

THE CO-OPERATIVE CHRISTIAN FEDERATION

A REMEDY FOR VARIOUS INDUSTRIAL EVILS

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THE adherents of capital and labor are now engaged in opposing camps under a condition of nervous tension. All eyes are turned to the future, during which a modus vivendi is sought, but both parties are seeking to strengthen their position for the next outbreak of hostilities.

Organization and discipline, invoked by both parties in labor troubles, have taken shape in masters' associations, the employers and the trades unions of the employed. Allies, either in the trade, district or city affected, have been found. Such associations, unions or combinations are in "sympathy" with either of the combatants have been brought into line.

An ominous word, "sympathy"—a suffering in common; but the use of it is justified by the fact that both sides in these lamentable wars.

The nineteenth century saw the growth of the industrial system under which we live today, from infancy until it covers the whole civilized world.

For this we are indebted to the universal use of machinery, springing from the invention of the steam engine, and in the last years of the century from the discovery and development of other sources of power. Machinery has in turn served to spread the factory system as the only method so far devised for getting work and value out of machines which have become both a blessing and a curse for individuals to provide, and so demand associated capital to supply them. Two results are apparent:

First—That as the use of machinery has extended to the earth, there has followed the development of types and classes of abundant and specialized labor—not confined to any one locality, but marking off in all nations groups and grades of workers adapted to the operation of each special variety of machines.

Second—The two factors named—the universal use of machinery and the training and adaptation of cheap labor to operate intricate and expensive machines—have reduced the cost and enormously increased the output of every article demanded by the growing populations of the century.

The world market prices in all staples tend constantly to draw more closely together. Costs and values, which are the factors on which prices depend, are now matters of common knowledge, and the center of business throughout the commercial world. A shortage here is promptly filled from a surplus there, therefore the cost of production is not to justify a permanent rise or fall in values of staple articles must be common to all centers of abundant production.

Distribution of Earnings.

It follows, then, that any one of the four factors whose common action is essential in carrying on industries dependent on or connected with manufactures must base on redistribution of the common earnings fund any demand for changes in its favor. No dependence can be placed for permanent benefit on pressure to be exerted on any others of the parties concerned by means of refusal to continue contributing to those same returns.

Can a more stable condition be created? Can the investment of capital in industrial enterprises be based on solid and well-understood contracts, so leading to reasonable permanence? If this is accomplished, and labor also removed from the sphere of strikes and lockouts, under the organization of the Co-operative Christian Federation, may not safety and peace be expected in the future?

And, further, if investments of capital in small sums can be fully secured in manner to be described, will not reserves be accumulated by the individual, enabling the establishment of industries on wide scale without disturbance to the usual money markets and depositaries?

What Federation Means.

WHAT, then, is the Co-operative Christian Federation? How is it constituted or organized? It is a society, not a corporation, established under the general laws of Oregon, for the religious, moral, intellectual and physical betterment of members. But it is not a church. Its constitution expressly shuts out that idea, while declaring that membership in the Co-operative Christian Federation is open to all who meet the requirements in other respects, and who, as regards the religious side, which justifies the name, accept the broadest definition of the Christian faith.

How is this society made the foundation on which is built ownership and settlement of great tracts of land, the creation of cities and towns, the establishment of industries and manufactories, the construction and development of transportation and power enterprises, and of commercial and financial undertakings arising from or dependent on any of these?

The short answer is—by the legitimate and logical use of the trust created specially for these purposes.

The Co-operative Christian Federation Trust is a corporation also organized under Oregon law, with a capital of fifty thousand dollars divided into shares of one thousand (\$1000) each, no more than one of which can be held by one person, and can be retained only as long as the duties of oversight are performed. It was formed for the express purpose of acquiring, holding and managing property in all its forms for the benefit of, and in trust for, the federation members following the lines of recognized standing and experience, and actively interested in the success of this undertaking, have been, or will be, invited to take part. Five subsidiary corporations, each undertaking a large branch of the intended operations of the Federation, each based on capital subscribed by the trust, and officers and competent boards and managers selected by the trust, have solved the difficulty of oversight. The uniform system of account keeping and audit enables the trust to exercise continuing oversight and supreme control over each corporation. Their profits are poured into the general profit fund.

