

THE LABOR WORLD

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THIS WEEK'S THOUGHT. If half the power that fills this world with terror, if half the wealth bestowed on camps and courts, were given to redeem the human mind from error there's be no need of arsenals and forts. Longfellow.

WAR! Austria-Hungaria in her greed for territory, Russia in her blind and jealous cares for a road way to southern sea ports, Germany, France and England fearful lest other powers shall surpass them, have embroiled Europe in what portends to be the world's most gruesome warfare.

Persia, Greece, Carthage and Rome all went to their disasters in world wide wars. What we may read in the history of the past may be a picture of the future. That the European monarchies are pending a downfall for their wornout and useless selfs there can be no doubt. That the present war will be the last stand of these monarchies is a matter for conjecture.

If the monarchs and their retinue were to march to the field of carnage; were they to have their flesh torn by cruel steel; were they to have their limbs and vitals separated from their bodies and cast to the four winds in order to maintain the dignity of their positions there would probably be a greater following in "patriotism."

But when the working class of Austria will "follow the flag" into Serbia, and murder Serbian working men on the plea that a Serb assassinated an Austrian noble; when Russian workers will march to the strains of martial music to the frontiers of Germany and slaughter German workmen simply because Germany backs up Austria, and Russia is behind Serbia, when France and England step in to plunge bayonets into the breasts of Austrians and Germans for no better reason, then it's time to call a halt!

That there is more subtle reason, that reason being a question of territory and commercial interests, there is no dispute. But this is not sufficient reason for Christian workmen and Christian nations to rush into the toils of hell!

Greek, Catholic Russia prays to the Christ for the success of their murderous weapons; Lutheran Germany prays to the Christ for the success of "our army"; English Catholic England, Protestant France, Roman Catholic Austria, all praying to the same Christ that they may succeed in murdering their fellow man! Could there exist a greater mockery? Could there exist a greater travesty on the Christian religion?

Gomper's has stated, "War with its supposed pomp and heroism, is inaugurated by Austrian royalty to divert the people's attention from their own ills and their honest intelligent course to remedy these ills."

When the workers wake up to this fact and refuse to fight the battles of a degenerated royalty there will be less of war and possibly war will then be abolished.

WHAT'S THIS FOR? From the "Social Service Commission of the American Federation of Catholic Societies," we copy the following bit of advice:

"Catholic members of the different crafts should meet and arrange a program for the proper observance of Labor Day. In many of the smaller country cities and villages labor organizations are not in a position to arouse sufficient sentiment, while Catholics can do so. In the cities, a large church should be selected and a priest invited to speak, who is acquainted with industrial conditions. Invitations bearing the union label should be sent to non-Catholics as well as Catholics. The special mass and sermon should be held before the customary parade on the morning of Labor Day."

It has always been the position of The Labor World that of two things which should remain on the outside of the labor union are religion and party politics. Any attempt to inject either into the union tends towards disruption and can only work toward the injury of the working class.

If Labor Day programs are to be held, keep the party politician and the religious zealot out of it. Those who desire the mass and morning sermon are surely at liberty to have it regardless of the union. This is not intended as a reflection on any church institution but mere an affirmation of our stand on trade union principles.

OUTGROWTH OF IDEALS. The labor union is in reality a modern institution. It does not date far back in history. But it is the outgrowth of ideals and principles that have long existed as actuating agencies among mankind.

The labor union is the crude, imperfect incarnation of the ideals and principles that make for the best in society and have actuated the humane and patriotic spirits of all ages. "A long look backward," we are told, shows us the first recorded whisper against slavery, the protest of a few impractical Greeks, mentioned by Aristotle 2,500 years ago, going on from emancipation to emancipation with gigantic historic steps that no barrier could arrest. The labor union is the concentration—the modern concrete expression of this and every other struggle of mankind to emancipate itself from the slavery of exploitation and enthrone itself in liberty and equality. —The Citizen.

"I find quite as much material for a lecture in those points wherein I have failed, as in those wherein I have been moderately successful." —Lincoln.

A CALL FOR LABOR DAY.

Shall Labor Day lose its distinctive character and become a mere holiday for general meaningless purposes and for the exploitation for private profit?

Labor Day belongs to the working people of America. It is for them to determine its value and significance. Those outside the labor movement test its strength and virility by the way in which Labor Day is observed. Their test is justified by the fact that the power of the labor movement consists in its appeal to the hearts, minds, and wills of the workers. Rouse the working people to a sense of their rights and interests and the labor movement becomes an irresistible power for their realization.

