

trinsic value would warrant, because they were tokens of the good will and fellowship of the toilers of America for their brothers of Great Britain.

There is nothing sectional or clannish about the labor movement. If any further evidence were needed in addition to the fraternal expressions that found utterance in relation to the delegates from Great Britain, there was abundance of it in the discussion over the Cuban resolution. The resolution was as follows:

"Resolved, That the American Federation of Labor in convention assembled, hereby tenders its hearty sympathy to all men struggling against oppression, and especially to the men of Cuba, who for years have sacrificed and suffered to secure the right of self-government.

"Resolved, That the example of the people of France, in giving recognition and aid to the rathers in their struggle to secure the independence of the colonies, is worthy of imitation, and we hereby call upon the president and congress to recognize the belligerent rights of the Cuban revolutionists."

The debate was characterized by more spirit and eloquence than any other that occurred during the convention. President Gompers made an especially brilliant speech in favor of the resolution. Of course, there was opposition, but none on the merits of the question. The prevailing sentiment expressed was that the toilers of all nations were inseparably bound together by ties of common interest; that the degradation of Cuba was a menace to American workingmen, especially in these trades wherein Cuba was a competitor, and that the organization and elevation of the Cuban workingmen would not be possible until political autonomy for the island had been secured.

On the whole, the convention showed that the work is mov-

ing along, slowly, it is true, but with solid ground under its feet; that there is every reason to believe that the thorough and reliable work hitherto done—the foundation building which has prepared the way and provided a solid and substantial basis for future growth—will soon bear fruit in an extension of organization surpassing anything that in this line has as yet been witnessed. Organized workingmen are gradually awakening to a realization of their power as a class, and of their ability to maintain their standing and dignity before the world. And, what is the best augury for the future, their recognition of their own inherent power is accompanied by an appreciation of their responsibility to humanity and a disposition to exert themselves to build up rather than tear down. The influence of the American Federation is destined to increase and that most rapidly—a result that no good citizen at all familiar with its spirit and purpose can hail with other emotion than that of joy.

GEORGE C. FINDLEY.

CONVENTION NOTES.

The headquarters were ordered moved to Washington.

One thousand dollars was appropriated to aid in label agitation.

The 1897 meeting of the Federation will be held at Nashville. Kansas City and St. Louis competed.

Resolutions were passed demanding that it be made unlawful to display the words "U. S. mail" on cars not carrying mail.

The following national unions were formed during the convention: Coremakers, bicycle workers, butchers and engineers.

The Carnegie steel plate for naval vessels came up for some hot roasting, and a resolution was adopted demanding better

inspection of navy yards and arsenals.

The Rochdale system of co-operation was endorsed by the adoption of a resolution introduced by President Robert Askew of the Northern Mine Workers.

A resolution was introduced by the delegate from Duluth, and passed with but one dissenting vote, urging the members of affiliated organizations to support public ownership of public utilities as against ownership by private monopolies.

To advertise the various union labels it was ordered that card board and enameled tin signs be prepared containing the different union labels of the affiliated unions and that they be distributed pro rata among the connected locals.

President Gompers' address recommended that some compensation for loss of time and expense, incurred in the fulfillment of their official duties, be given organizers. On the recommendation of the committee on president's report the proposition was referred to the incoming executive council with the endorsement of the convention.

An amendment to the constitution was adopted prohibiting central bodies from admitting delegates from local organizations that owe allegiance to national or international bodies hostile to any affiliated organizations, or that have been suspended, expelled by, or are not connected with national or international organization of their trade already the Federation.

All the old officers were re-elected without opposition except Secretary McCraith, who is succeeded by Frank Morrison of Chicago, a member of the Typographical union. Mr. McCraith made a model secretary and would have been re-elected had he not announced