

What Does Dr. S. P. Kramer Know?

When He States That the Republican Organization of Hamilton County Was Secretly Working For the Drys.—Union Labor Deeply Interested and Expects an Official Statement From the Republican Executive Committee, Who Have Hitherto Been Fighting For a Liberal Policy.

A STRONG STATEMENT FROM A RESPONSIBLE MAN

Last Wednesday at Columbus, Dr. S. P. Kramer, of Cincinnati, asserted that the Republican organization in that city secretly was playing for the adoption of the prohibition amendment in Ohio this year. —Cincinnati Enquirer.

Dr. S. P. Kramer, a reputable citizen, an eminent physician, and a Republican, has made serious charges against the Republican organization of this county. At a recent meeting of prohibitionists, held in Columbus, Dr. Kramer charged that the Republican organization of this county was secretly working for the cause of prohibition. Among other things said by the doctor was that "the Republican organization of Hamilton county was looking to the rest of the state to free them from the thralldom of the liquor interests and that no happier crowd could be found if the state went dry."

This is strong language and those who know the attitude of the local Republican organization toward the liquor traffic will seriously doubt the charges made by Dr. Kramer. It is so in variance with the action of the local organization when the liquor interests were in jeopardy that the doctor's charges will be looked upon with considerable doubt. They don't ring true and unless there is some substantiation of the charges they will not have much weight in local circles.

Be this as it may it is up to the local Republican organization to enter a vigorous denial to the charges. They cannot be glossed over, and coming from a man of the standing of Dr. Kramer they have more weight than if made by an irresponsible party.

Dr. Kramer has always been a fighter and he is a foeman worthy of any man or organization which he goes after. Many believe he was excited when he made the remarks attributed to him and that in his cooler senses he will retract them.

As was said before the local Republican organization has in the past stood loyally by the liquor interests and if there has been a change of heart as Dr. Kramer alleges, the people of the county should be informed fully on the subject. In the two state elections held on the question of prohibition, Hamilton county has rolled up big majorities against the drys. This could not have been accomplished without the assistance of the Republican organization.

Again we say it is up to the local organization to officially refute the charges made by Dr. Kramer.

Labor is deeply interested in this subject as hundreds of the members of the local organizations are employed in this industry. The outcome will be awaited with the greatest interest by every liberal loving citizen of this county.

NO CHANGED LABOR LAWS.

Washington.—In a letter to Governor Brumbaugh, of Pennsylvania, President Wilson expressed the hope that there will be no relaxation of labor laws by the various states. The state executive said that many bills have been introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature "that in one way or another attempt to modify existing laws relating to labor and industry."

In reply, President Wilson said: "I think it would be most unfortunate for any of the states to relax laws by which safeguards have been thrown around labor. I feel that there is no necessity for such action and that it would lead to a slackening of the energy of the nation rather than to an increase of it, besides being very unfair to the laboring people themselves."



—Fitzpatrick in St. Louis Post Dispatch.

DAWN.

Socialists Refused Unions' Aid

In Fight For Federal Prisoners.—Organized Musicians Object To Masonic Band.

An appeal from the Socialist party of Hamilton County for financial support to defend thirteen of its members, held by the Government on a charge of being anti-conscriptionists, was turned down by Central Labor Council Wednesday night. The letter said the party was preparing to defend the men and it desired the support of union men. Thos. Mugavin, president of the Council, ordered the communication be filed. There was no debate on it.

After hearing a report from a special committee that the committee in charge of the parade of the bicentenary celebration of Masons Saturday had refused to entertain a request from the Musicians' Union that the Masonic band should not take part in the parade, it was decided to place the band on the unfair list of the Council. Louis Foster, president of the Musicians' union, declared not a union musician would participate in the parade.

"We are objecting to the Masonic band or the Ohio Military band, as it is sometimes called, participating in the parade, because it is not authorized to represent the Masonic fraternity, nor

does it represent any individual lodge of Masons," said Foster. "Members of this band, while not following music as a profession, are competing with professional musicians—men who have adopted this profession for a livelihood. We do not question the rights of members of the band to play music, but when they play music for money and place themselves in competition with professional musicians, they should affiliate with the men organized to protect the profession."

Foster said Otto Ostendorf, St. Louis, national treasurer of the American Federation of Musicians, would be in Cincinnati Saturday to take charge of the situation. He said Ostendorf would stop union out-of-town musicians from participating in the parade.

Katherine Nordman, chairman of the Red Cross Committee of the Council, reported progress. She said the committee was making special efforts to assist in the big drive this week.

R. S. Sexton, International Organizer of the Cigarmakers' Union, made a short address on organization. He is aiding in an organization campaign of the Cincinnati Cigar Makers' Union.

THOUSANDS SEEK INCREASE.

New York.—A request for a wage increase of 20 per cent for between 80,000 and 90,000 cloak and skirt makers in shops of this city, "made as an absolute necessity," has been submitted to the

employers, it was announced. The workers, members of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union and the Cloak, Skirt and Reefer Makers' Union, say in their request that "the dollar of August, 1916, hardly represents more than 70 cents now."

