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SOUVENIR HISTORY

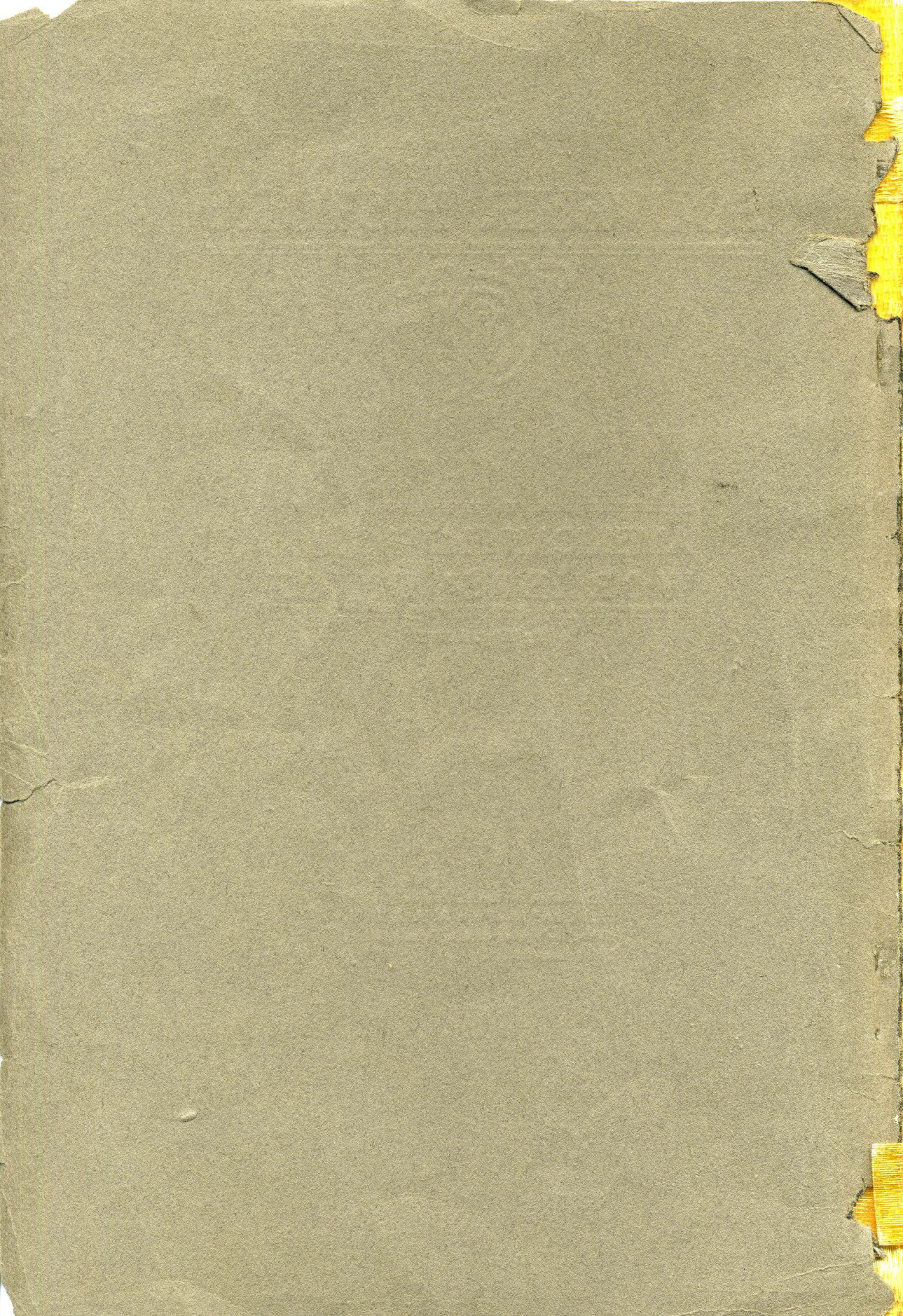


OF THE

AMERICAN FLINT GLASS WORKERS' UNION

By T. W. ROWE

Presented by Local Unions No. 28,
62, 81 and 83 of the A. F. G. W. U.
to the Delegates of the Toledo, Ohio,
1910, Convention.



Sym Hinegardner
Moundsville, W. Va.
SOUVENIR HISTORY



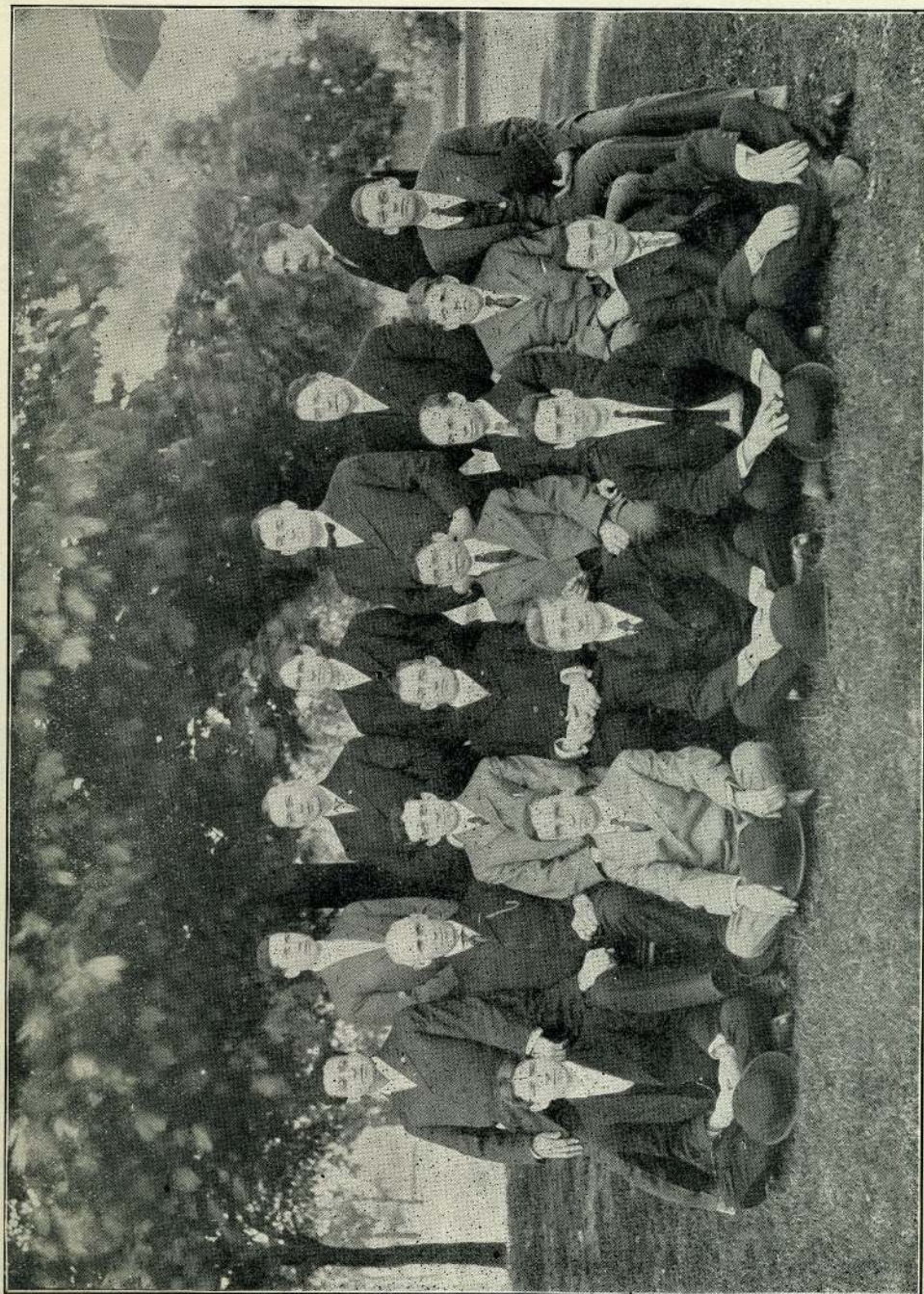
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TOLEDO, OHIO, 1910, CONVENTION ARRANGEMENT COMMITTEE



Top Row—V. E. Comoshi, George Shufelt, Joseph Baohman, Frank Douglas, Fred. Nief, Patrick McGuire, John J. Collins. Center Row—David Joyent, Fred Shane, William Ludlow, C. F. Green, James P. Egan, John D. Quigley, William Overs. Lower Row—H. H. Ireland, Jas. A. Ray, Fred Wolf, Jas. Nye, William Rose.



HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN FLINT GLASS WORKERS' UNION

By T. W. ROWE

We are living in a progressive age, an era of miracles, a time in life, when the very best efforts of mankind are exercised to systematically and scientifically conduct business institutions. The rapid pace made by machinery, the centralization of effort as expressed in the consolidation of employers from the department store to the Standard Oil Company, or the United States Steel Company, keen competition among the unorganized and organized, all has rendered it essential that the affairs of an institution be accurately recorded and sacredly preserved.

Fifty years ago, men were not so particular in this respect and the records of early Flint Glass Working Unions were not preserved and the conflicting stories told by pioneers of our movement render it a little perplexing to write a history thereof, although we can refer with pride to the fact that, regardless of its thorny path, painful obstacles and opposition the resolute spirit that dominated the souls, the loving affection that throbbed in their hearts, the valor that characterized their efforts and the knowledge that their cause was just enabled those who gave life, hope and courage to bestow to us an organization born of justice, democratic in principle, generous in action, cordially fraternal and destined to fulfill its historic mission in the labor world.

Early Days.

The fathers of our institution fought its early battles with very little finance, suffered many deprivations and labored indefatigably because they believed they were right and they felt a righteous

cause was a sufficient incentive for any true man to take his proper position in the industrial arena.

I have conversed and corresponded with some of the oldest flint glass workers living and I ascertained that there were local unions in the East during the early fifties, in fact Brother William Dalton, now at the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, Mass., belonged to a union of glass workers in Jersey City, N. J., in 1853.

A retired glass worker named Michael Keenan, conducted a saloon on Smithfield street, Pittsburg, Pa., which seemed to be the headquarters for glass workers, and during their meetings they discussed the wisdom of forming a labor organization, and in 1858 Messrs. Daniel McAfee, Jos. Roseman and John Steen drafted an obligation and constitution and formed what was known as the Glass Blowers' Benevolent Association. They maintained the strictest secrecy in their efforts, and December 1858, a large number of glass workers were initiated and Jos. Roseman elected president, Jacob Strickle secretary and John Wheeler treasurer. This union progressed until the Civil War, at which time it became involved in a strike with the Fort Pitt Glass Co., and the Independent Glass Co., which resulted in the failure on the part of the strikers and the union disbanded.

Union Engages in Manufacturing Glass.

About this time, according to the statement of Brother John McCormack, who lives at 559 Driggs Ave., in Brooklyn, a member who is blind for the past seven years, largely due to old age, an organization was formed in Brooklyn

and its progress was very rapid until just after the close of the war, 1865, a time when the country was in a flourishing condition, the markets hungry for wares and other business indications very favorable. The union decided to engage in the glass business and it erected an 8-pot furnace at the corner of Broadway and Flushing avenue, Brooklyn. James Smith, president of the union was selected to manage the factory and the plant was placed in operation producing blanks for cutting, chemical wares, shades, and iron mould goods. The union having in its treasury about \$15,000, contributed \$8,000 at one time and \$7,000 at another time, but the effort was a complete failure and the factory closed and the union disbanded. The last \$40.00 of their treasury was donated to the widow of one of their deceased members.

Brooklyn at that time was considered the center of the eastern district of glass workers.

Pittsburgers Efforts.

In 1866 the Flint Glass Workers' Union No. 1 of Allegheny Co., Pa., was chartered by the courts of Allegheny county.

Its meetings were held on each alternate Saturday evening at a hall on the corner of Third and Market streets, Pittsburg, Pa., until the fall of 1868 when it met at a hall on Seventh street over the old Neptune engine house.

The membership of this union was composed of caster place workers, pressers and chimney blowers. The bottle blowers and gatherers were not members.

Among the active members of this union were, R. A. Steen, John P. Goldthorp, Sam Kane, Jos. Roseman Sr., Harry McLaughlin, Daniel Boyle, A. G. Thoburn, Chas. Bryson, Benjamin Bamford, John McCloskey, W. D. Jones, Henry Doyle, Patrick Sullivan and John Meyrick.

Attempt to Nationalize.

In the summer of 1866 an attempt was made to form a national organization, and arrangements were made for a convention for this purpose.

This convention was held in New York, N. Y., in 1866 and Mr. James Smith (gaffer) was elected chairman.

There were seventeen delegates present at this convention, the western delegates were Chas. Bryson, A. G. Thoburn and Henry Doyle. The other delegates being from the east.

The attempt to form a national organization did not materialize.

The Boys Dance.

In 1868 the gatherers formed a union and they endeavored to raise a fund to advance its interests as evidenced by the following announcement copied from one of the original cards.

FIRST ANNUAL BALL
OF THE
AMERICAN
FLINT GLASS WORKERS' UNION
NO. 1
OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY
AT
CITY HALL
FRIDAY EVENING, FEB. 21, 1868.

COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENT.

J. Corcoran A. Murphy P. Kline J. Switzer
 J. Jackson J. Davis

MANAGERS.

N. Sitsman H. Switzer H. Zell B. Evans
J. Lippert W. Broome F. Kibler
 W. Haley

FLOOR MANAGERS.

T. P. Nolan T. Cummings W. F. McAndrews
 E. Jones S. Ward P. Handren
A. Israel A. Patton P. Wickline S. Kilduff
 W. Wayner R. Cunningham
 T. McGuire

Music by Mozart Band.
Figures by Kay and Christy.
Tickets \$1.00.

The Flint Glass Workers' Union No. 1 of Allegheny Co., Pa., went out of existence on December 19, 1868. The nine members in good standing who wound up its affairs, were Jos. Ingomar, Nick Paul, Jacob Stemler, W. D. Jones, Sam Kane, Harry McLaughlin, John P. Goldthorp, Geo. Sweitzer and James McWilliams.

PHOTOGRAPHIC GROUP OF DELEGATES WHO ATTENDED A FLINT GLASS WORKERS' CONVENTION AT SWEENEY'S HOTEL,
 CHATHAM SQUARE AND CHAMBERS STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y., IN SEPTEMBER, 1866.



