

Across the Border

Electrical Workers Lose Successful Convention.

The biennial convention of the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has completed its sessions in Louisville, Ky. Many important changes were made. The headquarters were changed from Washington, D.C., to Indianapolis, Ind. Conventions will meet hereafter each four years instead of two.

F. J. McNulty was re-elected president. All other officers were newly elected, with P. W. Collins, of Boston, as secretary-treasurer.

Los Angeles and Toronto will compete for the next convention by a referendum vote of the membership.

S. A. Graham, of Chicago, was elected delegate to the International Building Trades Council Convention, with whom the brotherhood is affiliated.

Barbers went on strike at Akron, O., and the bosses said they could get all the face "scrapers" they wanted in Detroit. That's the kind of a reputation a city wants to boom things.

There are 350 barber shops in Boston working under the union shop card.

Mother Jones Will be Heard at Concert Hall Saturday

Mother Jones, whom the people of Buffalo will have the privilege of hearing for the first time, is a unique character. She is about seventy-five years old, and has devoted her life to the betterment of the conditions of the working people, especially the miners. Her favorite subject, upon which she will talk in Concert Hall next Saturday, will be "Child Labor," and no doubt she will handle the subject in a skillful manner, and as all classes of citizens are interested to remove this black spot from our civilization, the horror of child labor, they should attend en masse. The meeting is held under the auspices of the local branch of the Socialist party, formerly the Social Democratic party.

As the result of the strike of the printers at the Schenectady (N.Y.) plant of the General Electric Company, which has been on for the past five weeks, the company has decided to abandon its printing department and have its work done outside of the works.

It is understood in manufacturing circles that within a short time the Fall River (Mass.) Cotton Manufacturers' Association will grant an advance in wages to the operatives, numbering upward of 25,000 now employed in association mills.

The Terre Haute Bartenders' Union has a rule that any member offering to a customer cigars not bearing the label, unless they are especially called for, shall be fined. For the second offence a heavier fine is imposed, and for the third offence the offending member is expelled from the union.

LABOR CANDIDATE WINS.

San Francisco, Cal., Nov. 7.—Eugene Schmidt, the union labor candidate, was elected mayor of this city by 15,000 majority.

Dr. Schuman, president of Cornell University, is at one with Mr. Goldwin Smith as to the desirability of an alliance between labor and learning. In the United States, he says, the universities naturally rather sympathize with the working class, and feel with them that the domination of capital is the real danger of the existing social system. If capital and brains were to form an alliance, he fears it would be the end of the democracy, the glory of which has been the opportunity it gives the poor man. The case of Russia is cited by Dr. Schuman, where the workers and the universities have striven together for free institutions.

A Few Remarks on the Label

For a long time the labor organizations of Canada have been spending their money and a great deal of their energy in endeavoring to have passed in the Dominion House of Commons a bill protecting union labels, and we are told and believe that the Manufacturers' Association are doing all in their power to prevent it.

The writer is not losing much sleep over the matter, believing that it matters very little what the Government does, so long as the working men and women of this country look with so much indifference upon every label but their own.

It appears that there is so much selfishness, inconsistency, and narrow-mindedness among the working classes, and so little demand for the label, that it would be scarcely desirable on the part of any manufacturer to attempt to use a bogus label.

While the labor leader whose name appears in the papers at every opportunity, and who is from morning until night explaining the grand principles of unionism to his fellow craftsmen, stands up to do so with a non-union suit of clothes, a non-union hat, a non-union pair of shoes on, a non-union cigar in his mouth and a plug of McDonald's chewing tobacco in his pocket, there will be no cause for alarm on the part of the manufacturer.

Unlimited advantages could be gained by trades unionists by demanding and getting the union label on all goods purchased by them; but this, I am sorry to say, is not done, as we all seem to drum up our own label and forget all about the other fellows.

Imagine the cigar makers who point to the sign "Smoke Blue Union Labeled Cigars" and censure a man for taking a non-union cigar, while he smokes a non-union cigarette and wears a scab-made suit of clothes. Or the printer who accepted the suit of clothes made at a non-union shop without saying a word, but refused to pay the bill because the label of the allied printing trades was not upon the bill-head. Or the woman who takes the good union wages of her husband, goes down town and spends every cent of it to support the men that would steal the job from her husband the next day if they had the chance.

These are a few of the inconsistencies that we must strive to overcome. If we are to be union, we must be union in everything; if we demand union bread we must not stop there, we must see that it is delivered by a union driver and in a union-made wagon, for how can the wagon worker be expected to support other unions if he in turn is to have no support.

We must consider all labels just as important as our own, for unless we show other unions that we are supporting them, how can we ask support from them.

