

The working class—may they always be right, but the working class right or wrong.

With the American Labor Union Journal the interests of the toilers are the first consideration.

# AMERICAN LABOR UNION JOURNAL

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## THE CHICAGO SITUATION MONTANA GETS THREE OFFICERS IN THE COAL FIELDS

(FROM THE WEEKLY BULLETIN OF THE AMERICAN LABOR UNION.)

There are no better union men in the world than the members of Street Laborers and Excavators' Union, No. 423, A. L. U., of Chicago. It was organized a year ago, and is the first union of street workers organized in Chicago. It is officered by men whose honesty and devotion to unionism has never been questioned, and its members are composed of that rugged class of workers whose determination wins victories here others less forceful bow down meekly to defeat. This union has won for its members the only union victory that has been won in Chicago by any union for more than a year.

There is not a union man in Chicago familiar with the situation who will deny these statements. Yet the official representatives of the American Federation of Labor have hindered and harassed this union in every way possible. Not the membership at large of the local A. F. of L. unions, for a great majority of them admire and respect the splendid unionism and forceful character of the A. L. U. men in Chicago. It is the so-called "leaders" and paid emissaries of the A. F. of L.—the men who have been able to do nothing for the workers but eat their per capita tax—who are fighting the Street Laborers and Excavators' Union with foul means.

A dual union has been organized,

and the A. F. of L. even went to the contractors and offered the services of this organization of scabs to break the strike of the A. L. U. union, which was demanding a reduction of hours and an increase of wages for all of its members. This treachery failed—not because the so-called "leaders" did not do all in their power, but because enough scabs could not be found to do their dirty work.

The contractors finally conceded the reduction of hours and an increase of wages of 25 cents a day for all the workers. They also agreed to the closed shop principle, promising to employ none but union men.

Now comes the president of the Chicago Federation of Labor, John J. Fitzpatrick, and orders all A. F. of L. unions to refuse to allow their members to work with members of the American Labor Union. The teamsters refuse to be a party to the outrage, as they say the A. L. U. street workers are the best union men in the city. Other individual members of A. F. of L. locals have refused to obey the edict from "the powers that be," and are standing with the A. L. U. in the struggle for right against might, and for unionism against organized scabbery.

The Street Laborers' and Excavators' Union is not charged with a single wrong or non-union act by the opposition. On the contrary, the A. F.

of L. (dis)organizers promise the union support and protection if it will only abandon the A. L. U. principles that it has found effective and adopt the A. F. of L. charter and pay tribute to the official tax-eaters.

But the union declares that no power can force it into the A. F. of L. against its will, and dozens of Chicago's largest and most influential unions are secretly urging the A. L. U. boys to "stand pat" in the struggle for clean and effective unionism.

The citadel of unionism in Chicago is shaken from base to dome on account of the unwarranted attack of the "leaders" against the A. L. U. The situation is being discussed in practically every local union in the city. A. L. U. is on the tongue of every earnest union worker, and we predict that when the labor movement in Chicago again adjusts to a permanent situation, it will be on a saner and better basis than ever before. The reign of the bosses will end and the rule of the rank and file will commence. The broad A. L. U. principles of industrial unionism and aggressive organization will be enthroned, and A. F. of L. bossism, jurisdictional strife and acknowledged ineffectiveness will be a thing of the past.

Unity on such a basis will have a grand and glorious meaning for the working class, not alone in Chicago, but throughout America.

Else and Jones of Butte, and Lampe of Livingston, on the U. B. of R. E. Executive Board. Preparations for Removal to Chicago Already Begun. Estes Returns to Finish Work in Texas. Principles of Industrialism Reaffirmed.

The second biennial convention of the General Division, United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, convened in San Francisco on May 9, remained in session throughout the week and adjourned at midnight May 14, 1904, until the third biennial convention, which meets the second Monday in May, 1906.

There were thirty-two members of the General Division present at the session, and a large amount of important business was transacted.

A complete new ritual and secret work, also a new constitution, were adopted.

The new constitution will be mimeographed and sent out to all officers and divisions immediately, as it becomes effective on June 1, 1904, and it will be printed in book form for general distribution later.

The board of directors is changed in title to general executive board, and was increased to fifteen by the addition of three departments, machinists, boilermakers and blacksmiths.

The positions of general auditor and editor of the Railway Employees' Journal were abolished and the position of general secretary-treasurer created, to

include all the duties formerly devolving upon the general auditor and editor.

The general office was ordered removed to Chicago.

The general executive board was ordered by the General Division to formulate a general plan for a centralized sick, accident and death benefit fund and to submit the same to the collective membership for referendum vote on or before September 1, 1904.

The following officers were elected to serve the ensuing two years:

**General Executive Board.**  
Engineer, D. J. Byrne, 8 East Twelfth street, North Portland, Ore.

Fireman, Henry J. Lampe, 22 South I street, Livingston, Mont.

Conductor, W. H. French, Walnut Creek, Cal. (hold-over).

Brakeman, Daniel R. Davis, 429 West Twenty-first street, Ogden, Utah.

Switchman, D. G. Wilson, 303 Allen street, Cleburne, Tex.

Telegrapher, C. M. Hurlbut, 512 Diamond street, San Francisco, Cal. (hold-over).

Clerk, H. C. Clark, 739 West Sixty-first street, Chicago, Ill.

Freight handler, J. H. Lange, 1215 North Fifty-second street, West Philadelphia, Pa.

Machinist, L. K. Gignac, 924 Sixth street, Sacramento, Cal.

Boilermaker, Harry G. Jackson, 613 Walnut street, Columbia Pa.

Blacksmith, Oscar Elae, South Butte, Mont.

Shopman, J. S. McDonald, Box 277, Dalhart, Tex.

Carman, Thomas De Young, 1314 Bingham street, Houston, Tex.

Bridgeman, J. Emmett, McMinnville, Ore. (re-elected).

Trackman, John L. Murphy, 620 Ontario street, Minneapolis, Minn.

President, George Estes, General Delivery, Chicago, Ill. (re-elected).

First vice president, Frank McCabe, General Delivery, Chicago, Ill. (re-elected).

Second vice president, Charles J. Jones, 1114 South Arizona street, Butte, Mont. (re-elected).

Third vice president, W. J. Bradley, 25 Central avenue, Minneapolis, Minn. (re-elected).

