

## Labor Unions and Intemperance

### Outline of an Address by Chas. Steizle

I'd like to drive home just three thoughts with reference to the working-man and intemperance.

Said an excited visitor in my office to-day: "If I had my way, I would compel workingmen to labor 20 hours a day, so that they could not go to the saloon."

I reminded him that it is usually the man who works the longest hours who drinks the hardest. Sheer exhaustion drives him to the grog shop.

The second erroneous idea that is being harbored by many a man is that trades unions are factors which make for intemperance. Nothing could be further from the truth. The trades unions of this country have done more for the cause of temperance and sobriety than any other purely benevolent or philanthropic organization. A number of trades unions have laws which deny assistance to any man who was injured while intoxicated. Twenty years ago practically every labor union met back or over a saloon. That is rarely the case to-day. In many instances they own their own labor halls. Twenty years ago I could have counted scores of drunken men at a meeting of the organization to which I belonged. During the past two years I have visited literally hundreds of labor unions, and I do not remember having seen a single drunken man in the meetings.

This does not mean that workingmen do not get drunk, nor that they do not need help in the matter of temperate living. I mean to say with emphasis, however, that the average labor union is an influence for good in this direction. The best labor leaders and practically every labor editor stands out clearly and boldly for temperance reform among workingmen.

Third—The matter of saloon substitutes. The Subway Tavern has failed. So will every other similar institution which is based upon a paternal principle. The workingman despises patronage. Many a plan which appears to be very beautiful upon paper, or as it comes from the lips of the enthusiastic reformer, fails because it leaves out of account the element of human nature.

The best substitute for the saloon is the home. Never will there be a better one proposed. To assist the workingman make his home more beautiful should then be our aim. In this the labor union is also a help. A higher standard of living, better sanitary conditions, the abolition of child labor, as well as the development along moral lines; in all these the labor union has a most important part. Too often do we lose sight of the social and the moral influences of the labor union. The possibilities in this direction are almost limitless, but already the labor union has become a great factor in this matter. The average man outside of the ranks of the workingmen can hardly believe that the trades unionist is a man "of like passions as he is." That he has the same longings, the same ambitions for himself and for his family. And when he realizes just what he may do to bring comfort and joy to the wife and children whom God has given him, he will be the first to give them. So let us help him in his struggles. Let us show him that we are his brothers, putting aside every feeling of patronage or of superiority. And he will quickly respond to our sympathetic endeavor.

When demanding the union label on any purchase be sure you get the genuine article. Many bogus labels are in the market, particularly in the clothing line. Beware of imitations!

## Union Not For To-day Only

The most discouraging feature of reform work is undoubtedly the selfish and perhaps natural indifference of the average man to any remedy for social ills which cannot be made immediately effective. Ninety-nine men out of every hundred are so engrossed with the task of making both ends meet in the struggle for existence that the burden of their present necessities smother their sense of duty to posterity. Hence it is that the principle of trade unionism has taken such a strong hold upon the minds of the workers of the world. Trade unionism affords immediate relief and amelioration of the ills, which society has brought upon itself, and in so doing it insures the ultimate success of social regeneration in general by giving workingmen more leisure in which to think and plan for the making of a better world for those that come after us. All genuine reform movements must of necessity be slow, since to be effective they must aim at the removal of causes rather than at merely minimizing effects. The causes which have brought about the present social conditions have been at work for thousands of years, and as the evolution of human nature is historically slow, their ultimate removal will probably require hundreds of years at least. It is evident, therefore, that trade unions are a public necessity in this age of the world, and that the trade union movement is in reality the first of a series of great movements which will eventually culminate in the complete emancipation of humanity from the consequences of its own follies and ignorance.—Union Advocate.

### Prof. Shortt on Thomas Lawson and Frenzied Finance

To the Editor of The Tribune:

As I have little confidence in our daily papers in their dealing with frenzied financing of the gambling exploiters who infest the lobbies of our Houses of Parliament, and some other certain financing concerns, allow me, through The Tribune to say something in connection with Professor Shortt's lecture at Knox College on Thomas Lawson and frenzied finance. Professor Shortt is one of the few educationists who has the considerate manhood to give the people his views on public questions. Though he is deserving the peoples' good wishes for his critical examinations of public questions he has dealt with from time to time, yet personally I feel that I cannot allow his viewpoint to pass without taking exception to what seems to me a bias against Lawson's exposures of the Bay State gas frauds by Addicks, and the frenzied financial exposure of Rogers, Rockefeller and Company in what appears stock gambling.

