

TEMPLES FOR LABOR

They Exercise a Salutary Effect on the Movement.

A PROFITABLE INVESTMENT.

Permanent Homes Give Force and Solidity to the Unions Possessing Them—Aid in Cementing the Bonds of Fellowship.

It should be the aim of union labor in every city of our country which has a population of union men exceeding a thousand members to build a home, writes M. Grant Hamilton, general organizer of the American Federation of Labor. This question has been agitated in a number of industrial centers, but as yet only a few have built temples devoted exclusively to organized labor. On the other hand, in practically all the cities that make any pretense in the commercial field buildings devoted to the uses of chambers of commerce and boards of trade have been erected. This represents the interest manifested by business men in the commerce of their respective cities, and there is no reason why organized labor should not build for itself a home wherever union labor is sufficiently strong to maintain a permanent abode. Buildings devoted to the exclusive use of organized labor have had a salutary effect in bringing closer together the members of our various organizations.

In Seattle organized labor built a temple three stories high and upon its completion found it to be inadequate to its needs and immediately added another story. This enterprise is paying 6 per cent interest on the investment, and the rents of the various organizations making use of this building have been materially reduced.

San Francisco also has a labor temple of its own, and I am informed that it also is a profitable investment.

Kansas City is just completing a labor temple. In the latter city they have been trying for some twelve years to build a temple which when completed will be entirely free of debt, which will be some time in the near future. They will have a building that will be a credit to the labor cause. There is no reason why the members of our movement should not make an effort in every city and town where unions are in sufficient number to erect for themselves a place where all members of the various crafts might find a common meeting place. It not only advances the best interests of unionism as a whole, but gives the individual members a stimulus in their efforts to further build up the movement. In every city where a home has been erected for organized labor it is found that it is more effective than in places where the organizations are scattered throughout the various parts of the city. So far as the investment is concerned, it is indeed a profitable one to all organizations participating.

In the temples of labor which have been erected we find reading rooms where are to be found practically all of the labor press, both local and international, a large number of our members taking advantage of the same. Our efforts have been expended along the lines of education, and in the reading rooms of the few temples which are now being conducted we find that much attention is being paid by the members to the current literature of our cause. It is also true that where a common meeting place is provided you will always find the active members of labor unions congregated, and it necessarily follows that discussions are entered into beneficial to our movement as a result of the mingling and commingling of our affiliates.

It is not a very difficult undertaking for a body of men to commence the building of a structure which would be necessary for the use of organized labor, but it does take some persistence and good judgment.

In some cities it might be advisable to incorporate in the building of a structure a commercial enterprise. The lower floor could be fitted up for rent. This entails a larger expenditure of money than would be necessary to construct a building devoted to the exclusive use of our unions. Every central body in the United States should take this matter under consideration and appoint committees for the purpose of making investigations and instituting a campaign to further this worthy project.

Fraternity in labor unions can be increased greatly by providing adequate and commodious meeting halls. At stated intervals provision could be made for discussions on the various topics in which organized labor is represented. The member would become interested in the activities of the general movement if opportunities which are afforded by a temple of unionism were presented to him.

The acquisition of property by the labor organizations in the shape of a structure dedicated to the use of the movement would not only be an object of pride, but give to the owners a firmer foothold and higher standing in the community.

Our movement is not only interested in the welfare of its individual members, but in all public agitation which has for its purpose the betterment of our existing conditions. The force of our organizations would be greatly increased in every locality where we maintain a permanent home for our unions. Our opinions in civic matters would be given greater consideration, and from every point of view the movement would be adequately recompensed.

TRADE INSTRUCTION.

Labor's Educational Committee Wants Mechanics Taught in Schools.

An official report regarding the aims and objects of the committee on industrial education of the American Federation of Labor has been made by John Mitchell, chairman of the committee.

