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THERE IS A DIFFERENCE.

Some people insist that organized labor is a trust, materially the same as the great industrial combinations of capital. There is a wondrous difference. Any one who works can join a union, and any one who has to work don't want a corner on it; but a capitalistic trust is a combination of men—a select few—who endeavor to get a corner on labor with their money. And not every one with money is permitted in a trust. Organized labor is simply a weapon by which men who labor can defend their muscle, home, family and citizenship against the encroachments of unscrupulous men who have had the wits and luck to accumulate property. Whenever united labor becomes vicious it is either due to ignorance or lack of self-control. Whenever united capital becomes vicious it is due to an excess of education and lack of decency. A man who has the mind to discover certain intrinsic values in the earth's great vault of riches is certainly entitled to all the returns therefrom in excess of a just proportion to those who make it possible for the thing to earn; but he is not entitled to one tittle that does not represent an intrinsic value. When he does, he receives something to which he has no legal claim. And what makes the trust most pernicious is forcing the consumer to pay not only for the actual value of the article, but tribute on being robbed. All that organized labor does is to protect what God gave to primitive man, and it has discovered that the best way to get this protection is to throw its sinew and muscle into one great pot, and when the contractor bids for energy, charge him enough to keep that energy intact in the generations that follow. If this is a trust, let us build more pots and double their contents; but if a few men decree and are allowed to fix a price upon the sinew and muscle and the material upon which it thrives, it is time the system changed.

WHITNEY MISTAKEN.

F. Stacey Whitney, of Seattle, general organizer of the A. F. of L., who is now working in the eastern portion of Washington, writes to the Seattle Union Record from Spokane, as follows: "The Oregon State Federation, in addition to the aid given it by the A. F. of L. and its organizers, has put its president into the field to work also, and his recent trip south from Portland was a triumphal trip, nearly every town visited was organized, and the total results of the trip amounted to over a dozen new unions. The Washington State Federation should follow her sister state's example and help itself as well as receiving help from the A. F. of L."

We wish Mr. Whitney was correct in the statement that the A. F. of L. had given aid to the Oregon State Federation in sending President Harry to Southern Oregon, but he isn't. The A. F. of L. was asked for assistance, but gave none, and Mr. Harry went at the sole expense of the union men of Oregon, organized a dozen or more unions, and returned home when the funds for this purpose gave out. The Oregon unions have perhaps added more to the revenues of the A. F. of L. and received as little return as any state in the union. What we would like is enough assistance from the A. F. of L., together with the per capita from what unions there are in the state,

to keep President Harry in the field continuously. He is a capable man in every respect and is better acquainted with the field and could accomplish more with the same amount of money than an outsider. We are not familiar with the resources of the Washington State Federation, but we are satisfied that its executive committee, with Labor Commissioner Blackman at its head, is doing what it can for organized labor in that section. Mr. Blackman doesn't appear to us as a man who would shirk a duty.

A CLINCHER.

The Gas Belt Labor News hits the nail squarely on the head, and drives an argument deep into the plank of industrial economics, when it says:

The watering of stock is one of the greatest menaces to labor and public welfare that curses our modern industrialism. Its danger is not seen or felt seriously during the flood tide of prosperity, for then fair-sized dividends can be paid on a large portion of water, but the moment the tide turns and good dividends no longer appear, then the so-called innocent stockholders meet the labor committee and say: "Do you not see my dividends are too low, and I must therefore cut wages?" Whereas, if there was nothing but actual investment represented, the dividends would still be large, even though they had fallen some. The watering of stock is what causes such a collapse when a depression sets in. It causes the value of these diluted stocks to depreciate suddenly, and bankruptcy and ruin ensue. A plant with a million of dollars' actual investment can pay 4 per cent as easily as the same business could pay 1 per cent on four millions, three of which are water. Watering of stock should be prohibited by law. It is done to deceive the public as regards earnings, and to obtain money from those who buy stocks from the original investors. These might be tolerated, but the worst phase is the inevitable crash that must sooner or later come to industry and labor. This phase is easily grave enough to warrant stringent governmental action, and if our lawmakers fail to protect the nation from the peril, they are not true statesmen and honest conservators of the public good.