Professor Shortt has made the wrongdoing of those men in the United States a question important to the Canadian public, but he has dealt with this monied gambling as if Lawson, and not Addicks, Rogers and Co. are the greater sinners. Take the report of Professor Shortt's lecture, as given in The News, and there we read of Lawson's exposure of those apparent frauds as "trading on the prejudices of the public," and to be considered worse than Rogers, Rockefeller and Company. Again, he is accused of "self-glorification" for his voluminous exposure of this gambling exploitation in high places of the public domain, and with those poor selfish dupes who wished to make fortunes out of a few dollars in stock gambling. Seemingly there is a sweet morsel in the heading of the lecture: He "scores Lawson! He has no confidence in frenzied finance; he makes certain revelations, but does not offer any remedy; he is worse than Rockefeller and Co."

I have yet to learn that Lawson claims to be a saint in his "wish to God!"

But I have read that he acknowledges that he has done wrong in his transactions with those men, and yet Professor Shortt is biased against him because he has shown that he was only the tool of his masters in the plot of manipulation and exploitation of other people's money as to make rich hauls of millions out of merely nothing.

What have the commission brought to light in their examination of the affairs of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, whose manipulation of the funds in the institution show so far that the corrupting influence of the management of these funds is of the most stupendous kind. Is Thomas Lawson, who was one of the first persons to call attention to the wrongdoing in the institution, to still have further disgrace heaped upon his head for the part he has taken?

I regret very much Professor Shortt's apparent unfairness of viewpoint on this momentous subject. In my mind, he has been in too much haste in his condemnation of Lawson. He should have given Lawson a little time to show whether he was hypocritically unjust towards Rogers and Co. Wrong is wrong, and especially when the monied influence is great, and cunningly used in corrupting the national honor of the business, legislative and educational leaders who are in the control of the interest of the country. Yours truly,

W. H. Stevens,

## Reasonable Wages

Here is some reason from a Chicago daily: "The cost of labor is one of the principal items that enter into competition between business men. No one advantage to deal with an organization of labor that guarantees to the business man that his competitor is paying the same wages that he does? And besides there is not a union in existence that places minimum wages above an amount necessary to support workingmen upon comfortably. Union wages are reasonable wages. Employers of labor who object to the strictly union shop do so simply because union regulations require a standard of justice to the workmen that most employers want to violate in the interests of profit."

## Still More Industrialism

Detroit has been flooded with literature coming from the headquarters of the Industrial Workers of the World at Chicago. This new industrial union, a rival to the American Federation of Labor, is more determined than ever to establish a foothold here.

The new organization is practically a union pure socialist movement among the Western workingmen, which culminated in the formation of the Industrial Workers of the World at Chicago during the summer. The principal backing of the organization is the Western Federation of Miners, which included the smelters and miners of the Far West.

When the 25th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor is held next month in Pittsburgh an interesting campaign to fight the new industrialists will be mapped out, and from then on it will be a fight to a finish.

### IRON HEEL ON FINLAND.

St. Petersburg, Oct. 7.—The Russ reports that an attempt has been made to assassinate the Chief of Police at Helsinki, Finland. Martial law will be proclaimed. Fourteen thousand troops have already arrived in Finland.

If the 75,000 mouths controlled by organized labor, with their sympathizers, ate union made Bread, there would be no Bakers' Strike on.



## ..FACTORIES INSPECTORS..

The following are the Factory Inspectors for the Province of Ontario:

James T. Burke	Thomas Kelly
Arthur W. Holmes	John Argue
Miss M. Carlyle	Mrs. J. R. Brown

Their Office is in the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, ground floor. Any one having business with them, or desiring to know anything in regard to the Act under which they are employed, will please address them as above.

NELSON MONTEITH,  
Minister of Agriculture.

## THE "ELLIOTT"

CHURCH & SHUTER STS.

THE ELLIOTT has again been taken over by Mr. John Elliott, for the past thirty years one of Toronto's leading hotel men.

Mr. Elliott has with many alterations transformed The Elliott, with its good service and appointments, into one of Toronto's leading hotels.

In connection will be found a bar in which purely unadulterated goods are dispensed. A share of your patronage will be appreciated.

JOHN S. ELLIOTT, Prop.

If you believe in fair conditions you will assist your Fellow Workers by demanding

## Union Label Articles

### UNION MADE TOBACCO

always bears the Union Blue Label



When purchasing Tobacco, either Plug, Package or Twist or Cigarettes, always see that it bears the Union Blue Label, as it is your only guarantee that Union Wages, fair hours and healthy conditions prevail.

### BUY NO OTHER

## Acker & Barron Mfg. Co.

ALL STYLES OF

Washable Coats, Pants, Frocks,  
Caps, Aprons, Etc.

ORDERED WORK A SPECIALTY

Special Attention to Mail or Phone Orders

70 Terauley St.

TORONTO

Phone Main 6053.

