribution to the Lumbermen's Organizing fund. We sincerely hope that this small donation each month will be of some service in helping the work of organization in the South.

CHAS. SHIBLOM,

Secretary Big Blackfoot Lumbermen's Union No. 47, A. L. U.

(A number of established lumbermen's unions in Montana, Idaho and California are making small donations of \$5 or \$10 a month for this work. It all amounts to \$60 a month. Not much, but still just enough to make it possible for headquarters to maintain two organizers in the field, where only one was possible before.—Editor.)

A BREWER'S OPINION.

Spokane, Wash., Jan. 8, 1905.

A member of Walla Walla branch was discharged last week for too much unionism, but we will get him back in his position all right.

We will be forced to take a position against the A. F. of L. in its efforts to destroy our international union by dividing it into so many parts. Don't you think it about time to leave the old crowd of disrupters and join the American Labor Union as an international industrial union?

G. F. ISCHL,

Secretary Brewers' Union No. 56, A. L. U.

GOLDFIELD UNION GROWING

Goldfield, Nev., Jan. 2, 1905.

The office of Financial Secretary and Business Agent has been combined and the holder placed on a salary. Every prospect of a good union here. Initiated 71 members in the last month. Now have more than 200 members in good standing.

PHIL E. DEMPSEY,

Business Agent Federal Union No. 510, A. L. U.

FROM AN OLD STAND-BY.

Hamilton, Mont., Jan. 7, 1905.

I was obliged to resign in September, when our crew went to St. Regis. When I got back I was given the office again, but find reports have not been made as they should. Everything will be right from now on.

This union is one of the biggest in the A. L. U. We have jurisdiction over a big lumbering camp, and every man working in this district belongs to the union. Wages and conditions are better in Montana than in other lumber districts of the United States, due, no doubt, to our splendid unions.

JOHN J. HOWLEY,

Secretary Hamilton Union No. 109, A. L. U.

CHICAGO FEDERAL ACTIVE.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 18, 1905.

The following have been installed officers of Chicago Federal Union No. 454, A. L. U., for the term beginning January, 1905: President, W. L. Hall; Vice President, E. L. Williams; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. R. F. Orr; Financial Secretary-Treasurer, F. P. Cranston.

With a view to becoming a real factor in the Chicago labor movement, this union has arranged to hold meetings every week on Sunday afternoons. Business meetings will be held first and third Sundays at 2:30 p. m. at Exchange Hall, northeast corner Sangamon and Monroe streets. Open meetings second and fourth Sundays, same place and hour.

Seven thousand neatly printed folders are now in circulation announcing a series of six open meetings, commencing Feb. 12th and continuing until April 23d. All working people are invited to attend and take part in the open meetings. At each meeting a principal speaker will submit a paper requiring about forty minutes to deliver, following which there will be open discussion from the audience, five minutes to each speaker. Subjects, dates, speakers and program for the six meetings are as follows:

Sunday, Feb. 12th—Subject, "Origin of Organized Labor Movement." Principal speaker, Thos. J. Hagerty.

Sunday, Feb. 26th—Subject, "Development of Organized Labor Movement in America to the Civil War Period." Principal speaker, A. M. Simons.

Sunday, March 12—Subject, "Origin, Development and Decay of the Order of the Knights of Labor." Principal speaker, Walter Thomas Mills.

Sunday, March 26th—Subject, "Craft Unionism; Its History and Its Weakness." Principal speaker, George Estes.

Sunday, April 9th—Subject, "Industrialism in America and Europe." Principal speaker, William E. Trautmann.

Sunday, April 23d—Subject, "American Labor Union: Its Purpose and Its Meaning to Labor and Society." Principal speaker, Daniel McDonald.

Attendance at all of these meetings will insure an education in unionism. We expect the open meetings to be crowded to the doors. By requiring the principal speakers to submit their speeches in writing, also, we expect to accumulate something in the shape of literature, which up to this time the industrial union movement and the American Labor Union is lacking.

Readers of the VOICE OF LABOR will hear from us from time to time, and we hope to hear that other A. L. U. locals will provide something of this sort that will be interesting and instructive to their members. All localities may not have Chicago's intellectual giants to lead their debates, but local talent can be found that, through development, will become just as powerful factors in the working class revolution as an Estes, a Trautmann or a Hagerty.