In the labor movement as in every human endeavor, we become familiar with the heart forces and the ideals that brought the movement into existence and sometimes forget that these spiritual forces must be revived and nourished or they wither and die. Some labor organizations have fallen into this error. They have abandoned regular Labor Day demonstrations, parades, meetings, addresses, in the belief that such expenditure of time, effort, and money is wasteful. This is a most serious mistake.

Such labor demonstrations are not wasteful and they do pay even if only through publicity for the cause of Labor. Men and women marching shoulder to shoulder typify impressively the purposefulness and the unity of the labor movement. They are a physical demonstration of devotion to principles—a proof that none can fail to understand. Observance of the day is a means of educating public thought and the agents of molding public opinion in regard to the principles and purposes of the labor movement. When our movement is understood, it will be recognized and established as a potent agency for justice and humanity. The objections and oppositions now interposed by employers will no longer be tolerated.

No human movement remains at one level—it must increase or it must decrease. As new members come into unions they must learn the traditions and ideals of the cause of Labor. The spirit of fellowship and the brotherhood of man are the life of the labor movement. If this life be not nourished, the whole will become as a dead thing.

The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor urges that every central body plan to make observance of the coming Labor Day demonstrate to the whole nation the dignity, strength, and importance of the labor movement and to make the spirit of the day of such a nature that every worker shall appreciate more keenly the value of his union and shall be ready to perform his duties with greater enthusiasm and more perfect understanding. Labor Day typifies a movement for life and humanity. Do not pervert it. Each city central body and all organized labor have a duty to perform.

A LESSON IN ENGLISH.

In last week's edition of the Minneapolis Labor Review we note the following: "The Duluth postmaster's paper stated last week that the convention sent a telegram to President Wilson calling on him to place the mines of Colorado in the hands of a receiver until the difficulties had been adjusted out there."

That is quite interesting. The editor didn't know that such a statement had been made. In order not to be in error and wishing to make necessary reparation he turned to the edition of the Labor World in question and this is what he found: "Telegrams were sent to President Wilson and the Miners' organization calling upon the president to put the mines of Colorado in the hands of receivers until such time as the government could appropriate them, etc."

For the benefit of the editor of the Labor Review and all others who don't understand the meaning of "appropriate" let us state that it does not mean as interpreted by the Labor Review, "until difficulties had been adjusted."

"Appropriate," according to Webster's International dictionary means "To claim or use as by an exclusive right." That means that the mines shall be taken. In other words, if it will be made plainer to the "scientific" editor, the Labor World stated that the convention called for the "expropriation of the mine owners' property" and the "appropriation of it to the state."

"RIGHTS" OF THE NON-UNION MAN.

There has been so much said and written lately about the great American privilege of the workman to have the right to be a union or non-union man at will, it may not be out of place to describe what Rockefeller must have had in mind when he championed the rights of the non-union man.

Here are some of the privileges that go with the "right" to be a non-union man in the Oily man's mines: The right NOT to trade anywhere except at the company store.

The right NOT to vote for any person for public office unless that man be first selected by Rockefeller's agents.

The right NOT to have anything to say as to how many hours he may work per day.

The right NOT to have anything to say as to what the wages shall be.

The right NOT to have a ghost of a chance to win a suit for damages in case of injury.

The right NOT to live in any house except a company house.

The right NOT to work and belong to the Mine Workers' union.

These are the "rights" the great moral uplift Rockefeller insists upon for the men who labor for him.—Madison Labor News.

It is reported that the United Mine Workers of America is to absorb the Western Federation of Miners, and if it is true it will prove that the former organization has something on the ostrich in the way of a digestive apparatus.—Messabo Ore.

You're wrong, brother, such action indicates good, practical, common sense. It means a more efficient organization of workers that will bring about better conditions in the mining industry of this country. Such is not the work of fanatics or bigots, but the accomplishments of men possessed with genius.

"The systematic man, of course, is the stand-pat and conservative mind at work. He prefers to write history rather than prophesy. His mind is set towards the setting instead of the rising sun. He compares today's result with yesterday's result, instead of comparing it with the ideal of tomorrow." —The Publishers' Guide.

No man should ever be ashamed to own he has been in the wrong, which is but a man's condition. It is the man who never admits that he is wrong who is the greatest failure. —Lincoln.

DEPRESSIONS IN CANADA

From the Springfield Republican. Canada, for some time, has been experiencing, and is now experiencing, a serious business depression. The banks began curtailing credit to their customers a year and a half ago, and manufacturing and industries in general have since then been increasingly inactive. "Much less business" has been done, writes a Dominion correspondent of the Financial News of London. This fact is in sight the moment one examines current trade figures.

