

U. S. FAILED TO LAND UNION MEN FOR CANAL

Have Now Appealed to Labor
Leaders to Aid Them in
Their Dilemma.

Union Labor Will Not Respond
Until Government Recognizes
Union Shop.

Washington, D. C., Sept. 7.—Unions connected with the American Federation of Labor in this city and throughout the country, have issued a circular, made public by Pittsburgh labor men, that the United States is now seeking union labor for the Isthmian canal service.

The government, says the circular, has found it impossible to obtain skilled labor for the Isthmian canal without recognizing trades unions, the regular employment method of the civil service system having failed to secure skilled mechanics.

Special government agents have been sent out on experimental missions to labor unions. Officers of trades unions are asked to co-operate indirectly with these agents, with a view to getting mechanics.

"Most of the men sought," says the circular, "belong to the building trades, the best organized in the country, which work almost entirely under closed shop conditions, with an eight hour day and a high average of wages. The closed shop is an impossibility in government departments, since President Roosevelt decided in favor of the open shop in the government printing office. The canal commission, therefore, exhausted every means of getting men without recognizing the unions, which it knew would insist upon an agreement providing that only union men should be employed."

"Examinations for the Isthmian canal service were advertised and re-advertised all over the country, but at each successive examination, while professional and clerical men responded in numbers far exceeding the demand, the organized mechanics stayed away. The commissioners say that only a few floaters and worthless mechanics were secured."

"At a conference between labor leaders and President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, it was decided to memorialize the government on the position or organized labor."

"The memorandum which is to be presented to President Roosevelt by Mr. Gompers endeavors to show that the government would not be at a loss for mechanics if it recognized labor bodies as labor supply agencies."

CARPENTERS WANT ALL TO EVADE CALIFORNIA

Southern California Is Over-
flooded With Idle Men Who
Can Secure No Work.

Citizens' Alliance Overdoes the
Movement to Get Mechanics
in Southwest.

Los Angeles, Cal., Sept. 7.—"Stay away from Southern California," is the advice given to the carpenters of the United States by the District Council of Carpenters in Los Angeles. The council has issued a circular advising joiners to stay away from that locality and it closes with the injunction that unless able to withstand long periods of idleness all carpenters would better remain where they are and not seek the city of the angels or other cities of the southern part of the Golden State.

The reasons for offering this advice are that the thousands of persons attracted to Southern California are divisible into four classes—those who are sick or have sick members in their families, those without any trade or money who are compelled to work for any wages they can get, persons who go merely for the winter months and who are satisfied with low wages while there, and those who are wealthy. In addition, builders in Southern California usually desire carpenters who are accustomed to the peculiar conditions of the region, which acts as a discrimination against those who go there from other states.

INDIAN TY. PROPERTY IS WORTH \$418,000

MUSKOGEE, Ind. Ter., Sept. 6.—The constitutional convention met today and after listening to an address signed by the chiefs of the five tribes favoring separate statehood, took up the report of the committee of 50 appointed to draft a constitution.

The report was read and printed copies distributed. It was taken up section by section later.

Before beginning on the discussion of the report on the constitution, the committee appointed to report on the estimated amount of taxable property in Indian territory made its report, placing the total valuation taxable of real estate and personal property at \$418,000.

The convention decided to hold night sessions.

AMERICAN CITIZEN CONDEMNED TO DEATH

CONSTANTINOPLE, Sept. 6.—The criminal court at Stamboul has condemned to death the American Ghirgis Vartanian, a naturalized American citizen, for the murder of the Armenian merchant, Apik Undjian, August 16, who was shot by Vartanian in the Salatek quarter of this city.

ORGANIZED LABOR AND DIRECT LEGISLATION

By W. G. JOERNS.

In closing his series of very interesting and timely articles on the "Beef Trust," Mr. Charles E. Russell takes the rather pessimistic view that the public is practically remediless because of the inherent moral weakness of the people themselves.

