

What Workingmen Have Done for Our Country

BY A WORKINGMAN

(Continued from last week.)

Men who in early life were accustomed to manual labor and men who were the sons of workingmen have been numerous among our lawyers—those learned gentlemen who as advocates before juries and as reasoners before courts have reached the highest eminence. The truth of this statement is so generally known I need not dwell at length upon it. Illustrations of its truth will be found among the members of the bar in nearly every city and town in the country. I shall therefore content myself here with presenting one or two examples. Levi Lincoln was the son of a farmer; worked for a while on his father's farm, then became a mechanic by trade. By a persevering effort he succeeded in obtaining a good education; studied law, was admitted to its practice, arose to distinction therein, and after filling several other important positions was appointed Attorney-General of the United States, one of the most responsible public offices in the world.

Rufus Choate, one of the ablest, most scholarly and most renowned lawyers our country ever produced, was the son of a farmer, and worked on his father's farm in his boyhood days. Acquiring a thorough college education, he not only attained high rank in his profession, but found time to interest himself in public affairs as well. He saw service in his state legislature, in congress, in the United States senate, and acquitted himself with credit in them all.

I am aware that among many workingmen and others there exists a strong prejudice against lawyers as a class; but whether there be just cause for such prejudice it is not my purpose here to discuss. I do believe it a proper place, however, to remark that some of the greatest, grandest and most useful men the world has ever known have belonged to the legal profession. If any one should feel disposed to doubt this statement, let him think of Lord Erskine, England's most brilliant advocate, who by his arguments in the courts and elsewhere did more to put the freedom of speech and the freedom of the press upon a rational basis than any other man of his time. Let him think of John Philpot Curran, Ireland's gifted barrister, who, in himself, was a rugged mine of intellectual wealth, filled with nuggets of golden thought and threaded with streams of merry humor. Let him think of Daniel O'Connell, "the great agitator," that grand old monarch of Irish oratory, who by his matchless eloquence could play upon the feelings and the passions of countrymen like angry winds playing upon the billows of the sea. And then, coming to our own country, let him think of James Otis, while making his famous speech in Boston in 1761 in opposition to the writs of assistance issued against the merchants of that city, a speech in which, at times, he became a huge Mississippi of purest legal argument, clear as crystal, rolling onward in muffled and majestic flow, at times a raging cataract of wrathful indignation, rumbling along in the tumult of a Niagara's roar; and whenever the profounder recesses of his soul were reached by the storm of his emotions he became a great ocean of debate, so to speak, swept by furious gales, stirred to turbulence in its lowermost depths, its surface a succession of spray-capped billows rising mountain high, all crashing into each other with tremendous violence—the earth itself trembling beneath their mighty snocks, while the heavens above were filled with echoes of their sublime reverberations. So great was that speech that John Adams, who listened to it, used to say of the day on which it was de-

livered: "On that day the child Independence was born."

Let him also think of Thomas Jefferson, writer of the Declaration of Independence, author of the Virginia Statute of Religious Freedom and one of the most original and most constructive statesmen our country ever had. It is no discredit therefore to our workingmen that their sons have been numerous in the profession here alluded to, from which so many truly great and noble men have come forth to serve and bless mankind.

The sons of workingmen have been numerous among our judges—the men upon the bench who, with fair and steady hand, have held aloft the sacred scales of justice. They have reached the highest positions of judicial preferment in both our state and federal courts. They have graced the supreme court bench of every state in the Union and probably that of every territory now awaiting admission into statehood. I venture this last assertion upon the broad and sweeping fact known to be such by those who have read the history of our past and who note what is going on about us at the present, namely, that for fully a hundred years they always have been and still are found in large numbers among our lawyers and judges throughout the length and breadth of the land.