Don't fail to tell your friends about the mass meeting that will be held in Cordray's Theater Saturday evening, July 19. Go and take them. Messrs. James Duncan, president of the Granite Cutters' International Union, and first vice-president of the American Federation of Labor; Thomas I. Kidd, fifth vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, and president of the Amalgamated Woodworkers' International Association, and John B. Lennon, treasurer of the A. F. of L. and president of the Journeymen Tailors' International Union, will address organized labor and its friends upon the greatest question of the day. They are men of national reputation and able exponents of the cause they represent. Good orchestra music will be furnished between addresses. Mr. Duncan is especially well informed on industrial economics and a fluent talker. Messrs. Samuel Gompers, president of A. F. of L., with Max Morris, fourth vice-president A. F. of L., and secretary-treasurer of the Retail Clerks' International Association, and James O'Connell, third vice-president A. F. of L., and president International Association of Machinists, will reach here on August 4. Arrangements will be made later for the latter trio of labor leaders.

A member of the Bricklayers' Union of Seattle returned a few days ago from Nome City and said that thousands of men are out of employment and penniless. He says that during last Winter hundreds of penniless men were supported by charity. They were fed in soup houses, slept on saloon floors at night and kept their blood in circulation during the days by shoveling snow on the streets. This condition of affairs is not entirely due to the craze for acquiring sudden wealth. Most of the penniless men of Nome owe their unfortunate predicament to the selfishness and unscrupulous methods of transportation companies. Men by the hundreds have gone to the Nome country on promises of work given them before departure. On arrival they found they had been made victims of the employment agency confidence game. They received contracts for employment by ostensible agents for mining companies in the far North as an inducement to buy "cut rate" steamship tickets. On arrival they found the mining companies for which they were to go to work existed only in the imagination of the "agents" who inveigled them into fattening the exchequers of the steamship companies.

Several of our good union men have secured positions under the new municipal administration. Alex Donaldson, of the Carpenters' Union, has been appointed superintendent of streets; Ben Biglan was selected to fill the responsible position as harbor master by Mayor Williams, by running the gauntlet of political bosses; and the latest to be allotted a place is John K. Carr, inspector of sidewalks, former president

of the Building Trades Council, who has been placed above the mark of professional blacklist contractors, who held him up because he was fearless enough to go to the front of a movement that he believed to be right. A number of our union boys are in the fire department and police force, and if they do their duty Mayor Williams will surely permit them to continue so doing; if not, they should be turned down, and undoubtedly will be.

It is stated that the fees of Mr. Morgan for organizing trusts has amounted to \$172,000,000 in the last year, says the Craftsman. The United States statistics show that the average income of the working people of this country is only \$400 a year. On this basis Mr. Morgan has received as much for his service as 430,000 workmen representing over 2,000,000 people! These two million people could not live and save anything, but Mr. Morgan could. Is it not absurd to assume to think that one man is entitled to as much as 400,000? And Mr. Morgan did not produce a thing—he simply manipulated the other producers. Morgan received one-fourth as much as all the working people in the United States.

Recently there have arrived in the Port of Portland several foreign ships bearing a considerable number of Japanese laborers. The last vessel arrived last week with more than 60 of these unwelcome wage earners aboard. These people are at once engaged by large companies to do work at inferior prices that belong to American citizens at wages commensurate for the raising of a family and providing them with a good common-school education at the very least. Every person allowed to land upon our shores who cannot assimilate with ourselves is almost a dead loss to the growth of our country. It simply permits a few money sharks to grow richer at the expense of America and its homes.

