

The Labor Advocate

A PAPER FOR ALL WHO TOIL

Official Organ of
The Building Trades Council
of Cincinnati and Vicinity

ISSUED WEEKLY

W. E. MYERS.....Editor
Business Office, 34 Thoms Building
Phone, Canal 5511

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR IN ADVANCE

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Cincinnati, O., October 9, 1915.

SELF-PRESERVATION

It must be very interesting to the machinists of Cincinnati to read Mr. John Manley's statement on the present industrial conditions, as published in The Times-Star; and it is very evident that the Walking Delegate of the Metal Trades Association is alarmed about losing his job.

For years the men who have worked at the machinists' craft were compelled in seeking positions to be recommended by Mr. Manley. Now it is very evident that Mr. Manley wishes the same conditions to prevail.

The workers want an eight-hour day.

If they get an eight-hour day, there will be no place for men like Mr. Manley, and the open shop and the black list will be a thing of the past.

May they win.

POOR POLITICS

Nicholas Klein, a few nights ago, called a meeting of the garment workers to protest against the re-election of Judge Benton Oppenheimer, for the simple reason that Judge Oppenheimer had the courage to uphold the dignity of his court.

The object of the meeting was to give the impression to the public that Judge Oppenheimer was objectionable to the Jews and to organized labor.

As to Oppenheimer's standing among the American and naturalized Jews in this community there is no question, and it will rank favorably with that of any of those who were at the garment workers' meeting.

When the matter was brought up in the Central Labor Council it was promptly tabled, as such actions found no response in a union meeting of law-abiding citizens.

The idea of not paying any attention to "the rulings of the court" is a socialistic one, and belongs over in the I. W. W. ranks.

It was bad politics, and trade unionists will pay no attention to it, because it was a punch below the belt and, therefore, unfair.

MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

We heard a great deal about municipal ownership of the street cars some time ago, but very little in the last few weeks. Union labor would prefer to see the street-car men get a little more pay, a little shorter work day and a few more cars operated on every line, than be continually talking about municipal ownership around election and then dropping it afterwards.

TWO MORE Registration Days

Friday, October - - 15

Saturday, October - 16

Voting Booths Open from 8 A. M. to 2 P. M. and from 4 P. M. to 9 P. M.

ELECTION, TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd

WHAT YOU ARE TO VOTE ON

The following is a list of the issues to be voted on:

STATE ITEMS—Constitutional stability amendment. This provides that no constitutional amendment which has twice been defeated since the adoption of the new constitution, shall be resubmitted until six years have passed since the last defeat.

Amendment providing for State-wide prohibition.

Referendum on McDermott liquor law.

Referendum on Sprague congressional "gerrymander."

Four-year term for county officers. (initiated law).

CITY ITEMS—City ticket. Mayor, president of Council, auditor, treasurer, solicitor, all members of Council.

Three Municipal court judges and one Supreme court judge.

Additional tax levy for general purposes of city, 1.20 mills.

Additional tax levy for school purposes, .70 mills.

Bond issues—For parks, \$1,250,000.

For street improvements, \$1,493,250.

For convention hall, \$350,000.

For completion high pressure water system, \$400,000.

Referendum on electric light rate ordinance.

Annexation of Silverton.

Election day is three weeks from next Tuesday. Most of us will have rediscovered our interest in politics before the end of the month.

A. L. GARFORD OF ELYRIA

HANDS A FEW HOT ONES TO OUR BOY GOVERNOR.

Compares Him to Former Gov. Cox, On a Few Interesting Subjects.

New York.—Arthur L. Garford, a factor in the politics of Ohio, and who makes his home in Elyria, returned to New York this week from an automobile trip through the Berkshire Hills, accompanied by Mrs. Garford. They left here yesterday to motor back to the Buckeye State by easy stages.

"What do you think of the political situation in Ohio?" Mr. Garford was asked.

"As a matter of fact, said Mr. Garford, "here doesn't seem to be any since the Republican administration began. The whole administrative body of the State seems to have assumed the character and functions of an employment bureau so far as I can judge from press accounts. The activities of the last Legislature as well as that of the Chief Executive and his henchmen have been directed along lines of repeal and decentralization rather than of maintenance and betterment of the many progressive measures passed the Cox administration in the interest of public welfare. In other words, the Willis administration has been devoting its time and attention to tearing down instead of building up; of destruction instead of construction, and all for the apparent purpose of making changes, not for betterment of service through the selection of those better qualified to do the work, but to give hungry partisans who were prominent in the campaign activities for Willis and the Republican cause a meal ticket and job. Never in the history of Ohio politics, within my time, has there been such a scrambling of political bosses and ward-healers to get their feet in the trough and gorge themselves with partisan food at the public expense. There is no longer time or talent to devote to public necessities, the private wants as manifested through the State Employment Bureau, with the Governor in command, must needs have preference."