John McLean and Joseph Bradley, both of whom sat upon the bench of the supreme court of the United States, were the sons of farmers and both performed manual labor on the farm in their earlier manhood years. The same may be true of others who have been members of that great tribunal, though I am not prepared to so affirm. It has always seemed somewhat strange to me that men who have reached the highest eminence in the judicial office have attracted comparatively little attention. In contemplating the important function performed by those who wear the ermine, I long since came to look upon the able, fearless and upright judge as one of the most exalted characters to be found among men. His learning is varied, practical and profound. He is capable of deep insight into human nature. He is familiar with the fountains of human motive. He is acquainted with the well-springs of human action. He understands the significance of a truth suppressed and of a falsehood robed in the solemn drapery of an oath. He often sees in a few little, undisputed and remote circumstances more evidence than in many verbal asseverations. To discover the right is the object of his judicial inquiry. To know the law is his ambition. To do justice is his religion. To breathe into his decisions the very soul and spirit of equity is to him a work of perfect sanctification. The judgment he renders is the conclusion he draws from a full survey of the whole field of controversy; and when such conclusion meets the approval of his head and his heart, his intellect and his conscience, he is firm and immovable in giving it legal effect—firm and immovable as the giant oak in the forest, through whose outstretched branches the storms of a century have swept all in vain—firm and immovable as the everlasting mountains that lift their lofty summits in serene and solemn grandeur to the sky. J. T. MORGAN.

(To be continued.)

Girls working in shirt-waist factories in New York City went on strike because of the fine system. The following were the fines for some of the alleged offenses: Fifty-one cents for a laugh, 10 cents for a smile, 12 cents for looking in a mirror, 25 cents for taking a day off, in addition to losing half a day's pay.

JOHN MITCHELL,

The Man Who Led the Miners to Victory.

John Mitchell, president of the United Mineworkers of America, is in his 30th year, and is the youngest man ever to reach such a position as he now occupies. His mother died when he was 2 years old, and four years later his father was killed in an accident in the mines, and the child was left to the care of friends. He entered the mines when 13 years old, and from that time made his own living. He connected himself with the Knights of Labor when 16 years old while working in Illinois, and has been a member of that organization ever since. He has worked in a number of states, at one time being employed in the mines in New Mexico.

Returning to Illinois from the West, he married and settled down at Spring Valley, where his family of a wife and four children live. His first service in a public capacity was in 1897, when he was appointed an organizer of the United Mine Workers, by President Ratchford, and in the same year he was elected a member of the Illinois state executive board. In 1898 he was elected national vice-president when Ratchford determined to give his time more fully to the work of the industrial commission, and in January, 1899, Mitchell succeeded to the presidency by election.

The qualities that advanced Mitchell from a coal miner at Spring Valley to the presidency of the organization in two years were powers of ready debate in convention, earnestness of purpose to secure fair treatment of the men the organization represents and a kind of courteous demeanor, but firmness under all circumstances. He is known in the organization as a fighter of rare pluck and capable of holding on when any ordinary man would admit defeat. He is slow to make up his mind on an important question, but energetic and determined, when once the question is decided. Notwithstanding his youth, the members of the executive board look to him for advice and counsel, and often defer to his judgment in matters of greatest importance. He is known to his fellow-workers familiarly as "John," and though not easily approached, he is genial and companionable when once his acquaintance is formed. He is a close student of events and an omnivorous reader.—Erie People.

WORKINGMEN IN RUSSIA.

A large proportion of the political prisoners sent to Siberia are workingmen, who are frequently transported for very trivial offenses. A case of this kind occurred not long ago at Vilna, where a business man who possessed the monopoly of the chimney sweeping trade there was injured by having a flask of vitriol thrown over him. The culprit was believed to be one of his own men, but as the police could not find the criminal, the authorities adopted the simple expedient of sending all the chimney sweepers in his employment to Siberia. It may be mentioned that workingmen, as a rule, are very strictly watched by the authorities.

The ministry of the interior recently sent secret instructions to the governors of districts and the burgomasters of towns in the industrial provinces to expel relentlessly all suspicious workingmen from their neighborhoods. When the governors and burgomasters replied that such a measure was practically impossible to carry out, the ministry of the interior issued new instructions ordering a large increase in the police for those districts and directed that for every 50 workingmen there should be one policeman to watch over them. The ministry of the interior laid emphasis on the order that these policemen were to do no other duty, so that they might devote their whole time efficiently to watch over the workingmen.—The Carpenter.