Top Row, left to right—Wm. Fox, White Mills, Pa.; John McCormick, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Alexander Thoburn, Pittsburg, Pa.; Wm. Dalton, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Jas. Hegau, Brooklyn, N. Y.;
 Leander Kenny, Boston, Mass.; Jas. Martin, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Wm. Capewell, Philadelphia, Pa.; Josh Roberts, Philadelphia, Pa.;
 Lower Row, left to right—James Smith, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Henry Doyle, Pittsburg, Pa.; Austin Kenny, Brooklyn, N. Y.; Chas. Bryson, Pittsburg, Pa.; Wm. Johnson, Boston, Mass.;
 Bernard Carroll, Brooklyn, N. Y.; John McCormick is living at 539 Driggs Ave., Brooklyn, N. Y.; Wm. B. Dalton is at the Soldiers' Home at Chelsea, Mass.; Austin Kenny is living at 2345 Adams St., Philadelphia, Pa.; James
 Jukes is living at Chelfenham, Montgomery Co., Pa.; a small suburb of Philadelphia; Frank T. Woods, No. 17 in the picture is living at No. 1186 Jefferson Avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y. There is a
 slight doubt as to whether No. 15 is Bernard Carroll or Thos. Ball.

The Use of Wind.

The use of wind in tableware factories for the purpose of cooling the moulds and plunger was introduced by Mr. Michael Sweeney at the Sweeney & Bell Glass Co., in North Wheeling, Wheeling, W. Va., 1867. The factory stood on the present site of the North Wheeling Pottery Co.

When the idea first occurred to him, he tried it through the use of a blacksmith's bellows which demonstrated its practicability, then a fan was introduced in a crude form, which further demonstrated the wisdom of the matter.

Several years later this plant located in Martins Ferry, O., on the present site of the old Buckeye Glass Co., where the modern blower of the present day was introduced. Mr. Sweeney did not wish to sell this as he felt it would give him an advantage over his competitors. Later he discovered his mistake and placed the article on sale at the rate of \$100 for each furnace. He also had a patent on a chilled iron for glass house moulds which has proven valuable in the glass trade.

Organized Under the Knights of Labor.

In the Pittsburg district, a little while later, the glass workers commenced to organize under the Knights of Labor, and they moved along with varying success during the 70's. Finally they became very active in the chimney and press ware departments and Alexander Thoburn organized the press branch at Hogel's hall situated on the Brownsville Pike, 18th street, S. S. He was assisted by J. Hamilton Burt and others. The organization was then known as Assembly No. 281 of the Glass Workers of Pittsburg and Brother Thoburn was selected as "Venerable Sage" who administered the ritualistic work, and it is said that he filled that position with most impressive effect.

The Pittsburg Assembly held weekly meetings and grew in numbers very rapidly. Brother Thoburn accepted a place at the Central Glass Works in Wheeling, and was largely instrumental in organizing the glass workers of that city, Bellaire, Bridgeport, and Martins Ferry.

The lamp chimney workers were known as Assembly No. 320 and among those active in its work were ex-president W. J. Smith, ex-assistant secretary W. J. Clare, P. J. O'Hanlon, Edward Phillips, Edward Malone, Val Rimmel, John Guntz, Wm. Murphy, Jacob Moeck and Geo. Egler. This assembly met for a number of years at the Masonic Bank Building, on Smithfield street, Pittsburg, Pa. A history of this organization would not be complete without giving due credit to these men.

The Crimp Top Chimney and "Patent Crimper" Contest.

Previous to the Civil War a chimney gaffer received \$1.75 and the gatherer 75 cents a turn. When the war arose and labor became scarce the wages were increased to gaffer \$2.25, gatherer \$1.25. When the war closed and labor was plentiful, the wages were reduced to, gaffer \$1.75 and gatherer \$1.00. This reduction was accepted with complacency by the workers.

The employers principally at the "Excelsior" and "Grecian Bend" factories, it is alleged, "selected their wares very close and considerable trouble and loss was endured by the men due to cordy and stony glass and an improper count of their wares," as the shortage was immense at times, and at this time the common saying, "the rats eat them," was created.

The first chimney list was compiled by Edward Phillips, now secretary of Local Union No. 8; John McCloskey and Ex-President W. J. Smith.

The plain top bulb chimney was introduced in 1867 and its move was 0, 320; No. 1, 300; No. 2, 250.

In 1875, the crimp top chimney was introduced. The shop was composed of gaffer, gatherer and warming in boy. After the boy warmed in the chimney, the gaffer crimped its top by a hand crimper, and on account of the work and time required to crimp the chimney, the men set the following move on crimp top chimney: 0, 300; No. 1, 250; No. 2, 225.

The patent crimper was introduced by the Dithridge Glass Co., (The Fort Pitt), in the autumn of 1876, and on

account of the crimper relieving the gaffer of the extra work required at crimping by the hand process, the employes of the Fort Pitt Co. agreed to make the plain top moves i. e., 0, 320; No. 1, 300; No. 2, 250. The union repudiated the agreement and contended for the old move of 300, 250 and 225 respectively on 0, No. 1 and No. 2 crimp top bulb.

The owners of the patent crimper asked \$2500.00 for its use, and \$1500.00 for the installation of their machine. This crimper plug revolved midway and reversed. The Rodefer Co. introduced a patent crimper with a constantly revolving plug, but this company was stopped from using it by the owners of the patent crimper.

Other employers introduced methods of crimping that relieved the gaffer of the crimping work and they received the same move as the Fort Pitt and Excelsior Companies.

About this time the Acme Company of Steubenville demanded that their cost of production be equalized with the cost of those using the patent crimper. The men refused and a strike ensued and the strikers' places were filled principally by eastern men.

There was considerable dissatisfaction at the Fort Pitt and Excelsior factories, due to the heavy loss of wares spoiled by the crimper and it finally resulted in the gatherers at those two factories going on strike against working the machine.

This was the commencement of the commonly called "patent crimper strike."

Without a doubt, the contest was one of the most fierce in labor annals and after almost two years of battling, at an enormous cost, companies almost financially embarrassed, the union awfully demoralized, the contest ended by the men working the patent crimper at the move of 0, 320; No. 1, 300; No. 2, 250.

At this time Hogan & Co.; Evans & Co., offered the gaffer \$1.75 and the gatherer \$1.00 a turn to work. Many of them accepted the offer and returned to work. The Acme Company of Steubenville, Ohio, made the same offer to the men and stated that if it was accepted they would discharge all

non-unionists and reinstate the union men. The offer was accepted and is frequently referred to as the "Gill Agreement," the non-unionists dismissed and the union men reinstated.

Those conditions prevailed a few years and the men consulted, without forming a union, and decided to demand that the gaffer receive \$2.00 and the gatherer \$1.00 a turn. They gave the employers two weeks' notice and were surprised to find the employers accepted the proposition without contesting.

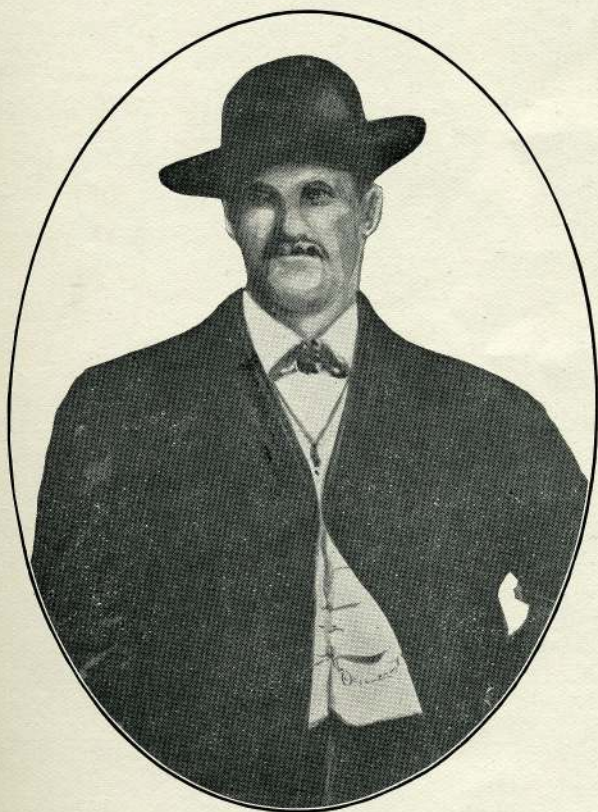
The chimney contest had a terrible effect on the Union in Pittsburg and it staggered between life and death for a long time and did not properly recover until 1885.