Officers and active members will be taken from the ranks of the federation, so far as efficient labor and management can be there found. Each sub-corporation

will pay all its current expenses for management and labor as provided for in the federationists receiving in addition such proportion of the general profit fund as appears later in this article under the heading "Dealings With Labor."

How is the capital to be obtained to set the machinery in motion, to provide the properties, and to equip the intended industries? Through the agency of this trust.

It is conceded that capital will seek investment yielding a safe and permanent 5 per cent return. First mortgage bonds of the Federation, bearing a fixed interest, and making the first charge on all its property, will be offered by the trust for general subscription, successive issues, as the growing industries and investments of the Federation demand, and as ample security for each issue becomes available.

It is true that an additional 10 per cent, payable from the profits of the whole enterprise, is also offered to the bondholder. This is not done to transfer these bonds from the safe and sound into the high interest and hazardous hazard of speculation, but to make the essential partnership between capital and labor in the ultimate profits of their joint investment.

Oregon was chosen as the original field of operations for several reasons. The plan of the Federation was devised by W. S. Wallace, a citizen of Oregon, who, for 20 years or more, has devoted to it body, soul and spirit. The first adherents gained in any considerable numbers have been citizens of Oregon, and among them have been selected the first executive committee of the trust.

In Oregon properties could be and have been found for the Federation meeting all its present and prospective requirements, but providing for an almost indefinite extension of its operations, and at prices intrinsically low.

The Federation demanded, first, opportunity for various remunerative industries appealing not only to present markets, but capable of indefinite extension and development. Second, fertile soil, water powers and other natural resources connected with the soil could be successfully carried on. Third, sites for garden cities and towns, healthy, spacious and beautiful—offering the strongest contrast to the factory cities of crowded dwellings where life is rather spent than lived.

In choosing industries for the Federation uniform principles have been followed. To select those that are experiments in Oregon, but only those whose success has been shown by experience under similar conditions. To select those for which ready materials are available there. To take advantage of special opportunities in climate, soil, water powers and nearness or accessibility to markets.

There must be a dawn before day breaks. Now is the Federation dawn. A beautiful site for the first garden city, in the form of a trust, on the tangleland between the Clackamas River and Clear Creek, has been secured, with its quarries, dam site, water power, and other resources, and the surrounding orchard and garden lands. The industries specially adapted to be carried on, and for which provision is made in the trust, are described later on. To all of them the best of successful operation in Western Oregon can be applied. The investment of capital and the success of every one of them could be wisely invited, without any reference to, or dependence upon the Co-operative Christian Federation, but the success of the enterprises of capital, effective management and interested and tested labor. If each of the industries in question were carried on by the trust, it is hard to see why the special advantages of the Federation should lessen their chances of successful operation and labor.

But it is not so clearly understood that neither the operations of the Federation nor the security of the bonds in question are dependent on garden cities or cities, and the industries prosecuted. Manufacturing enterprises are by no means the only ones provided for.

Farming Irrigated Lands.

TWO important investments are being made in the irrigation of large tracts of land in Eastern Oregon and others of similar nature will be undertaken.

Oregon is one of the Western states where immense areas of semi-arid lands are found. Regular supplies of water during the growing season, taken from rivers of permanent flow the year round or impounded during the wet months in reservoirs fed by mountain streams, develop without fail the latent fertility of farming in the kind climate of Oregon, by sowing brush and scattering juniper trees. The irrigated or irrigable lands of Eastern Oregon reach an extent of over 1,000,000 acres. Here again is no uncertain experiment involved.

Results under parallel conditions have been so repeatedly shown that there is no doubt of the return from well-considered outlay. Moreover, the Executive Committee of the Federation Trust are fulfilling one of their promises when taking steps in this sure way to provide homes, support a family in comfort.