Bank clearings in Canada in the first six months of this year declined 8.5 per cent, compared with the same period in 1913. If Americans want to see a very serious depression, they must go to Canada, for, while Canadian bank clearings the past half year shrunk 8.5 per cent, the clearings in the United States fell off less than 1 per cent. In June, American bank clearings increased 1.7 per cent, compared with June, 1913, while Canadian bank clearings decreased 4.4 per cent. Last week American bank clearings increased 2.8 per cent, compared with the same week the year before, while Canadian clearings decreased 11.9 per cent. The evidence supplied by bank clearings, in short, indicates a depression much more severe in the Dominion than in the United States. Canadian railroad earnings began to decline many months ago. The gross earnings of the Canadian Pacific

in May last showed a decline of \$2,117,000, compared with May, 1913. That is a very heavy decrease in a single month. In the same way, the Canadian Pacific, the Canadian Northern and the Grand Trunk with the Grand Trunk Pacific lost an aggregate of \$3,331,593 in gross earnings, as compared with a total decline of only \$5,500,000 by no less than 45 American roads. For a year past a declining Canadian railroad traffic has been shown in these shrunken railroad earnings, confirming the evidence of the bank clearings.

Canadian securities of all kinds are in much less demand in London and British capital is being invested much more charily in Canadian enterprises than before in years. Municipalities in the Dominion find that their bonds are not easily marketed. Even immigration has declined; 25,000 fewer American farmers going to the Canadian northwest last year than in the year before. The depression is still in full force and intensity. The present Canadian government, which came into office in 1911, is of course bitterly blamed by the party out of power for the general reaction.

But the Borden administration is not to blame. The Republican's readers will suspect it of indulging in irony if it suggests that the Wilson administration in the United States must be responsible for Canada's depression.

WAR'S VICTORY!

MacLaren, authority of war, asserts that the loss of life in battle since authentic history began amounts to 1,400,000,000, or the entire population of the globe for the last 320 years. From 1682 until 1815 the Old World saw 65 years of solid warfare, which cost the people \$5,945,000,000, not counting a debt of \$4,000,000,000. Since then the cost of supporting vast armies and navies in time of peace as well as war has been enormous. The total losses of the allies in the Crimean war was 22,000, and of Russia 256,000; the cost to England was \$345,000,000, to France \$485,000,000, and to Russia \$710,000,000. In the Franco-German war 28,000 Germans were killed and 101,000 wounded; 155,000 French soldiers were killed, 143,000 wounded, and 720,000 surrendered to the Germans or to neutral states.

The most recent war in which any of the great powers has been engaged—the Russian-Japanese conflict—seems to indicate that the losses will be in even greater ratio than the above in the next armed contest of the powers. In the three weeks' engagement at Mukden alone the aggregate loss was 153,000.—Chicago Tribune.

WHY BOYS GO WRONG

Prof. George Walter Fliske, of Oberlin college, unconsciously voiced a ringing indictment of the wretchedness of the present day social system when he gave the Sunday School Workers' Institute of the University of Chicago on "What Makes Boys Go Wrong?" He traced crime to the following nine specific charges: Exploitation of child labor. City life, which is artificial. Tenements and flats, which have supplanted homes. Too few playgrounds, parks and recreation spaces. The average policeman, whom the boy regards as his sworn enemy. The courts, which are stern and machine-like and seem to the boy to be tramping him down. The present-day school system, which is an inflexible one, without specialization and lacking courses interesting to many boys. Recreation is unregulated. Divorces by parents drive them to the streets.

YOU

The Man's Need of Woman. Give me your hand; I have need of it now. Need as never before: For the strength that was mine is utterly gone— A part of my life no more. I have walked through the Valley of dead Desires, Tasting the dregs of despair; I have sought for a sign that should give me peace— Sought—but it was not there. For some there is Faith that illumines the Path. For some there is hope ever strong; But the touch of your hand is the need of me now— The sound of your voice is song! Shaken and numb is the soul of me, Brain and hands shall create and build. But only for you, for you! And even that apple dust, success, Shall come, if that is your will; Give me your hand—with the song on your lips. And the ache in my heart is still! All that is worthy in me is yours; If my dreams be dead? Fires of faith shall burn in your heart, Unbowed is your royal head. Only your love and the light in your eyes Can save me from self-defeat. I am done with the Game—but your calm white soul Shames mine when I think of retreat! Give me your hand; And the strength that is there Shall walk in my own anew; I can force the fight and win, by the gods! But not for myself—for you!

