

Labor Unions in Peril.

THE tendency of employers is to organize. Permanent organizers are being put in the field. The old employers' associations were friendly to the unions; the new ones are hostile. Union domination of the shops, the employers say, means union men, union rules, and increased cost of production. Men out of a job are learning to go for work to the employment bureaus established by the employers' association in various cities, instead of tramping about the suburbs or waiting at the shop door. It was instituted three years ago to furnish workmen in time of strike. Every man employed by any member of the association is registered and his record kept by a card system. Employers agree to make daily reports on those cards of men employed and discharged, of applicants for help and of help wanted. The builders protect non-union men in times of strike.

The employers are making a fight for the open shop which is a gage of battle to the unions. When arbitration and the trade agreement are abandoned but one step remains to the annihilation of the power of the unions. Mr. A. C. Marshall, the secretary of the Dayton Association, proposes the "non-unionizing of industry." The new closed shop is the shop closed against the unions. A year or two will show whether employers can conquer the unions alone or whether, to achieve that end, they must seek the assistance of the government and the great middle class.

They propose first to try it alone and they have decided not to give the politicians a chance. The next national convention is to be held in New York in November—immediately after the presidential election.—William English Walling in *The World's Work*.



A reproduction of one of the famous allegorical paintings of the greatest Victorian painter who has just died, G. F. Watts.