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# THE LABOR JOURNAL

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE EVERETT TRADES COUNCIL

Devoted to the Interest of Organized Labor

THE LABOR JOURNAL  
Is the official organ of the Trades  
Council, and is read by the labor-  
ing men and women of Everett.

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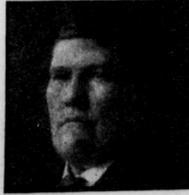
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## CRAFT ORGANIZATION IS WISEST AFTER ALL

Has Stood the Test Of Many Years And Is  
Established As Basic Rock Of the Labor  
Movement

By C. O. YOUNG.

The clamor of those who work for wages in an attempt to secure for themselves, security in continuous employment, at just remuneration, under healthful environment, is becoming most intense. The struggles of the past, severe in the extreme, have given a schooling preparatory to a determined effort to force a recognition of a right as inherent in nature as that of the budding of the trees in the spring time. Opposition to that natural law of evolution, from whatever source, cannot change the final results. The stronger the opposition, the more intense the struggle, more sure the victory. On the eastern horizon, the dawning of a new day appears; Hope long deferred, is kindled anew. Struggling mankind assumes a position as a result of past effort, a vantage ground if you will, from which they must not, and will not, retreat.

Organization, the basic principle of all material advancement, is the gateway through which this vantage ground has been attained. Early organizations of the toilers were instinctive; rather as a thrust in the dark at an approaching menace; with no definite, fixed or logical purpose. But an impulsive throwing up of the hands (as it were) to ward off a blow. Passing through those instructive struggles there was developed a class of thinkers, who have been fearless enough to promulgate their ideas, through which it has been possible to gather a force more or less intellectual. Each struggle and each age bringing forth more intelligence, and as a result, gathering together greater forces. The capacity of the building depends upon the magnitude of the foundation-organization. The structure itself depends upon the material used both in the foundation and the superstructure, and the manner of construction. Substantial buildings are not constructed out of one piece of material, but numerous pieces, of various shapes, compositions and all sizes. It might be possible to hew a building out of solid granite, but, after construction its inaccessibility and the impossibility of moving it in one mass to a point accessible, would render it useless. Then, if that method of structure, is impracticable, ordinary intelligence would impel us to construct along sane, practical lines, by taking the blocks of granite from the quarry, transport them to a place of accessibility, there, shape them into form, placing each in its place, cementing them together by a common bondage each filling its own niche. The structure will thus be moulded into shape by the combination of the various units, each depending upon the other. The greatest impediment to the labor movement has been, the attempt at various times, to destroy the identity of the units—craft organization—and to build a conglomerative mass, known as an industrial organization. No page in the history of the labor movement records a successful industrial movement, however ideal, and philosophical, the proposition might be. The universal result has been, that—after floundering around for more or less extended period, they have launched a political cure-all, and after a few attempts to free the "wage slave" have gone assunder, leaving the membership stranded upon the rocks. It has been fortunate, however, that craft organization—during the period in which these industrial organizations have made their phenomenal growth and as equal phenomenal disintegration—have maintained their identity. And those who have been dashed upon the shores by industrial abortions, have found refuge in the crafts which they deserted in their visionary attempts to solve the problem in those regrettable struggles. Many honest minds, fertile in imagination, seem to see afar, and picture a day when all shall be happiness and contentment. And their imaginations become so abnormal as to dethrone all reason, and in their deliriums, they see an overthrow of present institutions, and the realization of "peace on earth."