The movement, it was stated, is not a trades union movement particularly, but is the first of the kind started by the American Federation of Labor. Chairman Mitchell says in his report:

"National associations for the promotion of industrial education have been started from time to time, but this is the first time the American Federation of Labor has gone into the matter. The committee has gone into the subject exhaustively and finds that many manufacturers because of the specialization of the different departments of the trades find it very hard to get competent superintendents, owing to the difficulty of finding all around mechanics who have learned everything about any particular trade.

"We will agitate for the teaching of the principles of mechanics in the public schools. The high schools, for instance, teach pupils how to prepare for the professions, but as there are more people in mechanical trades than in the professions they should also, we believe, teach the principles of mechanics.

"A man, for instance, may know that a joint at a certain angle is stronger than at any other angle without knowing the reason why. Another man will know why that joint is stronger. This man will be more valuable than the first man. Ambition to excel would be stimulated if mechanics had a better opportunity of knowing the principles of a trade as well as learning one branch of a trade in a routine way. In the end this would be better for both employers and employees.

"A number of recommendations on the subject will be made at the coming meeting of the committee in Washington, which will be submitted at the next meeting of the American Federation of Labor for approval before we ask for legislation on the subject."

THE GOOD UNION MAN.

He is a Conscientious, Upright and Honest Workman.

Take the mass as a whole, the organized man is an honest, upright, conscientious workman of ability. He realizes his own worth, but he seldom overrates himself. While he insists on receiving just remuneration for his services, he is ready and willing to exert himself and his organization with a sense of fairness to give his employer the best service there is in him. The good union man is glad when the day's work begins and is happy when it is over. In every union man there is a desire to do a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, and he does not have to be growled at or driven to do it by the boss of the shop, although we sometimes find employers who have become so hardened to the sense of fairness that they cannot recognize the true worth and ability in a good union man when they have one.—Journeyman Barber.

Protection For Labor.

The North Carolina act of 1907 providing \$5,000 yearly and special agencies with power to make arrangements with steamship companies and agencies abroad to promote immigration of laborers into the state has been repealed.

By a joint resolution of the Ohio legislature senators and representatives in congress are petitioned to enact the protection of American labor. The petitioners hold that a protective tariff without protection from the competition of cheap labor at home is a travesty of the industrial process.

A Union's Fine Record.

The members of Boston Cigar-makers' union, No. 97, voluntarily assessed themselves more than an aggregate of \$25,000 during the first six months of this year to assist, in addition to the international benefits, the members out of work during the dull times in the trade and for other purposes. It gave \$19,852.43 to out of work members.

LABOR BRIEFS.

The next convention of the International Typographical union will be held at Minneapolis, the home city of Secretary-Treasurer John W. Hays.

William DoBson of North Adams, international secretary of the Bricklayers and Masons' union, has just returned from a trip to his old home in England and attendance at a general conference of labor interests held in that country.

The Western Federation of Miners, the organization of the metal miners, which is not connected with the A. F. of L., frankly announces that it intends to call a general strike at all the Guggenheim mines just as soon as the conditions are favorable.

Terrence L. Mahan, a Boston man, who as international secretary-treasurer of the Steel and Copper Plate Printers' union makes his headquarters in Washington, was recently elected to that place for the seventh consecutive time.

An important conference is soon to be held in New York of all the unions of stone trades with a purpose of bringing about a closer affiliation and better working conditions, and it is probable that a stone trades department of the A. F. of L. will be formed.

American Labor Not Class Conscious.

At the international labor convention in Paris an American representative was handled roughly by some of the European delegates because he represented a kind of trades unionism that they don't like.

The incident is noteworthy because it gave dramatic emphasis to the difference between the labor movements in Europe and that in America. The American labor leader stood there in Paris isolated and conspicuous before the nations of Europe because of his refusal to admit that the interests of American workmen are opposed to the interests of the rest of American society.

The labor movement in Europe is "class conscious." A French workman is supposed to have more in common with a Russian workman than with a Frenchman who lives on a salary or by investments.