The American Flint Glass Workers' Union Instituted.

During the month of March in 1878 it was decided to call a convention of glass workers, and the following named delegates assembled at Conaway's Hall, S. S. Pittsburg, Pa., July 1, 1878: New York delegates, John McCormack, M. Murphy, James Martin, M. Maurer, Alexander Smith. Wheeling, W. Va., delegates, Thos. Shelley, William Zimmer, Francis Woods. Philadelphia, Pa., delegate James McMullen, St. Louis, Mo., delegates, Thos. Cooper, Thos. Smart, Geo. Pierce. Bellaire, O., delegate, V. A. Williams. Steubenville, O., delegates, F. A. Evans, James Phillips. Pittsburg, Pa., S. S., delegates, R. A. Steen, Geo. Egler, Oliver O. Bryer, W. C. Stewart, H. McLaughlin, H. Rohm, Richard Kelly, Jas. G. Denning, Chas. Bryson. Pittsburg, Pa., N. S., delegates, James Bonebrake, John Cahil, Edward Malone, W. J. Murphy, W. J. Smith, Jas. Dougherty, G. W. Thompson, John O'Mailley. Pittsburg, Pa., delegate-at-large, Benjamin E. Rubrecht.

The Meriden, Conn., glass workers requested that the New York delegation be permitted to represent them at this convention.

On motion of John McCormack of New York, the following delegates were named as a committee on organization: Edward Redmond, Sr., Richard Moore, Francis Woods, James Martin, John



R. A. STEEN,
President 1878-79.

O'Mailley, Thos. Stewart, Jas. McMullen and V. A. Williams.

The following committee was named to secure a hall: Richard Moore, Oliver O. Bryer, H. McLaughlin.

The following delegates were nominated as candidates for temporary chairman, and they received the following votes: John McCormack, 13; R. A. Steen, 11; Thos. Shelley, 5; Francis Woods, 2; John O'Mailley, 1. John McCormack withdrew his name with permission of the convention, and the following ballot resulted: R. A. Steen, 14; Thos. Shelley, 15; Francis Woods, 2; John O'Mailley, 1. O'Mailley and Woods withdrew, and the third ballot resulted in R. A. Steen, 16; Thos. Shelley, 16; a tie vote. They withdrew.

The nominations were reopened and John Cahil nominated Harry McLaughlin who was elected temporary chairman without opposition. Thos. Shelley was elected vice president.

Benjamin Rubrecht, now of Local Union No. 107, Dunkirk, Ind., was elected permanent secretary.

The following named delegates were appointed to provide a constitution and by-laws: Richard Kelly, Francis Woods, W. C. Stewart, W. J. Smith, John O'Mailley, Geo. Pierce, Alex. Smith, V. A. Williams and James McMullen.

The following named committee was named to provide a pass-word: Edward Malone, John McCormack and Thos. Smart.

On July 2 the convention re-assembled at Conaway's Hall, and the committee on constitution made their report which was discussed at great length and the convention adjourned to meet July 3 at the Grand Army Hall, 14th and Carson street. On July 3, the report of the committee was discussed item by item and adopted as amended.

Brother Alexander Smith offered an obligation to be administered to every member of the order, and moved its adoption.

Brother Jas. Martin moved the obligation be administered to all the delegates in the convention, and the following were obligated: M. Murphy, John McCormack, Jas. Martin, Alex. Smith, M. Maurer of New York. Thos.

Shelley, Francis Woods and Wm. Zimmer of West Virginia. Thos. Cooper, Thos. Smart and Geo. Pierce of St. Louis, Geo. Egler, Oliver O. Bryer, Wm. C. Stewart, R. A. Steen, Edward Redmond, Sr., Pittsburg, S. S., Pa. Jas. Daugherty, G. W. Thompson, John O'Mailley, Pittsburg, N. S. Harry McLaughlin, Henry Rohm, Richard Moore, Chas. Bryson, Jas. Denning, Pittsburg, S. S. Edward Malone, W. J. Murphy, John Cahil, Wm. Smith, Pittsburg, N. S. V. A. Williams, Bellaire, O. James McMullen, Philadelphia, Pa. Jas. Phillips and T. A. Evans, Steubenville, O., and B. J. Rubrecht.

On motion of Alex. Smith, the following committee of five was appointed to have the proceedings of the convention and the constitution and by-laws printed: Benjamin Rubrecht, chairman, W. J. Smith, John O'Mailley, Richard Moore and W. G. Stewart.

Election of Officers.

The following named candidates were nominated and the result of the vote following their name: For the position of president for the first year: R. A. Steen, 18; M. Maurer, 1; H. McLaughlin, 1; F. Woods, 2; Thos. Shelley, 7. R. A. Steen receiving the majority vote was declared elected for the first year.

The following named delegates were elected as vice presidents: Thos. Smart, Jas. Martin, H. Rohm, W. C. Stewart, Jas. McMullen, V. A. Williams, Francis Evans, Francis Woods, Jos. Phillips, Edward Malone and John O'Mailley.

For the position of recording secretary, Richard Moore received 14 votes, Geo. Egler 12 votes. Richard Moore was declared elected.

For the position of financial secretary Geo. Egler received 18 votes, H. Rohm 5 votes, Jas. Denning 1, vote, Wm. Smith 5 votes, Jos. O'Mailley 1 vote, Thos. Shelley 1 vote. Geo. Egler received the majority votes and was declared elected.

Benjamin E. Rubrecht was elected corresponding secretary without opposition.

For the position of treasurer, Jas. Denning received 7 votes, Thos. Shelley 2 votes, John Cahill 1 vote, Chas. Bryson 2 votes, M. Murphy 1 vote, W. J. Smith

18 votes. W. J. Smith was declared elected treasurer, and by motion all the elections were made unanimous.

A vote of thanks was tendered Brother McLaughlin for the able and impartial manner in which he presided over the convention.

By motion of John McCormack, a vote of thanks was tendered to B. B. Kearney of Pittsburg for the valuable assistance he rendered in bringing about the convention.

Establishing a List.

In 1878 there were 13 table ware factories in Pittsburg and each factory seemed to have a different rate of wages or conditions. Finishers on a head shop were paid \$1.50 a turn, and on ordinary ware \$1.35 a turn; pressers and finishers worked piece work and the gathering boy turn work. At this time the finishers in the Ohio Valley received a higher rate of wages than the pressers. The Pittsburg local unions finally appointed a committee for the purpose of establishing a universal list, and this committee met once each week for a period of seven months before they reached an agreeable conclusion, and then they submitted their list to the employers with a notice that it must be accepted within thirty days. The thirty days working clause afforded the employers an opportunity to organize, which they did, and they formulated a counter proposition and presented it to the workers for immediate adoption. The workers rejected the proposition and a nine-months' strike ensued.

Securing a Fund.

The workers were not prepared for such a serious contest and they soon became distressed. The officers of the National Union decided to call a special convention to be held in Pittsburg in January, 1879, for the purpose of adjusting troubles and arranging plans to secure funds to relieve the sufferings of the workers and their families.

Special Convention of American Flint Glass Workers' Union

Held January 20-21, 1879, at Grand Army Hall, 14th and Carson Sts., S. S. Pittsburg, Pa.

