

THE LABOR WORLD

Advertising Rates Made Known on Application. Entered at the Postoffice at Duluth, Minn., as second class matter.



Published Every Saturday. Established in 1898 by Sabrie G. Aikin. Business Office, Suite 610 Manhattan Building, Duluth, Minn.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., OF THE LABOR WORLD, published Weekly at Duluth, required by the Act of August 24, 1912.

Note.—This statement is to be made in duplicate, both copies to be delivered by the publisher to the postmaster, who will send one copy to the Third Assistant Postmaster General (Division of Classification), Washington, D. C., and retain the other in the files of the postoffice.

NAME OF PUBLISHER: W. E. McEwen, Editor and Publisher. ADDRESS: Duluth, Minn.

OWNERS: W. E. McEwen, Editor and Publisher. Address: Duluth, Minn.

KNOWN BONDHOLDERS, MORTGAGORS, AND OTHER SECURITY HOLDERS: None.

Average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date of this statement.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 13th day of March, 1914. Notary Public, St. Louis County, Minn.

HOW TO REPAY.

A tramp at the back door of a Cleveland residence begged for a pair of shoes. The mistress of the house gave him a good pair, and said to him, "There, put these on, and if you want to show your gratitude, just happen around here some morning after a snowstorm and clean off our sidewalk."

Sometime after, the lady was awakened early one morning by someone scraping the sidewalk in front of the house. Looking out she found that there had been quite a heavy fall of snow, and there she beheld the tramp to whom she had given the shoes, clearing away the snow from the sidewalk with an old broken shovel.

Three times, the same thing happened during the winter, but the man never asked for compensation or food.

The worker who has enjoyed the beneficence of the labor union—and what worker has not?—ought to show his gratitude.

He ought to get into the union, pay his dues regularly, lend his talents and influence to the meetings, abide by the laws, rules and decisions of the union, and do his best to get others to join.

He is an exceedingly small individual who will receive benefits without trying to repay them, and then he approaches greatness by passing them on.

"No man has come to true greatness," said Phillips Brooks, "who has not felt in some degree that his life belongs to his race, and that what God gives him, He gives him for mankind."

IMMIGRATION AND UNUSED LANDS.

Congressional speeches on the immigration bill furnish many shining examples of how men can talk all around a subject without touching on the essential point.

Said Mr. Loneragan, of Connecticut, on January 31: "There are 711,980,000 acres of undeveloped public land in the United States. We can accommodate a population of 500,000,000 people."

Said Mr. Johnson, of Washington, also speaking of public lands only: "More than 90 per cent of all of Arizona, 87 per cent of Nevada, more than 80 per cent of Idaho, 80 per cent of Utah, almost 70 per cent of Wyoming, 65 per cent of Montana, 62 per cent of New Mexico, and 40 per cent of my own state, Washington, all conserved."

Said Mr. Peterson, of Indiana: "A few days ago I made a trip through the South. I saw thousands of acres of unimproved land, much of it susceptible to cultivation."

Said Mr. Edmonds, of Pennsylvania: "For every 100 acres that are now tilled, about 275 more acres may be tilled."

But none of these Congressmen had any practicable plan to suggest as to how to open this unused land for use. The reason the land is unused is because the price demanded by the owners is too high for would-be users to pay. In order to open the land the owners must be induced to reduce their demands.

INSTANCES OF HER MENTALITY.

Just at this time, when the woman's rights question is a dominant issue in this nation, it may be interesting to any who doubt her right or ability to a voice in public management, to consider a few of the occasions when women's heads have been more level than men's.

Before suffrage was thought of in this country, there was Abigail Adams, who wrote the Declaration of Independence before Jefferson and his colleagues declared themselves. Then, to go back a little further, when Columbus wanted to find a new way to India, it was Queen Isabella who pawned her diamonds and rubies to pay the expense of that trip, whereas if Ferdinand had had his way, America would not have been discovered in 1492.

One has to read about Maria Theresa, the "Mother of Germany," who fought with Frederick for 15 years to appreciate how long and level a head that woman had. And so it goes in instances innumerable, down to

date—to Mrs. Thomas Edison as an example, who, with diplomacy and womanliness is conserving the energies of the wizard of the age, so that he can give to humanity even more than he has already given.

Every woman is interesting in what affects her home, more now than ever before. So, just as man and woman scheme to make ends meet in the household, they should work and plan together on questions of law and government.

WAIT AND SEE.

The United States Express Co. prepares to wind up its affairs. The reason given is that the parcel post has made its operation unprofitable. If this is true, it is a serious matter. In adopting a parcel post, we have not adopted a policy of driving private enterprise out of business.

Moreover, if private enterprise cannot succeed, it is difficult to see how the success which has so far attended the parcel post can continue. We need to know that, too. There are some other common facts we need to know. The controlling interest in the United States Express Co. is the Harriman estate. The Harriman estate, as it happens, also dominates another company, the Wells-Fargo.

