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THE CONTEMPT DECISION.

And so Samuel Gompers, John Mitchell and Secretary Morrisson are to be sent to jail as an outcome of the long deferred decision of the contempt proceedings of the injunction obtained by the Buck Stove company. It will remind those who heard Gompers speak in the last campaign of his declarations that he would pay no fine and that he would go to jail.

As far as the technical side of it is concerned, there is little doubt that the decision of Justice Wright is correct. If the injunction granted by the court to the Buck Stove company was right against a secondary boycott, there is no doubt that the defendants disobeyed deliberately, the injunction. Gompers did not deny this, but took the stand that under the constitution he had the power to say anything in his editorials that he pleased.

Indeed, the evidence showed that ten thousand copies of the Federationist, containing the editorial telling union men not to purchase a Buck stove, was sent out after the injunction had been issued.

There is but one sane way to look at it. It is nothing less nor more than the question whether or not the secondary boycott is to be used or not. The secondary boycott is, in the eyes of the labor leaders, the only way in which the full strength of the federation can be used in fighting an effective battle against their enemies. It is for that reason that they are going to jail rather than pay their fines. It is the question which came up in Judge Taft's decision on the secondary boycott made famous at the time of the Pullman strike. This is only another chapter. That is the reason that Gompers says, "If men have to suffer for fighting the battles of their fellow men I am willing to suffer."

There is no doubt that the standpoint of Mr. Gompers is a sincere one. Whatever might have been the opinion as to his sincerity in the last campaign in some of his statements and doings or whatever may have been said of him as a political adversary—in this, at least, Mr. Gompers is sincere. He is fighting for the secondary boycott. However much people may believe that the secondary boycott is an unfair weapon and that it is dangerous to the people themselves who are the innocent bystanders, yet most people will respect Gompers's action as being consistent.

But on the subject of a secondary boycott there is no doubt in most people's minds that it is dangerous, unfair and disruptive. Whether the secondary boycott is employed by labor or capital, it is equally vicious when used. It falls on the people, who have no voice in the matter. That is the trouble.

It is to be hoped that this decision and even the going to jail of Gompers will have a salutary effect on the whole situation. Among a certain type of laboring men the three labor leaders will become heroes, second only to Debs.

But the other class—the clearer headed ones, will welcome it as a step toward a solution of a problem which has become acute. They will see in it only a bringing of the matter to a head. In the end it will mean a greater respect for the courts, a clearer definition of the rights of labor and better understanding of the whole thing. Gompers should not be made a hero any more than should a capitalist who is convicted of contempt of court because he believes conscientiously in the blacklisting of his employees that have engaged in a primary strike. The conviction of such a man would bring the matter to a focus and would be welcomed as straightening out the situation. That is all that this really amounts to, although there will be many laboring men who will resent the action of the court.

BROWN WINS \$400.

George Brown, a well known local young man, who is the agent for one of the leading monthly magazines, has received word that he had received the \$400 prize offered to the most successful agent in November. There were 3,000 contestants.

A CHRISTMAS EDITORIAL

NO ROOM IN THE INN!

"Because there was no room for them in the Inn."

St. Luke II, 7.

Christmas is indeed the home festival. Today all over the world people are traveling homeward. Trains and stations are full of people with huge packages bulging with the cheer of Christmas. Tomorrow the tables of all will be groaning with turkey and the air will be redolent with the savor of bounty. The tables of all? Would that that statement were true.

But, let it go at that. For Christmas is the festival of Optimism—a feast of Lights in commemoration of Him who is a light to lighten the Gentiles. The Christmas creed is one of hope. Those acute men who had the making of the Christmas year were thoughtful enough to put the feast of St. Thomas the Doubter on the darkest and shortest day of the year, December 21. It is the darkness which is blackest before dawn.

A tired little family party was that which was traveling along the road to Bethlehem before the first Christmas. Just as there are tired mothers on the road today going home to spend Christmas somewhere. But when they arrived at the Inn they had to go to a stable in which there was not much cheer—"Because there was no room in the Inn."

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS.

THE INN.

The Inn is full this eve!
Nay, I care not where you go.
Haste you beggar take your leave.
No room in the Inn. I told you so.
(Faith like as not she will but theive).
Go to the stable till the morning glow.

THE KING'S STAR.

I see a King's Star the east heaven ride,
With blazing gleam and awful light.
Past all the Houses of Despair and Pride,
And with no show of Earthly Might.
I see Three Kings at eventide
Follow the King's Star through the night.

THE STABLE.

