THE TOILER

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THE OPERATORS STAND FIRM

Not a Deserter From the Ranks—The G.N.W. Growing Desperate and Attempting Deceit—The Spy.

The strike situation in the G.N.W. trouble remains unchanged. The poor crippled old company have been working all the desperate games possible in order to defeat the men and women who are fighting for liberty. Aside from the strike issue, we print herewith an excellent photo of the spy. Take a good look at the individual, so that when you meet him in your travels, you will know how to treat an abomination. The

THE SPY.
Do you recognize him?

spy is a contemptible individual at best, but this one so lowered his manhood as to take the trouble of hiring a room as close to the Telegraphers' meeting as possible, in order to find out who were attending the meeting, and report to his unscrupulous employers.

The doings of the week are entertainingly told by President Long in the following statement handed out by the local committee:

If it was not for the gravity of the situation, the efforts being made by the officials of the G.N.W. to create dissension among the employees of that company who walked out last Tuesday would be positively amusing, such as the posting of bulletins at the newspaper offices here and in Ottawa, issuing notices and making personal calls on these operators, informing them that if they did not return to work this morning their places would be filled, when the fact of the matter is, notwithstanding the fearful decrease in their business the last few days, they have been obliged to close their office at the Capital in Ottawa and post a notice to their customers there to send their business down to the main office. Here in Toronto the falling off is simply amazing. On the Stock Exchange here since the walk-out they have sent three messages, and those were to points the C.P.R. did not reach. The C.P.R. in Ottawa has been obliged to increase its force both at the Capital and main offices, until there is no room for any more operators to sit in. Here in Toronto the C.P.R. has been obliged to work its regular force of operators extra away along early until morning in order to clear up the session press matter from Ottawa and other points which has heretofore been given to the G.N.W.

Superintendent Easson, of the G.N.W. press service, takes a little respite now and then from trying to telegraph to send a few glittering paragraphs to the Associated Press, but so far none of these reports have been printed across the border, as the A. P. people over there long since ceased to have any confidence in this G.N.W. news service.

President Long says: "We are turning the tables on the G.N.W. officials now as regards the operators who walked out returning to work there again. We have from fifteen to twenty applications for first-class operators at Chicago, St. Louis and other large telegraphic centres in the United States, and are only waiting to send these operators for transportation, which of course must come by mail. Instead of the G.N.W. not being willing to take these operators who walked out back again unless they renounced the union and came back humbly craving for their old positions at the mere pittance they were receiving when they quit work, they will not be able to get them at all if they don't make up their minds to come to our terms in a few days, as there won't be any of the first-class ones to take back.

"As far as the threat made by the G.N.W. in their notices and by personal calls on some of those they think weak enough to go back, to the effect that their places will be filled by a certain time if they don't come back, they know as well as we that there are no operators competent to handle the business the G.N.W. has been handling heretofore to . . . had to take the places of those first-class operators who have left their service on account of the treatment received.

The bringing in of third rate country operators to handle business like press matter, stock messages and cipher telegrams—the like of which they never saw before in their lives—is like handing a Chinese wash bill to an American and expecting him to read it. They simply can't do it.

"The acceptance of telegrams from the public at its branch offices of the G.N.W., with the understanding that they will be transmitted immediately, when in fact they are sent up to the main office by messenger or over the telephone, and thus handled by mere inefficient boys, is a matter the public is just finding out. This is owing to the fact that where the branch operator is still on duty at the branch office, there is no one at the main office that can be spared to answer the calls.