Delegates in Attendance.

1. Brooklyn, N. Y.—Jas. Martin, Jas. Winters.
2. Philadelphia, Pa.—Jas. McMullen, Jos. Finley.
4. Pittsburg—Henry Rohm, Harry McLaughlin, R. Kelly, Jas. Denning, B. Rubrecht.
5. Pittsburg, S. S.—Wm. C. Stewart, Ed. Redmond, O. O. Bryer, Geo. Egler, R. A. Steen.
6. Pittsburg, N. S.—Edward Malone, Wm. J. Smith, Wm. Murphy, John Cahil, Peter Hanlon.
8. Steubenville, O.—H. Smill, Hugh Conniff.
9. Wheeling, W. Va.—Thos. Shelly.
10. Bellaire, O.—Math. Edwards, Ed. Kaye.
11. St. Louis, Mo.—Thos. Smart.
12. Pittsburg, N. S.—John O'Malley, G. W. Thompson.
13. Hamilton, Ont., Can.—Patrick Murphy.
15. Martins Ferry, O.—Edward Phillips.

Credential Committee.

Hubert Coniff, Local Union No. 8; H. Small, No. 8; James Winters, No. 1; Matthew Edwards, No. 10; Edward Kaye, No. 10; Edward Phillips, No. 15; Jos. Finley, No. 2; Peter Hanlon, No. 6.

Local Unions Represented.

No. 's 1, Brooklyn; 2, Philadelphia; 3, Meriden, absent; 4, S. S. Pittsburg; 5, S. S. Pittsburg; 6, N. S. Pittsburg; 7, Steubenville, absent; 8, Steubenville; 9, Wheeling; 10, Bellaire; 11, St. Louis; 12, Pittsburg; 13, Hamilton, Canada; 14, South Boston, absent; 15, Martins Ferry, present.

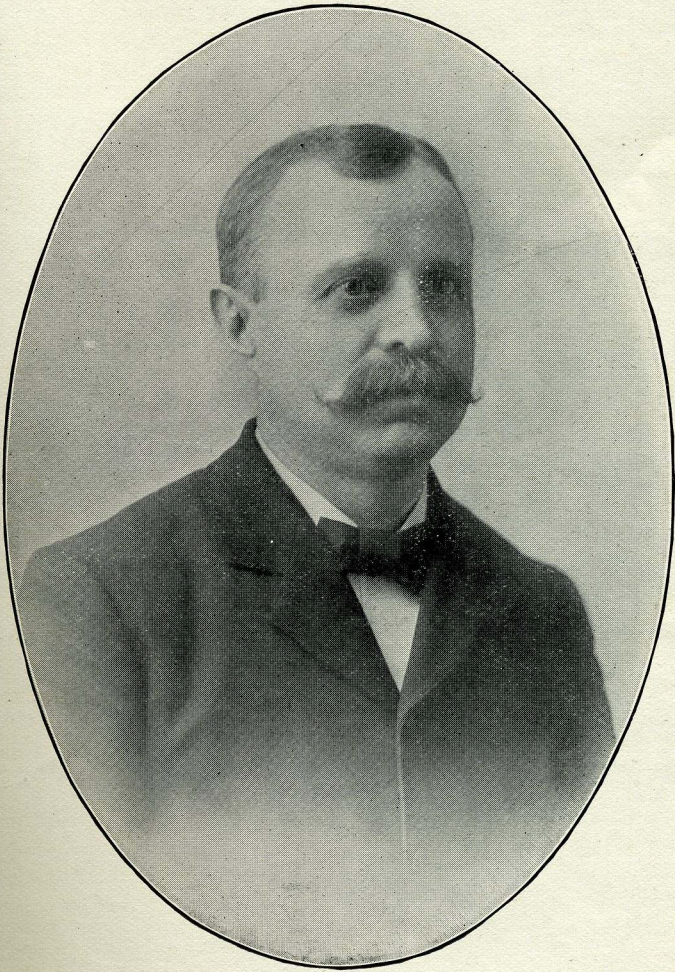
The Steubenville situation was considered and the following committee appointed to adjust the matter:

Jas. Winters, No. 1; Jas. McMullen, No. 2; Henry Rohm, No. 4; O. O. Bryer, No. 5; Edward Malone, No. 6; Hugh Coniff, No. 8; Thomas Shelly, No. 9; Edward Kaye, No. 10; Thomas Smart, No. 11; G. W. Thompson, No. 12; Edward Phillips, No. 15.

Resolution.

The committee offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That all chimney blowers



GEORGE EGLER.
Financial Secretary 1878.

west of the Allegheny mountains work according to the Pittsburg moves and prices. Adopted.

Delegate Coniff moved that "the wages of all chimney workers be regulated and a uniform standard established." After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn on account of its inexpediency.

Resolution.

Resolved, That no local union under the jurisdiction of the National Union be allowed to make any more for a turn's or day's work than is stipulated under the standard move of the day confining themselves to their respective district, eastern or western; but should a factory not have two-thirds union men they will not be obliged to enforce the law until such two-thirds are obtained, and then it shall be the duty of the Local Union under whose jurisdiction the factory or factories come under to enforce the law; be it further

Resolved, That no facilities shall be recognized, patented or not patented, as the case may be, by any Local Union unless sanctioned by the National headquarters.

(Signed)

GEO. EGLER, No. 5.

EDWARD MALONE, No. 6.

By motion of Harry McLaughlin of No. 4, and seconded by Thos. Shelly of No. 9, the resolution was adopted.

Mr. Wm. C. Stewart of No. 5 moved, and Wm. J. Smith of No. 6 seconded the motion that a representative from each Local Union be appointed to draft a resolution for the purpose of establishing a resistance fund. Motion prevailed and the following committee was appointed: Jas. Martin, No. 1; Jas. McMullen, No. 2; Henry Rohm, No. 4; Wm. C. Stewart, No. 5; Edward Malone, No. 6; H. Small, No. 8; Thos. Shelly, No. 9; Edward Kaye, No. 10; Thos. Smart, No. 11; John O'Mailley, No. 12; Patrick Murphy, No. 13; Edward Phillips, No. 15. The committee reported as follows:

Resolved, That all working parties of any Local Union under the jurisdiction of this National Union be assessed 5% of every dollar of their earnings per week, but any member not being able

to pay the same, that will be left to the discretion of the Local Union to which he belongs for his exoneration. Be it further

Resolved, That all money shall come through the financial secretary of the National Union, signed by the president, paid over to the treasurer and then distributed to the Local Union for whom it is intended, and that Local Union sending the same shall receive a receipt of the financial secretary with the seal of the National Union attached thereto, with the signature of the president and recording secretary. Be it further

Resolved, That each Local Union shall receive a pro ratio share according to the numbers engaged in the strike.

By motion of Brother Martin of No. 1, seconded by Brother Edwards of No. 10, the resolution was adopted.

Wm. J. Smith, No. 6, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That a committee of each Local Union be appointed to collect information regarding the price of labor, the cost of material, fuel, etc., in the manufacture of flint glass wherever manufactured with a view of adjusting differences in the moves and prices then existing, the committee to report at the July, 1879, convention.

The following committee was appointed: Jas. Martin, No. 1; Jas. McMullen, No. 2; Richard Kelly, No. 4; Wm. Stewart, No. 5; Wm. Smith, No. 6; H. Small, No. 8; Thos. Shelly, No. 9; Matthew Edwards, No. 10; Thos. Smart, No. 11; Geo. Thompson, No. 12; Patrick Murphy, No. 13; Edward Phillips, No. 15.