Every thoughtful union man should and must educate his wife in union labelism. This we have also been selfish in, for few women know that there is any but one label in existence, and that the label of the union to which her husband belongs. For instance, one woman never heard of a union-labeled broom because her husband is a baker. Another woman does not see for the life of her how a man could have the cheek to smoke a scab cigar, while she has never heard that there is a strike on in the bakeries of Bredin, Weston and Tomlin; and a garment worker will go home and tell his wife that he cannot understand why it should be so difficult to get the people to demand the garment workers' label, while he strikes his Eddy match to light a pipe filled with scab tobacco, and leans back in his chair to tell her where she can buy the cheapest prison-made boots in town.

Every woman should be taught to spend her husband's union dollar where it will find its way back into the hands of honest union men, and that it is a great injustice for her to turn down the employer who employs her husband and pays him good wages for the man who employs scabs and small children at the lowest possible wages and under the most unfair conditions.

If every workingman's wife in Toronto would demand the union label upon everything she purchased it would be but a very short time before it would be impossible to buy anything from a house and lot to a half a dozen of fresh eggs without the union label being displayed in the most conspicuous places.

I want to say to all union men that we have been playing at this union game long enough. Let us try the real thing now for a while and see what the results will be.

The union man who does not demand the label is a laughing stock to the merchant, to the Employers' Association, and to the non-union man, who is always watching for a chance to point the finger of scorn at the inconsistencies of union men.

Let us become in earnest and make up our mind that not one dollar of our money will go to support scabs and unfair firms, then the manufacturers may become alarmed and Sam Landers will no longer be permitted to call us "cheap guys."

Hungerford.

To the Laborers of America:

Greeting:—The International Laborers' Union takes pleasure in placing before you the measure of progress attained in uniting the Laborers of America under one general organization, where an injury to one immediately becomes the concern of all. Organized in Chicago, May 1, 1902, the I. L. U. has steadily progressed until to-day it stands as the bulwark of the laborers against encroachments by the employing class. Under the I. L. U. form of organization there is a place for all classes of laborers, and each one is granted the right to manage its own local affairs as they deem best. Only the most necessary general laws are made, and of course, all local unions obey these.

The I. L. U. gives to its local unions moral support at all times, defensive support during time of trouble, and insurance support in case of death. All unions contribute alike to the funds of the organization, and all receive the same treatment, and when one is injured it becomes the concern of all, through the medium of the I. L. U.

Now Brother, if you are interested, and desire more information after reading this letter, please write, and prompt attention is guaranteed your communication.

The I. L. U. was organized May 1st, 1902.

Over 25,200 members have been taken into the I. L. U. to date, and 266 local unions and 14 district councils chartered.

The I. L. U. has managed 44 strikes and won 37. Five were compromised and two were lost. No strikes are on at this date.

Forty-one death claims have been paid at \$50 each, previous to raising the benefit to \$75. Three claims have been paid at the seventy-five dollar rate which now prevails.

The I. L. U. is now the strongest and most powerful laborers' organization in America, and is the only one of its kind.

Is there a Union label in your hat?

THEY DON'T COUNT.

"But there is much opposition to your proposed bill."

"Does Senator Graball oppose it?"

"Oh, no."

"Is Leader Graphter against it?"

"Not at all."

"Then who does oppose it?"

"The people."

"Oh, Shucks!" — Louisville Courier Journal.

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Labor Conventions

Dec. 4, Denver, Col., National Alliance of Bill Posters and Buys of America.

Dec. 4, Cleveland, O., International Seamen's Union.

IN 1906.

Jan. 8, St. Paul, Minn., Stone Masons' International Union of America.

Jan. 8, Washington, D.C., International Slate and Tile Roofers' Union of America.

Sept. 24, Toronto, Canada, Operative Plasterers' International Association of America.

If the 75,000 mouths controlled by organized labor, with their sympathizers, ate union-made bread, there would be no bakers' strike on. Lend a hand. Now is the time.

Mrs. Malaprop

The mistress of a certain boarding house is noted among her boarders as much for her entertaining conversational powers as for the fine table she sets. Nevertheless she is something of a Mrs. Malaprop, and occasionally severely tries the politeness of her listeners by the peculiar "breaks" she makes. They had women under discussion at the table the other night, some of the boarders expressing a preference for slender figures and some favoring embonpoint. "I like a good, plump woman," said the boarding house mistress. "None of these thin emancipated women for me." — Philadelphia Record.

UNNECESSARY.

"No, sir," said Meeker, "I do not permit my wife to have her own way about anything."

"Is it possible?" exclaimed his friend Weeks, admiringly.

"It is," answered Meeker. "She simply has it without my permission."