This public's major premise is, that the "basic feeling" of the country is already so depraved that it condones the bargain by the politician of immunity for campaign subscriptions, the distortion of fact by the newspapers for "trust" advertising, the corruption by the Special Interest of our public officials, the subservience of the individual to partisan dictation and the temptation of illegitimate personal gain. His minor premise may be summed up in the statement that in this public apathy and degeneracy are to be found the main bulwark of the "Trust" evil. From these premises he draws a conclusion that a public opinion thus contaminated and complacent and "which tolerates in office any man that for any reason whatever makes terms with lawbreakers" must be fundamentally changed if we would solve the "Trust" question and obtain relief from conditions and exactions that are draining the life-blood of the nation and imperiling democratic institutions.

We can readily share Mr. Russell's conclusion without committing ourselves to the severe arraignment of the general masses which is implied in his premises.

Confidence in the People.
The evils complained of exist unfortunately not open to denial. That they are the product of the "basic feeling" of the country, in other words that the general moral tone and stamina of the people of the United States are already so hopelessly low as to preclude relief, is quite another question. This view does not appeal to me as either broad or comprehensive or as founded in fact. I have great confidence in the ultimate intelligence of the great body of the American people.

If the party leaders of the great political parties barter the public welfare for campaign subscriptions and the trade remains unchanged, it does not follow that the rank and file are to blame. First show that the rank and file have fair and full opportunity to express their will before you place on them the stigma of the violation of trust. If newspapers become the paid advocates of predatory wealth, why should the responsibility upon the people? The blow, it is true, is aimed at the people's welfare; but rest assured, in nine cases out of ten, they are aware of the duplicity and rate their recreant public journals accordingly.

If the public servants of the people become the hirelings or the apologetes for the Special Interest and thus betray the confidence that has been reposed in them, doubt not but that, in their own good time—if they get the chance, the people will administer the merited rebuke. Even if the name is legion of those who are the blind instruments of partisan dictation or the weak of will victims of personal temptation, believe it or not, the good sense and the common honesty of the majority stands on the other side.

Give People Chance to Speak.
What we need is not so much better men and women as BETTER AVENUES OF EXPRESSION OF THE POPULAR WILL. It is to the body of the people that we must look for the final correct solution of the great problems that confront us. It is the people, the great average mass, that we must reach and it is their opinions and their mandates we must find ways and means to record and, when so recorded, to carry into effect.

In theory, we are a great democracy. In practice we have drifted some and must grow considerably to realize the ideal. It is only now and then that an aroused public opinion makes itself felt and overcomes the ARTIFICIAL barriers that hem it in. That it does so, however, is proof positive of its fundamental stability.

Do you suppose for a moment that President Roosevelt could have coerced the recalcitrant powerful elements of his party into tacit acquiescence in his nomination but for the fact that it was realized that he had the people with him? And why were the people with him but for the reason that they had confidence in his INTEGRITY OF PURPOSE? Why did hundreds of thousands of radical Democrats vote for Roosevelt but for this reason and the further important one that they sought thereby to more emphatically express their condemnation of methods and principles that to them were represented in the candidacy of Parker? Why did the people discriminate in Missouri, Massachusetts and Wisconsin but to give expression to commendable aspiration and the controlling desire for honest government?

Locally a sound public opinion, on a fair and equitable basis, wrested the water and gas plants from the death-dealing and corrupting private monopoly and has protected the public management against the insidious and vicious attacks of the Special Interest, while municipal operation has made a record for efficiency and probity which, in the management of public utilities, has not been excelled in the entire country.

It was the masses, the great body of the people, that accomplished these results when the way was opened to them to give expression to the promptings of their judgment and their conscience.

Unfaithful Public Servants.
We elect many men to office who are misfits. Once chosen for a greater or less term of years they sometimes stray into by-paths and forget

that they are the servants and are supposed to represent the interests and to legislate and to administer for the welfare of the whole people and not of the privileged few.

The people's remedy is still too remote. Except here and there in the country at large, where the dawn of better democratic expression and control is breaking, the people cannot recall their public servants or force them to give expression to the popular will. But these exceptions mark the beginning of better conditions generally and it is only a question of time before the people everywhere will insist on these reforms that are vital to the public welfare.