American labor leaders puzzle and exasperate European labor leaders because the Americans insist upon caring more for their country than for their class.—New York American.

BLUFFING LEGISLATORS.

Withdrawal of Industry an Empty Threat of Employers.

Nothing is more difficult to estimate accurately than the effect of labor legislation upon employers, writes Florence Kelley in the Survey. I have known of many threats of employers to move away from a state by reason of a proposed labor law. Never have I known one really to go. For instance, in the glass industry in Illinois none has gone, and the industry has increased very considerably since night work of children was stopped and the eight hours a day introduced for them. There is always the threat of the New Jersey glass manufacturers that if the night work of boys is stopped they will go to Maryland or West Virginia. Because every year the number of boys employed diminishes as the industry is more efficiently organized I believe this to be an empty threat.

When cotton mills have gone south from New England there have entered into their calculation free or cheap water power, freedom from taxes, cheap coal and cheap adult labor. The statement that they went to escape the light of these things. One Massachusetts mill is commonly said to have been moved to Rhode Island by reason of the ten hour law. But the considerations as to taxes, rent, water power, etc., are unknown.

The only industry I have seen move into Pennsylvania, where labor legislation has always been a dead letter, is that of silk and knitting mills which went from New York to employ women and children, the male members of whose families, working in mines and breakers, cannot sustain them. I think the laws had little to do with it. They are nowhere sufficiently rigorous to make much difference to employers.

The pretext alleged by the southern members of Governor Patterson's Nashville conference on child labor for not recommending the eight hour day for children in southern states was the twelve hour day in Pennsylvania and the ten hour day in Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

Transplanting an industry is, however, so serious a matter that many considerations more important than any labor law yet enacted, much less enforced, in this country would enter in.

Legislation which protects the life, limb, health and intelligence of working people is not a burden upon industry. On the contrary, it is in many cases a direct benefit, increasing the general efficiency. The conspicuous superiority of the working class of Massachusetts compared with Rhode Island and South Carolina illustrates this.

The Right to Strike Upheld.

Federal Judge Baker, sitting in Indianapolis, refused the American Tin Plate company's plea for an injunction against its striking employees at Elwood, Ind. The decision is a radical departure from the custom of these courts.

Judge Baker held that unionists had the right to strike, to present wage scales and induce others to join them. In answer to the company's claim that Elwood officials were not enforcing the law the court called attention to the company's failure to connect strikers, either directly or indirectly, with this condition. The workers' attorneys acknowledged sympathizers had jeered and in some cases had used insulting language, but Judge Baker agreed that the police authorities of Elwood must handle this phase of the question.

The decision is squarely for the workers and is probably the first time a federal judge has thrown an injunction application out of court.

Machinists Would Change Law.

At the international convention of machinists, soon to be held at Denver, an effort will be made to change the present method of selecting the vice presidents. The proposed amendment provides that there shall be a board of vice presidents, each selected from a geographical district and to be placed in charge of it during his term. The claim is made in behalf of the proposition that a man from his own district knows the needs there better than one who does not know anything about the territory and the lodges of machinists in it.

Home For Pressmen's Union.

It is reported that the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' union has purchased the Tennessee Hale Springs property near Knoxville to establish thereon a national home after the plan of the Union Printers' Colorado Springs home. The tract includes 1,100 acres, with a hotel and four mineral springs.

LABOR NOTES.

There is a union of hatmakers at Le Mans, France, in which the offices of president, vice president, secretary and treasurer are held by one man.

The street railway employees of St. Paul and Minneapolis have started to organize with a view to securing better pay and different running hours.

The Lawrence (Mass.) Weavers' Protective association has decided upon a series of open air meetings to interest the textile operatives in the union movement.

President H. B. Perham of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers has been elected fourth vice president of the American Federation of Labor, vice Max Morris, deceased.