Prices paid for irrigated sage brush lands during several years past, in Eastern Oregon, range from \$25 to \$50 per acre, and in Eastern Washington reach still larger figures. Reason enough that incoming gladly pay irrigation companies from \$25 to \$40 per acre for the life-giving water which works such marvels of transformation.

Such prices are not required to be paid down by the newcomer, but are received in annual installments extending over, say, ten years, bearing meanwhile a moderate interest. So that irrigation has become a business, and not a speculation, as it is too often called.

When this modern miracle has yielded its first fruits, and the gray expanses of dusty soil, bearing only the sparsest growth, ranged, for the sake of its sparse grasses, by the herds and flocks of the cattle and sheep kings of a fast-disappearing generation, have risen into the stage of fertile farms—when the soil of the desert has given place to the green and sound of prosperous communities of men following the various duties of farm, ranch, dairy and orchard—the cycle is not yet complete.

The products of the new farms are but raw materials, to be transformed by the alchemy of modern industry into food and clothing for the populations, flowing in ever-growing volumes into the newer states of the Northwest.

Manufactures Important.

OREGON, moreover, is a highly-favored state, in that she need not carry on, in the years now beginning, the transportation of her grain and wool and fruit and cattle across thousands of intervening miles to the mills and factories

and packing houses of the crowded East. In the "white coal" or water power, she owns the element of the black coal which drives the machinery of the East—she finds for the mechanic and artisan the chance of life, for the healthy surroundings for himself and his family, skilled labor may have its enduring opportunity and its adequate return.

But not, if the Co-operative Christian Federation live and thrive, to be transferred to this Western soil of that factory life at which the worker now revolts.

True it is that unless conditions of success meet in a given spot it is best labor to build there town and factory—bring in money and men—plant the seeds of industry and look to the day when the logic of facts, for healthy growth.

As already noticed, prices and conditions of world-wide markets are such that there is already a growing market in the Pacific and Western states, in Alaska and among the nations of the Orient, for the products of the Federation. From Oregon, which have borne the cost of purchase from the Oregon producer, of a double transportation to and from Eastern mills and factories, of handling and marketing thrice over—there, and again here. Also, quality as well as quantity will be considered.

Not only are the raw materials raised in Oregon, but the raw materials known to the world over—but their pre-eminence can hardly be disputed for the years to come, since climate, soil, temperature and abundance of water power largely into the values of the ultimate products. Wool, mohair, flax, timber of many kinds, fruit, dairy products, hops, various grains, most of the most products, do not exhaust the list.

And, so far, manufactures in Oregon, except the output generally is, have not filled even its proximate prices, plus the cost of transportation, govern on the Coast.

Ready for Garden Cities.

THE Co-operative Christian Federation has advanced, then, to this point. Firstly, the purchase is to be completed of the large town and factory site, within 14 miles of the center of Portland, with water powers and stone quarries as agents in industrial life, and a position of advantage in securing raw materials from a country yielding them in abundance and of great excellence.

Plans have been formulated and preparations made for the establishment there of various approved industries and manufactories, for which ready materials are open. So the first Garden City will be created with abundant room to grow. Under the arrangement referred to homes will be ready for occupation by the actual members in ample time. At either two or three other selected points in contact with, or in proximity to, great areas of productive land, similar Garden Cities will in turn be placed, and manufactures be developed, fostered by the water powers and other manufacturing advantages there found.

The ownership and development of the first and of subsequent townships, and of the water powers, and other resources, enterprises connected therewith will form part of the security of the bonds. The mills and factories, as to ownership and profits will be an open market, in accordance with the terms of the general mortgage.

As to the water powers, generally, the Federation is interested in the settlement of irrigated lands developed by more than one enterprise in Mid-Eastern Oregon. One of these has been selected as the main canal have been constructed and many of the lateral ditches that supply upwards of 30,000 acres have been sold and \$900,000 more are to be sold and settlement in the coming year. On another enterprise water rights have been secured, reservoir sites purchased, engineering plans and surveys completed, and contracts with the land-owners for the sale of water now being obtained.

So much for the relation of the Federation to its bondholders on the industrial side.

Rights and Limits.

