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JOURNAL; VOL. IX-NO. 2,
KANSAS CITY, MO.,
OCTOBER, 1906; PP. 65-133**

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Official Publication of the International United Brotherhood of Leather Workers on Horse Goods.

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The Trade Unionist and his Politics.

(BY EUG. UNSWORTH.)

A democracy has been defined as the government of the whole people by the whole people equally represented, and although it is frequently asserted that we are the most democratic nation in the world, the decadence of our modern political system under the influence of combinations of capital justifies us in asserting that we are very far from approaching our democratic ideal.

It must be apparent to the intelligence of the most optimistically inclined defender of the present political situation that corporate wealth is fast gaining the upper hand of the people, and slowly but surely converting this country from democracy to plutocracy, from a nation governed by the whole people to a nation governed by a few mercenary individuals.

The man with the muck rake is telling the story of labor's betrayal by its representatives in governmental affairs, and the political and social unrest which is spreading to every city in the United States indicates that the people are cognizant of the dangers that confront them, and are preparing to retire to private life those individuals whose political careers if not checked will eventually convert this republic into a privately owned institution.

The issues before the country to-day are largely economic. We have before us two contending forces, each struggling for supremacy: the despotism of capital and the organization of labor, the first advocating the abject servitude of the masses, the sec-

ond freedom of thought, will, and action along lines that tend to the political and economic freedom of all the people. Society depends upon its sound and healthy growth to the freedom with which its individual members co-operate. Under our present complex industrial system an individual without the assistance of his fellowman can accomplish but very little. The private ownership and monopoly render co-operation impossible. It can then be readily observed that our large combinations of capital which control our government are a menace and a barrier to the full, free and proper development of our social organism. It must be apparent to the most superficial observer that the majority of our men in public life who constitute the law makers of this nation are not only incompetent to grasp the gigantic industrial problems of the period, but have proven themselves to be the pliant tools of our privately owned monopolies. The removal of these men from public office is a duty devolving upon the wage earners of this country, and there is therefore no question of greater importance to the masses than the one which relates to the proper disposition of their ballot, for upon its wise and judicious use depends the satisfactory solution of our intricate social problem and the perpetuation of our republican form of government.

The remarkable growth of the trade union movement has been the wonder of this and the preceding century, and its success

in ameliorating the conditions of the masses has been conceded by the student and observer of social affairs. To check its growth, to annihilate it, to render it inoperative, has been the ardent dream of a certain section of the employing class whose hypocritical cant about the personal liberty of the toiler consists in the wage earner humbly accepting a job at the conditions the employer sees fit to indicate, who allows the employer to dictate his wages, hours and other conditions of employment, and who is satisfied to permit the employer to claim for himself every privilege denied the employe.

To accomplish these purposes certain employers have brought to their assistance the powers of the government, have corrupted judges, and have supported powerful lobbies in almost every seat of government in this country. It is therefore the duty of every trade unionist to interest himself in the politics of his locality, to ascertain the character of the men who are destined to make the laws that will guide the destinies of our people and to cast his vote only for those individuals who promise to support those reforms which are necessary to further permit the free development of organized labor along the lines of justice and fair dealing, and not in the special interest of a certain moneyed class.

The cry of the "open shop," which literally translated signifies long hours of labor, small wages and every evil that trade unionism has been successful in eradicating, is being propagated to deceive the public and gain sympathy for certain forms of employers' associations, and under this pretext every reform law introduced by labor is subject to defeat if it does not suit the will of the employing class who oppose it. Our representatives, wearing the hall mark of predatory capital, basely betray the interests of the masses, and with each succeeding year we perceive the defeat of the eight-hour bill, anti-injunction measure and sundry petitions demanded by labor. The United States is far behind every country in the world as regards labor legislation. Practically very little is accomplished in this direction, the defeat of labor legislation has become a general practice, while hundreds of worthless bills are passed at the meetings of every legislature in this country. At the recent meeting of the New York Legislature no fewer than forty bills in the interest of labor suffered defeat, while eight bills secured the governor's signature and became a law. Such a total ignoring of the people's rights could not exist if we had representative men from our own ranks to plead labor's cause, and the sooner the trade unionist realizes the necessity of political action along trade union lines, the sooner will he lessen the burden on labor's shoulders. England has now fifty representative labor champions from the ranks of the working classes in Parliament, and Germany has eighty, while in the United States

we can scarcely boast of a single labor representative in Congress.

The workmen of this country should therefore concentrate every effort towards organization along political lines, which movement will undoubtedly terminate in the improvement of the condition of the masses, lessen the number of strikes, lockouts and other evidences of economic discontent, permit the workers to participate in the blessings of material advancement and establish that democracy which is something more than a mere shadow of the substance.