"The scheme of giving the signals used by the first-class operators who walked out to the inexperienced ones who took their places was rivalled yesterday in this evident attempt to create the impression that the walk-out was of very little importance to the company, and try to deceive the operators at other points, thinking they were working with the same operators they had done business with before the walk-out. The scheme referred to was disclosed in an attempt to outwit me by sending me this dispatch, which I quote verbatim, posedly from the president of the local at Ottawa. It read as follows: "Recd. by Je-N-from G Mo—Ottawa, Ont., April 9.—To President Long, Toronto. Following from Ottawa: "Boys here received no information whatever from Toronto or Montreal. Bethune has notice in window, 'Operators may return to work on Monday, otherwise, their places will be filled.' If the others do not go out in Montreal on Monday morning, Ottawa operators go back to work Monday. Montreal is responsible for our defeat. This means the breaking up of the union throughout the entire G.N.W. system in Canada. This dose may be tried on the C.P.R., then it will be up to us. What about this? Our turn may be next. Send me result of meeting tomorrow and what they intend doing without fail. (Signed) Union.'

"As I have a perfect understanding with the officers of the local both at Ottawa and Montreal as to how messages shall be signed which I receive therefrom and certain cipher words that are to be used in connection therewith, to show that the telegrams are genuine, this attempt on the part of the would-be smart alec. official of the G.N.W. who concocted this scheme to create distrust at Ottawa, Montreal and here, owing to the fact that some of our members at all three of these points were given copies of this message, fell very far short of the mark. The officers of the union at Montreal and Ottawa were had later on over the long distance telephone, and I ascertained that they were just as strong, firm and loyal at both those places as ever, and were likely to remain so. The Ottawa officers of the union where this fake telegram is supposed to have originated, are investigating the matter, and they assure me that the operators who walked out there in sympathy with their fellows here are just as determined to stand firm and fight this matter out until the end, as we are here.

"An investigation from this end disclosed the fact that the operator responsible for the transmission of this fake telegram was a man named Gallagher, the only one who refused to quit work at Ottawa when the others walked out. This is the man who went to his home last winter, when his wife and children were lying ill with diphtheria, and drove them out in the street, where they were picked up by an ambulance and taken to the hospital, and this is just about the calibre of all of those who are trying to force these operators who walked out to go back to work and renounce the union.

"As for getting any operators from the States to come to Canada and help the G.N.W. out, there are none there to be had, and even if there were, none would come. The large number reported as coming from New York and St. Louis dwindled down to two mere boys from the former point, who have not been heard from on this side since they arrived at Buffalo. The three who were supposed to have started from St. Louis never passed Chicago. A couple of Michiganders who thought they could telegraph were last seen in Detroit looking for some freight conductor they knew to let them ride back home in a caboose. There is a very good reason why none of them would attempt to cross the border. This will probably be explained more minutely when some of them do succeed in arriving here.

"Quite a number of those the G.N.W. have been trying to get to return to work have been offered double pay time if they would return and stick, but they know too well of how short duration such service and promises would be if they were foolish enough to accept it."

THE BOYCOTT.

Abstain from doing evil, abstain from assisting that which is evil, abstain from countenancing evil. To refrain from doing these things is to boycott evil.

Child labor, sweatshop conditions, long hours, small wages, individual contracts between employer and employe; these are economic and industrial evils. They make for the undoing of the worker, the lowering of the standard of life, the bringing down of his condition to that which the necessities of the most helpless forces them to accept.

The trades union is the means that the workers have to resist these conditions, to fight these evils. It puts the collective bargain or contract in the place of the individual contract, and in its provisions the evils arising out of the competition for a chance to live are mitigated.

Thus it comes that in a community we have industries which are operated under the collective bargain with the workers engaged in it. These are properly designated as fair. There are also other industries where the weakness and necessity of each individual worker is the measure of the terms of employment, and when this is persisted in to the extent of intimidating the workers so that they shall not organize, these industries are properly designated as "unfair."

Given these conditions it becomes not only good policy, but the right and duty for workers and others, interested in their own and other people's good, to assist and encourage the fair industries by using their products. Also to lend no aid to the unfair, to abstain from using their product. That is the boycott, is it? Then so the boycott is a good thing. To help your friends, and to refuse to strengthen your enemies, cannot be wrong. If your cause is wrong, drop it; if right, support it to the full extent of your purchasing power. This is good morality, this is what the union label stands for.

