

gon is fortunate in being well supplied with public spirited citizens of that stamp. May they have that abundant measure of success which they so well deserve, and may their example be widely followed.

ROBERT TYSON.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE

RAYMOND ROBINS IN BOSTON.

Boston, April 13.—Mr. Robins spoke six times in his three days' stay in Boston. His first address was on the subject of women's part in social and industrial betterment. Among his hearers were many veteran workers in the cause of the emancipation of women, and when he had finished his splendid plea for the legal right of women to a direct voice in the affairs of the state for the protection of themselves and their children and for the general welfare of the community, the verdict of these workers was that Mr. Robins had made the best statement of the case for equal rights they had ever heard.

On Saturday afternoon Mr. Robins spoke before the Twentieth Century Club on Education and the Workers, and in the evening on the Trades Unionists' Opportunity.

Sunday morning at the First Church in Cambridge he held his audience spellbound in his recital of the methods by which simple-hearted country boys and untutored men are made into thieves and jailbirds in our boasted Christian civilization.

Sunday afternoon at the New Voters' Festival in Faneuil Hall, his address, Civic Corruption and the Way Out, was enthusiastically received by a crowded audience, largely young men just entering upon their full privileges as citizens.

Monday morning before the Congregational ministers Mr. Robins gave his address on The Social Conscience of Christ. With the possible exception of his Sunday morning address this was perhaps the most moving of Mr. Robins's six genuinely remarkable lectures. We have long looked upon Jesus' message as almost purely a personal one, but illuminated by Mr. Robins's wonderful insight and by his years of experience among "the least of these my brethren," Jesus' teaching as a social gospel is convincingly revealed, and the call to the service of one's fellows becomes a compelling force.

In his eight years' work among the human driftwood of a great city Mr. Robins has traced back step by step the careers of scores of individuals who from simple, ignorant, well-intentioned folk, have become thieves and outcasts, enemies of society and a shame and menace to our civilization. His revelation of the causes that combine to produce these wrecks is calculated to make the smug and self-righteous sit up and take notice, but neither the prophets of old nor the Master himself softened the condemnation because it fell in unexpected places, and Mr. Robins, worthy follower of these, and of the preachers of social righteousness in all times, speaks the truth as he has found it, let the blows fall where they will.

MARGARET E. CHASE.

NEWS NARRATIVE

To use the reference figures of this Department for obtaining continuous news narratives:

Observe the reference figures in any article; turn back to the page they indicate and find there the next preceding article on the same subject; observe the reference figures in that article, and turn back as before; continue until you come to the earliest article on the subject; then retrace your course through the indicated pages, reading each article in chronological order, and you will have a continuous news narrative of the subject from its historical beginnings to date.

Week ending Tuesday, April 21, 1908.

Organized Labor in Politics.

A systematic movement under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor for concerted political action (vol. x, p. 1231) was begun in thousands of meetings, held on the 19th in every city and town where the influence of the American Federation of Labor extends. Samuel Gompers spoke at a large mass meeting in Grand Central Palace, New York. In referring to recent Supreme Court decisions, Mr. Gompers is reported to have said:

I will not tolerate, nay, I will resent, any imputations that our highest court has been prompted by any dishonest or sordid motive. But it remains a fact that men who have been successes as lawyers and jurists, what the world of our time regards as successful lawyers and jurists, are men whose very rearing, education and environment are not in accord with the spirit of the times. They are but human, like you and me. Like you and me they are liable to err, and they must not forget that they are subject, like you and me, to the criticism of their fellow citizens. We ask from Congress that the rights that have been taken from us be restored. We ask this, and in our sovereign rights as citizens of this country we purpose to send to industrial and political oblivion those who stand in the way of the toiler now and in the days to come. It is the most momentous question that the working people of this country have been called upon to face since the civil war. It is our duty to demand of Congress the passage of laws which shall give us the right to labor unmolested, and we demand those laws, not next year or some date remote in the future, but at the present session of Congress.

The resolutions protested against the recent decisions of the Supreme Court which were adverse to labor interests. Not only did they demand legislation at this session of Congress, but declared that they would send to political oblivion all who opposed them. Appeal was made to all workers to stand by their friends and elect them, and oppose those indifferent and hostile to their cause and defeat them at the coming election.

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The most notable proceeding before central labor bodies occurred at the meeting of the Chicago Federation of Labor. Raymond Robins addressed this body upon invitation, and roused the delegates to a high pitch of enthusiasm in a remark-