Fourth vice president, J. E. Fitzgerald, General Delivery, Fort Worth, Tex. (re-elected).

General secretary-treasurer, W. L. Hall, General Delivery, Chicago, Ill.

The work of packing up the furniture, books, records and stationery of the general office has now begun, and the transfer of the general office supplies and staff will be made to Chicago as quickly as possible.

As much time will be required in transferring and setting up the general office in Chicago and arranging for printing and completing other details, the next issue of the Railway Employees' Journal will necessarily be delayed.

President Estes will return to Northern Texas to complete the unfinished work left over by him when called to San Francisco last March, and his temporary address will be General Delivery, Fort Worth, Tex., until further advised.

The General Division reaffirmed the grand principles of industrial unionism which are the central ideas of the United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, and the brotherhood has taken on new life and hope and has entered upon its great work with more determination than ever to unite the railway employes of North America in one mighty union for their mutual benefit and advancement.

### A BROTHER GONE.

A. E. Opie of Centerville, a well and favorably known member of Butte Clerks' Protective Union, No. 12, A. L. U., died at his home in Centerville on May 26, after a short illness. He was 24 years of age. The funeral, which started from the family residence, was well attended.

A charter for the American Labor Union Central Council of Chicago has been granted.

Liberty of Speech and Freedom of Thought Unknown in the Coke Belt. Are the Interests of Capitalists and Laborers Identical?

In several of the labor publications of the country there appears a letter from the pen of Charles P. Gildea, one of the most prominent leaders of the United Mine Workers of the anthracite coal fields. Gildea draws a picture of conditions in the Keystone State which almost rivals corporation and military-ruled Colorado. Gildea's letter is as follows:

"I have spent the past several weeks in the coke regions of Pennsylvania, legally owned and principally operated by the Frick-Schwab interests, the former of Homestead fame and the latter the generous donor of school houses and churches. The former he usually presents to scab towns and the latter to subservient worshippers, for they could not be otherwise than people who would worship in one of Schwab's churches, erected on the blood, sweat and suffering of a class superior to himself or his donees.

"My observations have not been pleasant. Liberty of speech, freedom of thought, are unknown to the people of this region, who were driven by circumstances to inhabit this Siberian, czar-ruled portion of the state of Pennsylvania—the 'great' state wherein was proclaimed 'the right to life, the right to liberty in the pursuit of happiness.' Could the immortal Franklin have but seen a vision of the future of the great state he so earnestly struggled to rescue from a cruel and foreign foe becoming writhed in more cruel slavery than any which heretofore has existed, it is safe to state he would have been less animated in his efforts. Could he but have witnessed an industrial despotism that forces men to work in the bowels of the earth amid foul gases, aided by artificial light, pure only in cheap quantities, 'it being more profitable to the owners of the mines that such be the case, for ten, twelve and sixteen hours a day, producing wealth in poverty, he would have regretted the day that he freely contributed his services to the establishment of laws, the outgrowth of which resulted in a few parasites systematically robbing labor of four-fifths of its production and being so far, socially, removed from the useful workers of society as to entirely ignore them in their miserable conditions, never manifesting the slightest sympathy toward them, treated worse than the monkeys of the rich and their life more insecure than that of the beasts of the field.

"When a person first observes the conditions the working classes of the coke regions are forced to endure, it is evident that some 'Simon Legree,' trained in the art of fleecing the coal miners of the anthracite field, immigrated here.

"The company store, with its antiquated as well as modern methods of fleecing the workers, is found in every town. The blacklist is as common here as in the Panther Creek valley. I have met men here, now engaged in business, who were blacklisted in the '94 strike. The superintendents are as resentful as Billy Zehner or Tom Whildin. Since our arrival here men have been discharged for engaging in conversation with us on the public highways. Orders have been issued in many of the mines to the men not to be seen speaking to us under pain of discharge and consequently eviction. The cut-throat leases are in force here, which is proof positive that John Markle failed to have the same patented.

"Thugs are constantly on our trail, many of whom we know by their efforts to incite us to quarrel with them. There are all nationalities to contend with that are to be found in a mining district. The worst class we have to contend with is the Roanoke negro, who was imported here about ten years ago to break the strike. As the miners here are very much discontented, we feel that we are capable of intelligently directing that feeling and eventually forcing the coal companies to more considerate action toward those who produce all the wealth. The establishment of an organization will result in a strike. The strikers will have to be provided for.

(Continued on Page Four.)

## LOGICAL RESULTS OF THE SYSTEM

Resolutions on the Colorado Strike Passed by the Socialist Party Chicago Convention. Supreme Issue Is the Conquest of the Powers of the Government by the Working Class.

The following resolution on the outrages in Colorado was unanimously adopted at the national convention of the Socialist party, held in Chicago during the first week in May.

"Whereas, The Socialist party is the political organization of the working class, pledged to all its struggles and working ceaselessly for its emancipation; it declares this convention against the brutality of capitalistic rule and the suppression of popular rights and liberties which attends it, and calls upon all the workers of the country to unite with it in the struggle for the overthrow of capitalist domination and the establishment of economic equality and freedom.

"Time after time workers have been imprisoned, beaten and murdered for no other reason than that they were struggling for some measure of that comfort and decency of existence to which, as the producers of wealth, they are entitled. The master class has, in various states and cities, organized citizens' alliances, manufacturers' associations, anti-boycott associations and the like, which, in order to disrupt and crush out the economic organizations of the workers, have instituted a reign of lawlessness and tyranny, assailed all the fundamental principles and most cherished institutions of personal and collective freedom. By suborning the executive and judicial powers in various states they have infringed upon the liberties of the American people.

"Under their baleful influences, in direct contravention of the letter and spirit of the constitution, civil authority has been made subordinate to the military in Pennsylvania, Colorado and elsewhere. Freedom of the press and the right of the public assembly have been denied in many states, and by the Dick militia bill liability to compulsory military service has been imposed upon every male citizen between the ages of 18 and 45, and that merely at the caprice of the president.

