

# THOUSANDS CHEER LABOR IN MARCH

Floats, Bands and Uniformed  
 Union Delegates Draw Ap-  
 plause Along Line

BIG PARK IS CROWDED

Stirring Addresses by Noted Men  
 in Organization Work  
 Are Heard

Celebration Decried One of the  
 Best Ever Conducted By  
 Evansville Men

With an estimated crowd of 20,000 in attendance at the Garvin's park exercises and 3,000 marchers in the "McNamara Protest Parade," which presented a solid line from the water front to Columbia street, the Labor Day celebration Monday is regarded as one of the best turn-outs of organized labor ever seen in the city.

Crowds of out-of-town people began to arrive on the early incoming trains and traction cars from Washington, Booneville, Princeton, Mt. Vernon, Rockport, and across the river, and at 9 o'clock Main street was jammed to the curb from Eighth street nearly to the river.

Starting shortly after 9 o'clock, the parade passed through a narrow aisle left for it by spectators along the street from the water front to Garvin's park, where the free entertainments and contests were scheduled to take place.

Headed by the fire departments and their apparatus—all except companies Nos. 5, 8, 15 and the truck of No. 3—the parade was one of the most spectacular ever given by union labor here. Conservative estimates place the number of marchers at 3,000. Three uniformed bands under the direction of August Pfafflin furnished music for the marchers, and a "rube" band of 20 pieces split the air with original renditions of "Casey Jones" and "Steamboat Bill."

Following the fire department came the first contingent of the band and after them a platoon of 18 policemen led by Sergeant Herr and Fuchs.

**Beautiful Float Shown**  
 One of the displays of local unions most commented upon was that of the structural iron workers, whose float represented the iron work of a modern building. The float of the potters' union displaying hundreds of pieces of chinaware made in the local potteries, which was escorted by the potters dressed in white shirts and trousers, was another of the attractive parts of the big parade.

The float of the theatrical hands was a reproduction of a stage scene. Before the parade started a band of 30 pieces marched to guide headquarters, where they formed an escort for the platoon of policemen and accompanied them to the head of the procession.

At Garvin's park the scene upon arriving found the grounds already alive with refreshment stands, hot racks, dance booths, and other entertainments. Throughout the day the six refreshment stands were rushed to their limit to serve the crowd of perspiring visitors.

## Have Whopping Barbecue

Over a trench some thirty feet long at one side of the park 33,000 pounds of beef, pork, veal and mutton was barbecued, and a Dutch lunch had been prepared by the Women's Labor league.

Crowds continued to stream into the park until 3 o'clock in the afternoon and the grounds were so well filled around the speakers' stand that it was a task to move about. Early after noon the speakers took the platform and held a part of the crowd for two hours. The speakers were: James Bradley, of New York City, national organizer of the iron molders' union; W. D. Van Horn of Terre Haute, district president of the United Mine Workers of America; William Rainey of District No. 11, coal miners, and O. P. Smith, former vice president of the State Federation of Labor.

While a part of the crowd lingered around the speakers' platform, many of the contests scheduled were taking place in other parts of the grounds. After the speakers had finished, the pie-eating contest was pulled off on the platform amid confusion and in the jam of the crowd.

## Fast Work by Linemen

No attempt was made to keep account of the winners of the contests, except that of the telephone linemen which occurred in another part of the grounds earlier in the evening. For their event they had set up two telephone poles near the park entrance. The contest was the climbing of each pole up one side and down the other, and the record time was made by John Watson, who accomplished the feat in 27 seconds, but was declared to have fouled. R. E. Bemy and F. M. Michael tied for second time in 38 seconds and C. H. Morton was third with 40 seconds.

The first prize for the best representation in the parade was won by Potters' union, No. 8. The Brewery Workers took second prize and the Bottlers, third.

Late in the afternoon Zebadie, the Australian hand balancer; the Three Wizards, tight wire performers, and Klein, Ott and Nicholson, who are appearing at Cook's park this week, entertained the crowd with their feats.

## Marshal's Aide Is Hurt

Only two accidents were reported as a result of the celebration. W. B. Crawford of 421 Ort avenue, a member of Carpenters' Union No. 9, who was acting as aide to Chief Marshal William Mann, in first division (B) was thrown from his horse in front of Germania hall on Fourth street and trampled upon.

