

# NORTH SHORE NEWS-LETTER

W. BURGESS, EDITOR

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## THE LABOR UNION AND THE CHURCH.

It would be said that the strongest and most telling protests of labor leaders against the church have been made on the claim that it ought always to "side with the union" (i. e.) it should apply the principles of helping the weak against the strong by endorsing labor unions against organized capital.

If laboring men would think for a moment they would see that this is neither desirable nor possible. The church is a unit only in one main thing, viz.: to bring men into the liberty of a higher or better life, or to use a popular religious term, to save men from their sins."

What it may do socially or how it may do it must depend primarily upon the action of the local church or character of each organized body calling itself a church. Each such body will be true or false, strong or weak, right or wrong, in relation to respective social matters according to the character of each.

There is absolutely no law in Christianity to forbid a company of rich men forming a church. They will be true or false in such church—not according to their wealth but to their service and conduct.

This is equally true of the working man. There is nothing to prevent working men who have Christian ideals organizing an ideal church and there is nothing to prevent them reaching the ideal but their own weakness and faults.

Given a community in which wealthy people live it does not argue them worse because they organize a church with fine music and able preachers. What they do to make the world better will not be lessened because they have a church.

Given a community of workmen, it does not argue them a worse set because they organize "a people's church" and seek to elevate themselves and their fellows by worship and good works.

The unity of the church lies in its appeal to the hearts of all men. And this unity is sometimes reached best by men meeting—each in their own way—worshipping as they will, until the time may come again when the rich and poor meet together."

## DOES THE SALOON HELP BUSINESS?

It may be that some may resent my comparing Kansas with Illinois. If so, let me compare Maine with the

great state of Ohio. Maine, they say, in 1855 when it adopted prohibition, was the most drunken and poorest state in the nation. Ohio was a rich state. In 50 years of prohibition Maine has organized and has today more banks and has \$22,000,000 more on deposit in those banks than has the wide open state of Ohio with six times her population. Booze and bankruptcy go hand in hand!

Let me bring you another statement from Kansas. They sometimes make the statement that prohibition does not prohibit in Kansas, that it does not lessen drinking. I will read you a statement made by the governor of the state of Kansas quite recently published over his signature. Listen. Of the 106 counties in Kansas only 21 have any paupers. Only 25 have poor houses. Thirty-five have their jails absolutely empty. Thirty seven have no criminal cases pending upon the dockets of their courts. Is there a county in Illinois that can make statements similar to this last? Kansas has the smallest number of paupers of any state in the Union. Kansas spends more money for education in proportion to population than any other state in the nation—poor old prohibition Kansas! Listen. One hundred and five newspapers are published in Kansas, of which number only 20 will carry an advertisement for a liquor house. Poor old, prohibition Kansas! Let me read you another statement and this is from the governor's message of the state of Kansas, a document that is prepared with great care so as to be absolutely correct. Remember that it is said that as much liquor is sold in Kansas as in any other place. "The absurd contention that more liquor is sold in prohibition Kansas than in licensed states is deceiving no one. \* \* \*

Uncle Sam is a pretty good book-keeper and a pretty good collector. Compare prohibition Kansas with her neighbor, licensed Nebraska, for instance. Nebraska has about one third less population than Kansas, but Uncle Sam has collected about \$2,000,000 a year liquor tax from the people of Nebraska, while he has been able to get only \$100,000 from Kansas. The amount of fermented liquor sold in Kansas is from 6,000 to 10,000 barrels, a tremendous amount, isn't it? In Nebraska from 200,000 to 300,000 barrels. In licensed Missouri from 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 barrels; in licensed Illinois from 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 barrels." Just think of your licensed state of Illinois consuming 5,000,000 barrels and the prohibition state of Kansas 10,000 barrels!

—Mr. Trickett of Kansas City in speech in Chicago.

## HOW THE OTHER HALF GIVES.

"That sentiments of tender charity are innate among the poor can be seen from a case which presented itself among a group of little children at a school where we visited," writes Mrs. John Van Vorst in her Christmas article in Woman's Home Companion. "They were of the most destitute, this little class, but as regular as soldiers in attendance. After an

unusual absence of two days, one of the small pupils, Mary by name, was closely questioned by the teacher on her return. Very reluctantly she responded that they had been without food at home and that she was ashamed to come hungry to school.