A stabled ox and docile sheep;
A weary mother and her child;
The woman's eyelids long to weep—
Her girlish face is pale and mild.
"Little darling—go to sleep."
Then the baby turned and smiled.

THE THREE KINGS.

"Spices, Frankincense, Balm and Myrrh,
Finely stilled Balsam, all fresh from the Fir,
A Crown and a Sceptre of rubies rare,
Poor gifts for a Heaven Born King we bear.
O King of Kings! Look down upon us,
We be Kings Of the East, so Kings of the Earth,
We saw Thy Star gleaming afar
Calling the Nations to Worship Thy birth.

And so there was no room in the Inn!
Is there in this world, no room for the spirit of hope and charity which above all other things is what the Christmas time stands for? Hope for the life hereafter and charity for all while we stay our little hour or two in this world?

Is there no room in the Inn?

There may not be as yet room in the Inn for all. There are out in the cold a crowd of men with gaunt haggard faces full of despair when at this time they should be full of hope. They are waiting for the afternoon newspapers in the hope of getting work. Tonight these same men will be fighting to get a place in the Bread Line. If you have ever seen it you will not soon forget it.

There is no room in the Inn.

And somewhere, all too conspicuous, is a cringing half flaunting woman, in faded finery. Men push her out of the way and women half close their eyes as they walk by.

There is no room in the Inn.

In a garret a child is gasping out its life with membranous croup. The father is in the first line at the newspaper office still waiting for the paper to come off so that he may find work. There is no one to help and nothing to eat. But there is a row of bottles empty—and a woman in the corner sound asleep in a drunken stupor.

There is no room in the Inn.

But the creed of Christmas is one of Hope and Charity.

Some day there will be room in the Inn.

There is a sinister thing to that old Christmas Carol;

"God rest you merry Gentlemen
Let nothing you dismay,
For Christ Our Lord and Saviour
Was born on Christmas Day."

Yes! Let nothing you dismay. Yes, merry gentlemen, there is still, "No room in the Inn."

CARL BERNHARDT.

MORE ATTEND PARTY CAUCUS THAN EXPECTED

(Continued From Page One.)

delegation. The Tenth has a larger republican representation than any other district in the state.

The Tenth district men will stand by Wickey in the contest in the legislature. Mr. Wickey declares that he has assurances from the republicans in every district that they will support him, even to the point of appealing to the senate to give aid. Action by the republicans would probably be the only thing that could keep the democrats from unseating Wickey in case they should decide that that was the thing to do.

Democrats Dictate.

In the house the democrats will be in the majority and will be able to unseat whomsoever they please. In the senate the republicans will be in the majority. Mr. Wickey believes that if the democrats in the house attempt to unseat him the republicans in the house should give the democrats in the house to understand that a democratic senator will be unseated in the senate. Mr. Wickey believes this would be nothing more than fair.

"Mr. Wickey was elected by a plurality of more than 1,300," said one of the Tenth district men. "It may be that there were irregularities among the republicans at election time in Lake county. But there were irregularities among the democrats, too, and it was merely a question of which party could do the most. There is no reason why Mr. Wickey should be unseated."

Representative Gil Elliott, of South Bend, declared that there was no more reason for a contest in Lake county than there was in St. Joseph county or several other counties.

"They will have to go some if they unseat Wickey," said Elliott.

It is said that the republican state

organization feels the same way about it. One of the leaders of the state committee declared that whenever the democrats started to unseat Wickey in the house there would be things doing in the other branch of the legislature.

Contest First Clash.

There is little doubt that the Wickey-Simon contest will cause the first clash in the legislature. It is largely on the irregularities in Lake county that the democratic candidates for state offices are basing their contests. These contests are backed by the democratic state committee. Both party committees will be lined up in the Wickey-Simon contest in the house.

It was stated by several of the representatives who attended the meeting that this contest should not be allowed to interfere with the passage of laws designed to purify the elections. The democrats are favoring laws that will require a foreigner to have lived for five years in the United States and to have been fully naturalized before he may vote. The republicans also, it is said, will aid in the passage of such a law, but they will not by any means admit that the republican party has been wholly to blame for election irregularities in the past.

"I am for a law to purify elections," said Representative Brown. "I believe foreigners should be residents of the United States for five years before they are permitted to vote. But in the last campaign in Lake county the democrats were just as guilty of irregularities in election work as were the republicans. It was merely a question of which party could do the most of it."

It was thought that the question of the selection of a floor leader for the republican side of the house would be taken up at this meeting, but some of those who attended said the subject was not mentioned. This will be left to the caucus to be held just before the session opens.