In Minnesota we have made a start toward better methods in the introduction of the Australian ballot and the later primary election reform. While the latter is still in need of substantial amendment and greater scope in its application, it was a step in the right direction—as all legislation must be that makes for a more effective expression of the popular will. We would not go back to old methods in either case and we feel a sort of compassion for communities, such as Philadelphia, for example, where the slug and the bribe are still dominant factors on election day.

How to Control Public Officials.
To be really free and independent American citizens, however, the body of the people must be able, in regulated legal form, to compel its public servants to respond to its demands. In other words, we must be able to control directly and immediately the official action of our public servants. There is no better way than in making them immediately responsible to the people and responsive to the duly expressed popular demand.

The first end is obtained by the RECALL, which means that public officials, whose fealty is questioned, can be called to immediate account by their respective constituents and compelled to submit to another election; the second would be gained if the people had the power, on occasion, to initiate legislation and, on demand, to compel the submission of legislative enactments to popular vote. In other words, if we could incorporate into our elective system the principle of the so-called "direct legislation" in the INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM and develop still further our primary election system, we will have made, in Minnesota at least, a substantial forward step in the direction of true democracy and toward the curtailment of some, at least, of the evils as to which Mr. Russell is in such despair.

Partial Reform of the Constitution.
The principles of the Referendum have been incorporated to limit the extent in our city charter restrictions on the common council as to matters which, under given conditions, require the approval of the people, and it has worked most satisfactorily. A certain sort of Initiative was recently exercised by the people of Philadelphia when, wearing a badge which was the representation of a hangman's noose in miniature, they effectively interviewed their corrupt and recreant city fathers. But it is the full legal fruition of the proposition that we want, something like what has lately been incorporated in the constitution and procedure of Oregon and in the law of an as yet limited number of other American states and cities and as it has been exercised for many years, with splendid results, in the most democratic republic on Earth, the little but popular and progressive republic of Switzerland.

Discussion of Direct Legislation.
These reforms have time and again been ably discussed in the Labor World; the current August number of the Arena has an article on the subject by Mr. Edwood Pomeroy, the president of the National Direct Legislation League; almost any number of Tom Watson's Magazine will throw light on the subject and many able pertinent dissertations have from time to time appeared in the public press. It is a matter on which the public is fairly enlightened and as to the efficiency of which, as a truly popular reform measure, there can remain no doubt whatever. It is now only a question of compelling legislative recognition of a demand that is becoming more and more general and increasingly serious as the days and months roll by.

Organized Labor's Part.
Organized labor, the "standing army" of the industrial masses, by its success or failure, by its prosperity or adversity must, in the final analysis, the welfare of the great body of the people be measured. It is a great responsibility that thus rests upon the shoulders of organized, the most intelligent and progressive and self-reliant of all labor. In the solution of the economic questions that confront labor and confront society now and that will present themselves in perhaps increasing array as time goes on, it is desirable that we may solve these problems wisely and correctly, that the great mass of the people have an increasing voice in the determination. None better equipped to voice this demand than organized labor—no surer avenue of political relief than by way of DIRECT LEGISLATION.

It is organized labor's privilege, as it is its duty, to lead the van in the movement for this great and promising reform.

W. G. JOERNS.

GROVER BUYS TWO FARMS.
SANDWICH, N. H., Sept. 6.—Former President Cleveland, who, with his family has spent the last two summers in this village, has purchased two farms in the adjacent town of Tamm, with the idea, it is understood, of making the estate his permanent summer home.

WORDS OF WISDOM FROM PROF. J. R. COMMONS

Far Reaching Effect of Unions
Upon Immigrants—Help
Americanize Them.

Impatience for Quick Results is
Greatest Danger That
Confronts Unions.