MRS. R. F. ORR,

Secretary Chicago Federal Union No. 454, A. L. U.

NEWS FOR THE SHEARERS.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 10, 1905.

Headquarters of Hand and Machine Sheep Shearers' Union No. 275, A. L. U., are again located at Butte, and will remain here during the shearing season and until after the convention in August.

We are trying to arrange with the railroads for special rates for the shearers this season, and if we succeed, it will mean a great deal to our members, who travel from place to place during the entire season. The Oregon Short Line, Oregon Railroad & Navigation Co., and Union Pacific have practically agreed to make a special rate. Members will be notified by circular as soon as it is definitely settled.

The VOICE OF LABOR is a swell magazine and the Shearers will like it much better than the old paper.

PLATTE RICHARDSON,

Secretary S. S. Union No. 275, A. L. U.

AT GRAND FORKS.

Grand Forks, B. C., Jan. 6, 1905.
The following officers of Grand Forks Federal Labor Union No. 231, A. L. U., have been elected and installed for this term: President, Gus L. Orre; Vice President, H. B. Cannon; Recording and Corresponding Secretary, Roger Mead; Financial Secretary-Treasurer, James A. Harris; Guide, Frank Kimball; Guard, Chris Matti; Sergeant-at-Arms, Jas. Stack; Trustee, Dan Kelly; Executive Board, J. A. Harris, Dan Kelly, P. Peterson, Jacob Singer and Wm. Creitz.

The election was the largest closed meeting the union ever held, and the active members deserve great credit for the growth of the organization. The newly elected officers are popular among the members, and capable officials as well. It is safe to predict that the union will maintain its present prosperity throughout the year.

A very successful smoker and entertainment was given recently by the union.
JAS. A. HARRIS,
Secretary Grand Forks Federal Labor Union No. 231, A. L. U.

A MEMBER SUSPENDED.

Red Lodge, Mont., Jan. 2, 1905.
At the regular meeting of this union, Dec. 22, H. C. Province was suspended from membership. He is now working in the interests of the business men of Red Lodge, which is inconsistent with membership in the Farmers' Union. He is, therefore, suspended until he again adopts farming as his occupation.

G. W. DAWSON,
Secretary Rock Creek Valley Farmers' Union No. 483, A. L. U.

WORK THAT WINS.

Milan, Wash., Jan. 8, 1905.
Two weeks ago when in Spokane I made up my mind to do some boosting for the A. L. U. shoe stamp. I visited every shoe store in the city and asked for shoes bearing the A. L. U. label. I told every dealer that they must carry our shoes in stock in order to get A. L. U. trade. If other members throughout the country would do as much we could build up a demand for the A. L. U. stamp that would force shoe manufacturers to adopt it.

GUS L. SMITH, Secretary.
Milan Union No. 311, A. L. U.

PROGRESS IN SPOKANE.

Spokane, Wash., Dec. 26, 1904.
At our last meeting we initiated 21 members. Refreshments and cigars were served, speeches were made and a general good time was had.

Our local, which has always had jurisdiction over common labor, had a hard struggle the last year against great odds, but we have won out.

This union has shortened the hours and increased the wages of common laborers in Spokane, and we have fought through the courts of this city, county and state until we now have a city ordinance, pronounced legal by the State Supreme Court, fixing eight hours as a day's work on all city work.

But for the last year we have had a combination of employers and the A. F. of L. to fight. The bosses furnished the money, and the A. F. of L. furnished scabs from a dual union, whose members offered to work for 5 cents an hour less than our union scale. We have whipped them both and are again on top.
A. G. ANDERSON,
Secretary Federal Union No. 222, A. L. U.

A NOBLE FIGHT.

Newport News, Va., Jan. 9, 1905.
Allow me to wish you success in the great work of overthrowing the capitalist wage system and establishing an Industrial Democracy, where the workers will own and operate all industries and enjoy the full product of their labor. It is a bitter struggle, and yet a grand one, for future society will look back upon and bless the pioneers who blazed the way for the co-operative commonwealth through the establishment of industrial unionism, which is destined to be the structure for the future workers' republic.

PERCY G. PENNINGTON,
Secretary Branch No. 634, A. S. of E.

