

WHAT ARE LIVING WAGES.

A living wage ought to be sufficient to secure for every able-bodied, right-minded, sober and industrious working man:

1. Enough to keep not only himself, but also a family, in a healthy state of mind and body.
2. Enough to permit all his children to take advantage of the public school system.
3. Enough to enable him to acquire a home of his own.
4. Enough to permit him to accumulate a bank account sufficient to furnish some security against sickness and old age.

Is there any one prepared to say any working man, no matter how humble his work may be, ought to be content with less? Can we boast of our American freedom if we know that there are not only a few men, but millions of them, whose wage is so meager that it is an absolute impossibility for them to have a home or educate a family?—The Electrical Worker.

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RATHER DEAL WITH UNIONS.

W. R. Hamper, manager of a large tobacco works in Detroit, Mich., said the other day that he had severed his connection with the Parry-Post Manufacturers' Association.

"We were once induced to join in order to get foreign credit reports and so on," he said, "but we soon found out that the real motive was to fight organized labor, and we at once withdrew."

As to the closed shop, Mr. Hamper had this to say: "The closed shop is simple justice. It protects the workers. It makes the shirk pay his share in maintaining the union. For example: In dull times there are thousands of unemployed who are willing to work for a song. If you have the open shop the employer is at liberty to lay off his regular union workmen and employ the 'scabs' as you call them, thereby bringing great distress upon faithful employees. I hold that a man has no moral right to do that, and if they have not the humanity about them to do justice it is in the province of working people to organize and force them to. I had much rather deal with the unions as a whole than to deal with individuals."

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WHOSE LABOR DO WE SELL?

If we working men only want to sell eight hours a day of our life and energy, that is our business. If a farmer only wants to sell eight bushels of corn out of his twenty-four, that is his business. And in either case our existence, shorn of comfort, depends upon our getting any return, which comes only by the organization of actual producers.

If any one should ask you why trades unionists have figuratively taken arms, tell them it is not against society and good order, but in defense of right, liberty, life itself.

If hypocrisy and self-stultification were exposed as in the cases of certain gospel bangers and judicious injunction, what an uneasy time there would be for some of these mountebanks.

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WORK FOR THE UNION.

Every Member Should Put His Shoulders to the Wheel.

The Trades Unionist's Duty Does Not End With Payment of Dues and Assessments—The Labor Movement Requires His Active Support.

In an editorial in the Carpenter Frank Duffy points out the duty of the trades unionist. Greater progress in the labor movement would follow the general adoption of his suggestions:

Do you do your duty to your union? Are you not just a little bit careless as to its welfare and progress? Do you ever attempt to build it up? Did you ever put yourself to the least inconvenience to get new members? These are questions that each member should ponder over, and if you find you have been neglectful and careless in the past, make a new start. Remember "It is never too late to mend." Did you ever notice when something special has to be done, or when the ordinary routine work of your union has to be performed, that the work is shifted upon some one else, usually the "willing few," commonly known as the "clique," who work on and on until energy is gone and patience exhausted? The others take things calmly and unconcernedly, shirk all responsibilities, refuse to do committee work, only attend the meetings at intervals, take no part in the affairs of the union except to find fault, and would not hold office if you paid them for doing so.

Listen to them when they are nominated to fill any position that becomes vacant and you hear them "most respectfully decline." This should not be. Is it any wonder that the pathway of the past is strewn with the wrecks of trades organizations? Human endurance has its limit, human energy its end. It cannot be expected that the few ardent, faithful workers will keep up their efforts forever. It is your duty to assist them, to encourage them, to take a more active part in the work of your union, to jump into the breach and help the "old boys" who have stood the brunt of battle in the past to gain greater and nobler things. We all have an equal interest in the progress of our organization. We should all share equally in the work to be done and the burden to be borne.

Paying dues and assessments is not the only duty required of us. Every man must do more than that if he wants his union to be successful. The labor movement requires the unflagging support and the untiring activity of every member within its folds. If you will not move in your own interest you cannot expect others to make sacrifices for you. Do your duty, and do it well. Act a manly part. Come to the front. Take hold of the helm. Steer clear of all the difficulties you can. Encourage your fellow members to do likewise. Make your meetings interesting. Welcome all visiting members. Invite good speakers to address you on the labor question and you will find a wonderful change take place in a short time. Get out and organize and organize and organize.

Follow these instructions and you will notify us before very long that you have been more successful than ever you expected or even imagined.

**TWENTY-FIRST
ANNUAL CONVENTION
TRADES & LABOR CONGRESS
OF CANADA**

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SEPTEMBER 18-23, 1905**

Chas. Bush

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