"At the present time there exists in Colorado a state of violent capitalist anarchy and lawlessness with the consent and under the protection of the state government. Peaceable citizens have been forcibly deported by armed bodies of lawbreakers, aided and abetted by military usurpers of the civil powers; involuntary servitude has been imposed by injunctions compelling citizens to work under conditions distasteful to them. Innocent and law-abiding citizens have been arrested without warrant, imprisoned without

trial, and when acquitted by decision of the civil courts, held by the military in defiance of every principle of civil authority and government, and the right of habeas corpus, for centuries cherished as a safeguard for personal liberty, has been unlawfully suspended, with the result that in a so-called "free state" of our so-called "free republic" there exists a despotism greater and more infamous than that which has ever characterized Russian autocracy.

"Now, we declare these conditions in Colorado are the natural and logical results of the prevailing economic system which permits the private ownership of the means of the common life and renders the wage-working class dependent for life itself upon the owners of the means of production and distribution. Between these two classes, the workers and the masters of their bread, there exists a state of constant warfare, a bitter and irrepressible class conflict. Labor, organized for self-protection and to secure better conditions of life, is met by powerful organizations of the master class, whose supreme power lies in the fact that all the functions of government, legislative, judicial and executive, have been unwittingly placed in their hands by their victims. Controlling all the forces of government, they are entrenched in a position from which they can only be dislodged by political methods.

"Therefore this convention of the Socialist party reaffirms this principle of the International Socialist movement, that the supreme issue is the conquest by the working class of all the powers of government and the use of those powers for the overthrow of class rule, and the establishment of that common ownership of the means of common life, which alone can free individual and collected man.

### BIG LUMBER COMBINE.

Nineteen of the big lumber companies in the Sisson region of California have formed a combine, and on August 1 they propose to cut wages 10 per cent. This means another fight, as the union members cannot live on smaller wages than they are now getting.

John Egan has resigned his office as secretary for Granite Lumbermen's Union, and Gus Shoberg has been elected to succeed him.

## MONEY BAGS OF WESTERN UNIONS

Oregon State Federation of Labor Says Miners Are Being Fought by Manufacturers Because They Are the Mainstay of Coast Unionism. Brewers Label Endorsed.

The State Federation of Labor of the State of Oregon, at its recent convention, indorsed the label of the United Brewery Workers and instructed the delegates to agitate toward the same end in their respective unions. It also passed resolutions on the Colorado strike, setting forth that D. M. Parry's association and kindred bodies are trying to crush the W. F. M. Because the miners have been the money bags of the western unions, and consequently they believe that if they can

cut off this revenue by disrupting the miners, the other western unions will fall an easy prey. The resolutions further state that the miners gave no less than \$100,000 in aid of the coal miners' strike in Pennsylvania, and have a record for contributing in aid of coast unions more money than all the other coast unions combined. The State Federation of Oregon therefore calls on the A. F. of L. organization to give all the assistance possible at once toward making the strike a success.

## THE LABOR MOVEMENT PRESS

Debs Discusses the Need of the Working Class for Organs to Uncompromisingly Advocate Its Principles. Most Prosperous Appearing Sheets not Necessarily the Best. Today Profit Is First, Labor, Life, Love and Liberty Come After.

The primal consideration in the present industrial system is profit. All other things are secondary. Profit is the life blood of capital—the vital current of the capitalist system—and when it shall cease to flow the system will be dead.

The capitalist is the owner of the worker's tools. Before the latter can work he must have access to the capitalist's tool house and permission to use the master's tools. What he produces with these tools belongs to the master, to whom he must sell his labor power at the market price. The owner of the tools is therefore master of the man.

Only when the capitalist can extract a satisfactory profit from his labor power is the worker given a job, or allowed to work at all.

Profit first: labor, life, love, liberty—all these must take second place.

In such a system labor is in chains, and the standard of living, if such it may be called, is corner-stoned in crusts and rags.

Under such conditions ideas and ideals are not prolific among the sons and daughters of toil.

Slavery does not excite lofty aspirations nor inspire noble ideas.

The tendency is to sadden irresolution and brutish inertia.

But this very tendency nourishes the germ of resistance that ripens into the spirit of revolt.

The labor movement is the child of slavery—the offspring of oppression—

in revolt against the misery and suffering that gave it birth.

Its splendid growth is the marvel of our time, the forerunner of freedom, the hope of mankind.

Ten thousand times has the labor movement stumbled and fallen and bruised itself, and risen again; been seized by the throat and choked and elbowed into insensibility; enjoined by courts, assaulted by thugs, charged by the militia, shot down by regulars, traduced by the press, frowned upon by public opinion, deceived by politicians, threatened by priests, repudiated by renegades, preyed upon by grafters, infested by spies, deserted by cowards, betrayed by traitors, bled by leeches, and sold out by leaders, but, notwithstanding all this, and all these, it is today the most vital and potential power this planet has ever known, and its historic mission of emancipating the workers of the world from the thralldom of the ages is as certain of ultimate realization as the setting of the rising sun.

The most vital thing about this world movement is its educational propaganda—its capacity and power to shed light in the brain of the working class, arouse them from their torpor, develop their faculties for thinking, teach them their economic class interests, effect their solidarity and imbue them with the spirit of the impending social revolution.

In this propaganda, the life-breath of the movement, the press is para-

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American Labor Union Journal

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THURSDAY, JUNE 2, 1904.

Every worker to-day concedes the need of trade and labor organizations as a protection to the rights and privileges of the toiler. If there is no class struggle, if the government is run in the interests of all the people, why should a union be required? Common sense teaches that it is impossible to establish a form of government which causes such a conflict of interest as that which makes the formation of unions imperative, and yet run it in the interests of all the people. Government is run in the interest of Property. The working class have no property. They stand for property rights government, however, in the hope that they may some day have property. After casting their ballots in support of government by property, they then go out and organize a union in the interest of human life. When they have perfected their organization and attempt to get results they find themselves looking down the muzzle of an injunction of the twentieth century pattern, or their bodies serving as a polishing pad for a sword bayonet. And then they whine and go on the war-path for the political scalp of the particular official who administered the dose, forgetting that he was only giving them their own prescription. They sometimes defeat "an enemy of labor," but by what means? By electing some other "enemy of labor." By changing the executor of capitalistic law, yet leaving the law itself as potent for evil as before. This is what they call "keeping politics out of the union." The union may try to let politics alone, but, unfortunately for the plans of the conservative, politics will not let the union alone. It is a choice between the working class running the government or the government running the working class.