WANTS ORGANIZERS.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 11, 1905.
Our local German Waiters' Union No. 493 has had some bitter experiences since organizing last May, but we now have a splendid set of officers, the union is growing steadily, and the future looks bright for us.

What we need is an A. L. U. organizer located here permanently. There are plenty of men here of all industries who believe in our principles and plan of organization. We only need an organizer to organize these men into working unions.

OTTO HOELTZEL,
Secretary German Waiters' Union No. 493, A. L. U.

THE USUAL WAY.

Chicago, Ill., Jan. 18, 1905.
Bakery Workers' Union No. 506 has had a strenuous life since it severed its connection with the old A. F. of L. and united with the more aggressive and progressive American Labor Union. At no time during our affiliation with the International Union did that organization show so much life and activity as it has shown in trying to get us back within the A. F. of L. fold. We have received communication after communication urging us to come back, and making promises for the future that have never been justified by the past record. These invitations have invariably been turned down, the last one being unambiguously rejected before the Secretary had finished reading it.

This would not be so bad, as any organization has the right to invite membership from anywhere, but we do object to other methods of the International to get this union to leave the A. L. U. The game is now through the bosses and manufacturers of crackers, who seem to have made a combination with the International Union to force us out of the A. L. U. Not less than two weeks ago I was called into the office of one of the big cracker companies in Chicago, where the manager introduced me to Mr. Harzbecker, the Secretary of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union. I was told that the manufacturers wanted our union to belong to the International. It was told by Harzbecker later that the Sawyer Biscuit Company, a notoriously scab concern, would unionize if we would join the International. This looks pretty rotten to us, and we will keep out of it.
JOHN A. EGAN,
Secretary Bakery Workers' Union No. 506, A. L. U.

OUTLOOK IN NEW YORK.

New York, N. Y., Jan. 1, 1905.
The outlook for the A. L. U. here in New York is becoming constantly brighter. Brother Estes' meeting here has become the topic of the day among unionists. Now, brother, if it would be possible to have Estes here again the later part of January it would be a great help to the A. L. U. in New York.

I have written encouraging fraternal letters to all A. L. U. locals recently organized. I realize that the lumbermen of the South especially need our earnest support. In fact, it does great good for any and all new unions to know that their brothers in the A. L. U. all over the country are interested in their welfare.

OTTO SEEGER,
Secretary German Engineers' Union No. 334, A. L. U.

FROM A NEW UNION.

Jonesboro, La., Jan. 16, 1905.
It is no easy thing to organize in this country, but we are here to stay, and are determined to make this union permanent. The mill owners are combined against us all along this railroad and are using every means to intimidate the men.

Our wages were cut last fall and we worked for \$1.35 a day for three months. Then they raised a trifle, but still make more than \$500 a month from the cut.

We have between 100 and 150 members now and the indications are we will get them all if every officer and member of this local will do his part.

We installed officers the 16th of this month. Brother Barnes was here and was a big help to us.
J. C. DOUGLASS,
Secretary Jonesboro Workingmen's Union No. 520, A. L. U.

PERSECUTION.

San Antonio, Tex., Jan. 12, 1905.
It has been some weeks since the association of old party political hirelings making up the Texas Federation of Labor, declared its intention of "destroying" the United Brotherhood of Builders and of "stamping out" the American Labor Union in Texas, but the U. B. of B. still lives and the strong industrial union sentiment in Texas is daily amalgamating and finding expression through the American Labor Union.

Now we are told that the Grand High Chief of craft autonomy, Samuel Gompers, of Physic Federation fame, is sending a personal and official representative to Texas for the purpose of doing that which all the power of Employers' Associations cannot do, exterminate the spirit of industrialism in this state.

We have letters from all parts of the country, congratulating the U. B. of B. as being the pioneer industrial union of the building trades.

We understand very clearly that, when it comes to an issue, the contractors and employers will help the craft unions fight such an organization as the U. B. of B. The bosses fear an industrial union that will bring the carpenters, bricklayers, the plumbers and all other builders under one banner, because they realize such an association will eventually displace contractors and bosses as well as the craft unions, and will in time perform through the industrial union all the building work society will need with no bloodsuckers to bleed the profits from the sweat of the workers.

J. L. A. HOLMAN,
President U. B. of B., 1107 S. Flores St.

CRITICISES CARD SYSTEM.