Again, the profits of the United States Express Co. have been decreasing for several years, while the Wells-Fargo Co. has been thriving. This seems strange in the case of two companies dominated by the same financial interest. Apparently the operation of the parcel post is unequal in different territories. Only it is to be remembered that the decline of profits in the United States Co. began before the introduction of the parcel post.

The question ought to be answered by the result in the field in which the United States Co. has operated. If the lines of railroad over which it operated remain unused by any express company, it will at least be prima facie evidence that the field is really unprofitable. On the other hand, if another company shall make a success where this company has not shown profits sufficient to justify its continuance in the minds of the stockholders, the management of the company itself must be held at fault.

If such a thing should happen as the Wells-Fargo Co.'s taking over the field that has been occupied by the United States Co., our minds ought to be at ease. Since the same family dominates both, the interest will not have suffered. Indeed, one concern ought to be better than two.

If the Wells-Fargo Co. does take over the business, it is a safe presumption that the parcel post and the recent orders of the interstate commerce commission reducing express rates cannot be accused of confiscation.

THE EASIER WAY.

"You can't come in," said Uncle Sam to the illiterate Italian immigrant.

"Why not?" asked the immigrant.

"Because the country is overcrowded. If you came in you would crowd one of my citizens out of his job."

"Not at all," said the immigrant. "The job I will get will be to improve some of the land that I see no one is working on. You cannot be so overcrowded when its owners can get no one to work it."

"What are you talking about?" said Uncle Sam.

"What land do you mean that no one is working on?"

"Why there seems quite a lot of it," said the immigrant. "Look at all those empty lots in New York city, and still more in other cities. Then look at our agricultural land. Why nearly three-fourths of it is unutilized. Just see all that good mining land not used. Surely you cannot have anyone out of work with all those opportunities about?"

"Haven't I, though," said Uncle Sam, "that unused land doesn't make things any better. You haven't enough money to buy any, and besides no one who has the money could profitably pay the prices asked. Then again, if you did have enough money to pay the prices asked now, the owners would raise the price of a lot if you fellows suddenly started to buy it."

"Then why don't you stop land monopoly instead of stopping me?" said the immigrant.

"It is easier to stop you," answered Uncle Sam.

THOSE NON-PRODUCING WOMEN.

The heaviest burden today on productive America aside from the burden imposed by a vicious industrial system, is that of its non-productive women. They are the most demanding portion of our society. They spend more money than any other group, are more insistent in their cry for amusement, are more resentful of interruptions of their pleasures and excitements, go to greater extremes of indolence and uneasiness.

The really serious side to the existence of this parasitical group is that great numbers of other women, not free, forced to produce, accept their standards of life. We hear women, useful women, everywhere talking about the desirability of not being obliged to do anything, commiserating women who must work, commiserating those who have heavy household responsibilities, and by the whole gist of their words and acts influencing those younger and less experienced than themselves to believe that happiness lies in irresponsible living.—Ida M. Tarbell.

NO WAR WITH MEXICO.

Don't forget that in a war with Mexico the plain people of the United States would shoot down the plain people of Mexico. Not much different to taking down your gun and shooting your poverty-stricken, uneducated neighbor around the corner.

"Where's the glory?"

Don't forget that those who are shiekling for war are not going to fight. The men who will have to fight fevers, smallpox, jungle horrors and the downtrodden peons down in Mexico are our own boys.

You will find no mine owners, politicians or warlike newspaper editors on the firing line!

If we had a hundred men in the labor movement with the courage and grit of Mother Jones some mighty interesting labor history would be written about this time.

The results of organized labor, it should be remembered, are much wider than the immediate improvement of wages and conditions of its members.

Ole G. Sageng is good enough for us for governor of Minnesota. No man in state politics comes nearer representing the present ideals of the people than does that courageous statesman from Otter Tail.

We hear many criticisms of the proposed elimination conference on the ground that it will operate as an evasion of the primary law. But what about the recent convention of lawyers in Duluth who met and endorsed three candidates for the district judgeship? Is there any difference between the two meetings? Someone please answer.

COUNTY DEMOCRATS WILL MEET TUESDAY

Mass Meeting Called to Name 52 Delegates to Attend State Conference at St. Paul.

MEETING TO SELECT COUNTY COMMITTEE

State Conference May Recommend Candidates to File for Nomination—Sageng Favorite

The Democrat of St. Louis county will hold a mass convention next Tuesday evening at the city hall for purpose of selecting 52 delegates to attend a state conference of Democrats to be held in St. Paul, March 31, at which candidates for state office will in all probability be endorsed, and a platform will be adopted.

At the mass meeting to be held Tuesday evening at the city hall a county committee will be named for the purpose of promoting organization work during the coming campaign. The call for the meeting is issued by Walter Dacey, chairman of the county committee, and Harris Bennett, secretary.