ACTIVE members of the Co-operative Christian Federation are not called on for any money contribution towards the trust, except as a condition of their membership, except for the cost of the membership certificate. They do not acquire any independent or personal interest in, or any right of interference with, the properties which form the trust estate for the whole federation, and are collectively held for the benefit of all. But subscription towards the bonds is not prohibited to active or associate members, but is encouraged.

It is not to be understood, however, that the Federation is to be set in motion and to prosper not only for, but by the workers who are its members. Not only the benefit but the responsibility for success is intrinsically theirs.

Labor as the Prime Factor

WHERE does labor stand, in this world of production and distribution? Speaking generally, labor, in this mechanical age, is hired by Ownership, through the medium of Management, to operate machinery, tools and equipment, provided by Capital. So, labor is the living, active force essential for production.

But, constant effort is, and for many decades has been, exerted to dispense with higher forms of skilled, and therefore costly, labor, by creation of machines adapted, each in its place, to specialize some division of the work previously done by human hands.

This for the double reason of increasing output, through the indefinitely faster repetition by the machine of the human act, and of proportionately diminishing cost by substituting mechanical specialized and therefore cheap labor in tending machines for the higher grades of skilled workers wielding tools.

The distinguishing feature throughout, are the selling of service for defined pay and the explicit or implied agreement to supply that service and occupy that time, on the condition of subjecting the workers, of Ownership, through Management.

Many causes contribute to keep the ranks full in the regiments of workers, before given, and before the money standard of labor that it so often fails to receive its righteous share in the earnings fund, diminution in the share per capita, and a consequent downward matter in dispute and leads straight to industrial war.

Ownership, then, as distinct from both capital and labor, is, under present conditions the claimant for the fluctuating balance remaining after capital has received its interest, the expenses of management have been met, and labor has been paid its daily wage. Whether ownership be in individual hands, or takes the common form of corporate ownership represented by stocks and shares, it has power over the enterprise is absolute, to carry on, to extend, to sell out, to make, to mar, to ruin.

The greatest unsettled problem of today is how, by legislation, market control, or by court decrees to limit the unlimited, to restrain the now absolute monarchs of industry, and to cause

public good to be set before private enrichment in handling the corporations which are but creations of American law, and, therefore, are subject to its control. The contribution of the Co-operative Christian Federation towards the solution of this problem is to demonstrate that the speculative element can be, and is entirely cut out from its organization and life.

Speculation Is Eliminated

SAVING the Incorporated Trust, which is no more than the manager of and the trustee for the whole undertaking, there is no share, capital or share bonds, in the trust, but the rights between the strictly defined rights of the bondholders, as above shown, and the distribution and expenditure of the profit fund for the benefit of the members and their families—for the unit of the Federation is the family, not the individual. For the men, women and children of the Federation the whole plan has been framed—for them and by them—to build, factories, factories created, equipped and run; water powers harnessed, canals dug, lands plowed, farms laid out, cleared and planted, orchards planted, roads of all kinds constructed, stores opened and stocked, schools and classes opened, churches built, libraries furnished—all this, not as part of welfare plans for the future, but as part of the present, comfortable and therefore more steady and efficient—but as fruit of their own labor, and, therefore, from their own lands, and, therefore, individual labor for the common good.

Question of Management.

THE third factor in modern industry is management. This will cover not only the actual conduct of the physical production of wares for sale, but the marketing of the same.

It is to capital and ownership—not to labor—that management has to account. Its office as regards labor is to put it to the best use, to get the highest results from it, for the good of the entire enterprise. It is to be recognized that on efficiency of management depends success. It has been clearly seen that to have arrived at the present position, the enterprise, such as study, experience, training, have been just as essential as in any other department of industrial life.

Regarding Family Life.

THE next and most important question to be answered is, "What are the plans for the family life of the Federation?" How is the principle to be carried out that the family, not the individual, is the first interest?

Dealing first, then, with the physical health of the home of the member. An important sub-division of the trust has this in charge. Plans have been worked out, and are ready to be put in action. Speaking generally, each family in the Federation is expected to obtain and own its home. But not by immediate purchase—although that is not precluded if desired.

