

While our object is mutual protection, and while we purpose to control and manage our own business, it is self-evident that we are not only desirous, but it is to our interest, to cultivate the kindest feelings towards our employees, and to do all we can to advance their interest. We can have no quarrel with our workmen because they try to improve their social condition, or to increase their rate of wage, or to shorten the hours of labor. It is their right, and so long as they do not attempt to impose upon us conditions and terms which our business will not allow us to accept—nor try to fix a hard and fast wage for good and bad—nor attempt to interfere with the details of the management, which of right belongs to ourselves, there can be no valid objection to their combinations. With regard to the nine-hour question, a resolution was passed at the last meeting of this body, authorizing the Executive Committee to correspond with local Typothetæ and employing printers throughout the country, with a view of obtaining an opinion upon the advisability and practicability of reducing the hours of labor to nine per day. In discussing this question it is very evident there will be a great diversity of opinion. We cannot expect to be of one mind on this or any other question. We must expect there will be those who feel strongly and earnestly on this question, and we expect they will express themselves strongly and earnestly. But I am sure this as well as the other questions that may be brought before this convention will be approached in a spirit of fairness and impartiality, showing that we are willing to investigate all subjects intelligently and thoughtfully, as men willing to learn—and to be convinced. If we will respect each other's convictions, and are willing to do as we would be done by, our legislation will produce good results. I am sure our organization will occupy high ground upon this as well as all other questions that may come before it, being considerate, but firm and dignified in its action.

Mr. E. Wadley, Richmond, Va., the secretary, then read his report, which stated that new branches of the organization had been established at Savannah, Ga.; Buffalo, N.Y.; London, Ont.; St. Joseph, Mo., and Des Moines, Ia. At the last convention, held at Pittsburgh, it was decided that every effort should be made to induce the United States Government to repeal the law permitting the post-office authorities to issue stamped envelopes with business cards printed on them. It would appear that the authorities were issuing as many as 600,000,000 of such envelopes annually, printing and delivering them, charges paid, to any part of the union, for the same price as an ordinary stamped envelope. This had a serious effect on the printing trade. The secretary reported that mainly owing to the efforts of the officers of the

society, this law had been repealed, and after October 1, 1894, no more such envelopes would be issued by the Government, that being the date upon which the present contracts expire. He also showed that the membership had increased very considerably during the past year, and now the members of this Association of Caxton's disciples numbered about a thousand, over a hundred being added during the past year. The treasurer, Mr. Buss, of Cincinnati, then read his report, which showed the finances of the Association to be in a prosperous condition. The next report to be presented was that of the Executive Committee, which had been prepared the preceding day, after long and serious consideration. It dealt with the much-discussed questions of labor and capital in a very decided manner. It contained a short history of the strike inaugurated by the printers at Pittsburg in October, 1891, and which is still in progress. Over 300 men went out on strike, because the employers would not agree to a reduction in the hours of working from ten to nine. The report stated that all the offices were again in operation with non-union men, all of whom are equal, if not superior to the old union men in skill and workmanship. After this strike had commenced letters were sent to every member of the Association, asking a full expression of opinion as to whether a shorter day should be granted; whether it would prove of advantage to the trade; whether it was practicable, etc. There were replies received from about one-third of the thousand members, and of this number there were only sixty who favored shortening the day as demanded by the printers. The committee strongly recommended that the question of the rights of labor should be fully tested in the United States courts. They advise that test cases should be placed before the courts of Pennsylvania, and fought out if necessary until finally decided by the Supreme Court of the United States. This would have the effect of settling forever the much mooted question of the rights of employer and employee, and whether labor organizations would have the right to obstruct and intimidate non-union men in the pursuit of their peaceful vocations.

The Convention then adjourned until 2 p.m.

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

When the Convention was called to order, in the afternoon, Mr. H. G. Bishop, of New York, read a paper on "Making Ready Book Forms without Cuts." This paper was an excellent one, but no discussion took place. The next paper was on "Uniform Measurement of Type," by R. R. Donnelly, of Chicago. After this live paper a discussion arose, participated in by W. W. Pasko, and W. B. McKellar. The latter is the author of the McKellar system of measuring type, which takes the letter "m" as the standard of measurement. The discussion drew forth some very