PRaises UNIONS IN SERMON.

Rev. Wallace Short Has Good Words for Them.

"The Employer and Organized Labor" was the subject chosen by Rev. Wallace Short for his sermon the Sunday previous to Labor Day at the Beacon Hill Congregational church.

"Formerly conditions were such that men worked side by side with their employer and in many cases were his personal friends; always his acquaintances. Under conditions which exist at present the men in most cases work under the supervision of a superintendent whose duty is simply to see that the work is done and to manage it so that proper dividends are brought in. The employer rarely knows the men who are working for him and often they do not even know him by sight. This being the case, no matter how good may be his intentions, he is not in a position to be able properly to look after the interests of his employes.

"For these reasons organized labor is inevitable. Labor unions are organized for the purpose of securing better conditions.

"I believe that it is often the case that employers would like to better conditions governing their men, but on account of the keen competition existing in all lines of work they are unable to follow their inclinations. When unions become powerful enough to compel all employers to do as the few would like to do but cannot, then will unions become a real help to the better class of employers.

"Next to public schools, union labor is the greatest factor in the assimilation of American ideals, influencing workmen who come to this country from other lands. Unions are also next to public schools in the training of their members to discuss important questions and to decide issues of moment. They are learning that they must meet the judgment of public opinion.

"There is no question but that when unions gain power they often overstep the bounds of fairness. Therefore an employers' association is inevitable. The true attitude to be taken is to realize that both have their mission and for each to try to attain its truest ideals."—Kansas City Journal.

TEMPORARY INJUNCTION

Obtained by the Manufacturers of Nashville, Tenn.

(Original Bill, Filed August 24, 1906.)

To the Honorable John Allison, Chancellor, etc., presiding over and holding the Chancery Court at Nashville, Tenn.:

The bill of complaint of the Montgomery-Moore Manufacturing Company, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Tennessee, with its office at Nashville, in said state; the Nashville Saddlery Company, a corporation chartered and organized under the laws of the state of Tennessee, with its office at Nashville, in said state; and J. D. Goodpasteur, W. A. Tenison, and M. J. O'Sullivan, a partnership trading under the firm name of Goodpasteur, Tenison & O'Sullivan; all residents of Nashville, Tennessee, complainants.

VERSUS

Local Branch No. 145 of United Brotherhood of Leather Workers on Horse Goods, J. R. Stark, Geo. Gosey, Fred Shaw, Chas. Joslin, Geo. Hankins, or Handkins, W. L. Lindsley or Lindsey, C. Campbell, Joe Obenchain, ——— Redmond, Wm. L. Frasch, Herman Hauff, A. J. Smith, Wm. Smith, Jas. Campbell, Sid Seifert, Harry Baldwin, Wm. McAnnally, Herman Stewart, Wm. Badacour, Wm. Carney, Louis Seifried, Oscar Wright, Clyde Singleton, Frank Tyler, W. D. Noland, Wm. Shockley, E. B. Millwain, W. D. Ross, O. C. Ankerman, Jas. Timbs, R. C. Timbs, Mike Coyle, Mike Sinnott, Jesse Stratton, T. P. Coleman, W. C. Blythe, J. A. Clark, T. B. Copperwaits, E. Neise, Geo. Hanvey, Chas. Hanvey, Knox Kinniard, Dan Matherly, J. C. Noland, Ed Phelan, W. S. Ridley, Leonard Reeves, Jas. Morton, Ivy Bartlett, Joe Clifton, J. C. Corbett, Leo Crutchfield, Phil Davis, Ed Griffin, C. W. Hosse, Robt. Hartnett, S. E. Freeman, Alex. Foster, W. H. Gill, Louis McLaren, Ben Rivers, John Joslin, Henry H. Gerhardt, and all other members or persons who are connected or associated with the first named defendant, to-wit: The Local Branch No. 145 of the United Brotherhood of Leather Workers on Horse Goods of Nashville, Tenn., and all associates, confederates and allies of said named defendant and the other defendants, all being citizens and residents of Nashville, Tenn., defendants.

Complainants would respectfully state and show to the court as follows:

I.

That they are citizens and residents of Nashville, Tenn., engaged in the conduct of the business of the manufacture and sale of saddlery and harness and leather goods, and have been so engaged in business in Nashville for many years; that they are law-abiding citizens and desire that they be permitted in their own peaceable way to transact in such orderly and legal manner

as they have heretofore adopted the exercise of their said business, and that they and each of them engaged in the operation and conduct of their business have many employees, and have each and every of them quite a large and general business.

II.