That the ruling class of a country are responsible for the morals, religion and opinions largely is perhaps never more clearly shown than at the present day. There is a deep-seated and abiding contempt in the minds of the capitalist class for the working class. Your capitalist derides the idea that the working class can ever do anything for itself, AND THE WORKING CLASS ACCEPTS THE CAPITALIST'S ESTIMATE. The French nobility had similar opinions about the peasantry. Some of them had occasion to change their views before they died. And, be it remembered, the peasantry of France were much more conservative, much more burdened down with the weight of superstitious reverence for established things than are the people of the present day.

The Montana News lands a bull's-eye shot when it takes the Social Democratic Herald to task for the suggestion that the "leaders" of the Socialist movement get together and decide on rules to govern the next convention. There are no leaders in the Socialist movement—in Montana at least—and the surest road to grief is to attempt to become a leader. We do not know what are the conditions in Milwaukee, but one thing is sure: if it is a movement of leaders, then it is not what it should be. Comrade Walsh very truly remarks that leaders are a feature of capitalist politics, and have no place in Socialism. The convention in Chicago was not made up of leaders; many men were sent because they were able to pay their own fare and enthusiastic enough to do so. The rank and file knew that whatever action was taken would go to a referendum, and there was no danger of leaders springing up.

The last call for a set of Encyclopaedia Britannica at half price has been made by the American Newspaper Association. It may be a long time before our readers will have another opportunity to avail themselves of an offer of this kind. We cannot all afford a library. The next best thing is a set of this valuable work.

The Oklahoma Soap and Oil Company of Oklahoma City, O. T., has signed a scale of prices with the A. L. U. Federal at that point and are now turning out an A. L. U. product. A request for the label has been made, and will be granted at once.

Phoenix, B. C., Miners' Union and the Denvery Brewery Workmen have donated \$10 in behalf of the striking shoe workers of Massachusetts. These unions, like most of the unions of the West, never turn down an appeal for funds to fight labor's battles. Again and again the workers of the West have responded to calls for help during eastern strikes, yet to-day we find western unionism denounced in the city of New York by a contemptible set of fakirs, whose idea of unionism, if we accept some recent examples as a type, is grafting on the employers. We are not "union men" in the West, forsooth! We do not accept the idea of turning labor unions over to a pope. We insist upon a plan of organization that is effective. We do not have our officers in the confidence of the Employers' Association. We do not boast of Teddy's friendship. We do not believe in grafting the employer or selling out the workers. We are personally unknown to the Civic Federation. There has never been an attempt recorded of our betraying a union on strike by signing a secret agreement, nor has a settlement ever been made over the strikers' heads. When the scab herders are looking for their creatures to do corporation dirty work they do not come to us. Judged by the standards which seem to characterize the heelders who have been carrying on a war of malice and treachery against us, we are compelled to confess that we are not union—at least, not the kind of union men that they are—AND WE THANK PROVIDENCE FOR IT.

Among the memories of the national Socialist convention some of the pleasant recollections of more than one delegate will be associated with the Appeal staff. The genial, big-hearted Richardson, the earnest, kindly, comrade-like Fred Warren and the lovable Ryan Walker are well worth a trip of twice the distance to meet. The spirit of fraternity so characteristic of the Socialist movement is personified in these comrades to the fullest degree.

How the Socialist papers get the news is one of the puzzles of the capitalist class. That they do get it, and get it right, has been proven again and again. One of the latest examples of their accuracy is the appointment of Judge Hunt. It is only a month or two since the announcement of his appointment to a federal judgeship was made in the capitalistic press, yet Warren's Monthly announced that the place had been promised him as late as last November. Moral. Read the organs of the proletariat and get the news.

In another column appears the advertisement of the Montana Hard Wall Plaster Company. The owners of this property are long-time residents of Butte and too well known to need an introduction at our hands. Their property is said to be a valuable one. The advertisement will repay an investigation at the hands of those who are looking for an investment.

The Associated Press dispatches from Denver on the Western Federation of Miners convention report a contest between representatives from the Butte Engineers' Union, and further set forth the surprising information that "the amalgamated delegation was seated and the Heinze delegation turned down." If there were two delegations from this union, each representing a corporation, surely the convention made a mistake in seating either of them, for it is certain that neither Heinze nor the Amalgamated have any right to a seat in a convention of working men. Such a statement sent broadcast throughout the country puts not only the W. F. M. convention, not only the men who were seated, not only the Engineers' Union of Butte, but the labor movement of the entire West, in a very unfavorable light before the world. The Engineers' Union and the W. F. M. convention should lose no time in having this matter set right, even though a recourse to an action for slander should be required to bring it about.

CHANGE OF DATE.

After this issue the Journal will change to a monthly publication. The change is made for the purpose of enabling the executive board to establish a printing fund, which will enable it to acquire a printing plant of a size sufficient to turn out the job work of the American Labor Union and also print an eight-page journal. It has long been the ambition of the manager of this paper to restore it to an eight-page form, but it was found to be impractical to do so on a 48-cent subscription while the printing was being done on contract. Then, too, the job printing of the American Labor Union amounts to several hundred dollars a month. All this can be saved and the benefits given to the membership and to subscribers by the acquisition of an adequate printing plant. By restoring the Journal to its former size, as will ultimately be done, the paper can be made a powerful educational agent in the interest of the working class. The situation was thoroughly canvassed by the board, and so confident were they that their action would meet with the approval of the membership, and so anxious were they to stop the drain which contract printing involves, that they did not hesitate to put the plan into instant operation, trusting to a referendum of the membership to indorse the wisdom of their course. That labor organizations ought to have a printing plant and thus be independent of the privately owned concerns, has long been conceded by every one who is at all acquainted with the methods sometimes employed to fight unionism. With the concentration of capital in the hands of the few, that need becomes greater every day. Success frequently is but another name for taking time by the forelock. This the board has done in this instance, subject to a referendum vote.

In "What Happened to Dan," Kate Richards O'Hare has provided the propaganda committees of the Socialist movement with a masked battery, a sugar-coated disguised cathartic, one of the kind "that works while you sleep." We have read the book from cover to cover with the greatest interest. Subjects of the liveliest interest are treated in a most clever fashion and in such a manner as to lead the reader on and on. We have, however, not yet discovered what happened to Dan, nor do we care. Of one thing we are certain, however, and that is that the book will be read and do good work with a class who could not be induced to touch anything dealing with the same subjects which betrayed its contents by its title.