An exchange says it may not be generally known, but it is nevertheless a positive fact, that the blue label of the Cigarmakers' Union was first used as years ago led the health department to make an investigation as to the cause. It finally was traced to the Chinese tobacco makers who sometimes were afflicted with the disease. Upon becoming known, the Cigarmakers' Union decided to put a label upon the cigars made by them, so that smokers might know when cigars were made by white labor. A white color was found to be less desirable than others, and was changed to blue in about a year after its adoption. This color has been retained since.

The American Federation of Labor has made the offer to the striking coal miners of \$1,500,000 per week, believing that labor unionism is at stake. President Mitchell replied that while the miners did not need assistance now, he would call for it as soon as they should. The plan of the Federation is to assess a per capita tax sufficient to provide a strike fund of at least \$1,500,000 a week. This would not only provide for the anthracite strikers, but for the striking soft coal men. It would give those who have been unable to procure work an average of \$10 a week, to man and boy alike, and be quite sufficient to keep them comfortably.

The killing of Merrill by Tracy is a just retribution for the dead man's deeds. It would be a splendid sequel if Merrill's ghost could return and torment its murderer into a horrible suicide. A simple death for Tracy is not enough; he should be made to die as many times as he has marked his victim. His boldness creates admiration in some abnormal brains, but his series of crimes is a nightmare in a healthy social mind that cries for vengeance.

The strike of 9000 freighthandlers and their sympathizing teamsters terminated in the men returning to work Wednesday without gaining what they demanded. They secured a slight advance through intercession by the State Board of Arbitration. The strike is said to have been thrown down by the treachery and hypocrisy of labor leaders. The strike cost the business men of Chicago more than \$10,000,000.

Committees from the Federated Trades Council are actively engaged in making plans for Labor Day in this city. It will eclipse anything of the kind ever seen in Portland, and it is expected that fully 10,000 men and women will line up in the parade. An all-day Labor Day seems to be the choice of the committee and such should be the case by all means.

LABOR NOTES.

All the local breweries in Seattle have signed the new schedule of prices. The bootblacks of San Francisco organized on the 8th inst., with 300 members. Sixteen charters were issued to typographical unions during the month of June. The San Diego telephone girls have been granted eight hours. They were working nine. In the Spanish-American war only 280 American soldiers were killed. The

report issued by the Bureau of Labor of New York shows that in 1900 no less than 1000 workers were killed outright in that state and 40,000 injured.

San Francisco expects to have about 140 unions represented in the parade on Labor Day, with fully 25,000 men in line.

Tampa, Fla., carpenters have had their first strike in 10 years. It was for eight hours, and it lasted four days, and they won.

New Orleans, La., has become one of the best-organized cities in the country, having over 40,000 members in the several unions.

The appellate division of the Supreme Court, in Brooklyn, N. Y., has affirmed the constitutionality of the eight-hour law of that state.

Brockton, Mass., of 40,000 population, now claims 8000 members in the labor unions. They will nominate a municipal ticket this Fall.

Out of 150 movements this year for better wages and shorter hours, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners is said to have not lost a single one.

The San Francisco Labor Clarion says almost every steamer from the Hawaiian Islands brings Japanese by hundreds to the Pacific Coast, and they are all laborers.

Miss Helen Gould has decided to leave her home and take up her residence in one of the poorest districts of New York City, for the purpose of studying conditions.

As a result of its policy of arbitration, the International Association of Boot and Shoe Workers has expended only \$1018.80 in strike benefits during the past three years.

The street railway employees' strike at Pawtucket, R. I., which has been in force since June 6, has been declared off. The strikers gain nothing. All the men will be taken back.

The San Francisco Board of Works agreed yesterday to pay the carpenters in the employ of the department \$4 a day hereafter instead of \$3.50, which has heretofore been the rate.

A movement is on foot to remove the national headquarters of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's Union of American from Syracuse, N. Y., to Chicago.

Marion, Ind., is to have a labor church in which denominations will not be considered. It will be under the auspices of the Trades Council, and run by a committee from that body.