So many men would rather dream, and speculate on the future, than to face stern realities! Coming to earth, and with ready hands, do the things that will bring material results today and tomorrow. Political parties are composed of human beings, good, bad and indifferent. The component parts of any party are not any better, or worse, than that of any other party, regardless of whatever their pretensions may be. The individuals are just common clay; each with his virtues and frailties. The political welfare of any people depends upon the development of the mentality of the whole to the end that prosperity, happiness and equal justice, be the portion of each. The thing most desired by the toiler at this stage of development, is the assurance of steady employment, at reasonable wages, and hours. Political action alone will not supply those things. When men of labor are strong enough to force the enactment of laws providing such protection, it matters but little, what political complexions exist, or whether there are any political parties in existence. If it were possible today to turn the present labor movement in any partisan political direction, history would repeat itself and disintegration follow. And the hope of the future would be in the fact that crafts had held their identity, and be the units upon which the movement would be reconstructed. The cry in Australia, some years ago, was political action, on the part of the working people, and the same arguments were used there, as are being used in America—in some quarters—that unions failed to fill the needs of the workers, and that they should enter the political field. The cry was heeded, and for twenty years political action there, has been to the fore front, to the exclusion of every other effort. Unions were secondary. In fact were neglected, with the idea that with concerted political action, nothing further was needed. But neglect and indifference as to the perpetuation and solidarity of the unions brought disastrous results. And the very force from which intelligent political action must come—the unions—waited until the most insistent labor journals, who were first to urge political action, are now frantic in their appeals, "Back to the unions," as the only safeguard to the reforms achieved. All animal and vegetable life is of chemical development. Political development is also of a chemical process, assuming a higher plane in proportion to the development of human kind. The source of development of the workers, both mentally, morally and politically, is the trade union. It is most important that all elements of whatever, political, or religious views, must be united under the banner of unionism. Not that at any time perhaps, all will have the same political beliefs. But by trade union philosophy and education the great majority will evolve a plan of political action. An attempt at any time, to force the same political beliefs on all the members of trade unions, will be disastrous. As such policy will drive necessary elements out, and place a force in opposition to the movement in its broadest sense, creating an element in opposition to our forces in an industrial struggle. The hope of the future is in the Trade Union. Bringing together all the elements of the various trades. Uniting the various forces upon common ground. And, by education, develop a force, gradually throwing off the old, and adopting the new. Again we affirm the basic principle of all material development is organization. The result of which is education, cooperation, moral and political development, hope, happiness and fraternity.

### UNION TO HELP CUPID.

Marriage has received a new partisan and financial patron in the National Women's Trade Union League. This organization proposes to dower full fledged members when they undertake matrimony.

The size of the pot is commensurate with how full fledged is the unionist. A woman who has belonged to the league ten years will at her wedding be given \$100. If the membership has existed five years the bride gets \$50. A one year membership nets \$10.

The league has taken this action because of frequent criticism that work among women's unions have a tendency to discourage marriage. This is denied. The reason given for a falling off of weddings among the women wage earners is girls and women see how ill they can afford matrimony.—EX.

### SHINGLE WEAVERS' ELECTION.

The Shingle Weavers' Union will hold their annual referendum election for International officers next Sunday, Oct. 17th, in the Labor Temple. Polls will be open from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. and every member in good standing is urged to come out and help roll up a large vote. Members are notified that in accordance with the amended election laws of the International, every brother before voting must deposit his working card with the financial secretary until the day following election.

## HAS PROVEN A SUCCESS

District Organization  
of Shingle Weavers  
Brings Results



C. J. FOLSOM

President International Shingle Weavers' Union of America.

C. J. Folsom, who is serving his first year as president of the International Shingle Weavers' Union of America, is a charter member of the Everett union and has been an active member in the organization since its inception in the spring of 1901. He was elected to the position he holds in January of this year and by his hard, conscientious work has demonstrated the wisdom of

the shingle weavers of the state when they chose him as their highest executive officer. He is a candidate for reelection at the hands of the membership at the national election to be held this month and he has so impressed the boys with his ability and earnestness that there is small doubt but that he will be returned to office by an overwhelming majority.

### PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS AS AN INVESTMENT

Fraternal Organizations and Labor Unions Unite to Save Members.