The Journeymen Barbers' International union will hold the first national convention of the craft in five years at Milwaukee beginning Oct. 5. From 900 to 850 delegates will be in attendance.

Fireman May Move Headquarters. The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen is contemplating a change of headquarters from Peoria, Ill., to Cincinnati. The board of directors has the matter in charge, but a decision will hardly be made before next January.

At the present headquarters the payroll now amounts to \$45,000 annually, and the yearly expenditure for stationery and general supplies is estimated at from \$25,000 to \$30,000. The brotherhood carries a bank balance of about \$300,000.

DEVOTION OF LABOR.

Its Loyalty to the Cause Must Accomplish Results.

SACRIFICING FOR PROGRESS.

Gives Freely the Best That is in It That Mankind May Be Benefited. Growth of the Movement in Intelligence—Leaders of Higher Type.

Writing in a recent number of the American Magazine under the title "The Old Order Changeth" and comparing the achievement of public sentiment with the achievement of its ends as against public opinion and its inevitable collapse and failure, William Allen White has this to say of the American labor movement:

One of the most ominous shadows casting itself before some coming event in our national life is the American Federation of Labor. And it is important not because it affects so many people, though probably 10,000,000 Americans are directly affected by the life of the federation; it is important because of the way these 10,000,000 people are affected, for all of them—men who work and their wives, sisters, children, sweethearts, fathers and mothers and sympathizing friends—make the federation or some of its component parts their religion. They are willing to sacrifice not only their comfort for it, but time and again they do sacrifice their necessities for it. Their conduct, which is nine-tenths of life, is regulated by the federation, and their creed in religion and politics is more or less based by it.

The material results of their altruistic faith in the federation may be seen in the fact that the members paid \$1,257,244 in death benefits last year and \$593,541 in sick benefits, \$205,254 in unemployment benefits and \$2,594,750 in strike benefits. Here is a grand total of four and a half million dollars raised by men to whom a dollar means more than a hundred dollars means to the forces these men are contending with. And when one considers what a vast amount of time and thought and service have come in proportion to this cause one must recognize that eventually the men who devote that sacrifice in money and that time and thought and personal service to the common good must accomplish real results, for whatever error now is impending them, whether error in their own demands or error in the claims of their opponents, must go down before such an organized force.

For this is not a material world. In the organization of this thing we call civilization there is no force so resistless as kindness, and this vast kindness of the workers to their brethren, whatever of cruelty, whatever of meanness it may call forth, either on their own side or on the side of their antagonists, in spite of the evil the kindness must win some substantial reward in the end. Laws may be temporarily denied them, courts may check them and executives keep them within their legal restrictions, but in the end whatever there is of usefulness justice in the demands of labor for a humane day, a clean environment and a living wage, will come to them under national law, for when one considers how far labor has come in fifty years in this country, how large has been its actual as well as its comparative betterment as the result of organization, the future becomes something more than a guess, for today the organization is of a higher type, the leaders have a broader outlook, and the devotion of the men and women inside the organization is of a more intelligent kind than ever it was before.

Two Noted Printers.

"The list of great men who are printers," says W. N. Brockwell in the Trades Unionist, "is a long one, but only a few even of the craft that enlightens the world are aware that the Wright brothers, the famous aviators, are printers. They heard the call of business," says a newspaper story of these men, "before they were out of school. They were still students when they edited and published a little newspaper devoted to that section of Dayton in which they lived—the West Side News. This plant was enlarged as fast as its earnings permitted, and when the two boys first began to experiment with aerial apparatus they had made themselves competent job printers."

Temple of Labor in Washington.

It is reported that Patrick McNamee of Indianapolis and other labor leaders are very favorable to the proposal made by Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, in his speech there during the carpenters' building dedication, to erect a temple of labor in Washington. They figure that if a contribution of only \$1 were made by each of the 2,000,000 affiliated workmen of the A. F. of L. it would be able to erect a building in Washington that would have a decided effect on the lawmakers.

Aim of Trades Unionism.