Lee M. Clark, Pres. Geo. M. Orton, Mgr.

MULTNOMAH PRINTING CO.

PRINTING
LEGAL BLANKS

Col. Phone, 75 Ore. Phone, Hood 443
107 Front, Bet. Washington and Stark

John W. Stiger

Residence, 334 East Eleventh Street
Residence Phone, Columbia 5141

PRACTICAL PAINTING

Wall Tinting and Interior Decorating
Reliable Work at Moderate Prices....
Special Attention to Boat Work

106½ First Street

A NEW BOOK

THE SOLUTION OF THE SOCIAL PROBLEM

By C. E. Dietrich

This little book is without doubt one of the best books published on the economic question
Price 25 cents

JONES BOOK STORE 291 Alder St.

Deutsches Gasthaus BREWERS' HOME

Metropolis Hotel

PHILIP STREIB, Proprietor

Cor. First and Main Sts., Portland, Ore.

Finest Table Board in the City
Only White Help Employed. Meals 15c. Lodging
20c and 25c. Milk and Eggs fresh from our
own ranch daily

Established 1882 Open Day and Night

Clams and Oysters
Home Made Pies and Cakes

E. HOUSE'S CAFE

Cream and Milk from Our Own Ranch
The Best Cup of Coffee or Cocoa in the City

128 Third St., Portland, Ore.

BEATTIE & HOFMANN

PHONE, SOUTH 371

PRINTERS

109 Fifth St., Portland, Ore.

Do You Suffer

From Appendicitis, Chronic Constipation, Weak Stomach, Pains in the Back, Kidney Disease, or Rheumatism? The Gilbert Institute of Hygeio-Therapy Cures these diseases in a very short time. No drugs are used. Our methods of healing are strictly hygienic and based upon common sense. Call and see us.

THE GILBERT INSTITUTE OF HYGEO-THERAPY

Hamilton Building

We Patronize Those Who Patronize Us

Brotherhood of Painters Decorators and Paperhangers

Of America, Local No. 10

UNION SHOPS

Sutcliffe & Blled.....	307 Alder
Maxwell & Tilton.....	255 Salmon
Blaesing & Glutch.....	267 Third
H. P. Christensen.....	141 Sixth
Toehly Bros.....	549 Marshall
Freeborn Co.....	343 Washington
Paul Jaschina.....	15th and Washington
J. O. Berg.....	575 Lovejoy
L. Carstensen.....	223½ Second
Ivor Williams.....	190 Third
Church & Son.....	127 Third
P. A. Doane.....	Yamhill
W. N. Robinson.....	207 Hall
Schofield & Morgan.....	233 Yamhill
Franz Ring.....	573 Ryan
P. Junger.....	735 Fourth
Green Bros.....	841 First
Griffith.....	First and Oak
L. N. McFadden & Co.....	421 E. Morrison
J. Tyrell.....	207 Main
H. Olsen.....	592 Savier
Mills & Wallace, Sign Shop.....	1st and Oak
Griffith & Cooper.....	68 Union Ave.
G. P. Fuller.....	511½ Glisan
E. W. Dearborn.....	69 Grand Ave.
J. M. Gilbert.....	190 Eleventh
C. F. Moore.....	17th and Northrup
E. Bockman.....	269 Russell
E. Miller.....	127 First
J. W. Kenna.....	84 First
J. M. Rankin.....	685 First
C. N. Batchelor.....	3 E. 16th
Frank Wertz.....	9 Grand Ave. N.
Smith & Madsen.....	Woodstock
E. A. Rayworth.....	Central Addition
W. H. Morse.....	Albina
E. A. Fearing.....	109 Second
H. N. Black.....	1st and Washington
J. Zirngiebel, Sign Shops.....	109 Second
Haycop & Cook.....	1st and Washington
Cornell & Co.....	1st and Washington
Sheehy Bros.....	First street
Henry Berger.....	390 Taylor
Harry Scott, Sign Writer.....	106½ First
H. H. Buell, Scenic Painter.....	Williams Av
J. J. Hartz.....	86 First
John W. Stiger.....	86 First
Smith Bros.....	86 First
C. F. Pearson.....	86 First