The defendant, Local Branch No. 145 of United Brotherhood of Leather Workers on Horse Goods of Nashville, Tenn., is an organization composed of workers of journeymen in said trade and business, the ostensible purpose of said organization being the betterment of its members, but in reality for many years it has been used as a leverage to force the employers of labor in said line, or to endeavor so to do, into terms with reference to wage, hours, etc., and to dictate to them the manner in which they shall conduct their business, the personnel of men whom they shall employ, and the wage that they shall pay the men who are and who are not members of said defendant branch. The other defendants named in the bill and members of said organization, and there are many others such, whose identity to complainants is not known, but to whom, as well as to those who are in league and confederation with them for the purpose hereinafter to be stated, the prayer of this bill is directed as specifically as are those whose names are known and herein set out, and who have been specifically named as defendants.

III.

Complainants, as before stated, have large and extensive businesses at Nashville, and are under contract of moment, involving large amounts, to deliver goods by certain times, that these contracts were made upon the idea and theory that the standard wage as heretofore understood would remain the wage paid workmen and employees of complainants; that it is necessary, not only to the fulfillment of contractual obligations, but also in good faith to customers with whom they deal, that the work at their respective factories should be without interruption continued in order that they might fulfill their agreements and contracts. Many instances might be given as illustrative of this condition of the business of these complainants and each of them, but for the purpose of brevity the same is merely stated as a general proposition, but on the hearing, the same will more fully and with greater definiteness be set forth.

IV.

Complainants would further show to Your Honor that there exists in the city of Nashville and its vicinity, and throughout the country, at this time, a great and unusual demand for the output of their factories, and there is unusual activity in the market for the same. That the defendant, Local Branch No. 145 of United Brotherhood of Leather Workers on Horse Goods, which said defendant shall hereinafter in this bill

be designated as defendant branch, taking advantage of said situation demanded of complainants unreasonable terms for the continuation of the work done and to be done by its members and those affiliated or in sympathy with it. That these demands and terms were so unreasonable in character that complainants were unable to accede to the same, and thereupon declined to comply. That the said defendant branch thereupon ordered a general strike or walk-out of its members, the same ordered about 9 o'clock a. m., on Thursday, the 16th day of August, 1906, and that those of the other defendants employed by these complainants left their respective places of employment in the shops of complainants named in the bill, and went upon what is commonly and generally known as a strike, or walkout; that is to say, they quit voluntarily, their employment. While the parties here named as complainants were and are greatly hampered and embarrassed in the conduct of their business, and while they fully recognize the right of these men to quit if they so desired, yet they felt and still feel that this strike was and is entirely unjust and unfair, and that the demands of these men through their branch and individually were and are entirely unreasonable; believing this to be true, they declined to accede to the arbitrary demands of these people and preferred rather to suffer the inconvenience and loss that would ensue.

Complainants would further show that some of their employees, and including some of the most valuable and skilled of their men, did not endorse the views of the defendants and their associates, but remained at work. Those employees who remained, and such as have been since employed, are competent operators, equipped for the business, and their service is essential to the completion of contracts made by complainants, and their services are necessary to the proper conduct of the businesses of these complainants, and each of them, such as is outlined in the preceding paragraph of the bill, and to the future conduct and operation of their business. These men now employed by the complainants are pursuing their vocations, are engaged in earning a livelihood for themselves and their families, and, as before stated, their services are necessary and requisite to the complainants and each of them, in the conduct of their business. Said men are desirous of continuing in the service of these complainants in said business, as aforesaid, and seek the opportunity to perform the services required of them in peace and order.

Complainants further charge that defendant branch and other defendants particularly named, together with other and divers persons to complainants unknown, falling in their efforts to force and bring about an adjustment to their satisfaction of their differences with their employers, have recently conspired and confederated together with the object and purpose of terrorizing, and

thereby, by intimidation and threats of violence, prevent the persons now employed by these complainants from peaceably or otherwise prosecuting their work and service; and that the defendants, including the defendant branch, together with their associates, confederates, allies and sympathizers, whose names are at this moment unknown to the complainants, began and are pursuing a policy of threats and personal violence, intimidation and coercion, for the purpose, by means of such intimidation, threats, coercion, etc., and thereby fear excited to the persons now in the employ of the complainants, to prevent the said employees of complainants from peaceably or otherwise prosecuting their work on behalf of these complainants and their respective businesses; that said defendants, including the defendant branch, together with divers and sundry other persons, who are their associates, allies, confederates and sympathizers, have hung around the places of businesses of these complainants, where work was in the course of operation and construction by said complainants and each of them, and have congregated in groups upon the sidewalks and about the premises of the plants of these complainants for the purpose of coercion and intimidation, or for the purpose of endeavoring to put the employees of these complainants in fear of bodily injury, to thereby keep them from continuing in the employment of these complainants, and also for the purpose of preventing other persons from entering the employ of these complainants, and thereby they have done to complainants and each of them, and are in readiness to further do, great and irreparable hardship, injury and damage. The said defendants, their associates, allies and sympathizers, have sought and met the employees of complainants at night time at their homes and upon the streets, and have patrolled the streets in the vicinity of the places where said employees lodged, and by sundry and divers threats have endeavored to coerce and in some instances have coerced said employees to quit their employment through fear and apparent danger of bodily injury.