"What do you think of the decentralization measure as passed by the Legislature?" was asked Mr. Garford.

"Well," said Mr. Garford after a pause, "I think it is a colossal failure. It decentralizes, yes, thoroughly and completely, and makes a farce of the liquor license laws of the state. To decentralize authority to enforce law means, in substance, the nullification of law itself. To enforce and make effective a liquor license law there must be centralized power—a Court of last resort."

"How about the Greenlund law passed by the Cox administration?" was asked.

"That was as good and effective a law as was possible under the license system," said Mr. Garford. "It located final authority of law enforcement in the Governor himself, and made him directly responsible to the people for its success or failure. The Willis plan provides a means for side-stepping authority and of shifting responsibility. I know the argument advanced that the Cox plan offers opportunity for building up a political machine through the brewery and saloon influence in the State if the Chief Executive willed it. My answer to that is that no such machine was built up by Cox, nor would there by any high-class Governor, such as the people would place in power. Cox was defeated because of the ineffectiveness of public welfare, and at the expense and curtailment, at least, of the liquor power."

"What law do you think the people of Ohio now prefer?"

"My judgment is that the people of Ohio generally prefer the Greenlund law to the decentralization scheme of the present administration. So long as we have license let us have centralized authority for law enforcement."

"What are the Progressives doing, and what will be their attitude in 1916 as to State and National tickets?" was asked of Mr. Garford.

"So far as I know the Progressives are just 'sitting tight,'" he answered. "There is nothing to be gained by doing anything else just now."

Progressives know that they hold the balance of power in State politics. That is to say, that if they do not put a ticket of their own in the field next year they have enough votes to cast for either the Democratic or Republican candidate to insure his election. And you may rest assured that those votes will be cast for the candidate who most nearly conforms to the Progressive idea and platform. We have always maintained the principle of seeking the enactment of Progressive measures in the interest of social service and public welfare rather than mere offices, and this rule will hold good in our support of a gubernatorial and other candidates next year."

"Did you consider the administration of Governor Cox progressive?"

"Yes, I consider Cox to be far more progressive than Governor Willis so far."

NEW ORGANIZATION

Business Agents Phil Gasdori and Samuel Kelly, of the Painters' District Council, had charge of a meeting of 200 machine painters yesterday afternoon at Twelfth and Walnut Streets. These men either struck in sympathy with the machinists or will go out with them in the future. They will organize a local union of their own. It is expected that the union will be installed in about two weeks. They will meet again Friday.

IRON WORKERS VISITED

PARTY OF TRADE UNIONISTS MAKE A WELCOME CALL AT FEDERAL PRISON.

Arrangements Made With Officials Whereby a Pleasant Hour Was Spent With the Prisoners in the Reception Room.

A short time ago E. Wm. Weeks, General Secretary-Treasurer of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, conceived the idea of forming a party and paying a visit to the members of the Bridge and Structural Iron Workers' Union confined in the Federal Prison at Leavenworth.

The proposition met with instant approval from those to whom it was submitted, and as a result on Friday, September 24, the following trade unionists met at the corner of 10th and Main streets, and boarded a trolley car for their destination: Martin Ryan, General President of the Brotherhood of Railway Carmen; Wm. E. Bryan, General President of the United Brotherhood of Leather Workers on Horse Goods; Joseph Franklin, General President of the Brotherhood of Boilermakers and Iron Shipbuilders of America, and F. Reinemeyer, General Secretary-Treasurer of that organization; J. Casey, Editor of the Boilermakers' Journal; John E. Bray, General Secretary-Treasurer of the Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' International Alliance, and the promoter of the trip, E. Wm. Weeks.

Arrangements had been made in advance by the officials of the prison to care for the visitors and all of the iron workers came into the reception room where they received a warm and hearty greeting from their fellow trade unionists.

A couple of boxes of union made cigars and a big basket of fruit had been brought along and these were presented to the iron workers. The time was spent pleasantly in conversation, and the iron workers plainly showed that the visit was highly appreciated.

A member of the party stated that the men all looked well, their appearances indicating that they were receiving good treatment at the hands of the officials. —The Labor Herald, Kansas City.

PARTY LEADERS DESERT WILLIS

Columbus, O.—Since Governor Willis left for California, 10 days ago, there have been these Republican political developments:

The so-called Republican State organization crowd, which conducted the campaign last year, has tacitly decided to take no hand in the referendum fight against the Republican McDermott liquor license decentralizer.

Members of the organization are knocking Willis' proposed candidacy for the Presidency. Some even say the Governor shouldn't be renominated for Governor; that he will be "licked" if nominated.

Many State leaders are angry at Willis because he has not consulted them in appointments, has turned down their recommendations and has passed out many of the best plums to personal friends from Ada and Delaware.

Democrats are expected to line up almost solidly against the McDermott law.

Willis is expected to make a fight for the law, but he will not return until October 18, and between that time and election day he has several speaking engagements outside the State.

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