Prof. John R. Commons, an old trade unionist, when he worked at the printer's case, and now teacher of political economy, in the Madison University, gave the following brief wisdom and advice to organized labor:

"When I have sorrowed at the smothering of a union or deplored its mistakes, I have stopped to ask myself: 'what is the material is has to work with and the conditions it has to meet?' When one stops to consider these things one is filled with amazement and admiration for what the unions, in spite of failure and mistake, have actually done."

A union cannot choose its members, like a corporation or a social club, nor let in the "trustees" on the ground floor, like Amalgamated copper or United States steel, but it must admit on equal terms every man who works at a trade. The American Federation of Labor found some 19 nationalities at work in the mines, and it is reported by the sociological department of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company that their employees come from 32 nationalities and speak 27 languages. No other nation in the world has set up a hard task like this for unionism. The American nation has come to the aid of the employers with a protective tariff against the products of foreign cheap labor, but it has left to the unions the harder task of protecting the laborer himself, and this must be done, not by keeping the foreigner out, but by taking him into the union. No wonder the unions are forced to stand for the union shop. The union shop is the workman's protective tariff. If compelled to give up he will be compelled to go into politics and stop immigration.

The union is the greatest of existing forces in what is called Americanization. It breaks down the barriers of race, nationality, language, and religion; teaches self-government and obedience to elect leaders; sets up the goal of an American standard of living. Neither the church, nor the schools, nor politics, nor employers, can do this work.

The schools reach the children, and not the immigrant, and their influence is counteracted when the home is degraded and when the child is brought up to vote for his boss or his employer. But the union frees the workman from dictation and, at the same time, teaches him the great lesson of obedience to laws and constitutions framed by himself and officers elected by himself. This is what I understand by American democracy.

Withstanding the many reports of violence on the part of unions, my observation of particular unions show that they have reduced the total amount of violence. Factional fights, race conflicts, brutal deeds of unorganized workmen, are reported only in the local papers, but the deeds of the same people after they are organized are reported by the associated press. The unions took them in, not because they were brutal, but because the employer had hired them. Nevertheless, the duty of the union is to make them peaceable, for the organization must be held responsible for the acts of its members in the future. Of its aims, only it should be born in mind that no other institution has done so much as the trade unions to educate our mixed population, just emerging from centuries of despotism, in the ideals and peaceable methods of American citizenship.

Impatience for quick and big results is the greatest danger that threatens unions. Men have suffered long and distrusted each other seem to think that the magic word "union" makes them all at once invincible. This is natural but often disastrous. The gains made by some of the unions, in hours, wages, and liberty are truly surprising, but they are not a safe standard for others. More important than quick gains is the permanent strength of the union, and this depends on high dues and benefits, and a good reserved fund. Some older unions have learned this through bitter experience. If great Britain is especially true, a disastrous defeat in 1892, have, within 12 years, built up a fund of \$2,000,000 for 18,000 members. At the present time, when business is slack, it is wisdom for all unions to learn by their example, and not wait for their experience.

WILL DO JURY DUTY AT ASHLAND

ASHLAND, Wis., Sept. 6.—Jury Commission E. E. Prince of Ashland, Frank Heider, of Glidden, and W. G. Walker, of Odanah, held a meeting today and drew the names of thirty-six jurors to serve at the September term of circuit court. Those who were drawn were:

Newt Woodhead, S. Ors, Clarence Dennis, O. H. Berg, J. H. Burch, Herman Hanson, W. M. Kellogg, B. Hoppen, Thomas Martin, R. E. Sanders, Bert Olson, E. Ellickson, J. E. Nelson, Joe Venk, E. W. Brace, A. Arpason, Alfred Thorson, S. Palmquist, George Stens, Neil Woodland, F. O. Tarbox, Oscar Johnson, city of Ashland, Louis Landstrom, H. Arndt, Louis Schinebeck, village of Butternut; Christ Schultz, town of Butternut; Peter Flahbach, Melien; Ed. Walker, Thomas Laak, W. O. Couture, Odanah; J. Stoltz, Joseph Fries, Glidden; J. A. Doore, Marengo; J. E. Bissell, LaPointe; W. C. Lampson, Ole Baudsen, Sanborn.

Ethics of Christianity

Reflected in Unionism.