Silverton, Colo., Jan. 2, 1905.
I have a number of objections to the present card system of the A. L. U., and I believe a better and more economical system could be put into operation.

In the first place the Secretary has to issue a separate card for each member each calendar month, which greatly increases his work.

Next, the Secretary must make a report to headquarters each month, which also increases his work.

Third, the member does not take care of his card, knowing it is good only for the current month. Therefore, the Secretary must refer to his ledger every time a member pays dues, and even then the ledger account is disputed by some members.

Secretaries of small unions give their time free, and their work should be made as easy as possible, consistent with good and safe accounting.
B. FREEMAN,
Secretary Silverton Federal Union No. 112, A. L. U.

A GOOD UNION MAN.

Utica, Mont., Jan. 10, 1905.
Enclosed \$3, for which send membership cards for six months in the union-at-large. Send password for current quarter.
DAVID W. WEST.

(Being a union man is a matter of principle and conscience with Brother West. Although never located permanently in a place where he could hold membership in a local union, he steadily keeps up his individual membership, and can never be found without a paid-up card and the current password. In this way he receives the VOICE OF LABOR and keeps in touch with the internal workings of the A. L. U. through official bulletins from headquarters.—Editor.)

WANT WEEKLY JOURNAL.

Vancouver, B. C., Jan. 11, 1905.
I am instructed by this union to urge headquarters to issue a weekly journal. We are in receipt of the VOICE OF LABOR, for which I must certainly congratulate the management. Still, the weekly paper was a tremendous force for keeping the members enthused in a way that a monthly publication, however good, can never do. Kindly think this over and discuss it. We are only desirous of the advancement of labor.
BEN W. BAKES,
Secretary Civic Employes Union No. 424, A. L. U.

WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS

EXECUTIVE BOARD.

M. W. MOOR McCabe, Ariz.
 L. J. SIMPKINS Wardner, Idaho
 C. E. MAHONEY Box 841, Butte, Mont.
 FRANK SCHMELZER Silverton, Colo.
 JAMES KIRWAN Terry, S. D.
 JAMES A. BAKER Slocan City, B. C.

OFFICERS.

CHAS. H. MOYER, President Denver, Colo.
 Room 3, Pioneer Building.
 J. C. WILLIAMS, Vice President Grass Valley, Cal.
 W. D. HAYWOOD, Secretary-Treasurer Denver, Colo.
 Room 3, Pioneer Building.
 JOHN H. MURPHY, Attorney 503 Kittridge Bldg., Denver, Colo.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD W. F. M.

Denver, Colo., Dec. 22, 1904.

To the Members of the Western Federation of Miners:

Brothers: In response to the call of President Moyer, we, your Executive Board, met and went into executive session, at federation headquarters, Pioneer building, Denver, Colorado, on the morning of Dec. 5, 1904, and have continued in session from day to day up to the present time.

Owing to the extreme conditions prevailing for the past year, in certain portions of the jurisdiction of your organization, the volume of business in the general office and matters referred to the Executive Board at this time, have been far in excess of any time in our previous history.

We have thoroughly audited the books and accounts of your Secretary-Treasurer, going over all the financial affairs of the organization, covering all forms of receipts and disbursements, and we are pleased to state that, notwithstanding the extreme conditions and confusing complications which have so frequently been forced upon your Secretary, we find them correct in every detail; also, that the general work of the office of your Secretary is conducted in the most efficient manner, and we can not compliment your organization too highly in having an incumbent for this office who has proved himself equal to all emergencies under most trying circumstances, and we feel in duty bound to express our appreciation of the work performed in behalf of our organization by Bro. Haywood.

One feature of this meeting of our Executive Board has been most gratifying to us, namely, that we have once more been able to enjoy the society, counsel and advice of President Moyer. During the two previous meetings of this board, this privilege and benefit has been denied us, while our President was languishing in a prison cell, enduring the persecution of a murderous mob, clothed with authority, and inflicting their persecutions under the name of justice, law and order, for daring to take the manly part in our behalf and doing what the law and constitution distinctly says he may do. As a result of this outrage, the health of our President has been very seriously impaired, and at this time it is with difficulty that he is able to meet the requirements of his duties.