In the labor cause we are getting too squeamish about the use of this word "boycott."

Put a bad or immoral play on the stage. Are we not justified in advising our friends to let it alone? May not the pulpit and the press very properly advise the same course? Certainly; this is the boycott. It is effective, and it is beneficial.

Boycott the evil, sustain and support the good and moral. This every free and right thinking person should be prepared to do. This is what the labor cause asks of its own people and their friends.—The Voice.

Current Comment

Controller Spence's bid for popularity in moving for pardon for the ballot-box stuffers should act as a boomerang. The citizens are not prepared to give clemency to men who deliberately broke the law in attempting to deprive the people of the right of choice of their representatives. Their crime has become altogether too common in late elections, and the severity of Judge Winchester is to be commended rather than mildly censured, as the Council's resolution will lead the public to believe. The justice meted out to these offenders should be a warning to all others who contemplate work of this kind for the money of interested individuals and corporations.

✦ ✦

In reading the story of that wreck near Guelph, one naturally wonders whether there were not a few other things that night operator might be asked to perform for the avaricious manager of the Grand Trunk Railway. The strenuous fight for large dividends leads unscrupulous corporations like the G.T.R. to value the happiness of its employes or the lives of the public very lightly. A thorough investigation of this wreck might lead the Government to take a hand in making some new regulations for this road.

✦ ✦

The various rumors afloat leads one to believe that there is something going to happen up in Queen's Park. Premier Ross will need to get rid of a lot of barnacles if he desires the people of this province to take any stock in his proposed appeal to the people. The prohibition reed is a very slender thing to hang to and attempt to carry the load he has at present.

✦ ✦

If the labor men of this city do not use every effort to get possession of the proposed temple, they will regret it in years to come. The small sum of one dollar a man is not much, but in the aggregate it will lead up to great things for this movement. It is the foundation from which great structures may arise. Generations to come will speak of the foresight of their brothers of today if their work succeeds in regard to the purchase of this home for all the labor people.

The anxiety of the press to-day is actually alarming. They are seeking in every hole and corner looking for prospective trouble in the labor world. They find, however, that the labor unions are learning their lesson well, and are conducting business as the business man does and keeping their own affairs to themselves. Labor men are no more infallible than business men, and therefore make mistakes. The mistakes of the past are being made the profit of the present. However, the public need not be alarmed, as the likelihood of labor troubles this spring is very doubtful. Both sides learned their lesson last season, and there is no likelihood of a repetition by either side. Labor bore the onus of last season's difficulties. The employers escaped their share of condemnation because the press to a large extent was on their side, and painted the picture so that the weak spots in their case were covered up. The unions do not propose to allow the press to do this again, and for this reason they are keeping quiet about their affairs.

✦ ✦

The iniquities of the law regarding the controllers were not all centred in the cumulative system, it appears. The significance of the two-year term in the City Council is just being realized today, when we have the spectacle of a limited field to choose from. The castoffs of the people on January 1st are the only possibilities for a place on the most responsible board in the city. Another of the iniquities of the Ontario Government which should be cured immediately.

✦ ✦

The worker may strike, and boycott, and picket,
And worry along at his usual jog;
But unless he will vote the trades union ticket,
He'll always be called the poor under dog.

✦ ✦

The citizens of Chicago seem determined to possess their Street Railway franchise. The Mayor seems equally as determined to place all possible obstructions in the way of their so doing. The fight is still on, and it looks from this distance as if the determination of the citizens will eventually triumph over that of the Mayor. Public ownership is bound to succeed, and its opponents will soon tire of putting obstructions in its way.