WELFARE WORK.

The critics of trade union policy have suggested that the employer introduce into his shops carefully worked-out plans for helping the operatives to rise in life, to better conditions by welfare work, to encourage savings and thrift, to introduce the stimulus of profit sharing, I have no desire or disposition to detract from the value of welfare work; on the contrary, I wish to commend every employer who undertakes, at his own expense, to improve his employees work. Welfare work, however, is not a substitute for wages. If the employer desires to supplement the wages agreed to between himself and the union, such action is not inimical to trade unionism, and may be of great value to all concerned; but the workmen will not be lured by any device from their allegiance to trade unionism; they will not accept welfare work or profit-sharing in lieu of just wages and the right to organize they will not and should not depend upon Lords Bountiful and Ladies Charitable; they prefer to depend upon themselves and their trade unions as the means through which to work out their economic salvation.—John Mitchell, in Atlantic Monthly.

SECRETARY WILSON ON LIQUOR QUESTION

Discussing the liquor question, Secretary Wilson said the deadliest blow that can possibly be dealt the use of stimulants by the workingman will come when the hours of a day's work are reduced to a point where a workingman can go to his work the next morning feeling refreshed by his sleep following his previous day's work.

"In many industries in the present day," continued Mr. Wilson, "the mind and body of the workingman are completely exhausted after his day's toil; and he forced to the use of stimulants to keep up. It is not entirely his fault; it is partly the fault of conditions. Eliminate the condition, and you will witness a great falling off in the use of stimulants." Greysolon Cigars are good.

WHEN YOU ARE RIGHT.

It's fun to fight when you know you are right and your heart is in it. Though the fray be long and the foe be strong and the comrades you have are few. Though the battle heat bring but defeat, and weariness makes you reel, There's joy in life that can know such strife and the glory and thrill you feel! When the wise ones pant that you simply can't, it's fun for a fighting man to laugh and try with a daring eye, and prove to the world he can. And if you stick all your heart in sick and lose when the game is done. It's fun to know that the weary foe paid dearly for what they won. It's fun to dare in the face of despair when the last lone chance seems gone. And to hope rise in the angry skies like a promise of rosy dawn. For victory's sweet when it crowns defeat, and you learn this much is true. It's fun to fight when you know you're right, and your heart's in it, too!

ABLY ANSWERED.

"Man has no inherent right to the franchise. He's given a voice in the government because the government in return may demand his life in service." Then why is not the ballot limited to men subject to military service? Men over 45 are exempt, yet they vote. Ministers at all ages are exempt, yet they vote. William L. Bowditch said: "The best fighters the boys between 18 and 31, are not permitted to vote; the wisest voters, the men over 45, are not required to fight." The halt, the lame and the blind among men are freely admitted to the ballot box. Women are excluded, though they lost their lives in the service of their country oftener than men; for they provide the soldiers. Mary Johnston says: "Women do not bear arms, but they bear arms. More women have died in giving life since the Civil War than fell on both sides in that great struggle." Lucy Stone said: "Some woman risks her life every time a soldier is born into the world. For many years she does picket duty over his cradle. Later on she is his quartermaster and prepares his rations. And when that boy grows to a man, shall he say to his mother, 'If you want to vote you must first go and kill somebody?' It is a coward's argument." —Woman's Journal.

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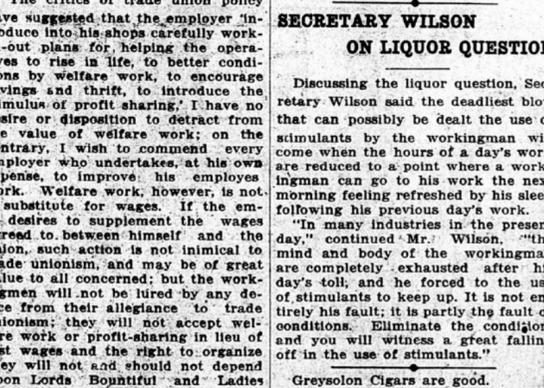
If you have not shared in this great Glove Sale, you still have the opportunity to buy Women's \$1.25 to \$2.00 Fine Kid Gloves. Made of fine real French kid and extra quality lamb stock—in black, white, mode and tan; plique and overseas style—pliable and perfect fitting—values range from \$1.25 up to \$2.00, on sale at 69c. These Gloves will not be fitted or tried on. None exchanged.

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