A motion was made and carried at the meeting of the North Carolina State Federation of Labor, which closed recently, that at the next convention no swearing be permitted.

The Bricklayers' Union has been expelled from the Spokane Trades Council for refusing to comply with the new card system of the building trades committee of the Council.

Boston has a newspaper writers' (reporters') union, affiliated with the International Typographical Union. They are not silent partners, but take an active interest in the international affairs.

Fifty reporters, representing every paper in Chicago, met on June 27 and formed a union, which is to be auxiliary to the Typographical Union. It is proposed to take in editors and special writers.

Reporters and newspaper writers of Seattle are considering the plan of organizing a union under charter from the International Typographical Union. The reason for this is said to be too long hours and too little pay.

Governor Stone, of Pennsylvania, has refused the request of coal companies for militia unless there is a riot, mob or insurrection. He holds the Sheriff's and local officers responsible until such a time when the situation gets beyond their control.

The annual statement of the secretary-treasurer of San Francisco Typographical Union, No. 21, just closed, shows that during the year the union disbursed a total of \$13,289.30, of which \$6,412.50 was donated to locked-out and striking unions.

Brockton, Mass., is the largest shoe city in the world, producing about \$25,000,000 worth of shoes in a year. It also pays the highest wages in the world, the average at present being \$500 a year, or 20 per cent higher than its nearest competitor.

Mr. Filmer, of the nonunion printing firm of Filmer-Rollins, was appointed grand marshal of the Fourth of July parade. Upon protest from the Allied Printing Trades Council, duly made before the committee, Mr. Filmer resigned.

Secretary Bramwood, of the International Typographical Union, paid per capita tax on 42,144 members to the American Federation of Labor for the month of May this year. This is the largest number of members the organization has had since its foundation 50 years ago.

The next convention of the American Federation of Labor will be asked to take under consideration the formation of a building trades section. Those behind the project assert that if this is done, many of the internal disputes of unions as to jurisdiction will be done away with.

Through the agency of the California State Federation of Labor, a law was passed prohibiting employers of minors under 18 years of age to work them more than 54 hours per week. For some time a dead letter, State Labor Commissioner F. V. Meyers is now enforcing the law.

It is claimed that Chicago is union mad. Nearly 10,000 working men joined labor unions in that city in one day. Fourteen new unions were launched. Officials of the Federation of Labor have been working day and night for weeks, but cannot keep up with the demands for their assistance in forming unions.

For the first time in its history, the largest plate-glass and window glass industries, which are located at Pittsburgh, Pa., have decided to shut down for two months, throwing 10,000 men out of employment. This shut-down is in accordance with an agreement of large producers to force smaller concerns into line.

State Factory Inspector McAbee, of Indiana, has sent a circular letter to the larger manufacturing concerns in the state, recommending that they provide bathing facilities for the employes. He

cites the beneficial results from such a bath at Michigan City, and says a course after a day's work will do much to remove the desire for stimulants.

At a meeting of the San Francisco Park Commissioners' last week, the wages of laborers was fixed at \$2 per day. On December 31, 1901, the Board of Supervisors passed an ordinance fixing a minimum wage of \$2.50 and eight hours, and it is quite certain that the Supervisor and Mayor Schmitz will compel the Commissioners to reconsider their action.

The United States Circuit Court, at Providence, R. I., has declined to issue an injunction to restrain the Woonsocket Street Railway Company from obeying the 10-hour labor law or to restrain the Attorney-General from prosecuting said company if it fails to comply. The constitutionality of the law will be tested before the United States Supreme Court.

The laws of Kansas provide that labor organizations shall form a state organization, to be known as "The State Society of Labor and Industry," and that this society shall meet in convention and appoint the Labor Commissioners for the state. This enables the unions to have one of their own men in this important position and removes from this office traces of partisan politics.