Nine fraternal and benefit organizations with a membership of nearly 3,000,000, and three international labor unions with a membership of over 100,000 have joined the ranks of the fighters against consumption within the last year, according to a statement issued today by the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis.

A year ago only one fraternal organization, the Royal League, and one labor union, the International Typographical Union, maintained institutions for the treatment of their tuberculous members. Since January 1st, 1909, the following fraternal and benefit organizations have taken up the consideration of tuberculosis, and in most instances have decided to erect institutions: Brotherhood of American Yeomen, Order of Eagles, Improved Order of Red Men, Modern Woodmen of America, Knights of Pythias, Royal Arcanum, Workmen's Circle, Knights of Columbus, and Foresters of America. The international labor unions which have joined the fight against tuberculosis are the International Photo-Engravers' Union of North America, the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union, and the International Boot and Shoe Workers' Union.

The Modern Woodmen and the Knights of Pythias have already opened sanatoria for their members who have tuberculosis at Colorado Springs, and East Las Vegas, New Mexico. The Workmen's Circle is about to erect a similar institution at Liberty, N. Y. The Royal League has maintained a sanatorium at Black Mountain, N. C., for three years. The other fraternal organizations mentioned have either appointed commissions to consider the advisability of erecting tuberculosis sanatoria, or are contemplating such action.

The first sanatorium to be erected for the benefit of the laboring men was built by the International Typographical Union in connection with its home at Colorado Springs. The International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union have recently decided to erect a similar sanatorium, and steps are now being taken to open such an institution. The International Photo-Engravers' Union, while not conducting a sanatorium of its own, pays for the treatment of its tuberculous members in institutions in various parts of the country. The International Boot and Shoe Workers' Union are recommending to their members that they ally themselves with the various organizations united in the fight against tuberculosis.

All of these fraternal organizations, and labor unions are also carrying on campaigns of education among their members. In this way over 3,000,000 men and women are receiving instructions through lectures, through official papers, and by literature expressly prepared showing the dangers and methods of prevention of tuberculosis.

It is a campaign of prevention which will bring to these various fraternal and benefit organizations millions of dollars in the saving of lives and the cutting down of payments for sickness and death resulting from tuberculosis. The recent National Fraternal Congress estimated that 50 per cent of

the death losses from tuberculosis could be saved by the various fraternal organizations of the country.

The National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis has rendered all assistance possible to these various movements among the labor men and fraternal organizations, and stands ready to co-operate as far as possible with any society of this character.

### ELECTRICAL WORKERS' CONTROVERSY.

The controversy of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, which has gained national notoriety, seems to be as complicated as ever to one not within the ranks of the electrical workers.

The American Federation of Labor seems to have stepped entirely outside its jurisdiction in the matter when it even ventured to dictate to one faction what it should do. The difficulties of any international union should be settled by that union, and it alone. Advice from the A. F. of L. would, no doubt, have been accepted, but when it steps in and commands a certain section of an international union that it must obey the dictates of a set of officers that seems to the general membership unfit to hold the positions of trust they are in, it certainly oversteps its authority.

At the Denver convention the spirit of the A. F. of L. seemed to be to obtain as many new members as possible in the local unions, and to make a more united front, sent out instructions to all local unions to join the central bodies, and the Structural Building Trades, or suffer the loss of their charter.

Now they are trying to tear down what we have been endeavoring to build up for so long a time. The A. F. of L. now issues instruction that unless the central bodies unseat the militant faction of the electrical workers, and by the way, as far as this city is concerned, one of the best local unions in the trades union movement, we stand suspended from the A. F. of L. and the charter revoked.

It is pleasing indeed to see the central bodies throughout the country refuse to be dragged into this trouble between the warring factions, and the A. F. of L. will realize that they have made a serious mistake when it stooped to dictate to members of an international union what they must do. The electrical workers are capable and brainy enough to take care of their own internal troubles, and should be left alone. Advice is always acceptable, and undoubtedly would have been carefully considered had not the A. F. of L. arrogantly, through some officious individual, tried to tell an international union that it must not be watchful of the upbuilding of its own organization.