✦ ✦

The Dominion Government are making a great mistake in not adopting the principle of public ownership with reference to the G.T.P. If the people are going to be made to put up almost the entire cost of construction, it seems reasonable that the people should own something for which they have paid. The corruption of all Governments is to a very large extent in railroad bonuses, and the people should rise up and insist on their ceasing. How few of the people are aware of the enormous sums guaranteed and given away by the legislators up in Queen's Park at this present session. Something in the neighborhood of twenty millions of dollars may be only a small item to the large capitalist grafters, but it should make the people of this province rise up and smite any Government that dared to hand over public funds in this manner. The same thing can be said in regard to the Dominion Government.

✦ ✦

The South African slave trade has commenced. The first shipment of Chinese coolies is on its way. The capitalist lords who caused the war in order to rob the rightful owners of the mines of their possessions are now seeking enormous profits by the introduction of slavery and the abolition of white labor. White labor would not allow the robbery they propose to inflict, and the next best thing they could do was to get their Government to sanction the slave trade. They pulled the string and the Government (their employes) did the rest. Let Britishers who fought for freedom hang their heads in shame until they have driven this slave-trading Government from power.

✦ ✦

One of our exchanges very truthfully says:

"The Hon. Sir Frederick Borden, Minister of Militia, has introduced a new militia bill to the House of Commons of the Dominion of Canada. The object may and should be a laudable one, one that should call forth the commendation of every true Canadian. In years past our volunteer militia were badly treated in many respects, and were worthy of much better at the hands of the Canadian Government. The present bill, as it appears, has that semblance, but has it all that it looks? Yes, it has, and much more. Canada will increase its forces, introduce militarism into our public and high schools, organize conscription, equip soldiers at her own expense, and when all is ready, at a sign from over the water, she will land a hand to foreign wars. This is a nice little trap, secretly hidden, one that every Canadian in a few years will condemn from the soles of their feet to the crowns of their heads, and from the bottom of their hearts curse the men that were instrumental in its enactment."

Pretty near the mark, is it not?

✦ ✦

Mr. A. Studholme, the international president of the stove mounters, was in town this week after an extended trip down south. He reports everything in his organization moving forward to better things.

✦ ✦

The struggle between the building contractors and laborers in New York is still in progress. The bricklayers are backing up the laborers, as they feel that if the latter are defeated they may be attacked next. The workers seem to have the best of the fight, but there is danger that the bosses will begin the fight all along the line and attempt to divide the labor forces.

✦ ✦

When the representatives of the lithographing concerns of the country met in Chicago and formed an association, they stated that the idea of a national organization is not to oppose the unions, but to conciliate and deal with them, and then they went home and locked out the men because the latter refused to stand for a deal where the cards had been stacked.

✦ ✦

Another attempt will be made to associate the labor papers. A call has been made for the editors to attend the convention of the Woman's International Union Label League in Niagara Falls, N.Y., commencing Tuesday, June 7, to form an international labor press association.

✦ ✦

The Erie People grows sarcastic and asks, How would this read? "We also believe in employers' organizations, 'properly conducted,' but we fear that Mr. Parry is not a safe and conservative leader. Capitalists have exactly the same right to organize as workingmen, but must be careful not to abuse their privileges in this respect."

✦ ✦

Because the unions of Michigan are agitating for a law to prevent competition with prison labor, Gov. Bliss and other politicians have started to attack them. Bliss says the unions are "unChristian and inhuman." Probably the same charge could be made against Bliss and his class. They are largely responsible for the conditions.

✦ ✦

President Moyer, of the Western Federation of Miners, has been arrested for "desecrating the flag," because he printed charges against capitalists of Colorado upon the red bars of Old Glory. The little czars would be glad to try Moyer for treason and take him out and shoot him.

✦ ✦

It is said that there are at present nearly 10,000 men in Montreal out of employment, including all kinds of skilled mechanics. The unionists are highly indignant because landlords and other capitalists are advertising all over Europe that labor is required in Canada.

✦ ✦

A minister is now a delegate in the Chicago Federation of Labor. He is Rev. Stelzle, of the Presbyterian church, a machinist by trade, and still an active member of the union.