"No comment was made before the other children. Nothing further was said.

"The following morning a small procession filed before the teacher's desk—a procession of little people, tiny, poor, ignorant. Yet not one of them came empty handed. One brought an apple, one a piece of cheese, one a roll, one a slice of meat. And each, as she put her meager offering down, whispered to the teacher: 'It's for Mary.'"

## THE EDITOR'S TABLE.

Among the regular things that come to us is THE WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, from which we make clippings. It is fully up to the standard of the best.

MC CALL'S MAGAZINE for December is an excellent lady's magazine. Although only fifty cents a year its fashion plates are equal to many more than double its price.

THE DELINEATOR is a ladies' magazine of the very best. It has inaugurated a campaign of "child rescue, a work that ought to commend itself to every true hearted woman—or man either, for that matter—in the United States.

PHYSICAL CULTURE 10 cents monthly is a well edited illustrated magazine of advanced teaching on the subject of its name. It is plain spoken and takes high ground on sex morality. Yet strangely enough, its very advocacy of a purer life enforced by plain speech has brought its editor trouble. Probably its fearless attack upon certain quack doctors was the primary cause of the attack.

OUR DUMB ANIMALS is the monthly organ of the beneficent society which cares for animals. It is full of good things well said and we frequently quote its anecdotes of animal life. The motto of the magazine is Cowper's lines

I would not enter on my list of friends

Though graced with polished manners and fine sense,  
Yet wanting sensibility, the man  
Who needlessly sets foot upon a worm.—Cowper.

THE PEOPLES ADVOCATE which was suspended for a month or two on account of the Editor's sickness appears again and is making up for back issues. It is an advocate of the Initiative and Referendum and is edited and published by a Highland Park citizen, Mr. Fred. Mains.

SUNSET is a monthly magazine of the west, published at San Francisco at fifteen cents. It is full of good reading with a decided smell of the western air. We heartily commend it to any who would see things from a California point of view.

THE FARM AND FIRESIDE is a splendid paper for those who want to know about the things of a farm. We would like to see it on better paper, but then the wonder is that a paper with such a vast fund of good things and issued twice a month can be supplied for 25 cents a year.

THE PUBLIC is a weekly paper of advanced democracy and an advocate of the theories of Henry George. It is ably edited and full of suggestions.

## HE SAW LINCOLN KILLED.

Passing the evening of his life in southern California is Henry Guard, one of the few surviving witnesses of the assassination of President Lincoln. Mr. Guard says the recollections of that awful night of April 14, 1865, will haunt him as long as life lasts.

At the close of the war, when Gen. Grant transferred his headquarters to Washington, Guard says he went to the capital to visit his brother. Arriving at the seat of government on April 14 he was attracted to Ford's theater to witness the production of "Our American Cousin." Securing a seat within ten feet of the stage, he had a good view of Wilkes Booth, as well as of President and Mrs. Lincoln, who occupied a box.

When the curtain fell he heard a pistol shot, but at first believed it to be a part of the play. When he saw a man, who was afterward discovered to be Booth, jump from the president's box to the stage, he realized that tragedy was being enacted. Two flags draped the president's box, and as Booth made the leap his foot caught in the colors and Guard saw the murderer fall to the stage with a broken ankle.

Before the crowd knew what had really happened Booth had made his way to the rear of the stage and escaped in the darkness. Guard says he saw the head of the martyred president fall listlessly upon his breast as Mrs. Lincoln was led from the theater in a fainting condition.

Guard served throughout the war with the Fifty-third Illinois, was a prisoner at Andersonville, and is now making his home in Los Angeles. —Kansas City Star.

Joseph Chamberlain was the guest of honor at a dinner in an important city. The mayor presided, and, when coffee was being served, the mayor leaned over and touched Mr. Chamberlain, saying, "Shall we let the people enjoy themselves a little longer, or had we better have your speech now?"

Andrew Carnegie tells of an old Scotch lady who had no great liking for modern church music. One day she was expressing her dislike of an anthem, when a friend said, "Why, that anthem is very ancient. David sang it to Saul." "Weel, weel," said the old woman, "I noo for the first time understand why Saul threw his javelin at David when the lad sang for him."