On motion of Jas. Martin, No. 1, and seconded by Edward Redmond, No. 5, the assessment levied on the different Local Unions became effective Feb. 1.

The officers of the National Union were ordered to have the proceedings printed.

Revision of Obligation.

Brother Jas. Martin offered a revised obligation, and by motion of Thos. Shelly and seconded by Wm. J. Smith, the obligation was adopted as read.

Design for Seal.

By motion of Geo. Egler, No. 5, seconded by Edward Malone, No. 6, a committee of five was appointed to design and procure a seal for the National Union and Local Unions, and the following committee was appointed: Geo. Egler, No. 5; Edward Malone, No. 6; Henry Rohm, No. 4; Thos. Smart, No. 11; Henry Small, No. 8.

The committee reported that a seal had been designed and they offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That no correspondence, communication, receipts, etc., emanating from the National head be considered legal unless the seal of the National Union be attached thereto, the seal to be in the possession of the officer whom the assemblage may designate.

The assemblage decided that the financial secretary should take charge of the seal, and the resolution was adopted.

Presentation of a Constitution.

President Steen then presented a form of a constitution for the government of the National and Local Unions. By motion of Jas. Martin, No. 1, seconded by Jas. McMullen, No. 2, the reading of the constitution was dispensed with and the president instructed to have the same printed in proof sheet and forwarded to each Local Union for their consideration so that the delegates to the July 1879 convention may present any alterations or amendments that may be offered by their Local Union. Motion prevailed.

A vote of thanks was extended to the National Officers for their just, impartial and courteous manner.

The following vice presidents were elected in Local Unions where none existed:

Edward Phillips, No. 15; Patrick Murphy, No. 13; Mathew Edwards, No. 10.

Eight thousand dollars was raised between the adjournment of this convention and July 1st.

Distributing Provisions.

During this contest the union established a store for the distribution of

provisions, and it is said that to make an excellent showing at times when their supplies were at their lowest ebb, they would fill paper flour sacks with sawdust, tie them neatly, and stand them in the window in order to create the impression that they were well supplied with flour. It is further stated that many a night a wagon was sent over the south side hills to the country to secure potatoes and other provisions for distribution. Country chickens had to roost high in those days.

Result of Contest.

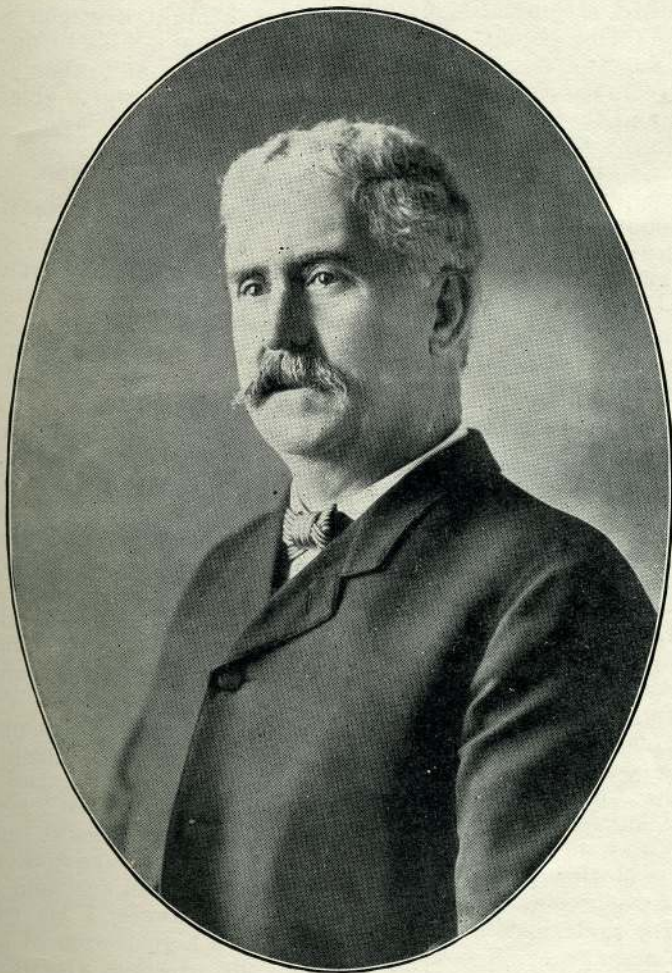
The tableware strike ended; the moves were increased about fifteen per cent, and all the men went on a strictly piecework basis. The result of that strike was terrible to Local Union No. 4, as it had only about 28 members left out of a total of 400 who would attend meetings and pay their dues. The failure of the Knights of Labor to extend financial aid to these men at that time caused them to withdraw from that organization. Local Union No. 4 continued in a demoralized state until the convention of 1882, held in Brooklyn, at which time it declared for a six weeks' summer stop. Said declaration seemed to have the effect of influencing those men back into the organization and vitalizing them in their efforts.

If the complaining element of our Organization at this time could realize the sacrifices and pains endured by those engaged in that memorable struggle and if they could realize the improvements that have been made in the working conditions and the advancement in wages, I am sure they would have a higher sense of appreciation for our excellent Organization.

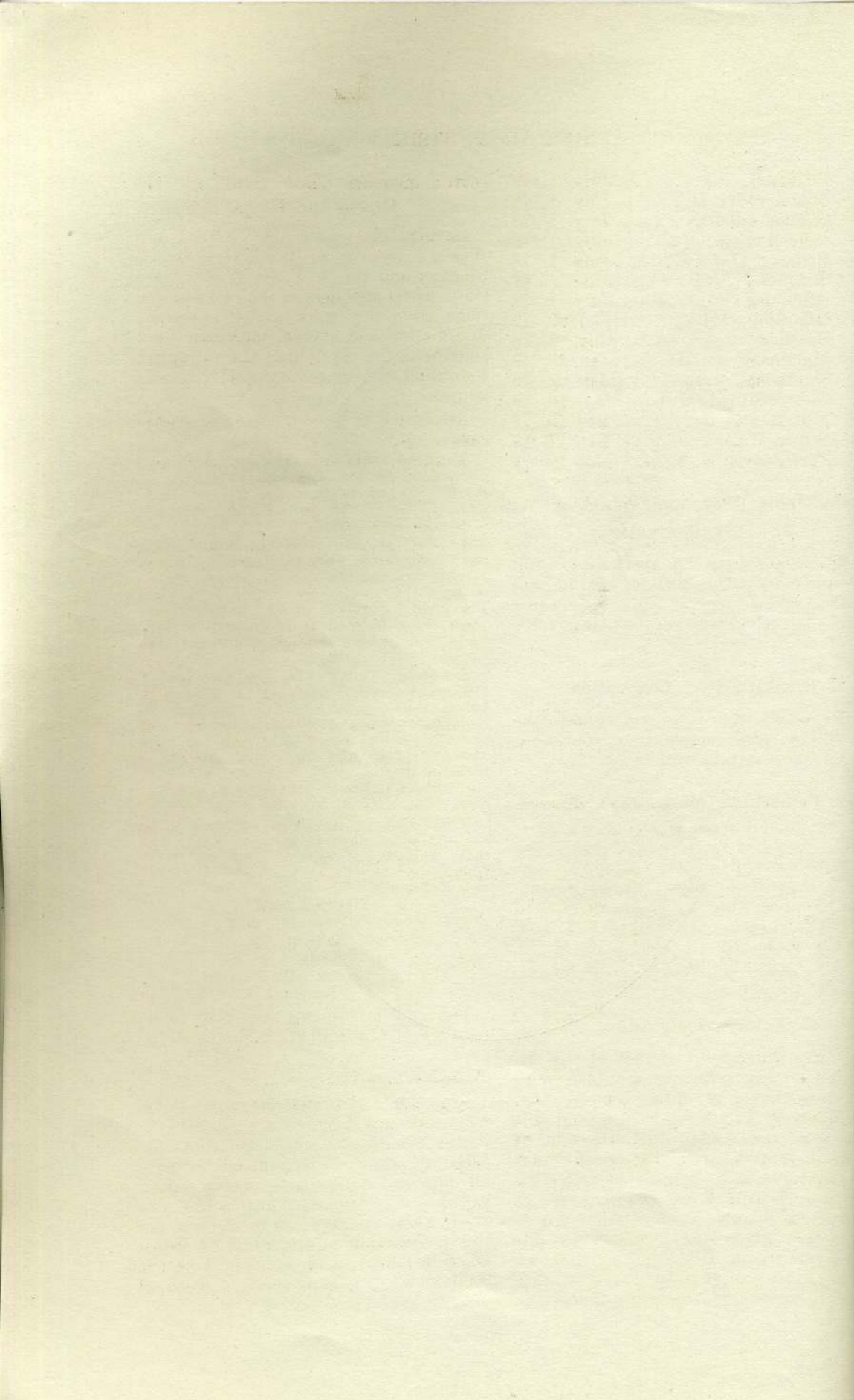
Brooklyn, N. Y., 1879 Convention.