During the present meeting of the board we were visited by a sub-committee from the Executive Board of the American Labor Union. The relations of the two organizations were thoroughly gone over and all matters satisfactorily adjusted. We have selected President Moyer as a member of the Executive Board of the American Labor Union, and from this time forward propose to be an active factor in the work of that organization.

In the Telluride District the mine owners conceded the eight-hour day after it became apparent that it would be impossible for them to operate their properties successfully with the incompetent non-union men who had taken the places formerly filled by members of the Western Federation of Miners. President Moyer, after a conference with the San Juan District and Telluride unions, finally declared the strike off, as the concessions granted by the mine operators were practically the demands of the members of Telluride Miners' Union, when the strike was inaugurated. This action has been endorsed by the Executive Board, and we firmly believe that in the near future Telluride Union No. 63 will again become one of the largest and most progressive unions in the Western Federation of Miners.

The following unions are still on strike: Free Coinage No. 19, Colorado; Anaconda No. 21, Colorado; Cripple Creek No. 40, Colorado; Victor No. 80, Colorado; Independence No. 75, Colorado; Cripple Creek No. 82, Colorado; Victor No. 106, Colorado;

Durango No. 58, Colorado; Denver M. & S. No. 93, Colorado; Idaho Springs No. 136, Colorado; Colorado City No. 125, Colorado; Randsburg No. 44, California; Independence No. 166, California; Jamestown No. 185, California.

We wish to say that the prospect for settlements is brighter now than it has been in the past six months, as past experience has shown that it is impossible for the management of the mines and mills to operate at a profit with the class of men that they were able to secure.

In addition to the local unions on strike in Colorado, we have Horr No. 54 and Aldridge No. 57 of Montana, which have been locked out by the management of the Montana Coke and Coal Company. The reason given by the management is that it was anticipated that the employees, after the expiration of their contract, which expired Sept. 1st, would make a demand for an increase in the new scale and that he would take "the bull by the horns and starve them into submission."

The lockout occurred on the 18th of August, 1904, which was twelve days prior to the expiration of said contract. From apparent conditions it appears favorable for a settlement in the near future, as the management appears to be anxious to resume operations.

We call the attention of the members of organized labor to the noble and heroic stand taken by the women in the strike districts of Colorado, in the distribution of relief when the members of the local unions were thrown in bull pens, or driven into exile. In many instances these women were threatened with deportation and imprisonment for violating the inhuman proclamation of the military authorities, forbidding the distribution of relief to starving women and children. We feel that the Federation can never repay them for their untiring and valuable services in behalf of the Western Federation of Miners in their time of trouble and affliction.

The work of organization has been materially interfered with on account of the strenuous position in which the organization has been placed by the present conflict, and the vast volume of work it entailed to this office, but, nevertheless, with every obstacle in the way that could be conceived of by the Citizens' Alliance, your officers have perfected a number of new unions, and look forward to a thorough organization of our jurisdiction in the near future.

The Miners' Magazine, under the able management of John M. O'Neill, is regarded throughout the country as one of the best publications devoted to the interests of the working class. We regret to say that this excellent magazine is not receiving the support of the members of the Federation that it is entitled to, and would therefore recommend to the local unions to make an effort to place a copy in the hands of every member of the Federation so that they may become familiar with the conditions existing in the jurisdiction of the Western Federation of Miners.

The pages of the magazine are, at all times, open to members of the Federation to express their views on social and economic questions of the day, and all such contributions will materially assist in educating the members of the organization, and they will be able to more fully understand the conflict that is now being waged between the capitalist and the wage slave.

It is with a feeling of just pride and renewed confidence that we are able to state to you, at this time, that notwithstanding the openly expressed and actively displayed determination that the unholy and murderous warfare that has been waged against our organization for the past eighteen months, would not be ended until we were totally driven from the field of organiza-

tion at this time retains its full quota of strength, solidarity and determination. While we have suffered untold horrors at the hands of our persecutors, it will be plainly apparent to you, when the smoke of battle has cleared away, that the only lasting effect of this criminal persecution has been to more firmly and intelligently unite us, and the wage earners in general, together in our common cause which our very nature proves to us is right and just. That we have been enabled to maintain this position under such trying circumstances gives us inexpressible satisfaction and pleasure, and we wish to express our appreciation of the self-sacrificing devotion displayed by our brothers who bore the brunt of battle in the fields of persecution. We further desire to express our appreciation of our brother members throughout the entire organization, who have freely and uncomplainingly met the numerous assessments levied by your Executive Board for the maintenance of this righteous cause, the justice of which was so clearly understood by our members that many have made frequent donations in addition thereto.