Unionism should not be judged by its worst features, but by its general characteristics. It does not ask to be judged by its best qualities. There is good and bad in all institutions. Their real value lies in their general attributes. Unionism has objectionable features, but even these when properly understood lose much of their objectionableness.

The real test of an institution lies in its helpfulness to those who need help. The union stands for the progress of the plain people. Its word is personality. Its aim is to lift the standard of tolling manhood and womanhood. It has done much and will do more to make the multitude happier and better. To criticize it apart from a recognition of this purpose is to do it an injustice.

Federation of Human Rights.

Incorporation papers of the American Federation of Human Rights, a branch of the French labor organization which demands equal rights for both sexes before the law and which proposes to combat ignorance under all forms, has been filed with the recorder of deeds of the District of Columbia.

About Juvenile Members.

State Master W. T. Creasy of Pennsylvania in answer to a question has recently made the statement that membership in the juvenile granges does not confer the privilege of attending subordinate granges. We presume that the members of the subordinate granges may have desired on some occasion to take children who were members of the juvenile grange to the subordinate grange meeting, but this is not allowable in Pennsylvania or any other state.

TO ABOLISH SWEATSHOPS.

Chicago Garment Manufacturers Plan Improved Workshops.

Centralization of the combined garment manufacturing interests of Chicago by the erection of a group of eighty buildings to cost approximately \$5,000,000 and the abolition of the sweatshop by the building of homes, clubhouses, libraries and gymnasiums for 8,500 employees was the plan launched recently by the Chicago Garment Manufacturers' association.

The plan, evolved by Sol H. Shoninger, president of the organization, was enthusiastically received by members of the association. As a practical undertaking it was pronounced feasible. A committee was named to carry out the preliminary preparations and look for the site. Included in the membership of the association are more than a hundred manufacturers of women's and children's garments, who do a combined yearly business in Chicago of \$40,000,000. Their plants at present are scattered in various parts of the city.

The combined plant will cover an area of forty acres, and the drawings which have been prepared specify that each building shall be built of reinforced concrete and shall measure 75 by 100 feet. The individual plants will be detached, thus providing light work-rooms for employees.

The structures will be so grouped that they will face a macadamized boulevard lined on either side with shade trees, with a large grass plot in the center.

At either end of the row of factory buildings will be recreation houses, including possibly a swimming pool, together with the library, gymnasium and rest rooms. Included in the plans also is a large hotel, where out of town merchants and buyers will be entertained.

TOIL OF THE YOUNG.

Connecticut Permits Employment of Children at Night.

In Hartford and a few other Connecticut cities young girls and boys have been permitted to sell papers on the streets for some time. Last winter an investigation was made with the aid of the national child labor committee, and so many facts were gathered showing the extent and results of street employment of small girls and boys that general interest in the subject was aroused, and a bill intended to remedy the situation was introduced in the Connecticut legislature.

This bill, which was backed by the State Consumers' League, the national child labor committee, social and educational workers and many leading citizens, gave authority to school boards to license boys of suitable age who might properly be employed in street trades and to prohibit other children from such employment. The proposal met with little opposition and was reported favorably by the joint legislative committee on education, but when the matter came up before the senate it was opposed on the ground that it granted too wide an authority to school officials, and, to the great surprise of friends of the measure, the favorable report of the committee was rejected by the senate.

It is significant that on the same day that this bill was rejected the senate unanimously approved a bill which provides that women and minors over fourteen years of age in mercantile establishments may be employed every night of the year until 10 o'clock and more than the local fifty-eight hours during the week preceding Christmas. For that week there is no limit to the hours of employment.—Survey.

Mining Commissions.

The governor of Arizona is authorized to appoint two practical mine owners and one attorney to constitute a commission to draft a mining code. Members are to receive \$10 a day for actual service. They must grant public hearings for a period of six consecutive days and report before the next legislative session.