Women are not allowed on the island of Ferdinand de Noronha, belonging to Brazil. It is reserved for male convicts.

Retires From Business For Peace and Quiet



THOMAS F. RYAN.

Thomas F. Ryan, the multimillionaire financier, whose retirement from the directorates of thirty-one corporations is announced, talked of his plans for the future when his prospective announcement was first given out last June, when he said: "What I want is peace and quiet. I am going to retire to Oak Ridge as soon as I can consistently and in justice to my friends leave the many interests with which I am identified. I am gradually accomplishing this now. I want to go back to old Virginia and live among the people I know and the people who have known me since I was born. I love my home. I am fond of my cattle and horses, and down there I hope to find the peace I want."

Heart to Heart Talks.

By EDWIN A. NYE.

Copyright, 1908, by Edwin A. Nye

SPECIAL FAVORS TO THAW.

Harry Thaw killed a man.

He was saved from the electric chair by his plea of insanity and the expenditure of \$700,000 in high priced lawyers, experts, etc. He was finally declared insane.

During his stay in jail he had special accommodations and enjoyed many luxuries refused to the ordinary jail prisoner. In the lunatic asylum where he was sent he was given comparative freedom and was served with many dainties.

Then Thaw was released from the insane asylum by a writ of habeas corpus.

He was taken to jail, where the privileges granted him became a constant increasing scandal.

Thaw had an entire floor of the jail to himself, with thirteen cells for his bedrooms, the hall for a smoking room and dining room. His meals were served by a private caterer; he had flowers, books and magazines in profusion.

Besides—
This degenerate Pittsburgher with sybaritic tastes enjoyed frequent automobile rides—ostensibly on business—gay excursions to the referee's office, court hearings at White Plains, etc. And all this was done under the legal fiction that he was "a dangerous lunatic with homicidal tendencies," but really—
BECAUSE THAW HAD PLenty

OF MONEY.

No poor man could have had such privileges and attentions. For the ordinary prisoner—the narrow cell, the iron cot, the coarse food, the gruff orders.

Now, such discrimination is not only subversive of justice and wrong; it is impolitic and DANGEROUS.

It tends not merely to break down prison discipline; it outrages every sense of justice.

When you show the poor man that equity is denied him in the courts because the rich man can hire able lawyers, when you show him that money will buy special privileges and immunities from prison officials, privileges denied the poor prisoner, you foster class consciousness and strike a body blow at Washington's republic.

The nauseous details of the Thaw trial carried contamination and moral danger. The story of the special favors granted this weak-minded murderer is even more dangerous socially.

\$100 Reward, \$100

The readers of this paper will be pleased to learn that there is at least one dreaded disease that science has been able to cure in all its stages, and that is Catarrh. Hall's Catarrh Cure is the only positive cure now known to the medical fraternity. Catarrh being a constitutional disease, requires a constitutional treatment. Hall's Catarrh Cure is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system, thereby destroying the foundation of the disease, and giving the patient strength by building up the constitution and assisting nature in doing its work. The proprietors have so much faith in its curative powers that they offer One Hundred Dollars for any case that it fails to cure. Send for list of testimonials. Address: F. J. CHENEY & CO., Toledo, Ohio.

Sold by Druggists, 75c.
Take Hall's Family Pills for constipation.

PALLADIUM WANT ADS. PAY.

There Is a Santa Claus Despite What Skeptics Say

Good Old Saint Nick Is as Much a Reality as the Fairies and the Goblins

The following is a letter a little New York girl wrote to the New York Sun and the reply she received from an editorial writer on that paper:

Dear Editor: I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.

Papa says: "If you see it in the Sun it's so."

Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?

VIRGINIA O'HANLON.

115 West Fifty-ninth Street.

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe, except as they see. They think nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment except in sense and sight. The eternal light

with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairyland! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders there are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle, and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world, which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the perpetual beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God! he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.

Merry Christmas to one and all
PILGRIM BROS.

HARDWARE

Feltman's SHOE STORE Wishes You A Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

A MERRY CHRISTMAS

First of all we take off our hats to good old Richmond and adjacent territory. There certainly is not a better city or a finer country anywhere. This we are sure is the feeling and sentiment of every merchant at this time. The enormous business done during the entire month of December is the best evidence that there is no money stringency here and that prosperity is at the high mark in our community.

The Boston Store proprietors and employes as well, say thanks for the phenomenal holiday business. We say thanks for the patience, consideration and good cheer on the part of the buying public during the strenuous days we have just passed through. Wishing one and all a Merry Christmas, we are,

SINCERELY

THE BOSTON STORE

H. C. HASEMEIER CO.