Walla Walla is experiencing an awakening in unionism. For the past two years the printers and cigarmakers, both very small in numbers, have occupied the field alone, and have made several unsuccessful attempts to get other crafts together. During the past few weeks the painters, carpenters and barbers have been organized, and it is expected that the clerks and waiters will soon follow suit, besides the formation of a Federal Labor Union.

The total number of unions now in Spokane is 41. Of these 28 are affiliated with the A. F. of L. through their national bodies; 4 are affiliated with their national bodies, which are independent; 4 hold dual charters, and 9 hold A. L. U. charters. Since May 1 the A. F. of L. has gained 3, the broom makers, upholsterers and waitresses; the A. L. U. lost 1, and the independent nationals have gained 1. The Switchmen's Union was organized a few days ago.

The 6000 employes of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company, at Kokomo, Ind., were recently notified of an increase of 5 per cent in wages. Skilled workmen will also be given premiums for least breakage of glass in handling.

An increase of wages to all motor-men and conductors has been granted by the Cleveland Electric and the Cleveland City Railway Companies, taking effect July 1. The advance will average 2 cents an hour. Several thousand men are benefited.

Washington State is being rapidly organized. Besides numerous new unions being formed in Spokane and Walla Walla, a clerks' union is under way at Aberdeen; single weavers' unions have recently been organized at Marysville and Edmonds; unions of the same craft are also under way at Blaine and Little Rock; the waiters and bartenders are a recent organization at Olympia; and the clerks' union of Whatcom has successfully inaugurated the 6 o'clock closing movement.

Judge Hallett, in the Federal Court at Denver, Colo., dismissed the case of George S. O'Hara against the Cooks' and Waiters' Union on the promise made in open court by the union men present that they would no longer boycott and picket restaurants.

Practically all of the old employes of the American Smelting & Refining Company's plant at East Helena have signed an agreement with the company. The smelter will reopen in about 10 days, that time being necessary to make repairs.

The Los Angeles Times, the arch-enemy of organized labor and the only scab newspaper of any size in the United States, planned to secure the inside workings of the Los Angeles County Council of Labor a few days ago, by smuggling a reporter into the meeting. The reporter, whose name is Gray, succeeded in getting into the meeting, took the oath as delegate and was given the password. His nervous attitude exposed his identity and he was ejected from the room without personal injury.

A force of Pinkerton detectives has been put in charge of the Union Pacific shops at Denver, Colo., and the city has supplied four policemen for protection. Trouble is not expected from the strikers themselves, but from sympathizers who work in the 30 or more contract shops of the city. The strikers now claim that they have all the experienced machinists out but three, and all of the boiler-makers, blacksmiths and copper-smiths have stopped work. The strikers continue to patrol the grounds outside of the Pinkerton lines.

City Attorney Lane, of San Francisco, advised the Election Commissioner yesterday, that, under section 1361 of the political code, the Union Labor party is entitled to be provided for on the primary ballot. The section quoted gives such right to any political party which, "at the last election prior to any ensuing primary election herein provided for, polled at least 3 per cent of the entire vote of the state, county, district, city and county, city or town, or other political division for which a primary election is to be held." Under this provision the City Attorney holds that the local Union Labor party is clearly eligible.

Union No. 9952, of Roseburg, Or., instituted a strike Saturday, among the teamsters and other laborers employed by Contractor F. J. Blakely, in the stone improvement work. Of the 51 men employed, about four-fifths quit work, 80 per cent of whom were union men. Those remaining at work will be induced to join the strikers. The cause of the strike was the refusal of the contractor to meet the demand for a raise in wages and an eight-hour day's work. Teamsters and teams have been receiving \$3 a day of 10 hours, and laborers \$1.75 for the same length of time. The schedule presented and refused by Contractor Blakely is as follows: Man and team, \$4, eight hours to constitute a day's work; men employed as finishers, \$2.50 for eight hours; sub-foremen, \$3, eight hours; common laborers, \$2 for eight hours.

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