The situation being as before described, in view of these conditions, it is the policy of these complainants, if possible, either from this immediate vicinity or from other cities to bring expert hands to take the places of the men who had either voluntarily left the employment or by threats and fears and intimidations have been forced to withdraw from their employment; that an effort was made to obtain the services of men from those other localities, but it has been the policy and is now the object and intention of the defendant branch, as complainants charge, and the object and intention of all other defendants, and their allies, confederates and sympathizers, to force and terrorize by threats of bodily harm to induce these men, as they come to the employment of complainants prepared for

work, to leave and abandon their purpose of continuing employment with the complainants. As an illustration of this complainants would show to the court that the services of one Harry Rogers were procured, Rogers coming from Chattanooga, Tennessee, to accept employment with complainant Montgomery-Moore Manufacturing Company, that the defendants, their associates, allies and confederates, in pursuance of their policy of intimidation and terrorism, forced this man from their employment and procured for him transportation to St. Louis, Mo., or some other point. As another illustration of the policy of the defendant, and their allies and associates, one Will Benedict was employed as an apprentice by complainant Montgomery-Moore Manufacturing Company, and by threats and intimidation directed at his father was forced to withdraw from the employment. Illustrations of this character might be multiplied, but for the sake of brevity, the same are not set out at length in this bill, but the details will be fully set forth by proof at the hearing. One other instance might be mentioned: On Wednesday afternoon, August 23, 1906, at about the hour that the factory of complainant Montgomery-Moore Manufacturing Company closed down, a large body of men, including the defendants, their sympathizers and confederates, congregated in the neighborhood of the said factory for the purpose of intimidating and coercing employees. These men patrolled the streets between the factory and the homes of the employees, breathing threats of violence and injury to the said employees of complainants. They wore armed with pistols and knives, and in order to insure the safety of the employees of said complainant it was necessary to have called in the assistance of the officers of police of the mayor and city council of Nashville, and the safety of said employees was secured by patrolmen sent to the scene for that purpose, and who escorted the said employees to the vicinity of their homes. That after said incident, during the afternoon on said Wednesday, August 23, 1906, squads of men, including the defendants and their associates and allies, patrolled the streets in the neighborhood of the boarding houses and places of abode of the men in the employ of complainant, Montgomery-Moore Manufacturing Company, and at the Union station, for the purpose of coercion and intimidation and with a view of frightening, cajoling and driving off from their employ these men.

V.

In view of the facts stated in the foregoing paragraph of this bill, the complainants charge that the defendant branch and the other defendants mentioned in the caption, together with other members of said branch, to complainants not known, and their associates, allies and confederates, have conspired and are conspiring with the object, purpose and intent of hindering and

delaying the complainants in the orderly and legal conduct of their business, with a view of, by threats of personal violence and intimidation, to force the employees of the complainants from the orderly and legal performance of their duties; for the purpose of, by hampering and intimidating the servants and employees of the complainants, because the complainants' great and irreparable loss and damage, both in money and reputation; to create a state of public disturbance with a view of achieving a private aim, and to do, as they will do, should they be permitted to proceed, to complainants, each and every of them, a great and irreparable loss, hardship, injury and damage.

Complainants in this connection further state and show to the court that the services of the men now in their employ, are necessary to them in order that they might fill present contracts and work that is yet to come, and that should this condition and terrorism and intimidation be permitted to prevail and their men be forced to leave they would be unable to perform their contracts and would suffer great and irreparable and irremediable loss and damage.

Complainants are advised that the courts of law have no remedy that will meet this evil and that they have a right to apply to Your Honor to the end that the worshipful writ of injunction will issue to restrain and enjoin the defendants and their associates and allies from injuring or interfering with complainants in the orderly conduct of their businesses and with the employees in their efforts to continue the work for which they have been employed and upon which they are engaged.

Complainants are advised and believe that with one possible exception the defendants and each of them are insolvent, and should any damage ensue there would be no practicable relief even should a remedy exist at law.

