

American Labor

THOSE who are still talking about American Labor in terms of self-willed individuals grouped together to put the "knife on the throat" of the industrial and commercial America, are no longer talking about the American who works intelligently for a stipulated wage. Labor organizations, as we know them today, are performing a patriotic service—they are training the producing class for wider responsibilities in American citizenship.

American Labor has passed out of its fighting stage. The representatives of American Labor are today sitting around the conference table with the employers of the more enlightened class. Large business ventures of the coöperative order are today conducted by Labor. Labor has invaded the industrial operators' field. Labor is today acknowledged successful in the world of finance. Labor banks have taken their places in nearly every metropolitan city as competitive institutions, having accepted every responsibility of state and national banking regulations. Nearly all Labor banks are members of the Federal Reserve System which to a great extent made it possible for labor unions to go into the banking business.

The progressive American business man values labor's venture in the business world. As the laboring people themselves become familiar with the business problems of the day, the radicals' call for constant warfare on capital loses its appeal. The wage-earner of today is no longer afraid of the corporation or the public utility for which he is working. He has become a partner on a small scale. He is backing up his investment with a will to serve, and differences are settled in a friendly way.

The American laborer of today is a partner in every business pursuit. He is a responsible unit of the community. He has established his credit and coöperates to prevent un-employment which robs the worker of his security and leads to destructive warfare and bitterness in industrial life.



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