✦ ✦

An indifferent attempt was made last week to take Mayor Harrison's name off the unfair list of the Chicago Federation of Labor. It is said the Mayor feels the effects keenly.

✦ ✦

Tinplate workers at Sharon, Pa., voted to refuse to accept the reduction of 20 per cent. demanded by the trust. The combine threatens to close the plants.

✦ ✦

Over half of the employes of the locomotive trust have been laid off at Scranton, Pa., and the same action is to be taken at works in other places.

✦ ✦

Sheet metal workers of Michigan formed a state organization. Trouble is threatening in one or two places, and they want to be prepared.

✦ ✦

About 170 London, Eng., policemen went on strike recently when asked to collect scraps of paper and rubbish while on duty in the parks.

✦ ✦

Santa Rosa, Cal., tanners, after being on strike for over a year, won their demands for recognition of the union and the label.

✦ ✦

Six hundred registered trade unions in the United Kingdom are computed to have on hand something over $22,000,000.

✦ ✦

Ald. Woods' resignation has not been placed in the hands of the Mayor as yet. It does seem that the alderman missed an opportunity in not doing the one thing which would have given the electors of his ward the opportunity of saying whether, after the severe criticism of the judge, they still reposed confidence in him as their representative.

✦ ✦

Did anybody hear that we were to have a better street car service? Bust's new time table has been before the people so often that it is getting tiresome. It takes more than a time table to give a street railway service—it will take a new city engineer and possibly a new Council and the railway owned by the city to get the desired result. Do you believe in municipal ownership? If you do teach it to others, and when the time comes vote for it.

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10 lbs. Graham Flour for	25c	2 packages Grape Nut	25c
8 lbs. Split Peas for	25c	3 ten-cent packages Buckwheat.	25c
8 lbs. Pot Barley for	25c	6 lbs. Granulated Sugar	25c
8 lbs. best White Beans for	25c	7 lbs. light Brown Sugar	25c
7 lbs. best Tapioca for	25c	3 lbs. Maple Sugar	25c
5 lbs. good Rice for	25c	1 quart can pure Maple Syrup	25c
5 Ten-cent packages Corn Starch for	25c	1 gallon best Vinegar	25c
5 lbs. Laundry Starch for	25c	4 ten-cent packages Mince Meat.	25c
3 packages Silver Gloss Starch for	25c	2 lbs. pure Coffee, whole or ground	25c
3 cans good Plums for	25c	1 lb. 40c. Black or Mixed Tea	25c
3 cans Pie Peaches for	25c	2 lbs. good Cocoa	25c
3 cans Pink Salmon for	25c	1 lb. 40c. Cocoa	25c
2 cans best Red Salmon for	25c	3 lbs. Walnuts or Filberts	25c
3 lbs. good Apricots	25c	1 lb. Shelled Almonds or Walnuts	25c
2½ lbs. fancy Apricots	25c	3 ten-cent tins Syrup	25c
5 lbs. Dry Peaches	25c	3 cans Pumpkins	25c
3 lbs. Lemon or Orange Peel	25c	4 ten-cent tins Armour's Soup	25c
3 large cans Baking Powder	25c	6 tins Sardines	25c
1 lb. Cream Tartar	25c	3 tins imported Sardines	25c
2 lbs. Ginger or Mustard	25c	3 packages Ammonia	25c
2 lbs. Black or White Pepper	25c	6 packages Pearline	25c
4 ten-cent bottles Extract	25c	10 five-cent bars Soap	25c
4 ten-cent packages Jelly Powder	25c	3 large 12½c. bars Soap	25c
3 lbs. 12c Biscuits	25c	30c. Bamboo handle Brooms	25c
2 lbs. 15c. Biscuits	25c	15 cakes Castile Soap	25c
		7 five-cent pkgs. Naptha Powder	25c

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