In Illinois \$25,000 has been appropriated for a commission to investigate the methods and conditions of coal mining with special reference to the safety of workmen and the conservation of coal deposits. The governor is to appoint three coal mine owners, three coal miners, who serve without compensation, and three "disinterested" persons, who receive \$10 per day for actual service. The commission will submit a revision of the coal mining laws of the state.

Aliens a Menace to Labor.

The committee on immigration of the New York Central Federated union, which has for several months been conferring with Secretary Nagel of the department of commerce and labor, Immigration Commissioner Williams and others with a view to admitting for more rigid rules for the admission of aliens, has made its report.

The committee stated that immigrants were coming here in such large numbers that they were becoming a menace to American workers. It recommends that the crews of freight vessels be rigidly inspected to see that none should slip in illegally as immigrants.

Another recommendation was to the effect that the state branches of the American Federation of Labor be requested to take up the immigration problem.

WOMEN LAUD UNIONS

Leaders in Movement Tell Why They Are Unionists.

STRENGTH IN ORGANIZATION.

Individually Workers Lack Power to Improve Their Condition—Betterment Can Be Attained Only Through United Effort.

From all over the world there gathered at the recent biennial session of the Women's Trade Union League at Chicago leading lights in the movement to improve the condition of women workers. That they believe in their cause and have reasons for that belief can be understood from the statements given below. They were prepared especially for the Workers' Magazine by these leading officials of the league.

Miss Mary Macarthur, secretary of the Women's Trade Union League of Great Britain and Ireland and the only woman member of the executive council of the Independent Labor party of England, wrote:

"I became a union worker by accident at the age of nineteen. As a journalist I attended a labor meeting in a country town in Scotland to get material for a story. At this meeting there were six members on the platform and five in the hall, all jumping up and down and arguing organization.

"I had gone there to make fun of the radicals, who held their meetings in a miserable hole above a fish shop, but while there on my frivolous errand I became converted and joined the little band.

"My father was most angry, as he did not approve of the union. I endeavored to make him see things in the same light in which I did, but it was impossible, and I was finally compelled to leave home, as the unpleasantness there was such it was almost unbearable.

"In order to fully understand the labor situation I gave up journalism and took a position as clerk in a London store at a salary of \$3.50 a week. This was in 1903, when Lady Dilke, who was one of the founders of the Women's Trade Union League, was arousing so much enthusiasm through her talks and personal work.

"I became acquainted with her, and she appointed me secretary of the organization. At that time it had a membership of only 40,000. At the present time there are over 200,000 members.

"I love my work—every portion of it. Often I am called upon to settle strikes, which I say I do without meaning to boast—I always do. It is the union first, last and always with me."

Miss Louise La Rue, secretary of the San Francisco Waitresses' union, contributed the following:

"Until the union came into existence the life of a waitress was not a pleasant one to lead. Long hours, little pay—and much of this being compensated each week to pay for broken dishes—went far to make the waitress one of the most unhappy working girls in the world.

"When I was, in 1899, employed in a large St. Louis restaurant I worked one day from 10:30 a. m. to 8 p. m. The next day I was on duty from 6 a. m. to 2 p. m., and then from 5 p. m. to 9 o'clock that night. On Sunday when other people were at church or having a good time in the parks I was on duty thirteen hours.

"But the union has changed everything. It has secured for the girl the eight hour working day and one day in the week off, the day to be arranged for by the proprietor and the employee.

"In San Francisco the waitresses eat the same food as the guests of the hotels or cafes where they are employed. By paying 50 cents a month a waitress has the services of the union physician during illness, and in case of death a hundred dollar benefit goes to her family.

"It is for these reasons and many others that I say the union is the greatest thing in the world for the working girl, and no girl who has worked with it behind her will ever willingly give up its support and the feeling of security and rest that is hers in the knowledge that a sisterhood of sympathizers is behind her, willing and ready to fight her individual battles with her."