The principle of the building society is brought to bear. Plans and estimates of cost of a variety of houses will be open for selection, each standing in its own right. The design and size of house and number of rooms will be chosen by the member—but water supply, bath, drainage, and electric lighting are essentials for all. Such houses will be quickly built as demanded. Payment is to be secured from the rentals, varying from \$10 per month to \$20 per month, and paid in other Western states, and, of course, stands far below those current in the factory cities and towns of the East or the West.

The house is the member's own, subject only to the rental still unpaid. Should the member leave the Federation, he is to be able to sell his house to any other member for the sum he may have paid thereon, and if within a certain and reasonable time no such purchase has been found, the Federation itself will take the house over at that price, and interest at 5 per cent will be paid him until such payment has been made. No such restriction is imposed as are for the common good. For instance, All Federation settlements are temperance, and no saloons, except as being forbidden therein. Business and residence sections will be kept distinct. No invasion of hazardous or offensive trades or businesses will be permitted.

Subject to such general restrictions residents will be "free citizens" in a free city. The charge and future of it will be the responsibility of the Federation.

In all things the plan and effort is that fraternalism, not paternalism shall be the governing spirit.

Why "Christian" in Name?

THIS statement is not complete until the spiritual and intellectual side of the whole organization has been described. It has been said that the Federation is not a church. But regard the idea of a church is a selection, a "gathering out" of individuals from a community. The essential idea of the Federation, on the other hand, is to constitute a community inspired with and governed by the principles of the teaching of Christ in the dealings of man with man, and so the relations of this community with the world at large.

An ambitious project truly, in this century—but an ideal, and to be accomplished as far as possible, in practice and idea are one.

No section of the Christian Church has predominated in the counsels which have led to the forming of the Federation. Among the Oregon executive and chief supporters are found Methodists, Congregationalists, Episcopals, Baptists, Presbyterians, and yet others claiming the broad name of Christians. No abandonment of special types or forms is asked from members—but a basis of common ownership has been sought, and, it is hoped, found.

One audience hall of sufficient capacity shall be, it is intended, a central feature in the Christian faith, and in the public buildings in each Federation city. In this hall will gather for one Sunday service each of the citizens as shall be religiously and devoutly disposed. Christian preachers will be invited to take part in turn in respective of denomination. They will surely emphasize the cardinal doctrines of the Christian faith, and the agreement not the differences of the various historical bodies within the general boundaries of the Christian faith, and classes, lectures, libraries, must not and will not be overlooked. How can a community prosper unless the members live with higher ideals than the money standard of success? For men shall not live by bread alone.

If the Federation is in essence a fraternity care must be taken of the brotherhood. Every member shall feel that it is his duty to have of his part in the future of the Federation, and that he has a sphere of interest, active and remunerative work.

It cannot be too often or too strongly said that while in constitution and foundation opportunities are offered, and means provided, it will be to all generations of members a duty and responsibility to bear each his part in the future development of such plans for the common good.

As It Affects Agriculturists.

BUT it is not only to the craftsman and the artisan that the call of the Federation is addressed. To many of us the life of the farmer,

haunting, life-sapping though it be—in the world's good, to be deprived of it his night-mare, and to be permitted, if even for a time, though for his own or his co-workers' benefit, hardly to be the best of except under direct need or force.

Neither the houseworker, the sweeter's victim in New York or Chicago nor the hard-mouthed laborer on outside work, of varied nationality and polyglot language, is now in question.

The simplest answer to the question, "What is intended, and expected to fill the membership of the Co-operative Christian Federation?" is found in the concrete example of the first Garden City in the Chicago area, where the first farm lands controlled by the federation.

The First Garden City.

FOLLOWING out the principles laid down for the starting and early days of federation cities, an enrollment of nearly 100 members will be required. These will be distributed between the following industries: Lumber mills, sash and door factory, stone quarries, furniture factory, electrical installation, woolen mill and clothing factory, creamery, cheese factory, fruit and vegetable canner, breakfast food mill, iron works and repair shop, wagon shop. The attendance and contributing industries will be: Bakery, co-operative department store, shoemaker, dressmaker's and millinery shops and stores, hostelry or boarding-house.