The only Democrat to file for state office thus far is Daniel W. Lawler of St. Paul, former mayor of that city. Mr. Lawler was the Democratic candidate for governor in 1892, and last year made the run against Knute Nelson for United States senator.

There was a movement on throughout the state to induce Congressman Hammond to file for the nomination, and it may be that he will yet consent to file, but he is reluctant about giving up his seat in Congress.

The Duluth Herald's suggestion of Senator Ole G. Sageng for governor has taken like wild fire throughout the state. Senator Sageng is one of the strong progressives of the state. He has a splendid legislative record, and if nominated would no doubt be elected.

Senator Sageng, during his campaign for congress in the old Ninth district in 1908, made a wonderful run as an independent candidate. Postal cards were circulated throughout the district showing a picture of Mr. Sageng holding a plow. Upon them was printed the words: "The man behind the plow." The cards made a great hit, but as Senator Sageng entered the field late in the campaign, and as he had no organization behind him, it was impossible for him to win. Nevertheless he made a wonderful campaign.

ADVISED UNION MEN BE NAMED DEPUTIES

California Sheriff Puts It Up to 'Frisco Official—No Strike Was Called.

There are two sheriffs in widely separated parts of the country who have come into prominence in the last few months. One lives in Michigan and the other in California, and both were asked by employers of labor involved in a strike to swear in deputies to guard their property.

The sheriff of Houghton county, Mich., selected deputies designated by the copper barons, all of whom were opposed to unions and the miners' strike. The California sheriff, Turkington of Crawford county, as he is known, was asked by the general superintendent of the 'Frisco railroad to recommend to protect the property of the railroad company from the telegraph operators employed by that system in the event of a strike.

"All right," said Turkington, "I will recommend for appointment as deputy United States marshals every striking telegrapher on the 'Frisco system."

The strike was settled before the telegraphers walked out, but it is a safe bet that the railroad superintendent would not have called upon Sheriff Turkington for the names of men to be appointed as deputy marshals. Turkington reasoned that if these telegraph operators had brains enough to look after the lives of the thousands of passengers who travel the 'Frisco, then they had brains enough to protect 'Frisco property.

What would have happened in Michigan had the sheriff taken the same position as the California sheriff did?

POST'S PRIZE A SURPRISE.

Chas. W. Post has just given \$3,000 in prizes for the best three stories on the subject, "A Dangerous Servant." The dangerous one is not, as might be supposed, a union labor man. There are three of them—whiskey, tobacco and coffee. It is the coffee part in which Post is interested. The story is designed to scare people into drinking his imitation coffee near-fad. (The Plumbers' Journal).

SAN FRANCISCO, March 20.—The president of the Central body has been empowered to appoint a committee of twenty-five to arrange for the reception and entertainment of delegates who will come in 1915 to attend the A. F. of L. and other labor conventions that will meet in this city.

The chickens have roosts and the sheep have their fold; The horse in the stall hath his bed; But the son of man when he loseth his job, Hath nowhere to lay his head.

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STATE LAWS ABOVE CITY ORDINANCES

Recent Decision by Wisconsin Court Significant—State laws Should Come First.

Judge E. Ray Stephens of Madison has rendered a decision holding that local ordinances must not conflict with state laws, but that a city may pass laws not inconsistent with legislative acts. Municipalities may be ordinance impose penalties for the commission of the same act which may have been a penal offense under the laws of the state.

This decision is in line with the ruling of Minnesota courts on the same subject. The only advantage a city ordinance has over a state law is that prosecution is easier. A trial by jury is not imperative for the violation of a city ordinance, while the violation of a state law a jury trial must be accorded the accused violator.

In the proposed city ordinance in Duluth to prevent non-licensed doctors from treating the sick there is a state law covering the subject only partially. The chiropractic "doctors" at one time succeeded in having a license law passed through the legislature. It was vetoed by Governor Johnson, but the failure of the law to pass did not outlaw the chiropractic treatment of disease in Minnesota, and Governor Johnson so stated the fact in his message.

If the proposed ordinance should be enacted it would outlaw in Duluth only the chiropractic and other drugless methods for the treatment of disease not recognized by the medical profession, excepting osteopathy, which the state law legalizes by license. That is chiropractic and other drugless treatments would be illegal in Duluth and legal outside of Duluth but within the state.

"LIFE'S VALUES LOW," SAYS NOTED PREACHER

CHICAGO, a March 20.—"Today the cheapest thing in life is a human being," declared Rev. C. I. Schofield, of New York, before a Bible conference held in this city. The speaker compared the present with the days of ancient Rome when gladiators slew one another before a frenzied populace.

AWAKE IN DIXIE LAND.

ATLANTA, March 20.—"Organizing Day in Georgia" was observed throughout the State by the trade union movement. Meetings were held everywhere and reports indicate that the addresses were of the most optimistic nature, and recounted the progress by Georgia's organized movement.

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