The Brooklyn convention proceedings in 1879 shows the following Local Unions affiliated with the Association.

L. U. No.	Location,	Date of Admission
1	Brooklyn, N. Y.....	July 1, '78
2	Philadelphia, Pa.....	July 1, '78
3	Meriden, Conn.	July 1, '78
4	Pittsburg, Pa.....	July 1, '78
5	Pittsburg, Pa.....	July 1, '78



RICHARD KELLY.
Recording Secretary 1878-79.



6	Pittsburg, Pa.....	July 1, '78
7	Steubenville, O.....	July 1, '78
8	Steubenville, O.....	July 1, '78
9	Wheeling, W. Va.....	July 1, '78
10	Bellaire, O.....	July 1, '78
11	St. Louis, Mo.....	July 1, '78
12	Pittsburg, Pa.....	July 1, '78
13	Hamilton, Ont.	Jan. 20, '79
14	South Boston, Mass....	Nov. 9, '78
15	Martins Ferry, O.....	Jan. 22, '79
16	Sandwich, Mass.....	Jan. 22, '79
17	New Bedford, Mass.....	May 10, '79
18	Millville, N. J.....	May 10, '79
19	White Mills, Pa.....	May 17, '79
20	Port Jervis, N. Y.....	May 19, '79

Interchangeable Card Used By the Greens and Flints.

During this season the Eastern and Western leagues or the Green Bottle Blowers and the A. F. G. W. U., were troubled by members of the two associations accepting work under another's jurisdiction and several meetings were held, with the result that the following resolution and interchangeable card was adopted.

Resolution to govern interchangeable card:

Resolved, That the form of card recommended by the president of the A. F. G. W. U., and eastern and western divisions D. W. B. L. be adopted, with the following provisions:

1. No member of either organization shall continue to work in a place for which after a due and fair trial he proves incompetent; the factory committee to be the judges of his ability to fill the same; and upon being notified by the committee that he is incompetent he must voluntarily give up the place. Further be it

Resolved, That when any member of either Association presents his card to a committee or local * * * it shall be compulsory upon said committee or local * * * to accept said card, and the member presenting same shall become a member of the local * * * subject to its laws, rules and regulations, and pay dues from date of issue of card.

This card to be null and void three months after date of issue and this can only be renewed by the local * * * that issued it.

(Signed)

THOS. J. IRWIN
 President A. F. G. W. U.
 F. S. TOMLIN,
 President, I D. W. G. L.
 LOUIS ARRINGTON,
 President, D. W. G. B. L.

Form of interchangeable card to be used by Green and Flint Mould Blowers:

To All Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that Mr. _____ was until this date..... a member of Local....., No., located at, but having paid all dues and demands the above named Local hereby grants him this card, which entitles him to work under the jurisdiction of the Flint or Green Glass Workers' Association of America. Said member is competent to work at

Philadelphia, 1880, and Wheeling, W. Va., 1881, Conventions.

The 1880 convention was held in Philadelphia, Pa. The 1881 convention was held in Wheeling, at this convention were 38 delegates, representing 1,900 members.

Brooklyn, 1882, Convention.

Sixty-one delegates attended the Brooklyn, 1882, convention, representing 2,100 members.

East Cambridge, Mass., 1883, Convention.

Fifty-nine delegates attended the 1883 East Cambridge, Mass., convention, representing 2,250 members, and the following Local Unions: 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 32, 34, 35, 36, 37 and 39.

Foreign Emigration.

During the season of 1883-84 our Association was seriously troubled with alien workmen accepting employment at Montreal and Nova Scotia, and this question commanded the attention of the convention with the result that negotiations were opened between the Central Secretary of England, T. C. Barnes, and our Organization. Assurance was given our members by our brothers across the Atlantic that all their efforts would be exercised to minimize the evil effects accruing therefrom.

This card is null and void three months after date of issue.

(Seal.)President.
Secretary.
 THOS. J. IRWIN.
 LOUIS ARRINGTON.
 FRANK S. TOMLIN.

The Ohio Valley Contest.

During this year the Ohio Valley workers belonging to Local Unions 9, 15 and 34, formulated a move and wage list known as the "Blue Back List." This list was presented to the employers in March, 1883. The "Blue Back List" seemed to satisfy the employers, except that they objected to paying turn work while the Pittsburg employers paid on a piece work basis. In December, 1883, the employers notified the workers that they must work piece work; the workers refused, and a ten months' contest, now referred to as the Ohio Valley strike, ensued.

Demands of Employers Which Led to the Ohio Valley Strike.

To the President and Members of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union:

Gentlemen:—For the purpose of arriving at a definite and satisfactory understanding, which will permit of a resumption of work in our factories, and to avoid the misrepresentations and misunderstandings that seem to have prevented the settlement of the existing difficulty, the undersigned glass manufacturers submit the following for your consideration, and ask that this paper be placed before your national convention on July 12, inst.

We ask that a schedule of piece work be adopted that will enable us to make our ware at the same cost for pressers', blowers', finishers' and gatherers' labor as the same class and quality of goods cost our competitors in Pittsburg.

We ask for the same terms and rules for operating our work as those in force in Pittsburg.

In order that we may know the Union rules, or such rules as effect us in operating our works, we ask that all such rules shall be printed, and a copy furnished to each manufacturer.

Should any questions, rules, or differ-

ences (that are not provided for in the printed rules) arise between the manufacturers and workmen, the same shall be settled by arbitration, by a committee appointed for such purpose, to consist of an equal number of manufacturers and workmen, and this committee shall have the power to referee when necessary.

If the manufacturers discover that any advantages or privileges regarding numbers, wages or rules for working are allowed in Pittsburg, and not allowed manufacturers here, proof of such matters shall entitle the manufacturers here to the benefit of such advantage.

The foregoing is in strict accordance with what we have heretofore asked, and we trust that this is sufficiently clear and explicit; but if any further explanation is needed, we will be ready at any time to furnish it.

Rodefer Bros., T. A. Rodefer.

Lantern Globe Co.

Buckeye Glass Co., T. F. Miller Secretary.

Elson Glass Co., per Ed. Muhlman, Secretary.

LaBelle Glass Co., S. C. Dunlevy, Secretary.

Belmont Glass Works, W. F. Snively, Secretary.

