

ADDRESS BY JOSEPH W. BRYCE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL TRADES AND WORKERS ASSN.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen:

I am glad to be given the opportunity to present to you the plans and principles of an association that is seriously striving to bring about a greater measure of industrial peace—an organization that believes the labor problem can be solved by more peaceful and friendly means and in a more intelligent manner than has heretofore obtained. I appreciate this opportunity of laying our case before you, because any new movement which attempts to work along different lines than are usual in the solution of any problem is often condemned by ignorant prejudice, maligned by venomous enemies and many times misunderstood by its friends. The Trades and Workers Association is no exception to this general rule. From the fact that we deplore and will have none of the club methods of the primitive man as represented in labor warfare by the strike, the lockout, the boycott and the blacklist, the more militant members of the employers' associations on the one hand and the rabid leaders of militant unionism on the other take occasion to combat our principles, usually giving as their reason that the idea is too utopian. This perhaps is to be expected for the reason that these people still believe that the only way to settle any problem is to fight about it, and then claim that the might of the winner will make it right. If the tactics of the labor unions as they have been so long constituted had worked out for the benefit of mankind in general, there would have been no reason for the creation of any other organization, but even the most rabid union man cannot truthfully assert that this is so, and doubtless there is no member of an employers' association of any kind who will claim that the tactics of the employers' associations have worked out any better. It is very easy for anyone to take a critical position and condemn the methods employed by either side but there is nothing constructive in such criticism, and out of the desire to do some really constructive work toward solving one of the greatest, if not the greatest, problem in this country, the Trades and Workers Association is founded.

There is a saying which expresses this thought very pertinently, which is that any fool can tear down a house but it takes good mechanics to build one. The founders of our association had this thought in mind so clearly, and knew so well the great harm which was being worked against all parties through the old warlike means of labor settlements, that one of the first things which was stated in the preamble of the constitution was that the strike the lockout the boycott and the blacklist were uncivilized, and we would have none of them. It was also clearly to be seen that the two parties to the question could not arrive at any correct solution so long as enmity existed between them. It was therefore decided that both employers and employees could become members of the association and as our name indicates, any worker in any of the various fields of endeavor might become a member. Note the name—Trades and Workers Association.

First an organization of fifteen people, from almost as many walks in life, was formed in order that all questions might be wisely considered and settled before being finally accepted as a part of our constitution. The association was then incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan, a step in direct opposition to all actions of labor unions everywhere. The constitution and laws for the government of the association were carefully thought out, and while perhaps not entirely perfect yet the principle of industrial peace upon which our organization was founded was carefully conserved, and made the permanent founda-

tion of the association, one which could not be altered by any amendment to the constitution.

Immediately after the first public announcement of the birth of our association, we were waited upon by a committee from the labor unions, with the intent, we presume, of either having us withdraw from the field of organization or at the least modify our preamble to be more in accord with the principles of the old associations. After a complete going over of the question for more than three hours, the chairman of the committee stated that he believed our idea was right, but that we were four or five generations ahead of the times, and that no good could be accomplished at present. Our answer to this was that we would rather be four or five generations in advance of the times than that distance in the rear of them.

Our plan is to establish branches of our association in the various cities. These branches may be what we term mixed branches of the various trades, or where there are sufficient numbers of any one trade they may form a branch of their own, such as a carpenters' branch a bricklayers' branch, etc. The officers are as usual in most societies, a president, a vice-president, a corresponding and a financial secretary and a treasurer, with what we term a mediation committee and an educational committee and other minor officers. We then endeavor to establish a headquarters in some convenient location free from the influence of that bane of all organizations, the saloon. Not that we are attempting to prohibit anyone from the use of liquor, if they so desire, but we wish to have our lodge rooms and headquarters free from its pernicious influence.

Our next move is to establish a labor bureau, and in many cities these bureaus are working out very effectively. The work of this labor bureau is to find employment for our members, and for others where more positions are offered than we can fill from our membership. These others we hope to be able to make converts to our principles. We then make arrangements with the various industries to supply them with efficient men, organized upon the peace principle, and we request these industries to give our men the preference in so far as their efficiency warrants. When we obtain work for our members, we say to them: "Now, it is up to you to make good. If you are an efficient, loyal employee, good wages, good working conditions and steady employment will be furnished you in so far as it is possible." This plan in the industries in which we have placed our members has worked out very gratifyingly. The employers and employees when joining the organization must both sign the same obligation, which is on the word of honor of a man. After agreeing to support the organization and using all fair means to advance the interests of the association the last paragraph is as follows: "I will earnestly strive to render efficient and intelligent service to any person or firm that may employ me, that I may deserve and obtain the fair treatment for myself and for the Trades and Workers Association, which we expect to receive." If an employer, "I will be fair and just to my employees, and willingly accept mediation and arbitration of all differences between myself and my employees, upon the plan adopted by the Trades and Workers Association." This is what we call friendly mediation and arbitration between masters and men who desire peace and are willing to meet one another on common ground.

Last of the Maine Victims Are Buried In Arlington



THE last scenes in the tragedy of the Maine were enacted in the sinking of her hull with military honors at sea and the burial at Arlington a few days later of the thirty-four bodies which had remained with her at the bottom of Havana harbor for fourteen years. Ten thousand people attended the memorial services held in front of the state, war and navy building in Washington, and thousands were present at the graves in the national cemetery. The president and the members of the cabinet, the speaker of the house, senators and representatives, as well as the high officials of the navy and army, gathered to pay their last tribute to the first martyrs of the Spanish war. Father John P. Chidwick, chaplain of the ship at the time of the explosion, had a prominent part in the exercises of the day, delivering the memorial address. The coffins were borne on gun carriages draped with the flag and were buried in that part of the great cemetery in which were laid the bodies of the Maine victims recovered immediately after the disaster.