Christianity is a science far reaching enough to extend to the uttermost parts of the earth and broad enough in its principles to afford room in its plan of salvation for all mankind. The ethics of Christianity are so comprehensive as to apply themselves to every phrase and every incident of human life. They involve so many branches of thought as to make it impossible ever to exhaust the profitable discussion of them.

But, broad, comprehensive, exhaustive and far reaching as the science and ethics of Christianity are, the whole may be concisely and correctly summed up in the statement that the purpose is to lead mankind to better and happier lives here and hereafter, through development of the higher instincts and the better sides of human nature.

The labor movement is not a campaign against law and order, led on by agitators and enemies of peace, some would represent it to be. On the contrary, it is the tangible evidence of the desire for better things on part of the masses who, in accord with divine edict, bring the sweat of labor to their brows in order that they may eat bread. It is the overflow or safety valve for the ever present, irresistible longing for greater liberties and better conditions of life. It is reflective of the same spirit which led the children of Israel to refuse to make bricks without straw, which buoyed them up in their pilgrimage in search of the promised land, which brought the pilgrim Fathers to the newly founded west, which has performed so important a part in the development of the new world, which is behind the march of civilization, and without which progress would be impossible.

Like all great movements of reforms it has had its authors, its disciples, its apostles, its missionaries and its martyrs. Its aim is to make mankind better, more comfortable and happier here and this of necessity, leads them nearer to a probable happy hereafter. The work of the church will not be done until the millennium will have dawned; and until that day the labor movement will be found pressing on side by side on hand in hand with it. People talk glibly about solving the labor problem. The cause of Christianity will not have completely triumphed so long as there are sinners outside the fold, and the labor problem will not be solved so long as hope of better things spring up in the hearts and minds of men. We shall steadily approach the goals which we seek, however, they will be reached.

For the purpose of this discussion we shall not discuss the ethics of the labor movement, which are reflected in the labor movement. And so I shall call attention to some few of the many incidents in the life and teachings of the man Christ which seem to apply most aptly and opportunely to the practical life of man in the twentieth century.

Before going further and to avoid possible misapprehension or misunderstanding, it is proper for me to say—which I suppose I should be ashamed to admit—that I am not a member of any church and that I do not profess to be a Christian. I, however, believe in Christianity.

Christ came on earth as a messenger of God to all mankind. He did not go into the temple and from there proclaim his mission, but he went about among the poor and lowly, the masses of the people, teaching and preaching of better things for them. He announced one of the eternal ethics of Christianity when he made them bear one another's burdens. And that is one of the ethics of Christianity which is deeply involved in the labor movement.

The labor movement as we see it in this age is a combined effort on the part of the many to rid each other of some of the burdens which are borne in their individual capacities, and to make life better, brighter, happier for all. It seeks to secure for the industrious man compensation for his services, and hours of labor, which will afford comfort for himself and family an opportunity to develop and cultivate a taste for higher life physically, morally and spiritually. If Christianity means anything, it means that all men are God's children, and whether it be right or wrong to view it in that light, it is true that the word and promises of God preached to a hungry man or to the man whose days know nothing but a ceaseless grind of labor for a bare existence and whose nights know nothing but the sleep of physical exhaustion will fall in barren soil.

Christ chose disciples and bade them go out into the world and preach the gospel to every creature. What was the gospel which he directed them to preach? Was it an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth? Was it a gospel of fear illustrated with vivid word pictures of the imaginary heat and torture in the fires of hell who did not accept it? Was it composed of the logical discussion? No. It was the simple gospel of love. Love of the Father for the Son. Love of the Son for mankind and the beautiful commandment that ye, we, love one another.

What commandment could more aptly fit the present condition of industry and society? Deceit, desertion of trust, scandal and crime are rife and are found in higher places as well as in the lowly places. The man who, holding a position of trust, either public or private, takes advantage of the opportunity to rob those who have placed confidence in him, has no love for his neighbor or for society.

