

ministrative decisions; the inspectors are to be under the civil service regulations; no dates of inspection are to be required on inspection labels; and night inspection is regulated. All products put out without compliance with the law are to be excluded from foreign and interstate commerce.

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Labor in Politics.

At the meeting of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor at Washington on the 18th, President Gompers spoke strongly in denunciation of Congress for its studied neglect of labor legislation. He called attention to the eight-hour bill, which had been ordered reported by a temporary majority accidentally secured by the Democrats at a recent meeting of the committee (p. 203) and regretted that the report has been suppressed by the chairman. He also referred to what he called the "subterfuge" resorted to by the House committee on judiciary in regard to the anti-injunction bill. He charged that to delay action the committee had referred to a subcommittee for investigation the question of property rights and personal freedom. Speaker Cannon and the rules of the House were severely criticised by Mr. Gompers, who stated that a number of Congressmen have declared their willingness to aid in labor legislation, but are unable to bring the measures to a vote.

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In line with previous recommendations by Mr. Gompers, the Central Federated Union of New York City decided on the 18th to take steps for the organization of an independent labor party.

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At the annual convention of the Allied Printing Trades of New England, held at Springfield, Mass., on the 12th and 13th, W. L. Crosman, a delegate from the Boston Typographical Union, proposed the following resolutions, each of which was disposed of by the convention in the manner stated in brackets below:

Whereas, a movement is now in progress in this country among organized wage earners to have the wrongs of working people righted by independent political action, or the indorsing of party candidates who can be trusted to keep their pledges to work and vote for laws that will give justice to toilers, Resolved, that the New England Allied Printing Trades in convention assembled in Springfield, Mass., heartily indorse such movement and individually pledge our moral support. [Approved by resolutions committee and adopted by the convention.]

Whereas, the plank on land monopoly in the platform of the American Federation of Labor declares that occupancy and use should be the only title to land, and, whereas, such an arrangement would not prevent the land owner from partially using valuable land in order to hold it for speculation, and it would also give to the occupiers of valuable city locations a great advantage over those who would have to use less valuable locations, Resolved, that plank 10 of the A. F. of L. platform should be changed to read as follows: "The abolition of the monopoly system of land holding by taxation of all land according to its value." [Approved by resolutions committee and adopted by the convention.]

Whereas, union printers have long been advocates of equal pay for equal work for both sexes, Resolved, that to carry such an equitable principle to its logical conclusion it is also just that women should enjoy an equal right with men to vote for all elective officers, national, State,

city and town. [Approved by the resolutions committee, but voted down by the convention.]

Whereas, Dr. S. Solla Cohen of Philadelphia, credited as an authority on tuberculosis, declared in a recent address that "tuberculosis is principally a housing problem, and in the end analyzes its causes into two economic factors—high rents and low wages," and as a solution of the problem, he said: "Cause rents to be low and wages high;" and, whereas, low wages mean overcrowded houses, rear or basement tenements, bad air, poor food, poor clothing, worry, children sent early to work, temptation to intemperance, etc., Resolved, that wages can be made high and rents low by taxing all land at its full value, thereby discouraging the land speculator and encouraging the land user. [Disapproved by the resolutions committee, but adopted by the convention.]

Whereas, the advocates of the so-called open shop, who are opponents of the alleged labor trust (meaning trade unions), are inconsistent and unfair in their words and actions, because trade unionists do not prohibit any competent worker to join their ranks, and they are endeavoring to secure in wages the full earnings of their labor and in shorter hours the better social conditions which should be the lot of the wealth producer, and, whereas, with the earth a closed shop there is no other alternative for workmen than to suffer a steady downward tendency of wages or to enforce closed shop rules upon all places of employment, Resolved, that the employer who resists this, while using his influence to continue the earth a closed shop, is either ignorant or unfair; therefore, Resolved, that it is evidently the aim of those who oppose trade unions to disrupt labor organizations in order to secure a condition of low wages and long hours, and so long as they refrain from advocating that the earth be made an open shop for labor, and do not attempt to advocate the abolition of trusts that reap the robber profits of monopoly, they can be branded as inconsistent, ignorant and unfair. [Approved by the resolutions committee and adopted by the convention.]

Whereas, home rule is a principle that should be in full operation in every community, in order that voters should have a voice in deciding all matters of local interest, and, whereas, this principle of home rule was extended to the question of taxation in New Zealand in 1896, and has proved of great benefit to working people by causing a brisk demand for labor in all occupations and in raising wages higher than the trade union rate, Resolved, that the delegates to the New England Allied Printing Trades convention indorse the principle of local option in taxation, in order that the voters may exercise their undoubted right to adopt such a plan for raising local revenue as to them appears best calculated to increase the prosperity of the State, city and town. [Approved by the resolutions committee and adopted by the convention.]

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Anniversary of the Republican Party.

In the same assembly room in Musical Fund Hall, Philadelphia, where, on June 17, 1856, the Republican party opened its first national convention which named Fremont and Dayton as its Presidential ticket, there gathered on the 17th several hundred Republicans from different sections of the country to commemorate the event. Among those who participated were 152 men who had voted for Fremont for President. They entered the hall in a body and were assigned to seats in the front part of the auditorium. Speaker Cannon and Secretary Shaw, who were to make addresses, were unable to be present. Gov. Pennypacker of Pennsylvania presided and introduced Rev. Edward M. Levy, a Baptist clergyman of Philadelphia, who had delivered the invocation at the opening of the convention fifty years before. He performed a like service on the present occasion, after which Gov. Pennypacker delivered an address. On the 18th Secretary Shaw spoke. The celebration was under the auspices of the National League of Republican Clubs.