"Artist" Moloney

Kroger Employee Gets \$25.00 and Costs In Police Court. If It Had Been a Union Man He Would Have Been Handed Six Months.

Richard C. Moloney, who testified in court some time ago, that he was a "commercial artist," was given \$25 and costs by Judge Spiegel on Tuesday last for brutally beating George J. Krieger, a C. H. & D. Railway clerk, who was not even involved in the Kroger strike.

The testimony showed that Moloney assaulted Krieger while the latter was bending over to check up a bill of lading presented to him by a number of Kroger scab drivers. C. H. & D. officials testified that the Kroger Company refused to make good shortages in shipments during the strike occasioned by their drivers disposing of their freight in various ways. One police officer stated that the scabs broke open a package of candy and ate it. Thereupon the C. H. & D. Railway officials directed their receiving clerks to check up every Kroger package, and while doing this, Clerk Krieger was given a severe beating by Moloney, who came here from San Antonio, Texas, as a strike breaker.

Attorney Albert H. Morrill made the usual plea that Moloney was a "valued

Kroger employee," and urged the Court to dismiss him. Judge Spiegel had other ideas on the subject and assessed a fine of \$25 and costs. As the case was continued some ten or fifteen times, Moloney having jumped his bond on one occasion, the costs will be pretty stiff.

As usual, Attorney Morrill claimed that "our men were being beaten and assaulted all during the strike." The convictions in court to date show that the Kroger scabs did much more beating, assaulting, stabbing and shooting than the union men. It is said that number of civil suits are in process of preparation for the deprivations of some of Kroger's employees during the strike. Moloney committed the assault on Krieger for which he was fined Tuesday, over six months ago, but failed to escape the penalty by continuances, jury demands, bond jumping, etc., through the watchfulness of union officials, who made him toe the mark and take his medicine. Moloney testified that he is now employed by the Kroger Company as a sign-writer, and Attorney Morrill corroborated this statement.

BUILDING TRADES COUNCIL

Appeals To Its Members To Assist The Red Cross As Much As Possible.

Owing to the absence of the president and vice-president, Brother Dorsey called the meeting of the Building Trades Council to order. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. The minutes of the meetings of the Board of Business Agents were read and approved.

All trades reported business good. The chairman made a strong appeal for the Red Cross and urged all delegates to have their members subscribe as liberal as possible.

Brother McEwen spoke at some length on the general trade topics and was roundly applauded. There being no further business the Council adjourned.

MONTANA STRIKE SPREADS.

Butte, Mont.—A statement issued by the Metal Mineworkers' Union, the new organization of the miners, claimed that 12,000 of the 15,000 miners in the Butte district had quit work. The employing companies refused to give the number of men at work, but the statement was made at the office that "the properties are running short-handed and the mine managements are not discounting the fact that the labor situation is serious."

INCOMPETENCY DEFINED.

Washington.—President King of the Washington Electric and Railway Company says incompetency consists of discussing the union and joining the union.

He made this statement as a witness before the senate committee investigating the strike of motormen and conductors employed by his company. Senator Johnson of California asked King why 23 employees were discharged for incompetency before the strike was on. It was then that the company official contributed his classic.

CONSTABULARY OPPOSED.

Baltimore.—The building trades council opposes the establishment of a state constabulary, which is provided for in a bill prepared by the attorney general. The unionists declare that "the history of the Pennsylvania state constabulary proves that it is another armed

force to be used against the wage workers in their struggle for a living wage, shorter hours and better conditions."

WANTS LIFE SAVED.

New York.—Conservation of life was urged by Dr. Charles H. Mayo of Rochester, Minn., new president of the American Medical association. He advised doctors to stop talking about the supremacy of other nations in science, a supremacy, he says, that does not exist. This medical man is an opponent of loose talk and idle chatter. "Tongue control," he declared, "will do this nation more good than birth control."

ARIZONA STRIKE ENDS.

Washington.—President Gompers has received the following telegram from Charles H. Moyer, president of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers:

"Strike at Jerome and Clarkdale, Arizona, settled. Men receive substantial wage increases and all men returned to work without discrimination. Company agrees all departments may be organized. Clarkdale smeltermen unorganized, but received 50 cents increase. Charter has been issued to them since settlement. Company agreed to meet committee of union to adjust future grievances and disputes. Secretary Jerome Miners' Union reports 1,200 members in good standing."

This strike has been on for several weeks, and has been marked by violence on the part of imported strike-breakers.

WOMEN DEMAND FREEDOM.

Kansas City, Mo.—"No cause of liberty in foreign lands is worth the sacrifice of freedom at home," declared the convention of the National Women's Trade Union League, held in this city, in its demand that there be no abolition of free speech, free press and free assembly because of the war. The women insist that no labor standards in force before the war shall be abrogated.

METAL TRADES WIN.

Vancouver, B. C.—Metal trades craftsmen employed at the J. Coughlin & Sons shipyards have won their strike for improved conditions.