The Christian looks forward with hope and confidence for the coming of the millennium, when all men shall know Christ and serve him. The earnest

advocate of trades unionism looks with hope and confidence for the dawn of an industrial millennium when all men shall know and have opportunity to enjoy a higher, nobler, better life. Scoffers and unbelievers, scoff at the possibility of either and call us, who believe that these things will be, visionaries. I for one, would rather be a visionary, with hope in the future and with some of the milk of human kindness in my veins than to be a cold-blooded cynic, unable to find pleasure in present associations or encouragement in future prospects.

But let us not lose sight of this fact. The church cannot save sinners and the labor union cannot give its full benefit to the individual except through the efforts of the individual sinner or workman. No sinner can declare himself to be a part of the church and to be saved through vicarious atonement. No workman can hope to enjoy the benefits secured by the labor movement unless he is willing to work for them. And both may depend upon it that the portions of permanent good which they receive, either spiritual or mental, will be in direct ratio to their personal efforts.

Christ came to earth with a message of peace on earth, good will of man, and in appreciation of his efforts the populace crucified him. The message of peace and good will has, however, echoed down the halls of the centuries and I am optimistic enough to believe that despite the seething caldrons of industrial and international strife which are now observed in some places, there is, in proportion to the population, more of the spirit in the hearts of men today than ever before.

The desirability of peace in any walk or condition of life needs no discussion; but peace, in order to be lasting and in order to be a blessing, must be established in right ways and on right and just lines. I would hail with glad acclaim industrial peace so inaugurated; but I want no industrial peace which cannot be had without dishonor.

And now a brief reference to the principles laid down by Christ in his most comprehensive command to men. This command that man shall do to others as he would that they should do to him embraces all the ethics of Christianity and contains all the directions necessary for a beautiful Christian life. It does not mean that we shall surround our convictions and beliefs or that we shall give way in all things to others; it means that we shall govern our acts by what our consciences tell us is right, just and fair; that we shall do by them as we would believe it to be fair and right that they should do by us if our conditions and positions were reversed.

TO FIGHT AGE LIMIT IS PURPOSE OF NEW UNION

Organization Formed to Re-
move the Ban on Age Limit
Fixed by Railroads.

It Will Also Assist Men Be-
yond the Natural Limit to
Find Good Employment.

Chicago, Sept. 7.—An organization known as the Anti-Age Limit League has been organized in Chicago to fight the age limit of 45 years used against workmen. It will endeavor to prevent age being a bar, irrespective of other qualifications. It has opened headquarters at the Palmer house and welcomes to membership all workmen more than 45 years old or other persons interested in abolishing the ban.

The league, in a circular issued by John F. Downey, president, and Benjamin Glouck, secretary treasurer, announces the following objects:

First—To remove the ban on wage-earners by the cruel and unnatural age limit.

Second—To assist men past the proposed limit to secure employment.

Third—To emphasize man's inherent right to be first considered as the wage-earner of the family.

Fourth—To place, before the national government, the persistent ostracism of the veterans of the Civil and Spanish wars, in that they are refused the pursuit of their inalienable right to labor in all the departments of our national government, in accordance with their mental and physical equipment, irrespective of age.

The prejudice against employment of men beyond 45 years of age in commercial life is declared to have been given birth by the rule placing that limit on the age at which a citizen may volunteer for service in the army or navy.

It is planned to ask congress to act in some manner to relieve and restore the rights of older citizens.

In closing the circular says: "Or all the obstructions to a man's right to earn a living the ban placed upon labor by the 45 year age limit is the most cruel, obnoxious and absurd."

WILL TROT AGAINST RECORD.
MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 6.—The Minnesota state fair association today arranged with M. W. Savage, the millionaire owner of Dan Patch, the world's champion pacer, to run his horse against his own record 1:56, for a purse of \$10,000 on Saturday of this week.

UNIONISM CLEARLY DEFINED BY FOSTER

What Are the Limitations of
Trades Unionism? What
Form Will It Assume?

What Is the Essence, the Vital
Quality of the Labor Move-
ment, Itself?