A lady whose name could not be learned, had her foot injured at the park, when one of the wheels of a water wagon ran over it, crushing her toes. It is not thought the injury was serious.

The grounds were well policed and no arrests were made.

## O. P. Smith Talks

O. P. Smith was the first speaker introduced at the park. He said in part: "I wish to thank the members of organized labor who have shown such splendid displays of loyalty. Before you can expect the support of the public in general you must be consistent yourselves. For instance, the public will take very little stock in your railing against conditions as they are, when they see union men and

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union men's wives purchasing the products of non-union labor. As a prominent man of labor has remarked, the scabs are not all on the outside of the union. The man who demands union wages and fair conditions for himself should at least be consistent and not employ non-union labor.

## The Strength of Unions

The strength of organized labor is in its purchasing power. And the union man who does not encourage his wife, mother or sister to join the women's union labor league is not a full fledged union man."

With reference to the McNamara case Mr. Smith said that it was strange that in a city that is the greatest inland railroad center in the world, it was necessary to take John J. McNamara out of the city in an automobile.

In regard to labor legislation Mr. Smith paid a high tribute to the services and activities of Senator William B. Carleton of Evansville, and said to the workers "If you have any more men like Carleton send them to Indianapolis." In conclusion Mr. Smith said:

"Tendency to look to authority is altogether too prevalent among the American working men. Even in your labor organizations you are too ready to accept the opinion of men holding high office as final. There is, however, a movement on foot among the officials of organized labor to exclude from the councils and meetings of the union labor one of the most important obstacles to the advancement of progressive unionism. This is the attempt of certain labor officials, mis-called leaders to exclude the representatives of the women's labor league.

## Compliments the Ladies

"This little band of fighters, though small in number, has done more real work for the advancement of the principles advanced by the American federation of labor than has been done by any similar number of union men in the country.

I believe that the exigencies of the time demand that aggressive men should lead the forces of organized labor. The young men in our move-

ment are demanding a new policy. They have no patience with the methods employed by the men who are at present at the head of organized labor.

## Predicts Official Housecleaning

The same condition is true of the Indiana state Federation of Labor. And while I occupy a neutral position, it is my opinion that at the convention of the Indiana State Federation of Labor, which meets in your city Sept. 26-28, there will be a general housecleaning. I say this as one who will not be at the convention but I know which way the wind is blowing."

Mr. Bradley was next introduced and his speech, which follows in part, was especially well received:

## Raps President Taft

"I was reading in the paper a day or two ago that the lawyers union had a convention in Boston. Of course it is not known as a union, but known as the bar association. President Taft addressed the delegates present to the number of 1909, and said the salaries of the federal judges should be increased from \$12,500 a year to \$25,000. Still our honored president is opposed to the post-office clerks railway mail clerks and letter carriers joining any organization that has for its object soliciting members of congress to increasing their pay. This looks to me very much as if what is considered a crime, in one case is looked upon as virtue in the other. He is very much opposed to the recall when applied to federal employees. Well, I don't blame our honored president for advocating the increased salaries, I rather approve of it. It looks to me very much as if he is trying to bring about better conditions in the law shop. Perhaps one of these days he may go back to

work at his trade. You cannot work in the law shop without your union card (diploma). The judge who acts as business agent would demand your diploma.

"You cannot find in any city where any member of a trade union in good standing has ever found it necessary to look for charity, neither can you find any case where a member of a trade union has filed a pauper's grave.

"The union label is the emblem of a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. No union man or union woman should be guilty of taking their money made under union conditions and spend it in keeping in employment unfair labor by the purchasing non-union goods.

"My friend Carnegie is now advocating peace, after making millions furnishing the United States government with scab armor plate to prepare for war.

"He is also lying awake nights to find some place where he can donate a library for the benefit of the working people. The employees of the Carnegie mill have no use for libraries, just imagine a man with a pair of heavy hob-nail shoes coming from the Carnegie mills and going into a library. That fellow after his hard day's work needs an alcohol bath.

## Watch Out for Politicians

"Just here I want to pay my respects to the professional politician. You will find those fellows for a month prior to election bowing and scraping and shaking the hand of the laboring men and for what purpose—to get his vote—and nine times out of ten the day after election he is ready to shake them by the neck. My advice to you working men is to get wise, read all the papers and read