Alex Fairgreaves, president of the Montana Federation of Labor, was a visitor in Butte during the week. Brother Fairgreaves is now a resident of Basin, Mont. He reports his organization as being in a prosperous condition, but believes its power for good can be greatly increased by a livelier interest on the part of the unions.

A report from Coeur d'Alene City, Idaho, says: "The Coeur d'Alene Lumber Company are employing a few non-union men, and while they have turned out some of their horses, they are doing considerable work for a firm that intended to shut down all summer." It was predicted in last week's Journal that this company was trying a monumental bluff. It does not work, however. It will be a matter of sincere regret to the working class to hang up this scab lumber throughout the country, but it will not be the fault of the unions if the manufacturers prefer trouble and starvation wages to fair wages and harmonious relations with the employed. It is their own selection.

"On the day before election it is the United Mine Workers, but on election day it is the Divided Mine Workers," says Debs. If he persists in telling the truth in this way the pure-and-simples will have to "denounce" him. It is their only answer to argument.

As a result of the coal strike at Red Lodge over the refusal of the coal company to permit the check weighman elected by the union to serve, General Superintendent Robert Pettigrew of the Northwestern Improvement Company has been arrested on complaint of E. R. Purcell of the district union. The matter was first brought to the attention of Coal Mine Inspector Welch. The latter laid the facts before County Attorney Caswell. He refused to prosecute. It was then brought to the attention of Attorney General Donovan, who has taken the case in hand. Pettigrew was released on a \$500 bond to answer on June 1.

On fifteen assignments of error, John M. Glover, the former Missouri congressman who was shot by the militia at Cripple Creek, has gone up to the supreme court on an application for a writ of supersedeas. In the lower court he was fined \$25. He takes the appeal as a matter of principle, and expects to have the ruling of the lower court set aside.

ODORIFEROUS POLLY.

The notorious Polly Pry of Denver, who has been particularly venomous in her attacks on organized labor, is charged with having attended a stag supper of the Press Club in that city, and after the ruby had circulated freely enough to go to the heads of the men, she, it is said, retired for a moment, to reappear in a suit of tights, in which she cavorted in such manner as she regarded as in keeping with the occasion.

AN ITALIAN APPEAL.

Charles De Moill of Trinidad, whose paper was suppressed by the military press censor and the life of the editor attempted at the same time, will publish an Italian edition of the Appeal to Reason, to be known as "Il Minatore," at Pittsburg, Kan., where a large Italian population exists. It is a coal mining region.

A PERJURER.

The press dispatches set forth that one McKlaney, who swore that members of the Miners' Union at Cripple Creek were responsible for the attempt at train wrecking, and who admitted that he was a detective and had helped to put up the job, now admits that he perjured himself when he connected the union men with the attempt. The conspirators known as the Mine Owners' Association having no further use for him after his confession, he was released from custody, he having been held as a witness, whereupon the attorney for the miners immediately had him rearrested on a charge of perjury.

WILL TAKE ACTION.

The national bookbinders' convention, which meets in Minneapolis on June 14, is expected to devote some attention to Roosevelt's action in the Miller case. Political wire pullers are bending their energies to prevent it.

VROOMAN DYING.

Walter Vrooman, who spent a large fortune in co-operative ventures in the Middle West, is lying almost at the point of death in Baltimore, Md.

THEY GET TOGETHER.

The two trade assemblies at Denver, Colo., have finally gotten together.

CLEARING THE ISSUE.

A report is current on the streets of Butte that Mr. Heinze has transferred all his interests in the state to the Amalgamated Copper Company. If it be true, a number of political sewer workers will make the startling discovery that they can no longer further their own private interests at the expense of their class interests, for the corporations will cease to need their peculiar political services as leaders of the blind. The newspaper profession and the printing trades will suffer. One organ for each capitalistic party will do the work that several are now required to do. The working class of the state, by their political support of Mr. Heinze, have made his holdings valuable. They have enabled him to withstand the attacks of the larger shark for a number of years. If they can do this for Heinze, what can they not do for themselves if they will only unite? With all the enterprises of the state in the hands of one gigantic company, the working class are confronted with the alternative of getting together or giving up every vestige of those rights which they, as union men, have in the past enjoyed. The class lines will be more clearly defined. There will be no chance of obscuring the issue. It will be the working class on one side and the state-owning corporation on the other. The past struggle has been between two capitalist interests, into which the working class plunged, and in return for so doing they received a few crumbs. In future Montana's working class will fight its own battles, and not those of some one else. To them, and to them alone, will the benefit accrue.

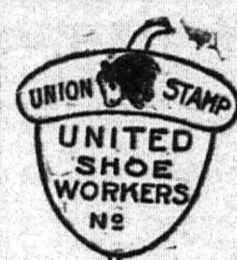
DOES THIS OPINION COMMAND RESPECT?

This country, with its institutions, belongs to the people who inhabit it. Whenever they shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it. Neither let us be slandered from our duty by false accusations against us, nor frightened from it by menaces of destruction to the government, nor of dungeons to ourselves. Let us have faith that right makes might, and in that faith let us to the end dare to do our duty as we understand it. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Bill B. Cook who was formerly engaged in newspaper work at Sherman, Tex., is now located at Dallas, where he is editor of The Hammer.

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DIVIDENDS AND SENSITIVE RICH

Miss Helen Gould is credited with having been responsible for the action of the Western Union in cutting off telegraph service from the New York poolrooms. Her sensitive nature recoiled from receiving dividends earned through supplying gamblers with the means to fleece the betting public.

The displacement of labor through the increased production of machinery has flooded the labor market with a class of men and women with whom the "out-of-work" condition is fast becoming chronic. The working class must work. If they cannot find work, they either die or live by crime, when they cease to be workers and become criminals.

The spirit which drags this young woman into the limelight is the same that is responsible for the presidential candidacy of the New York millionaire. It has been pointed out, and with reason, that if the utterances of the Hearst papers are to be the platform on which that young man seeks a nomination, it would be fitter to nominate the man who really wrote the views, and Mr. Brisbane would therefore be the logical candidate. But if friendship

for the masses editorially expressed is a sufficient warrant for presidential aspirations, there are a number of editorial writers (modesty forbids an enumeration of the names) who have said all that Mr. Brisbane has said, and said it in a more logical and sincere manner than he has dared to say, and yet the names of these writers are never mentioned by the "reform element" in the labor movement.