Miss Leonora O'Reilly, vice president of the Women's Trade Union League of New York and supervisor of the power operating department of the Manhattan Trade School For Girls, is a unionist for these reasons:

"I am a union woman because I could not be anything else. I am a Fenian, and I belong to a family of revolutionists. When I was eleven years old I was a shirtmaker and learned much of the horrors of factory life at that time.

"As I grew older I became possessed with the union idea. I saw that unless we girls did something we would be broken over the wheel of constant tortures, ill paid work.

"I saw that the cattle of the prairies went in herds; that the birds always flocked together. Why should women work alone and suffer alone?"

"I was making six shirts a day, bending over a sewing machine, growing thin and sallow and broken down in health because I lacked proper food, clothing and fresh air.

"And so, because I wanted to live and enjoy life at least to some extent, I became an advocate of the union movement.

"I am a unionist because I insist on my right to live."

THE LABORING MAN.

By HENRY B. FUNK.

(Read at the opera house, Arkansas City, Kan., on the evening of Labor day, Monday, Sept. 4, 1906, and published by request of the Central Labor body and other citizens.)

In the beginning, when God made the earth,
And the sun, moon and stars had recorded
And their birth;
When all things created were by Divine
Made perfect, God said, "Now let us
make man
in our likeness and image and proclaim it
that he
Over forms of the air and the fish of the
sea
And cattle and creeping things over the
land
Shall have sole dominion, power and command."

Six days then of toil on the calendar
stood,
And the work of his hand he declared to
be good.
Six days of creation examined and blessed
And the seventh set apart as a season of
rest.
Rest from the toil of creating the world
Devoted to comfort and pleasure and
health.

Thus early we learn how the lesson was
taught
That all of our comforts and joys must
be bought
By intelligent labor with hand and with
head—

"In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat
thy bread,
Go forth now and multiply, labor and
rest.
Replenish the earth, that thy people be
fruitful
Be faithful in all that thy duties require
And thy labor shall ever be worthy thy
share.
All things in the earth, air and sea shall
be thine
If thou shalt obey the injunctions divine.

How simple the lesson! How plain the
command!
The reward—how enticing! The calling—
how grand!
Each man a creator endowed with the
power
To make the world better in each coming
day.

To labor, produce and create as he goes;
To add to life's pleasures and diminish
life's woes.
Go forth, then, to labor. To all it is said,
"In the sweat of thy brow shalt thou eat
thy bread,
But nowhere do we find, though long we
may look
From page to page of the blessed old
book.

A chapter or verse that says any one can
Eat bread by the sweatings of some other
man.
But, alas, in these days of corruption and
trusts
The schemer gets dainties and the toiler
the crusts!
The knight of the spade, the pick and the
bar,
The yeoman whose produce has loaded
the car,
The creator of wealth, gets the cold,
stony stare,
And the drone is a pampered, purse proud
millionaire!

But again to our labors! On history's
page
In every country and in every age
The fact is recorded in letters of light
That shine like the stars in the firmament
bright
That the prince in his palace, the king on
his throne,
The man who has millions he claims as
his own,
Would be paupers today, with all of their
clan,
Were it not for the work of the laboring
man.

The cattle that browse on the valleys and
hills,
The palaces, buildings, manufactories,
mills,
The millions of acres of rich growing
grain,
The long lines of railroads over mountain
and plain—
All these that have "value" that the
mind can span,
Can be traced to the work of the laboring
man.

As the laboring man is the basis of all
And without him the structure will crum-
ble and fall,
It is plainly his duty himself to inform,
That he may accomplish the needed re-
form.
He holds enough ballots within his hand
To settle any question in all this broad
land,
To decide upon men who are honest and
true
And swear when elected their duty to do,
With the people prepared, if traitors they
turn,
To brand them for honest men ever to
spurn.

But while the man's story we're proceed-
ing to tell
The laboring woman deserves praises as
well,
Faithful and true, she stands by man's