It is to be hoped that this factional fight will soon be settled and no other of its kind arise. The A. F. of L. should place every central union whose charter it has revoked, in good standing, and instead of provoking strife and discontent among the ranks, should use every effort in its power to promote harmony and fellowship, to uphold, not to tear down.

Organized labor has rough roads enough in its fight for the betterment of the existing conditions without laying in its own path obstacles that are hard to surmount. Let us try for solidarity and unity, above all else—Spokane Labor World.

Perhaps no other trade union has a membership harder to keep track of nor so widely scattered as the shingle weavers. Other organizations have their membership almost entirely confined to cities and towns owing to the nature of the work. With the weavers it is far different. Many of the boys who follow that trade, the major portion of them in fact, work in the woods, far from the meeting place of their union. Several locals in the state cover a territory of sixty square miles or more. All successful unions have found that they must keep in touch with their members after they are initiated in order to hold their interest and enthusiasm. The workers must not only be organized but they must be educated in the principles that go toward making a thorough unionist.

The shingle weavers found out that these members that did not have an opportunity to attend the meetings because of their isolation from the cities and towns, soon became behind in their dues and to a certain extent lost interest in the work of the organization. Every non-union weaver or delinquent brother is a constant menace to the success of the organization so the locals concluded that if "Mahomet" could not come to the mountain the mountain would go to Mahomet.

The result was a division of the state some months ago into districts and the placing of organizers in the field to regularly visit all the mills in each district, collecting dues and initiating new members. The locals in a certain territory combined in meeting the expenses of the district organizer and sent him "into the highways and by-ways to compel them to come in." Every few weeks a district convention was held which was attended by delegates from each local. The report of the organizer was heard and the delegates told of the conditions that existed in each locality. These meetings created a bond of fellowship among the locals as perhaps nothing else could have done. Each delegate went back to his own local informed of the exact status of things in the other localities of the district, and with suggestions for the betterment of his local which he had gathered from these mutual interchanges of confidence.

After a six months' trial of the district organization plan the members are agreed that it was one of the wisest moves they ever made for the upbuilding of their International. The organizers have done splendid work in their respective fields. The boys in the remote mills have been brought in direct touch with their unions and an awakened interest has resulted.

Snohomish county, which was the first district to be so organized, held a convention in Everett last Sunday, which was enthusiastic and business-like. Plans were laid to combine Skagit and Whatcom counties with Snohomish and place an organizer constantly in the field. The report of the organizer showed Snohomish county to be in the best shape from an organized standpoint in the life of the International. An active line of campaign has been planned that in the event that the formation of the enlarged district shall be approved, every weaver in the district shall become an active member of the organization. C. N. Clifford, the father of the district idea, is president of Snohomish county; George O. Morrison, an old and tried member of the International, is secretary, and Ernest Kuehl, of Edmonds, fourth vice president of the International, is organizer.

Districts in the southern part of the state are doing splendid work. It is confidently expected that reports from the several districts at the next International convention will show such gratifying results that the district form of organization will be approved by the convention and plans for still better work perfected.

### THIS HELD HIM FOR AWHILE.

Everybody knows Phil Warnock, the genial proprietor of the Everett Bath, even though a surprising number of voters appeared to be in blissful ignorance that Phil was a candidate for councilman in the Second ward. More than one would-be Jocksmith has attempted to "put one over" on Phil and has got badly stung by his quick retort. Here is a little haymaker that landed on Phil the other day and found him for once unprepared to come back:

The day after election, a lady, a stranger in the city, entered Phil's shop and asked to be directed to the headquarters of the "Mystic Workers of the World."

Giving Phil no time for reply, a customer in the shop said:

"The Mystic Workers are out in the Second ward."

The joke was on Phil and the boys in the shop howled with unholy glee.