The class of working men who realize that no man can serve two masters is happily becoming bigger and bigger. Those whom the capitalist class support must of necessity be antagonistic to the interests of the working class, whether unintentionally so or not, for your capitalist is usually class conscious.

The next presidential election is fraught with greater consequence to the working class than any of previous years. The Dick military law is the milestone by which future historians may mark the passage of the American republic from the plan of the founders into an oligarchy politically as it already is industrially.

Notes of the American Labor Union. The Telluride Citizens' Alliance and its band of hired murderers, who out of courtesy are sometimes referred to as the National Guard of Colorado, are to begin another assault on the working people of that camp, and mob rule is to again become the order of the day.

NOTES OF THE AMERICAN LABOR UNION

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been held, and it is likely that those who are now outside the pale will join the union and assure the success of the strike. The trade union movement in New York is reported by a correspondent as being practically at a standstill.

No. 478, of Cataldo, Idaho, is making its influence felt in agitation for the union label, as well as in other directions. There is a good union spirit among the members, and constant activity in the cause of industrial unionism is one of their strongest characteristics.

"Our open meetings, which are held every third Wednesday in the month," says the secretary of Grand Junction Federal, Grand Junction, Colo., "are attracting much attention and are stimulating the thoughts of the working people. In addition to a good program, refreshments in the shape of fruits, etc., are provided. The expense of this has been borne by voluntary contributions."

The United Bakery Workers of America, with headquarters in Chicago, have made application to the American Labor Union for a charter. Next!

Mr. R. A. Williams of Helena, Mont., who formerly ran a union shop and decided that he preferred to run an unfair one, has gone out of business in that city, the Citizens' Alliance being unable to maintain him. The barbers of the capital city have placed a \$50 fine against his name. He is said to be in Butte at present. If so, he will find the largest copper camp a very unprofitable place for a scab barber shop.

Striking sheep shearers at Rock Springs, Wyo., have bought a restaurant at that place, and have invited their brothers at Rawlins to come and partake of their hospitality. They do no sign of weakening among the men. They have announced their intention to quit the state rather than accept less than fair wages. A number of Mexicans who were brought in without a knowledge of conditions have left. They were herded like criminals, but managed to make their escape from the watchman. A mass meeting has

Gompers, it is reported, has finally discovered that there was something wrong in Colorado. Remarkable!

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## THE LABOR MOVEMENT PRESS

(Continued From Page One.)

mount to all other agencies and influences, and the progress of the press is a sure index of the progress of the movement.

Unfortunately, the workers lack intelligent appreciation of the importance of the press; they also lack judgment and discrimination in dealing with the subject, and utterly neglect some good papers, and permit them to perish, while others that are anything but helpful or beneficial to the cause they are supposed to represent are liberally patronized, and flourish at the expense of the ignorance and stupidity that support them.

The material prosperity of a labor paper to-day is no guarantee of its moral or intellectual value. Indeed, some of the most worthless labor publications have the finest mechanical appearance, and are supported by the largest circulations.

Such a press is not only not a help to labor, but a millstone about its neck, that only the awakening intelligence of the working class can remove.

How thoroughly alive the capitalists are to the power of the press! And how assiduously they develop and support it, that it may in turn buttress their class interests.

The press is one of the most valuable assets, and, as an investment, pays the highest dividends.

When there is trouble between capital and labor, the press volleys and thunders against labor and its unions and leaders and all other things that dare to breathe against the sacred rights of capital. In such a contest labor is dumb, speechless; it has no press that reaches the public, and must submit to the vilest calumny, the most outrageous misrepresentation.

The lesson has been taught in all the

languages of labor and written in the blood of its countless martyred victims.

Labor must have a press as formidable as the great movement of the working class requires to worthily represent its dignity and fearlessly and uncompromisingly advocate its principles.

Every member of a trade union should feel himself obligated to do his full share in the important work of building up the press of the labor movement; he should at least support the paper of his union, and one or more of the papers of his party, and, above all, he should read them and school himself in the art of intelligent criticism, and let the editor hear from him when he has a criticism to offer or a suggestion to make.

The expense of supporting the labor press is but a trifle to the individual member—less than the daily outlay for other trifles that are of no benefit, and can easily be dispensed with.

The editor of a labor paper is of far more importance to the union and the movement than the president or any other officer of the union. He ought to be chosen with special reference to his knowledge upon the labor question and his fitness to advocate and defend the economic interests of the class he represents.

The vast amount of capitalist advertising some labor publications carry certifies unerringly to the worthlessness of their literary contents. Capitalists do not, as a rule, advertise in labor papers that are loyal to working class interests. It is only on condition that the advertising colors and controls the editorial that the capitalist generously allows his patronage to go to the labor paper.

The workman who wants to read a labor paper with the true ring, one that ably, honestly and fearlessly speaks for the working class, will find it safer to steer clear of those that are

## NEWS FROM MINERS CONVENTION

Delegates of a High Order of Intelligence, and Attendance Good, Says Our Correspondent. Wants the Leaders Supported. Moyer and Haywood Will Succeed Themselves. Success Assured.

A special to the Journal from Denver, on the W. F. M. convention, says:

Notwithstanding the circumstances under which the convention of the W. F. of M. is meeting, it is one of the best attended conventions in the existence of the organization.

The more than 250 delegates assembled are men who in intelligence, ability, firmness and determination are the peers of any like body of men in the world. They are worthy exponents of the fearless cause they represent.

The great question confronting this conclave is the brutal persecution and the infamous and odious anarchy practiced by the mine owners through their tool, Peabody. Never was greater knave placed in position than this Peabody. With him laws are of no use. Under the plea of "law and order" he is practicing the villainies that every tool will practice who is dressed with authority. A tool of the order who has not brains enough to realize that he is provoking a wrath that, when it finally breaks loose, has neither mercy nor consideration for anything it strikes.