The municipal department will have charge of waterworks, drainage, street and road work, public lighting, recreation grounds and park, schools, clinics, library, and public buildings.

Immediately adjoining the town proper land is provided for orchards for large and small fruits, vegetable and truck farming, and dairying.

As to Division of Profits.

IT remains to explain the proposed distribution of the profits of the Federation—the general fund constituted from the net earnings of each sub-corporation, and of the surplus properties of the Federation not segregated between the sub-corporations referred to.

It will be borne in mind that each sub-corporation will have paid the expenses of wages and salaries at current rates, and the net profit of each will be represented by dividends on its capital subscribed by the trust on behalf of the Federation.

The consolidated profit fund of the Federation will then be distributed as follows: Five per cent interest will be paid on all bonds outstanding. Then 5 per cent of the trust, and 10 per cent for the spiritual and intellectual fund, from which all the religious services will be maintained, schools, classes and libraries provided. The sick benefits and care of widows and orphans will then be paid and 10 per cent be set aside for the increase, extension and betterment of the properties of the Federation. From one-half of the net profit fund 5 per cent additional interest on the outstanding bonds will be paid.

The balance will be distributed among all active members equally. But regard will be had to the number of hours each member may have worked. The principle involved is that each member has earned the market value for the amount of work he has accomplished. Thus, his skill, energy, industry and ambition has had full play.

MONARCH WOULD SELL OUT

Offers Scepter and 30 Wives for \$200,000.

FARS, Oct. 25.—A monarch of the name of Yorsli is advertising a kingdom for sale in several continental newspapers. He offers his throne, crown, scepter, dominions, and subjects for sale, with 30 wives thrown in, for the modest sum of \$200,000.

His realm is that of Aysbosh, a strip of land in Africa 250 miles long and 90 miles wide. The power of life and death is the King's prerogative, and goes with the crown, as does the granting of all concessions.

A special attraction of the offer is the formation of the royal crown, which is a neat diadem made of human skulls. The throne is made of skulls and thigh bones. The inclusion of the 30 wives in the bargain seems to be considered a drawback, and his dusky majesty appears to have had no offers.

Metzger & Co., Jewelers and Opticians, 212 Washington Street.



Will-O'-The-Wisp Clothes

A. Frank Taylor

IN the bogs of Ireland is often seen a glimmering light which dances here and there and disappears when people try to reach it.

They call that light the "Will-O'-The-Wisp."

You chase your "Will-O'-The-Wisp" in this country, Mr. Reader. For instance when you buy a suit—

Very often you think to get Style A and shape permanence in that suit—

It looks good the day you try it on—it fits nicely—but when you've worn it a week or so—you find it a Will-O'-The-Wisp Suit.

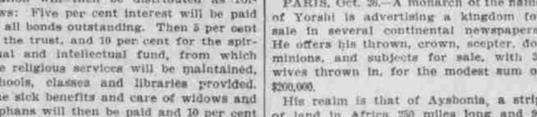
The shapeliness disappears—You have a Suit that has been improperly cut and tailored and that has had a change of style merely pressed in temporarily by the Hot Flat Iron—Old Doctor Goose.

Isn't there some sign by which one can discriminate between Garments that act that way and those that fit well—look stylish and hold their shape permanently?

There certainly is—and the easiest way to tell the difference is to see the label "Sincerity Clothes" in the Garment you buy.

For in "Sincerity Clothes" the shape and style are permanently tailored into each garment—not merely pressed in temporarily. It doesn't matter how much you wear them. "Sincerity Clothes" hold their shape—their style—as long as you'll want them to look right.

Yet they don't cost any more to buy than the ordinary elusive "Will-O'-The-Wisp" style of a Garment that proves so disappointing. Just see "Sincerity Clothes" at your better class Clothes Shop—see that the label below is in the next coat you buy. That label insures style, service and satisfaction.



Style book sent on request. Kuch, Nathan & Fischer Co., Chicago.

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