We wish to express our appreciation and thanks to organized labor in general for the very generous and able support and assistance rendered to us in this the most serious conflict that has ever confronted our organization. Particularly do we desire to extend our heartfelt appreciation to the United Brewery Workers of America for the noble and self-sacrificing assistance they have rendered us. It would appear to us that their organization was almost as much a unit in this cause as our own. In many instances their assessments were levied, collected and remitted to us with the same regularity as our own. We trust the time may never come when it will be necessary for us to reciprocate in the same manner, but if such should ever be the case, we will at least have the opportunity of demonstrating our appreciation of the treatment we have received.

In conclusion we would recommend to the members of the Federation to do everything in their power to perfect the organization which has passed through such a trying ordeal during the past eighteen months, attend the meetings of your local, educate your less fortunate brothers and in every way advance the cause of justice and humanity.

We also invite the honest criticism of any member of the Federation on the action and work of your Executive Board, and assure you that we have labored faithfully to advance the interests of the organization to the best of our ability, and feel confident that when the momentous time arrives when labor shall have full recognition the Western Federation of Miners will be regarded as one of the pioneers in this world-wide movement. (Signed)

C. E. MAHONEY,
 JAMES KIRWAN,
 L. J. SIMPKINS,
 FRANK SCHMELZER,
 J. A. BAKER,
 J. C. WILLIAMS,
 MARION W. MOOR.

ON A GOOD FOOTING.

Butte, Mont., Jan. 6, 1905.

At the December election Porters and Bootblacks' Union No. 476 elected a good set of officers, and I am glad to say that our union will progress steadily from now on.

Send us twenty-five bronze lapel buttons, as all the members want to wear the union button.
 J. W. GORDON,
 Secretary Porters and Bootblacks' Union
 No. 476, A. L. U.

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- 14. MISSOULA, MONT.—Meets 2d and 4th Saturdays, I. O. O. F. Annex, Higgins Av.
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- 39. FARGO, N. D.—Meets 1st and 3d Sundays, Socialist Hall, corner Broadway and 3d Av. North.
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- 2d and 4th Wednesdays, 8 p. m., West Side Turner Hall, 770 W. Chicago Av.
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- 61. CLEBURNE, TEX.—Meets Fridays, 8 p. m., Mayor's office, Main St.
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Agent, Wm. Watson, 210 S. Main St.
- 64. HOUSTON, TEX.—Meets 8 p. m. 1st 3d and 5th Tuesdays; also 10 a. m., 2d and 4th Sundays, K. of P. Hall, 5th Ward, corner Liberty and McKee Sts.
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- 78. STOCKTON, CAL.—Meets 1st Thursday of each month, 8 p. m., Old Native Sons' Hall, Main St.
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Agent, F. L. Williams, 1127 E. Market St.
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 107. ERIE (CHICAGO, ILL.)—Meets 1st and 3d Saturdays, 8 p. m., Lehr's Hall, 5210 Halsted St.
 Manager, John Eul, 5215 5th Av.
 Agent, P. J. Buckley, 5751 Halsted St.
 108. KENSINGTON (CHICAGO, ILL.)—Meets 1st and 3d Thursdays, 8 p. m., McLeod's Hall, 2375 Kensington Av.
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Charles J. Anderson, P. O. Box 124, Santa Cruz, Cal., would like to get in touch with Edward Bye, his uncle, who is a carpenter, and was last heard of at Great Falls, Mont.

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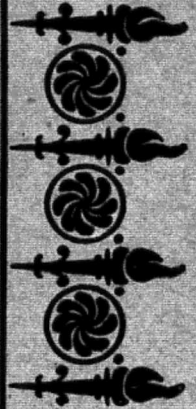
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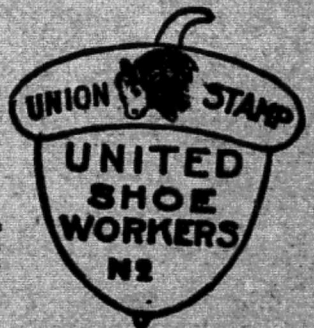
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