It is not necessary to recapitulate the infamies of this Peabody administration. They are known to the world, the city and hamlet, among the crags and mountain peaks and wherever the language of man is spoken, Peabodyism is a cause of derision, hate and denunciation. Upon the crime that occasions this, this convention is making war. With unbending determination the delegates are meeting their responsibility. They realize that no harmony can be attained until this fight is won, and won rightly. They know that the principle of true liberty is at stake, and that sacrifices must be made to accomplish the just cause that underlies this warfare. It is not a case of men so much as that of ideas from which our great progressive principles emanate. The requirements to establish these principles in the lives of a people are of an implacable character. This convention could not end the warfare if it attempted it. The brutal forces that have provoked it presumed that they had only men to deal with, dreaming little that by their persecutions they would give full sway to those opinions that are the result of ideas, a force in the life of a people that cannot be stopped when put in action by the oppressions of tools or agencies of the Peabody sort.

With a soberness that becomes men of understanding these representatives of the wealth producers comprehend all this. No illusions are here. Not as with the official anarchists of Colorado. These men know what this fight means, and well it is that human nature is not so degraded as to yield to the barbarian methods of the Peabody and Bells with slavish quietude. They have Moyer in prison. They have driven from their homes the honest workers, thinking little of those examples out of which revolution has sprung and through which the social life of a people are regenerated. It is a fierce and terrific struggle, and there will be no end to it until the scientific ideas of to-day will prevail.

With so much meaning involved in this situation, it behooves the rank and file of organized labor to support

the rational methods of their leaders to the end. Wherever wage earners hope for better things they should morally, and to the full limit of their financial ability, support the men of Colorado. The winning will not be a local victory simply, but its results will permeate every sphere of the West and redound to the benefit of man the world around. The fierce and vivid contest has not impaired the great miners' organization of the West. This crucible has made it stronger. The men here from Michigan to California, from Canada and Mexico, are all ardent in the work and necessity of continuing the contest to the end, and there is no faltering anywhere.

With a defiance and a purpose so strong there can be but one end. Nor is the situation gloomy. More than the majority of men working in Colorado to-day are union men, recognized as such and working under the same regulations and steadily gaining on the opposition. With this there is every prospect of a speedy victory upon a basis that will repay for all the sacrifice that had to be made by the leaders and the rank and file, who with such nobility and heroic fortitude contributed their financial support. For all such punishment for the masses the day is drawing to a close, and when the summing up will be done this fire-tried experience will give the gracious consolation that the working people for once played their part well; tyrants and oppressors will learn why they should have mended their ways. Peabody may smile with contempt now, but that contempt will be a woe-begone smile by the time the workers get through with him.

For the days that the convention has been in session it has mainly been dealing with and digesting the reports of the officers and dealing more or less with the strike situation. It has not been covered in detail. The strike is the main subject before the convention. The whole situation is one that is commendable to the officers who have directed the affairs of the Federation in the past year. The Colorado representatives are confident, and with the gratitude of intelligent men appreciate the magnificent support of the men throughout the West.

Vice President J. C. Williams presides over the convention. Many telegrams from labor bodies throughout the country were read, encouraging the convention in its noble work and wishing it Godspeed in exterminating the despotism confronting it. The convention also was entertained by eloquent and forceful speeches by representatives of the A. F. of L. and the U. M. W. of A. These were President Mahon of the Carpenters Union, Cornelius of California, White of Ohio, Evans of Colorado and Mayer of Denver. The convention appointed a committee of five to confer with them, also. There is no likelihood of affiliation, but the outcome will be a more friendly relationship in the future.

Montana has the strongest and most prominent representation. As yet, no opposition has developed against any of the executive officers. Moyer will be re-elected by acclamation, and there is no indication that the same course will not be pursued for Haywood.

## HANFORD WAS NOT MOLESTED

Fact That Vice Presidential Candidate and Representative of Two Metropolitan Papers Has not Been Discourteously Treated in Telluride, Deemed of Sufficient Importance to be Sent Out by the Associated Press.

Benjamin Hanford, Socialist nominee for vice president of the United States, is now at Telluride, Colo., for the purpose of reviewing conditions, past and present, pertaining to the great strike. Hanford is representing Vorwarts and the Volkszeitung, two German newspapers of New York City. He purposes to write a history of the class war in Colorado. Press dispatches report that up to date he has received courteous treatment from the militia. One can get an idea of what a hell Colorado must be when the fact that a newspaper writer is receiving courteous treatment is considered an event worth reporting to the world. Since Hanford has always fought the cause

of the working class, it was natural to suppose that he would be immediately seized and thrown into the disease-breeding, vermin-infected den which Colorado has created for the purpose of teaching the working class that respect for the capitalists which "is necessary to maintain the integrity of existing institutions." That he has escaped this fate shows deplorable lack of comprehension of their duty on the part of the militia to those who pay their salaries. Hanford will remain a week, and the uniformed thugs may yet redeem themselves in the sight of the emperor of Cripple Creek and San Miguel, and also in the sight of those who own the emperor.

loaded with capitalist advertising and make his selection from those that are nearly or quite boycotted by the class that live and thrive upon the slavery of the working class.

The labor press of to-day is not ideal, but it is improving steadily, and the time will come when the ideal labor press will be realized; when the labor movement will command editors,

writers, journalists, artists of the first class; when hundreds of papers, including dailies in the large cities, will gather the news and discuss it from the labor standpoint; when illustrated magazines and periodicals will illuminate the literature of labor and all will combine to realize our ideal labor press and blaze the way to victory.—Debs in the I. M. W.

## THE LEATHER MEDAL CHAMPION

"The American Labor Union Journal, published at Butte, Mont., is certainly a clear-cut, class-conscious, scientific, uncompromising, anti-fakir, ultra-radical, revolutionary organ of the so-called new trades unionism," says St. Louis Labor in an elephantine effort to be funny even though its life should pay the forfeit. This splendid attempt at a jackass trying to play the clown is the result of the Journal article dealing with the issuance of A. F. of L. labels to scab cigarmakers in St. Louis in 1884-5. St. Louis Labor reproduces the Journal article in full, including the proofreader's error in the second line, where the word "unionitis" is made to read "unionists." Apart from its pathetic attempt at humor, Labor has nothing to reply other than to liken the Journal to the Weekly People in a sneering sort of way and to assert that its position toward the American Labor Union is the position of International Socialism, and also of the Socialist national convention of 1904.

