

INDEPENDENT The Labor Advocate NON PARTISAN

A PAPER FOR ALL WHO TOIL

Official Organ of The Building Trades Council of Cincinnati and Vicinity ISSUED WEEKLY

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ONE DOLLAR A YEAR IN ADVANCE

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REMEMBER

The friendly business firms who are patronizing the Labor Advocate and endeavoring to show their good will and sincerity through the columns of this paper, the official journal, deserve the patronage of loyal members of organized labor, and will be remembered by them on every shopping trip.

JOSEPH BERNING FOR SECRETARY OF WAR.

We understand that the friends of Joseph Berning, the printer, are using their influence to have him appointed Secretary of War.

Mr. Berning has been anxious to retire from politics for some time, but his friends persist in shoving some job on him. First it was the Subtreasuryship and the Postmastership, and various other positions of honor and emolument.

But we believe that if President Wilson is going to select an Ohioan he could not do better than to appoint the gallant Mr. Berning, who would have the hearty support of Col. Andy Gilligan and Col. Billy Pattison.

CIVIL SERVICE AND THE BUILDING TRADES.

The movement to repeal the Civil Service law of the State should meet with a hearty response from the building crafts, for the simple reason that the politicians on the Civil Service Boards either place the position in a grade below the union scale, or they call for a utility man; one that can do plumbing, paving and sheet metal work, at a salary per year lower than the scale of any of the crafts mentioned.

They generally make it an engineer and electrician. And as the engineer is licensed by the State and the electrical worker not, why the engineer gets the job.

LICENSE PRIVATE DETECTIVES.

The City Council should pass a law to license private detectives and make them furnish a bond, after their application has been passed on by the Chief of Police.

Many of these so-called private detectives are ex-criminals, who devote their time to spying upon and blackmailing our citizens, to say nothing of the way they wax fat on their misrepresentation of union labor.

In Detroit the local federation of labor is urging the city council to license private detective agencies. Secretary R. L. Reeves of the federation's legislative committee, made this statement to the council committee that is considering the proposal:

"The greater part of the work of these agencies is the watching of men who are not criminals. They do a class of work that requires a disreputable class of people. They are irresponsible and should be made responsible to some one. The result is friction because of this class of men. They bring in Chicago, Philadelphia and other gunmen. The prosecuting attorney has already stated that the destruction of property in Youngstown was due to private detectives, and he has declared that they did the first shooting.

"Large agencies rent out men for a certain price to the corporations—men who will use guns if necessary. These agencies get a rake-off between the amount the employer pays for the service and what the man gets. Where they employ thousands a day, as some agencies do, they get on the basis of \$1 a day, and in this way obtain thousands of dollars."

THE RAPID TRANSIT AND ORGANIZED LABOR.

It would be well for the Rapid Transit Commission to look into the last election in Detroit of municipal ownership of the street cars, on which occasion union men voted solidly against the proposition and finally defeated it.

If the Rapid Transit Commission intends to lease the new belt system, it will not get the support of organized labor unless the lease contains a provision "giving the workers the right to organize, and for the directors of the leasing company to enter into a joint bargain regarding wages, hours and conditions of employment."

Samuel Gompers, in the American Federationist, says "that if a municipal proposition does not contain such a proviso, it should be defeated."

Licensing of All Lodging Houses

To Be Urged By Municipal Tuberculosis Committee.—Nine Cases of Consumption Found In One of Them, It Is Reported.

Alarmed by the housing conditions which prevail in Cincinnati, the Municipal Tuberculosis Committee at a meeting last evening at the General Hospital ordered Courtenay Dinwiddie to draft an ordinance to be submitted to Council which, it is hoped, will bring effective relief. The ordinance will license and regulate all lodging and boarding houses. "A startling disproportion of deaths among races" from tuberculosis was submitted to the committee by Max Senior, Chairman of the Housing Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, who cited figures to show that of nearly 25,000 Jews in Cincinnati, only six had died of tuberculosis during 1915. The Jewish societies spend annually in the fight against the disease more than \$20,000, he reported, and that, coupled with the natural temperance of the race, was said to account for a portion of the disparity. Statistics submitted at the meeting by Health Officer Landis gave the general death rate for Cincinnati during 1915 at

15.43 persons in every thousand, or 50 per cent in excess of the birth rate. The "T. B." death rate in Cincinnati for 1915 was 2.2 persons to each 10,000 population, and among negroes the rate was four to five times greater than among whites. During 1915 tuberculosis, he said, claimed 895 victims in Cincinnati. Dr. Landis presided at the meeting.

Fifteen men, Mr. Senior declared, discussing tenement conditions, inhabit the same room in a lodging house in the Mohawk Bridge neighborhood. The men pay one dollar a week, he said, netting the proprietor \$60 a month for the one room.

Lodging houses down town are the source of particular trouble, the committee agreed. Nine cases of tuberculosis in one lodging house were discovered, reported Secretary Dinwiddie, of the committee.

A plan to stimulate State-wide interest in the public health insurance legislation proposed first in Cincinnati was endorsed.

Complete.

"Do you mean to say you paid only \$50 for that frock?" "Yes, but that, of course, was without the trimmings." "How much were the trimmings?" "A hundred and fifty."—Judge.

Safe.

"So you think you are safe in marrying a widow?" "Yes; my case is different. You see her former husband never made half the money I am making."—Detroit Free Press.

The Pessimist's Viewpoint.

