

**ORGANIZED SELF-HELP. A  
HISTORY AND DEFECE OF  
THE AMERICAN LABOR  
MOVEMENT**

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Organized self-help. A history and defece of the American labor movement by Herbert N. Casson

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**HERBERT N. CASSON**

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A HISTORY AND DEFENCE OF THE  
AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT.

BY

HERBERT N. CASSON,

AUTHOR OF

*"The Crime of Credulity," "The Red Light," Etc.*

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**Dedicated to the  
American Federation of Labor.**

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## INTRODUCTION.

**A**T the time of writing (November, 1901) the American Federation of Labor has on its rolls 1,100,000 members, and is increasing at the rate of 350,000 a year. It not only contains more citizens than any church denomination or society in the United States, but is the strongest non-military organization in the world.

Yet very few, especially among our literary, business and professional classes, know anything about the nature and history of this gigantic federation of wage-workers. Whenever a strike occurs, the newspapers print pages of personalities, denunciations and trivial details, but very rarely give any valuable information upon which a level-headed opinion may be formed.

In every discussion, the less we know about the subject the more we shout and abuse our opponents; and this is especially the case in time of labor troubles. Such an atmosphere of passion is