

A VERY TRANSPARENT DIS-GUISE.

How Some of the Capitalistic Concerns Would Emascuate the Unions.

In notifying the union men of Chicago as to its intention regarding them in the future, the firm of Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co., has supplied organized labor with matter which should cause union workingmen to seriously reflect upon the relations existing between capitalist and laborer, as seen from the standpoint of the former, and as Messrs. H., S., B. & Co. have intimated that their attitude upon the question is essentially the same as that of other business firms who contemplate the erection of buildings in the near future, this manifesto may be admitted to represent the general sentiment towards union labor, of those who are compelled to employ it.

It may be observed in the first place that this notification begins by declaring in favor of unions, a trick by which capitalist ultimatums are invariably prefaced now-a-days, but it would seem that the union which finds favor amongst the employers is not exactly the same kind of organization which the men believe to be best suited to their needs.

According to Messrs. H., S., B. & Co. there are many grave defects in the economy of the unions which must be eliminated before it will be possible for that reputable firm to enter into business relations with union men. The "spell binders" who infest their organizations and who "fill their pockets at the expense of the men whom they profess to represent," are highly objectionable to the moral sense of this pious corporation, and their abolition is insisted on as the first necessary preliminary before any dealing with the unions is possible.

The H., S., B. document then gives a dissertation upon the origin and object of unions, which it is declared were founded for the purpose of protection against the "rapacity" of employers who were greedily enriching themselves at the expense of their workmen. This action, which according to the same authority is "highly commendable," is being frustrated by the "spellbinders" aforesaid, "under whose bondage the workmen are chafing," and it is to rescue the afflicted ones from this galling yoke that the H., S., B. Co. put forth their manifesto.

And when they have freed the victims, what then? Why the unions will be at liberty to carry out the "highly commendable" purpose of their being, viz., to "check the rapacity of employers who are greedily enriching themselves at the expense of the workers."

This is a fair deduction from the identical words in the document. Is there any union man so idiotic as to believe that the firm in question really wishes to have this programme carried out? Does any union man think that they protest against the alleged robberies perpetrated by the "spellbinders" because they feel any sympathy for the alleged victims? Is it because their sense of honesty is outraged that they pose as champions of the "best interests" of the workmen? Is there any union man so credulous as to imagine that these people wish to arm the unions with increased power to carry out the "highly commendable" purpose for which they were established?

We should hardly suppose such to be the case. What, then, do they really want?

They want unions in which they shall be the dictators instead of the "spellbinders" and "walking delegate." They want unions which are incapable of resistance. They want to be themselves the judges of those elastic terms, a "fair day's work" and a "fair day's wage." They want submissive, subservient, emasculated organizations disguised under the name of unions. They want the shadow of power to remain with the unions, while they

utilize the substance. And in these respects they correctly represent the attitude of the class for which they profess to speak.

Against "spellbinders" in the unions they entertain a most lively hatred, but the political "spellbinders" whose business it is to delude the workingmen into voting for capitalist class rule, is looked upon as an exceedingly useful individual, which he undoubtedly is, from their point of view. It all depends in whose interest the "spellbinding" is done. And for this reason the H., S., B. manifesto declaims against "lawlessness" upon the part of the unions, and just at this point the most important lesson for workingmen comes to light. The vast majority of workingmen have, through their votes, placed the power of the law in the hands of the class with whom they struggle in the economic field. When this power is used against them in the conflict, they must submit, or pay the penalty for "lawlessness."

If the unions are conducted as the capitalist class would desire, they would become absolutely impotent as a check upon "rapacity," and the acknowledged reason for their existence be gone. If they attempt to carry out their "highly commendable" mission, in an effective manner, the law, the creature of their own making, whose powers they have placed in the hands of the "rapacious" ones, intervenes and forbids the action under penalty. There is a contradiction here which can only be resolved through a struggle for the possession of the law-making power.