Frank K. Foster, a prominent member of the Typographical union with calmness and clearness ably defends trade unionism. He says:

In these precious times of injunctions, and such like Parricidal manifestations of an ugly antagonism toward organized labor, the average trade unionist may be pardoned if he indulges in a bit of speculation as to just where it is all going to end.

What are the limitations of trade unionism? What form is it ultimately going to assume? Is it to bend or break before the athenas of the Citizens' Alliance, or will it sturdily continue to bid defiance to its open foes and internal ill-wish? Must it change its methods and recede from the position? What, above all, is the essence, the vital quality, of trade unionism itself?

Definitions are at once the despair and the delight of political economists. The despair because no one is obliged to accept another's definition; the delight, because from your own definition of variable qualities you can erect your own argument. It was DeQuincy, I think, who pointed out that political economy could never become a science because it had no fixed qualities.

Generally, trade unionism is the union of the workers in a trade for the purpose of bettering their conditions. Specifically, there is a wide distinction between that trade unionism which declares for the sympathetic strike, political action, and the collective ownership of the tools and instruments of production, and the trade unionism that walks on the earth, deals with practical questions, and uses rational and well-tested methods.

Platforms are important—sometimes. Highflating declarations make a nice sound, but in practical sense a 10 per cent advance in wages counts for more than a thousand denunciatory resolutions as to the "tyranny of the capitalist."

We of the labor movement are sorely apt to lack sense of proportion. We magnify trifles and minimize vertices. When the walking is bad, we fancy we can fly. We wear down in our grooves so deeply that it is hard for us to even keep our heads above the surface of the sea. In all things to others it means that we shall govern our acts by what our consciences tell us is right, just and fair; that we shall do by them as we would believe it to be fair and right that they should do by us if our conditions and positions were reversed.

trade union accomplishes as much as it does.

The glory of trade unionism, moreover, is that it does things. Herein it differs from most other reform schools. To be sure, progress seems slow, measured in days and months, but when we get the longer look-over over a period of years, results are obvious. Coercion has never been able to smash unionism. It is unlike that it will ever succeed in so doing. And to speak quite frankly, coercive methods are double edged when used by trade unionists themselves. If we do possess the wisdom to build on foundations of conviction, it were better to camp out until we gain it.

Two giant elemental forces contend with one another throughout the universe. They affect the planets in their spheres, and the drops of water in the ocean. They shape the polity of nations and trade unions. One of these forces tends to centralize, the other to decentralize power. Civilization represents the decentralizing principle; we have achieved religious and political freedom in direct degree as the unite has developed its sovereignty. The free unit through voluntary association with its fellows gains in strength without sacrifice of initiative.

The American Federation was founded upon decentralized, or autonomous, lines. It was, in a sense, a protest against the tendency of the labor movement to revert to primitive of the labor autocratic, types. Each craft is a sovereign unit, detached from this sovereignty constituted a menace. Its executive has acted wisely in moving with conservatism when conventions have lost sight of its early conception of the functions of a federated body.

What matter if the unthinking clamor for the iron hand? A departure from its historic policy of reliance, on the sober second thought of its component parts to do justice, would work almost irreparable evil. The question of jurisdiction, it is true, is the fly in the ointment. Here, an elsewhere, salvation must be worked out by those who need it. Meanwhile, the pressure of the general opinion steadily works the restoring of the normal balance.

The trade union movement has become organic. The American Federation of Labor represents a tribunal of judgement supreme, saving that the right to appeal to the people is always reserved. Those in search of shorts cuts to the millennium will always cavil at beaten roads, but their short cuts have hitherto ran up a tree or into a swamp.

MISS WOOD SUES SENATOR PLATT AGAIN

OMAHA, Sept. 6.—Mae Wood today filed a suit for \$25,000 against United States Senator H. C. Platt and the United States Express company, claiming that while she was in the postoffice department in Washington, she rendered services to the company by tipping off the inside workings of the department and forwarding to Postmaster General Warren's report of May 1902, a recommendation of the post check system, thus saving the express company several hundred thousand of dollars.