Our memory runs to a report of a convention of the party of which the Weekly People is the organ, wherein it was stated that St. Louis Labor at one time made a strong effort to supplant the People as the organ of that party, even going so far as to furnish copies of the paper to locals, leaving blank space for local matter, and, if our memory serves us right, the attempt met with a severe rebuke, owing to the unclearness of the publication on almost every point. This same De Leon, if we mistake not, pointed out the beautiful inconsistency of Labor as an organ of the working class. On one page of the paper appeared a denunciation of General Miles for his action during the '94 strike. On another page appeared a plate article laudatory of the same gentleman. On one page appeared a denunciation of scab tobaccos and cigars. On another page was a large advertisement for Battle Axe tobacco, a rank scab production. It is an old saying that we usually hate those whom we seek to injure, and it occurs to us that on this principle may be explained the marked antipathy of certain folks to an organization to which they formerly belonged. But all this is in passing.

Labor's hostility toward the American Labor Union was aroused by the action of the Denver convention, which advised the membership to adopt class-conscious political action along the lines of the Socialist program. The ink was scarcely dry on this message to the membership before the St. Louis quorum, acting under the inspiration of the editor of Labor, we are told, came out with a statement which was intended as a slap at a body of laboring men who were striving for industrial liberty.

Since that time Labor has missed no opportunity to assail a labor organization that was bending every effort toward uniting the working class on both the industrial and political field, AND THESE ASSAULTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE INTERESTS OF AN ORGANIZATION WHOSE ECONOMIC PLAN HAS BEEN CONDEMNED BY EVERY UNBIASED THINKER IN THE UNION MOVEMENT. The attacks have been made in support of an organization which

gives the working class no return for the money which it pays in the form of per capita tax, and the funds so paid are frequently used to defeat the very principles for which Labor professes to stand. As a glittering example of inconsistency Labor certainly has all competitors safely distanced, but to insure its right to a leather medal it brings against the A. L. U. the further charge of organizing dual unions because a charter was granted the shoemakers' locals of St. Louis after Tobin had tried to disrupt them for not permitting him to traffic in their label and after he had organized the scabs and ex-convicts whom the manufacturers had gotten together, with Tobin's aid, to break the strike and whip the union men into line. This, too, is in aid of an organization which has made itself notorious as an organizer of dual unions from the Atlantic to the Pacific, the latest example being a dual trades assembly in Butte, Mont., in opposition to an unchartered assembly. We refer to these things, not for the purpose of winning Labor from its errors, but merely to show the gross inconsistency of the sheet and its utter unreliability. The Manufacturers' Association has declared war on the American Labor Union. It has organized the West in opposition to the growth of the A. L. U. Peabody declared that his purpose was to stamp out Socialism, meaning the A. L. U. and its united bodies. The organs of the master class, from Hearst's papers to the Chicago Chronicle, are a unit in opposition to the American Labor Union and the industrial plan of organization, but among them there is none that has shown the bitterness which has characterized the remarkable sheet which we now have under discussion. To bolster up its position, which at this distance looks remarkably like treachery to the working class, it declares that its attitude toward the trade union movement (support of the A. F. of L. and antagonism to the A. L. U.) is the attitude of the International Socialist movement and of the Socialist party of the United States as reaffirmed at Chicago. We are seeking enlightenment. We challenge Labor to point out wherein the national Socialist convention condemned the American Labor Union. The editor of Labor was, as a result of careful lobbying, a member of the trade union committee. One member of the committee assumed the writer that he would be the first to oppose any resolution which could be construed as detrimental to the American Labor Union. If the resolution which was adopted is of that character, we would like to have it pointed out. Meanwhile, we are very much mistaken if the membership of the Socialist party do not have a word to say regarding it on a referendum. The rank and file have no axes to grind. They have no inducement to crawl like whipped curs at the feet of a national labor fakir. The rank and file are not seeking preferment in the pure and simple bodies. They are not seeking a delegateship abroad, nor are they after an organizer's commission in fakirdom. They have no papers to peddle in fakirdom. On their part there is no incentive to do anything save to voice their honest convictions. We can afford to await their verdict.

## THE TRADE UNION RESOLUTION

(BY JOHN M. WORK.)

Most of us who voted against the trades union resolution in the national convention voted against it because we were opposed to a single paragraph in it. A parliamentary tangle prevented us from voting for any of the substitutes which we favored.

I refer to the last paragraph, wherein it says that "neither political nor other differences of opinion justify the division of the forces of labor in the industrial movement."

Translated into plain English, that sentence means precisely this, that we condemn the American Labor Union for not disbanding and joining the American Federation of Labor.

I am not a champion of the American Labor Union. I am a member of the A. F. of L. But I say that it is not the province of the Socialist party to interfere in the internal disputes of the trades union movement. It is our

province to recognize the necessity and advantages of the trades union movement, to extend to it our cordial aid and sympathy, and to point out its limitations, but not to take sides for or against any faction of it.

Again, the paragraph referred to justifies the trades unionist in voting the republican and democratic tickets, because it justifies political differences of opinion among the trades unionists. That paragraph ought by all means to be voted down. The latter end of the paragraph may well be sacrificed in order to get ride of the portion I have quoted.

If locals everywhere will request the national secretary to submit the trades union resolution to a referendum vote of the party by paragraphs, we will then have an opportunity to vote down the objectionable paragraph and vote in favor of the balance of the resolution.

## IN THE COAL FIELDS

(Continued From Page One.)

and evictions will be very frequent. The men all realize what they will be forced to suffer in the event of a strike; still, they say when the weather is more favorable to stand being evicted, they will make a desperate venture to lessen the intensity of the struggle to live.

"I have a great deal of condemnation relative to that class of base ingrates in the anthracite region who cheerfully proclaim, 'Save the union at all hazards,' while they themselves

have deserted it. It is high time they were commencing to realize how important it is that all should remain together, both on the economical and political field.

"The situation in the central competitive field is one of alarm. Surely no labor leader will have the audacity to say in the future that the interests of the operators and the miners are identical. Unless low wages for the miners is to their interests. If the laboring masses refuse to believe those who tell them that their interests are hostile, the capitalistic coal operators will administer to them very impressive object lessons, from day to day, and each succeeding day the lesson is liable to become more bitter."