This struggle must ultimately come. Already some thousands of workingmen have perceived it. Every punishment inflicted for "lawlessness" upon members of labor organizations helps to enlighten the workers upon this truth, and every document issued by their opponents tends to the same end—the recognition of conflicting interests, known as the class struggle, and its only possible outcome, the economic and political supremacy of the working class.—Workers' Call.

TYPOGRAPHICAL WAGE-SCALE

The following is the revised scale adopted by the Typographical Union and the three daily papers of Seattle:

Article I, section 1. All compositors employed in offices wherein all composition is performed by hand labor shall work on time only and shall receive as compensation the following sums, eight hours to constitute a day: For night work, \$4.90 per day; for day work, \$4.35; provided, the office may work seven and one-half hours at a proportionate rate, viz., for a 7½ hour day, night work, \$4.60; for a 7½ hour day, day work, \$4.05. Provided, further, offices may work nine hours on one designated day each week, which shall not be changed, at proportionate rate of 8-hour day, viz., for night work, \$5.50; for day work, \$4.90.

Article II, section 2. Machine operators and compositors shall receive \$4.90 per day for night and \$4.35 per day for day work, eight hours to constitute a day's work; provided, the office may work seven and one-half hours at a proportionate rate, viz., for a 7½-hour day, night work, \$4.60; for a 7½-hour day, day work, \$4.05. Provided, further, offices may work nine hours on one designated day each week, which shall not be changed, at proportionate rate of 8-hour day, to-wit, for night work, \$5.50; for day work, \$4.90.

The organization of labor is simply an economic method of insuring success in the struggle for existence. The workmen who do not organize, take their chances, and if they fail, because of their inferiority, they simply pay the economic penalty of their weakness.

The Hotel Zur Rheinpfalz, 253-255 Front street, is the best house for the money in town. Working men patronize it.

SOME WHOLESOME ADVICE.

It is Sunday. There is a fierce storm raging without. I am in a reminiscent mood. Sitting here in my humble home, my thoughts drift back into the past, and I think of the great industrial wrongs that exist in our land. I think of how for over a quarter of a century I have worked hard, but what have I got to show of all the wealth my labor has helped to produce? My house rent is due, and when paid there will be little money left for living expenses, says Charles F. Stubbs, in the Federationist. If, after long years of hard work, the wage-earner can only just exist, something must be wrong. What is it? The rainbow chasers say it is the system that is wrong, and if we will vote for their candidates they will put the capitalist off the earth. Change the system, they say, and then all will be well and peace with plenty will be ours. We don't want to bother with trade unions, they say, as we are now only wasting time; that we don't know what is best for the worker anyway; give them our votes and they will do the rest. All this may sound plausible enough to some superficial minds, but we should remember that great reforms do not come in a day; that all the improvements in the laborer's condition that have been secured have come through the trade union, and that the probabilities are that the wageworker in the future, as in the past, will be terribly deceived if he places his hopes in any political party, old or new.

The past year has been one of importance to trade unionists. Many strikes have taken place, and success has not always crowned the efforts of the strikers, but the whole world is growing to recognize the fact that the cause of labor is one of justice and humanity. With the great corporations and combinations on every hand and the greater part of the wealth of the nation in their hands, what is left to the worker but to meet organization with organization?

Now, Mr. Non-unionist, I want a little plain talk with you. Why do you brag that you get the union wage and don't have to belong to the union to do so? Don't you know that it is the union that made it possible for you to get such a wage? And did you ever stop and think that you are a non-unionist because you are too mean to pay dues and help keep the wage up, or too cowardly to join the union from fear of the boss? Did you ever think what a contemptible cur you are, anyway? Now, Mr. Non-unionist, be a man; join the union of your craft and help to push the good cause along. Get into line so you can look your fellowmen in the face and say, I am a man, and my children shall never have it said to them that their father was a scab. Come in with us, we want you all. Don't delay, but come now.

