

WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE

PUBLISHED PROVISIONALLY UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE TRADES COUNCIL.

No. 1.

NEW HAVEN, SEPTEMBER 8, 1883.

Price One Cent.

PROSPECTUS.

The WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE is published at this time to call the attention of workmen to the fact that they are in need of more thorough organization, as well as to state the truth in cases that have been misrepresented or garbled by uninterested newspapers. It has been proposed to make this a weekly paper and publish it every Saturday or Sunday. The organized workmen themselves may decide whether this shall be done or not. When a demand is made upon the Trades Council in the interest of labor, it cannot refuse to do its utmost to further any good project. But let all consider that in the matter of establishing a weekly paper, be it ever so small, *substantial* "backing" is just as needful as the mere desire for a printed WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE. Let all who are interested meet at Trades Council Hall Saturday evening, September 8th, at 8 o'clock.

Regular Meetings of Trades Unions at Trades Council Hall.

Tailors' Union meets every second and fourth Monday in each month.

Carvers' Association meets every third Tuesday in each month.

Stone Masons' Union meets every second Wednesday in each month.

Bricklayers' Union meets every first and third Thursday in each month.

Typographical Union meets every second Thursday in the month.

Piano Makers' Lodge meets every first and third Friday in the month.

Cigarmakers' Progressive Union meets every second Friday in each month.

Granite Cutters' Union meets every third Saturday in the month.

The Trades Council meets every first Wednesday in each month.

The Trustees of the Trades' Council meet in the ante-room every Saturday evening from 8 to 9 o'clock.

Meetings of Other Trade Societies.

Stationary Engineers' Association meets at Room 23, Insurance Building, every second and fourth Wednesday in each month.

Carpenters' Protective Council meets at Room 23, Insurance Building, every Tuesday.

The haste with which the WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE was prepared prevented the compilation of a perfect list of Trades Societies and their places of meeting. If the following organizations will put themselves in communication with the Secretary of the Trades Council, it may lead to a closer union among the various branches of honorable toil, as the united branches impart to each the combined strength of all: Carriage Blacksmiths', Locomotive Engineers', Painters', Cigarmakers' Union No. 39, Iron Molders', Carriage Trimmers', Carriage Painters', Plumbers', Bakers', Corset Cutters', Pressmens', Shoemakers', Firemen's, Machinists', Horseshoers', Building Laborers', Clothing Cutters', Roofers', Marine Engineers', Knights of Labor.

Labor Papers.

Two years ago there were not a half dozen labor papers in the country. We take pleasure in calling attention to the fact that there are now nearly sixty which we can call to mind, as alive and "kicking," literarily, for the rights of Labor.

THE PRINTERS' STRIKE

A Statement from the Palladium Compositors.

The Grinding Process of the Bosses Fully Exposed.

Reasons Why Every Workingman Should Boycott the Palladium.

The *Palladium* compositors, who recently went on strike, furnish the following statement for publication:

Everything went wrong after Mr. Ryder's (the present foreman of the *Palladium*) advent into the office. He was undoubtedly engaged for the purpose of cutting down expenses, and it was not long before he proved he was the right man in the right place. He had been in the office but a short time when we soon realized that our week's earnings were gradually growing beautifully less. He started a system of reducing the leaded matter, and it was not long before we were compelled to work a whole night and wind up in the morning with less than three dollars earned—and this for thirteen or fourteen hours' hard labor. We soon commenced to tire of this and assembled together and requested the foreman to be a little more liberal. He saw that the men meant what they said and he assented to their request, but it was only for a short time, for in less than three weeks he himself was setting display advertisements while the men were standing around waiting for copy. The next day the men assembled together and resolved to object to the foreman setting advertisements in the future. That same evening he started again on advertisements and we informed him that he was setting matter that belonged to the men. He quit immediately but only to cut us again in another direction—notably giving the men more solid matter and "running in" all figure work. He also took a very phat take, a table, from the hook and set it himself, and then had the audacity to say that he didn't believe the men wanted it. That act convinced us that there was no limit to Ryder's meanness so we appointed a committee to wait on Manager Johnson and ask him for an advance in the price of composition. We were told in a few words that our request would not be granted and that if we didn't like the way his foreman was running things to get out of the office and strike if we wanted to. We were disheartened, and not being members of the Union realized that we had no redress. We didn't like to strike, and foolishly supposed that more pacific measures might induce the foreman and manager of the *Palladium* to at least treat us decently. We supposed wrongly, however, for within two weeks from the time that we asked for fair wages and fair treatment, one of our number was taken from a case in which he had distributed type and a stranger friend of the foreman put in his place, the man removed being put on an empty case thus deliberately robbing him of his labor. We all remonstrated against the injustice done, but were plainly told by the foreman "that it was none of our business and if we didn't like his style to quit and get out." We continued at work and after the paper went to press appointed a committee to wait on the officers of the Typographical Union and ask permission to join the organization. We were accepted as members and immediately inaugurated a strike in the *Palladium* office. We are satisfied with the result and feel confident that "Boss" Ryder and "Boss" Johnson will soon realize the fact that workingmen have some rights which even "bosses" are bound to respect.

The Wood Carvers.

The National Wood Carvers' Association, of which the Carvers' Association in this city is a branch, was organized last January at Philadelphia, and has been very prosperous in all their undertakings. The present Central Committee of the organization is located at Cincinnati, where the next annual convention is to be held on the 2d Tuesday in October. All communications intended for the central committee or the annual convention should be addressed to Charles Wurster, No. 234 West 5th street, Covington, Ky.

EDWARD DOWNES, 309 Chapel street, being agent for all the lines of Ocean Steamers, enjoys special facilities for issuing passage tickets and drafts.—adv.

Mr. Edward S. Pitman is authorized to collect pay for advertisements.

TRADES COUNCIL PUBLISHING COMMITTEE.

The Tailors' Union of this city nobly donated \$25 to the locked out lady telegraphists in New York.

WORKINGMEN should have a higher ambition than to be well fed and well clothed. They should aspire to the dignity of true manhood.

POVERTY is not a personal misfortune of the individual but the natural consequence of our capitalistic, monopolistic mode of production and distribution.

The workmen in the trades that are not organized should organize at once. In union there is strength. Organize and send delegates to the Trades Council.

Workingmen should patronize those who will in turn recognize their claims. Among our advertisers will be found those on whom the workingmen should call.

MONOPOLY is a modern sleight-of-hand performance by which the wealth of the country, produced by the industrious workers, is transferred into the pockets of shrewd monopolists.

In another column will be found the announcement of the picnic of Progressive Cigarmakers' Union at Railroad Grove on Monday. All who wish a good time should attend.

MONOPOLISTS have no hearts and no conscience. Their religion is money, their faith speculation, their hope large dividends. Nature and humanity exists for them only as a field from which they reap but on which they do not sow.

INCONGRUITY IN ART.—It was amusing the other day to witness the efforts of an intelligent looking joiner on Howard avenue trying to fit round capitals on square columns. The name of the architect was not learned.

The combined attacks of the workingmen on their oppressors will have the effect of strengthening themselves as well as showing their enemies that in union there is strength. See that this is the case as regards the *Palladium*. All wage-workers should do what they can toward accomplishing this end.

At the special meeting of the Trades Council to take action regarding the strike on the *Palladium*, it was voted to appoint a committee to prevail upon the advertisers to withdraw their patronage from the *Palladium*. A committee was also appointed to direct the publication of the WORKMEN'S ADVOCATE.

According to the United States Census the wages of workingmen averaged as follows:

In 1850	\$247.36
1860	289.00
1870	377.59
1880	349.74

These figures speak for themselves and prove beyond a doubt that workingmen have indeed no time to lose, but should organize at once for their own individual interest. The gods help them who help themselves.