Premises considered, complainants pray: First—That the parties named as defendants in the caption of the bill be made by proper process and that they be required to answer this bill, but not under oath, the oath being expressly waived.

Second—That an injunction issue against the defendants and each of them and their associates, allies and confederates, to be made perpetual upon the hearing of this cause, restraining them and each of them from in any manner interfering with these complainants and those in the employ of these complainants or those hereafter to be so employed, and from in any manner interfering with any person, or persons, who may desire to enter the employ of any these complainants, by the use of threats, personal violence, coercion, duress, intimidation or other means calculated to interfere with and alarm or cause fear to the employees now or hereafter to be employed in any manner of form whatsoever; and that said defendants and their associates aforesaid be en-

joined from undertaking by the use of the means aforesaid to force any of the employees of the complainants or those who hereafter may be employed to quit the employment of these complainants; and that the defendants aforesaid, and their associates and confederates, be enjoined from congregating or loitering about the premises where any such work may be done by these complainants or any of them, or under them, by their employees, and that they be required by an injunction of this court to abstain in every way whatsoever from interfering with the business of these complainants; and that they be enjoined from loitering about the boarding houses and lodging places of the employees of these complainants for the purpose of intimidation or personal violence.

Third—That complainants have all such other, further and general relief which the facts may warrant or the nature of the case require.

This is the first application for injunctive relief in this cause.

JAMES A RYAN,
Sol'r for Complainants.

State of Tennessee, Davidson County.

J. L. McWhirter, first being duly sworn, makes oath and says that the facts stated in the foregoing bill are true to the best of his knowledge, information and belief; that the facts stated as of his own knowledge are true, and that the facts stated as upon information and belief he verily believes to be true.

J. L. McWHIRTER.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 2nd day of August, 1906.

JOHN J. NORTON,
Notary Public.

(Seal) I am security for the costs.

JAMES A. RYAN.

To the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Nashville.

Upon the complainants entering into bond in the sum of five hundred dollars, issue injunction as prayed in the bill.

JOHN W. CHILDRRESS,
August 23, 1906. Judge.

LABOR CONVENTIONS.

October 1, Minneapolis, Minn., International Photo-Engravers' Union.

October, first week, Toronto, Ont., Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers' International Union.

October 8, Milwaukee, Wis., Coopers' International Union.

October 18, Paterson, N. J., United Textile Workers of America.

November 5, East Bangor, Pa., International Union Slate Workers.

November 12, Minneapolis, Minn., American Federation of Labor.

December 3, Boston, Mass., International Seamen's Union.

December 3, New York, N. Y., National Alliance of Bill Posters and Billers of America.

FOUND AN OPEN SHOP.

All his life in a union mine
He'd earned his daily bread;
They buried him in a union grave
When the union man was dead.

He had a union doctor,
And he had a union nurse;
He had a union coffin,
And he got a union hearse.

And then he went to heaven,
But to stay he didn't care;
He kicked because he said that some
Nonunion men were there.

He had a union coffin,
And produced his union card.
Then Satan threw an earnest face
And studied good and hard.

And then he laughed; his hands did rub
Till you thought he'd never stop;
"Lord, bless your soul," said Beelzebub,
"This is an open shop."

—Peoria Weekly Gazette.

COMPULSORY DAY OF REST.

Another legal enactment dealing with the limitation of working hours, or, rather days, of special interest to railwaymen has been passed by the French Chamber of Deputies. Recently by a majority of 575 votes to one the chamber passed a measure providing for a compulsory day of rest. The effect of the new law is to make it compulsory to give all employees a day's rest a week. Where possible it is to be on Sundays, but in such cases as those of restaurants, cafes, hospitals and newspapers, where work cannot be suspended entirely, the holiday need not necessarily be given on that day. With the growth of the desire for a rational use of the Sabbath, Sunday labor in the catering and transit industries in Britain will tend to increase. Where it is not profitable to run trains railway companies pay due regard to sanctity of the Sabbath, and many crocodile tears are shed by dictators and managers when it is found profitable to open up a Sunday service of trains, and great is their regret that the one sacred day of the week should be violated. But they are keenly alive to the economic factor of profit, and the religious or other scruples of the workmen are subject to the particular conditions of his employment. Whether the fact be agreeable or not, more people are giving up the religious observance of Sunday, and that fact is causing slowly a greater demand for Sunday labor. While a universal weekly holiday is desirable, we have to recognize its difficulty, and the workmen must inevitably take steps to prevent the employer taking from him the right to one day's rest in seven. The model set by the French Chamber is an excellent one, and is one that will be followed in Britain when the British workmen realize its importance.

—London Railway Review.