Father Knickerbocker Does His Spring Sheep Shearing



THE city of New York keeps a flock of sheep, not for profit, but as an addition to the decorative features of Central park. It also has a shepherd with picturesque colliers that attend the flock as it grazes on the park meadows. As Father Knickerbocker is not regularly in the sheep business, the shearing of his woolly live stock is a matter of some embarrassment, since sheep shearing is not a part of the curriculum in the schools from which the park employees are recruited. For this spring's work the park department engaged two sturdy Irishmen, who completed the task of shearing the seventy sheep in four days. The wool was sold and the proceeds turned into the general park fund. The process of removing the fleeces was watched with great interest by the little group of children who gathered at the sheepfold attracted by the beatings of the innocent victims of schedule K.

GOMPERS TO MAKE LABOR'S DEMAND

Says Vote Will Be Guided by Treatment at Chicago and Baltimore.

CHICAGO. — Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and John B. Lennon, treasurer, are in conference preparing the demands that they will make in behalf of organized labor to the Republican platform committee. Gompers said he would not discuss the specific planks he would ask to have inserted in both the Republican and Democratic platforms.

"I expect labor's vote in the fall will be guided largely by the treatment we receive here and at Baltimore," said Gompers.

GREATER SAFETY FOR EMPLOYEES

Harriman lines in all parts of the country will inaugurate a campaign in the near future looking to the greater comfort and safety of their employes in all departments. The work will be handled through a safety committee, which will hold monthly meetings to receive reports and suggestions from department heads and employes regarding ways and means to prevent accidents and to throw greater safeguards around the rank and file in the service. In this territory the O. W. R. & N. already has undertaken the work. All employes are to feel perfectly free to make suggestions.

I. W. W. MEN TURN BACK WORKERS

HOOD RIVER, Ore.—Several workmen who arrived here recently intended to cross the Columbia river to work on the power dam of the Northwestern Light company that is in course of construction on the White Salmon river, turned back when informed by the I. W. W. pickets stationed at Hood River that there was a strike on at the works for higher wages and better meals. The pickets state that no workmen have crossed to the Washington side since the strike has been ordered.

S. J. OLINGER IS DEFEATED

Everett, Wash., Refuses to Elect S. J. Olinger as Commissioner.

EVERETT, Wash.—S. J. Olinger, the only Socialist candidate involved in the recent election, was defeated for commissioner of public safety by A. A. Brodeck, who won by a majority of more than 1000. Al Thompson won over Mayor R. B. Hassell for commissioner of public works by a majority of 600 and C. Christensen defeated T. E. Skaggs for commissioner of finance by a small margin.

The election was conducted on the non-partisan plan. Although the liquor question was not directly before the people the outcome is considered a partial victory for the "wets".

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CITY STARTS FIGHT TO GET STREET ENDS

Grant Orders Box Company to Move Obstructions—Bitter Struggle Presaged.

What is looked upon as presaging a bitter fight for the possession of the street ends along the waterfront, many of which are occupied by obstructions owned by private parties, was launched by City Attorney Grant this morning when he notified the Standard Box Co. to remove obstructions owned by it from the north 30 feet of East Oak street, between East Water street and the harbor line, within the next 30 days, or he will start ouster proceedings.

This action was taken at the request of the Portland Public Dock Commission, which desires the use of East Oak street abutting on the waterfront for public dock purposes. Plans for the East Side public dock already have been filed, and just as soon as the necessary land can be secured, construction work will be started.

This is merely the beginning of many other such notices to private parties who have obstructions in the street ends along the waterfront. All the permits granted by the Council for the occupation of these streets have been revoked, and while a few of the property-owners have agreed to abide by the wishes of the city government, to clear these street ends of obstructions, many others claim the land by right of adverse possession for many years and will fight the efforts of the city to regain this land to the bitter end it is said.

The City Attorney is preparing to begin many similar suits and is gathering a mass of evidence showing the rights of the city to the street ends with the assistance of the Public Dock Commission. It is claimed that these street ends are public property and should not be occupied by abutting property-owners.

HOUNDING BY POLICE OPPOSED BY RUSHLIGHT

Mayor Thinks Paroled Men and Former Convicts Should Be Given Chance.

"I do not believe that convicts who have been pardoned or criminals who have served their sentences should be hounded by the police," said Mayor Rushlight today in regard to a recent criticism of the police by Judge Gatens that the police were altogether too active in their efforts to fasten crimes on men who have been so unfortunate as to have been in prison.

"When a man is pardoned from prison or has served his sentence, he should be given an opportunity to earn an honest livelihood and should not be molested so long as he is law-abiding. The letter sent to Police Commissioner Coffey and Police Chief Slover by Judge Gatens, calling to their attention the injustice done many men of this class by policemen, is in their hands and I have not seen it. However, I am not in favor of persecuting any of these men."

The letter to which the Mayor referred was sent by Judge Gatens to Chief Slover and Police Commissioner Coffey as the result of information that a man paroled from prison who was attempting to engage in the real estate business had a legitimate deal spoiled by a policeman, who informed the prospective purchaser that he was dealing with an ex-convict.