Well, Mr. Union man, a few words with you. Don't think just because you are a member and your dues are paid that your whole duty is done. You should remember that your union has meetings, and they do business at these meetings that may interest you. Anyway, it is your duty to be there. Committees are appointed; questions of vital importance come up, and you should be there to register your vote. In fact, if you are a union man, be one in every way. Do your duty as a member. Attend your meetings. Study the labor question. See that the union label is on all the goods you buy. Don't patronize dealers who carry scab goods in stock. Be a worker in the grand movement for the organization of labor. You will then be doing your duty. If we would gain industrial harmony we must work all together and in the interests of all. Each for all and all for each.

Now the marblecutters are catching it. A recent invention enables the workman to strike 6,000 blows per minute, as against thirty by the hand process.



AMATEUR AFFAIRS.



THERE IS NOTHING that brings about social intercourse like amateur work.

THERE IS NOTHING that liquidates a standing debt or swells the funds of a favorite secret or fraternal society, church, military or other organization like an amateur performance by local talent.

THERE IS NOTHING more entertainingly educational than to take part in an amateur affair.

THERE IS NOTHING more enjoyable than attending rehearsals evenings.

THERE IS NOTHING more satisfactory to all concerned than the success and praise when it all over.

THERE IS NOTHING that will compare in any way with the list of Plays, Dialogues, Charades, Pantomimes, Minstrels, Mock Trials, Monologues, Guide Books, Wigs, Beards, Mustaches, Make Up Materials, Sheet Music, etc. offered by The Pettibone Bros. Mfg. Co., of Cincinnati, Ohio this season.

Send for a copy of their 112 page Catalog describing these goods. The Catalog is free.

YOU CAN DO THIS TOO.

New Orleans, La., Nov. 2, 1900.

The Pettibone Bros. Mfg. Co., Cincinnati, O.

Gentlemen:—Enclosed you will find clippings from some of our leading newspapers in regard to our play called "The Ancient Order of Hercules". The play was a grand success. We realized \$450.00 clear of all expenses. It was given in the largest hall in the city of New Orleans. We had at least 3,000 people present—it is still the talk of the town. We had everything against us, such as complimentary balls, Buffalo Bill's Show and cheap theatres, but we came out all right. The cast was splendid and every one took their part like professionals. Later I will send you names of the cast.

Wishing you success, I remain,
Yours,
W. R. SMITH, Chairman,
Washington Ivy and Apollo Circles,
New Orleans, La.

UNITED HATTERS OF NORTH AMERICA



Buy no hat without this Label is sewed in the hat under the sweat-band, and are perforated on edges like a postage stamp.

HAMER SUTCLIFFE JOHN BLIED
SUTCLIFFE & BLIED
Wall Paper, Decorations
Plain and Decorative Paper Hanging
House Painting, Graining, Kalsomining
Phone 1963 307 Alder St., Portland, Ore.

Two Pairs for Price of One.

Eight mountains of shoes are stacked up in a show window on the corner of First and Yamhill streets, at John Dellar's store, showing the big ax they use for cutting prices. People come in as soon as they notice it and purchase two pairs instead of one, as they realize the substantial cut made in prices. Men's and boys' suits and overcoats are slaughtered at a price not to be equaled elsewhere.



Mr. Dellar does not believe in extravagant expenses; that's why he conducts his business on the corner of First and Yamhill streets, where the rent is not one-third of what other stores pay. The profits are generally fixed by every merchant according to his expenses.

We carry none but good qualities, which explains why our trade is so well satisfied.

Administratrix' Notice.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned has been duly appointed administratrix of the estate of Ira Purdin, deceased. All persons having claims against said estate are notified to present the same duly verified within six months to me at 246 First street, Portland, Oregon.

Dated January 10, 1901.

MARTHA J. PURDIN,
Administratrix Estate of Ira Purdin.
PEARCY & MENDENHALL,
Attorneys.

The Famous Clothing House, corner Morrison and Second streets, is the place for bargains in union made goods.