

ANOTHER WAY TO FIGHT LABOR UNIONS

The National Association of Manufacturers, bitterest enemy of organized labor in the country, originated the Edwin G. Cooley vocational school plan.

It was just five years ago that the National Association of Manufacturers first got the idea of making scabs through the schools.

At that time, the association decided to spend \$500,000 to fight organized labor, and one of the chief things for which that \$500,000 was to be used was:

"To aid and promote the establishment of industrial schools."

Industrial is the proper name for the kind of schools Cooley wants to have in Illinois, but vocational sounds better, and besides everybody does not know what it means.

Soon after the \$500,000 a year appropriation, the association got Frances Blair, then state superintendent of schools in Illinois, to boost the industrial school idea here.

Miss Blair failed to have anyone pay any attention to the idea, and now the association has got other hands to do its work.

These "other hands" are worth examination. First there is Clayton Mark, who robbed the school children by giving away their land in midnight leases. Then there is Donald Morrell, who was attorney for the board of education when the midnight leases were given, but who became attorney for the Tribune when the people tried to get back the land stolen from their children. Lastly, there is Edwin G. Cooley.

Denouncing the Cooley plan before the Chicago Federation of Labor, Margaret Haley said that it would make the state of Illinois the parent of a lot of scab factories.

But the Cooley bill would do much worse than this if ever it were passed. It would begin in Illinois the enactment of class legislation of the worst sort.

The Cooley plan is to have two school systems, one just as it is, just now and the other an industrial one.

When Ella Flagg Young asked Cooley what object there could be in thus separating the two systems absolutely, Cooley replied:

"Oh, children who wanted character could go to the present schools, and children who wanted efficiency could go to the vocational schools."

That is bunk, of course. There can be no character without efficiency, no efficiency without character.

But it is in the two systems plan that the real evil of the Cooley bill lies.

By that system, the children of the plain people would be urged,