Talking to the Printers (New York Times?)

Mr. Pentecost at an Anti-Poverty Meeting

The Hall of Cooper Union was half filled last night with an Anti-Poverty Society gathering. Some of the men in the audience were printers. They had advertised that the meeting was called to start a strike. No strike was struck, thought, but many yells were yelled for George, McGlynn, and free land. Agatha Munier's Concordia chorus sang to slow tragedy music to the effect that "the earth was made for man," and that it would be a good thing to "keep it before the people." Chairman John R. O'Donnell recited some long sentences about the greatness of George's party and said the labor leader was "the foremost printer of the world."

A score of hats were passed around to give the gathering a true Anti-Poverty stamp, and then the Rev. Hugh O. Pentecost talked for nearly two hours. He said he was a printer by trade, and had prepared at the case in the Indianapolis Sentinel office for the Gospel ministry. Modern society he likened to a printing office, where a few favored printers have all the fat takes. After a while a kick is made against such partiality, and fair play reigns. Just as such a kick is made in a staff of compositors, so it is being made now in society. Then Mr. Pentecost went over the argument of the Georgian doctrine. Here are some of his sentences:

"This war shall be carried on until every reasonable desire of mind and soul, as well as body, shall be gratified. The further we go the more impudent we shall get."

"If a miner takes 10 tons of coal out of a mine that 10 tons belongs to him; all of it, barring the very little which he may owe for the use of the capital he used in digging it."

"We have repudiated the doctrine that God is responsible for poverty. The reason why some people are on the top financially is not because they are superior to other people in brains, but that they are inferior in conscience."

"We believe that a man has been raised up -- inspired of God as much as ever was
Paul inspired -- to preach to men and to tell them why there is poverty and how there may be none. [Cheers for Henry George.] I am a follower of St. George. He is my patron saint."

"There never was a day when I was a 'rat,' or had anything to do with a 'rat.' When I was a printer and there was a strike I was in the strike. Were I back tomorrow and a strike should come I would be in it."

"If manufacturers have the right to put a man's name on the black list and send that list all over the country then the boycott is right."

John E. Mitchell, Jr., of Richmond, and John McMackin made closing speeches.