"Father," said the small boy, "what's an optimist?" "An optimist, my son, is a man who tries so hard to be cheerful that you feel sorry to see him overworking himself."—Washington Star.

Queer Cattle.

"Begorra, them slitory writers are the quarest cratures in the world." "An' plwhy so?" "Shure, an' don't their tales come right out av their heads?"—Boston Transcript.

Now and Then.

"Gads tries to create the impression that time is money with him." "I see. Does he succeed in creating that impression?" "Only when he pawns his watch."—Birmingham Age-Herald.

Light on Ma.

Little Brother—Mr. Poseyboy, won't you go and stand before the window? Poseyboy—Certainly, my little man. But why? Little Brother—Oh, ma says she can see through you. I want to see if I can.

The Mean Thing!

"Phyllis is the meanest kind of gossip." "What makes you think so?" "Because she never tells you anything herself, but gets you to tell her all you know."

Believes That.

"Do you believe everything you hear?" "No, but when I come to a railroad crossing and hear a whistle I never doubt that a train is coming."—Detroit Free Press.

A Luxury.

"But," objected the heiress, "I have been accustomed to every luxury." "That's all the more reason why you should marry me," replied the impetuous suitor. "I'm a luxury myself."—Exchange.

How They Do It.

In a hotel in a certain city is the following notice: "Boarders are taken by the day, week or month. Those who do not pay promptly are taken by the neck."—Exchange.

Ice Clan and Sun Clan.

A tribe of Indians belonging to the Pueblo group is divided into an ice clan and a sun clan, with an ice priest and a sun priest. In winter the one section is in charge and the other in the summer time.

The Turnip.

The turnip is supposed to be a native of Asia and Europe. It has been cultivated for centuries. The wild East Indian turnip is said to be remotely kin to the edible turnip. It is the size of a walnut and first tasted is sweetish, but in a moment the taster's tongue feels as though it were pricked by a hundred hot needles, and he feels like expectorating for hours after. It is the country boy's favorite medium for a joke on the visiting town boy.—London Tatler.

Animals and Flesh Eating.

Arguing against the eating of meat, an English writer remarks: "Almost any animal can be made to eat flesh. The kangaroo has canine teeth. Horses, oxen and sheep may be taught to eat flesh. Norwegian cows have been known to eat flesh. Goldsmith saw a sheep eat flesh. Spallanzani has shown that a pigeon may be made to live on flesh and an eagle on bread."

Cruel.

Old Aunt (on her deathbed)—I am just making my will, my dear Heinrich. I know, alas, too well that you are not religiously disposed and have no desire to promote the cause of— Nephew (hastily)—Beg your pardon, aunt; quite the contrary. Aunt—Heaven be praised! Then you will be glad to hear that I have left all my property to the church!

Meteors.

Swift meteors become visible at an average height of eighty-four miles and disappear at fifty-six miles, while the very slow meteors come in sight at about sixty-five miles and fade away at thirty-eight miles. Of the very slow meteors those that become visible at the greatest heights come twenty miles nearer the earth than those of very low radiant.

The Result.

"His wife made a man of him." "He looks like a homemade job."—Baltimore American.

According to Signs.

"Little Johnnie is rather cross this morning," said the doctor, "but then that is a good sign. It shows that he is convalescing." "According to that," said Johnnie's mother, "my husband must be recovering from a severe illness. There's just no living with that man."—Exchange.

A Fount of Inspiration.

"My wife," said the celebrated purveyor of indifferent sellers, "can't be made to understand that a writer has his off days." "No?" "She thinks I ought to be able to write freely as long as there is ink in the fountain pen."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

Error.

Ignorance has no light, but Error follows a false one. The consequence is that Error, when she retraces her steps, has farther to go before she can arrive at truth than Ignorance.—Colton.

These Modern Days.

"They have money, haven't they?" "I don't know; haven't seen them for about a year."—Judge.

Many of Them Do.

"Did you say he lived in New York day in and day out?" "No, day in and night out."—Judge.

Sort Defined.

"Is that a chip of the old block?" "Why, no. He's only a little shaver."—Baltimore American.

Magnets.

A steel horseshoe magnet can hold in suspension a weight up to twenty times its own.

Gloves With Fingers.

It was in the twelfth century that gloves with separate fingers were first worn.

A Syrian Custom.

In Syria sky blue is the mourning color, indicative of the assurance that the deceased has gone to heaven.

Paid For the Advice.

Old Hunks (meeting a physician at the club)—Doc, what ought a man to do when he has an all overish feeling as if he were going to have an attack of the grip? Crusty M. D.—He ought to consult a good physician about it. Old Hunks—Well, that advice ought to be worth a dollar anyhow. Here it is. I'll go and hunt him up.—Chicago Tribune.

Conscience.

"On what grounds do you desire to withdraw the plea of 'not guilty?'" "On the simple ground that we are guilty. However, we must call the attention of your honor to the regrettable fact that the statute of limitations lets us out. Too bad we were not asked about the matter earlier."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Her Easy Job.

"Yep, I got a job cooking for a day." "Gal, you don't know nothing about cooking." "Don't have to know nothing. She's a bride and I am her first cook."—Kansas City Journal.

Opportunities.

Opportunities are very sensitive things. If you slight them on their first visit you seldom see them again.—Ruskin.

Air We Breathe.

Two thousand gallons of air is a grownup person's allowance for twenty-four hours.

Defeat.

What is defeat? Nothing but education, nothing but the first step to something better.

"Old Glory" [Whiskey] Long May Wave

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