Aetna Glass & Manufacturing Co., E. B. Bowie, Secretary.

Bellaire Goblet Co., W. A. Gorbey, Secretary.

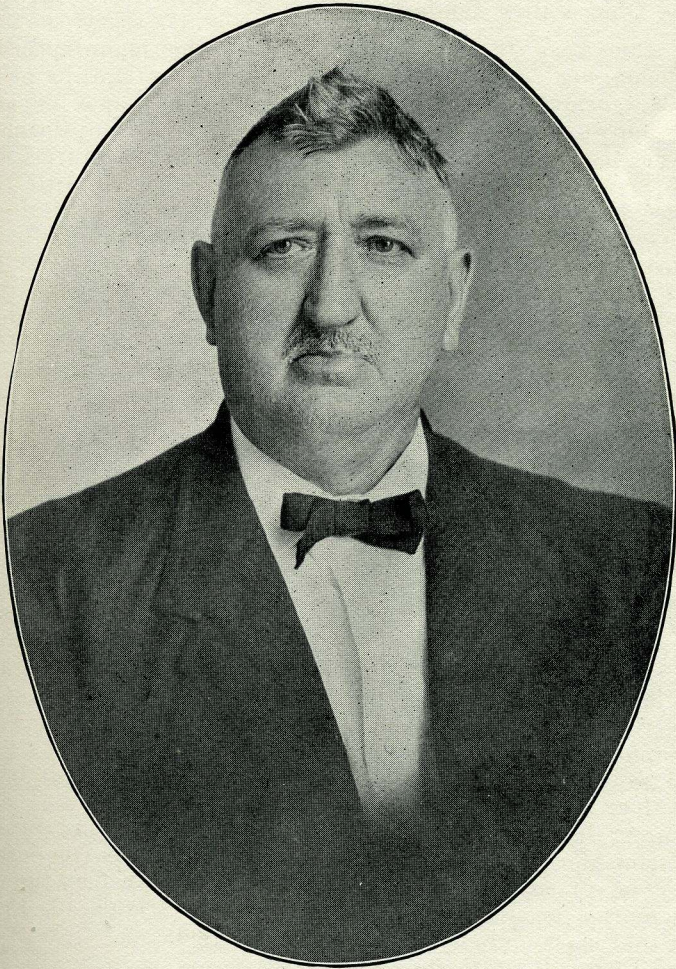
This contest was bitterly fought and during its reign a song entitled, "Work Pittsburg Style, or Shut Down Awhile," was composed and sang with glorious effect by the workers and their friends, rivals of Fritz Emmett and Seanlon.

Termination of the Ohio Valley Strike.

The manufacturers presented the following proposition:

We are willing to settle this question between our workmen and ourselves on Pittsburg terms and prices, all workers to be paid for by the piece at the same price by the hundred, as Pittsburg manufacturers pay for the same class of work, and only good ware shall be counted.

Blown ware shall not be counted until same is filed or chipped, and the



BENJAMIN RUBRECHT.
Corresponding Secretary 1878.

whole shop shall be docked on seconds caused by bad workmanship, and no person will be permitted to break down ware on which he has been docked. In case ware is broken or melted in the lehrs, through fault of the lehrman, the shop making same shall be paid for it. And we further agree **that in no case shall a workman or committee of same be permitted to interfere in the management of the company's factory or business**; and, therefore, if our workmen claim that we are mistaken as to any of these Pittsburg prices or rules, and so inform this Association in writing, that we will agree to submit such claim to an arbitration committee of three, one from the ranks, one from ours, and the third to be chosen by these two, and to be governed by the report of the majority of this arbitration committee as to what Pittsburg prices and rules are in the cases where our workmen's claims are not brought before this association oftener than once in each calendar month.

AETNA GLASS & MNFG. CO.
 BELMONT GLASS WORKS.
 LABELLE GLASS CO.
 BUCKEYE GLASS CO.
 THE LANTERN GLOBE CO.
 BELLAIRE GOBLET CO.
 ELSON GLASS CO.
 RODEFER BROS.

Union Insists on Recognition of Factory Committee.

The workers absolutely refused to accept this proposition on the grounds that they insisted that their committee be recognized. Finally the Elson Glass Company, Martin's Ferry, O., agreed to resume work and recognize the committee with the understanding that a piece work system should prevail. Three factories in Bellaire later resumed work and finally all commenced operations on the Pittsburg list, with a few exceptions. A few months later the Buckeye factory of Martins Ferry and later the LaBelle plant, resumed, the last of the factories involved in the strike, all agreeing to a compromise settlement between the Bellaire, the Martins Ferry and Pittsburg lists.

Aftermath.

An adjustment of this contest was not satisfactory to the owners, as they seemed extremely anxious to destroy the Union, and for a long time they acted in an arrogant manner towards our committeemen, in some cases cursing every man that approached them with a view of securing justice from their treatment. Finally, the ill-feeling resulting from that strike evaporated and the loyalty manifested by our members convinced those employers that they could not successfully practice impositions on those men and a friendly feeling gradually became apparent.

Prominently Active.

Jacob Pence, now secretary of Local Union No. 127, Lancaster, O., took a very prominent part in Martins Ferry, O., and the late manager of the New Martinsville Glass Co. and deceased brother C. N. Edmunds took an active part in Bellaire, O., during this fierce battle.

Pittsburg, Pa., 1884 Convention.

The Pittsburg convention assembled in 1884 with 74 delegates. This year seems to be a season of troubles, as noted by the report of Secretary John A. Howard, most important of which were the Monaca (known as the Water-cure) strike; Wellsburg strike, Corning strike, Concord street (Brooklyn) strike, Rochester and South Boston strikes, La Bastie and New Bedford contests.

Philadelphia, 1885, Convention.

(Independence Hall.)

This convention met at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, 65 delegates in attendance, representing 32 Local Unions. The office of President and Secretary was combined, which placed him on a salaried position at \$1,100 a year. Wm. J. Smith was elected to fill the position; John F. Hineckley was elected Vice-President, and Edward Phillips Treasurer.

Joseph Blackburn, J. Stanger and Hosea Husted, representing the mould makers, applied for admission to membership in the A. F. G. W. U. They were admitted with the understanding

and agreement that "a mould maker should not attempt to engage in the glass blowing department," one of the strange features of our early history.

Donation to the Window Glass Workers' Union.

During this season our Organization aided the Window Glass Workers' Association and they gratefully acknowledged this as evidenced by the following extracts from a letter written to the 1884 convention by Frank M. Gessner, late editor of the National Glass Budget, who was their secretary at that time:

"To maintain our men through such a prolonged struggle we were compelled to appeal for aid to other labor organizations and I bear you cheerful and grateful witness, that no trades union came to our assistance more promptly and liberally than the American Flint Glass Workers' Union."

He further writes:

"Praying that your convention may so legislate that the wisdom of its action may accrue to the benefit of all workers of flint glass, I am with best wishes for the perpetuity of your union."

1886 Hamilton, Ontario, Convention.

This convention met in Hamilton, Ont., with 107 delegates in attendance representing a membership of 4,500.

The success of the mould makers in securing admission at the 1885 session encouraged engravers, cutters, glass packers, Bohemian glass blowers, green pressers to submit a petition for admission. The latter organization would have been satisfied to arrange for an interchangeable card so that they could work under our jurisdiction. Cutters and engravers were admitted.

At this convention it was decided to elect a Secretary and to establish headquarters in the city of Pittsburg. Wm. J. Dillon was elected to fill that position at a salary of \$900 a year. It was also decided that the summer stop should commence on the last Saturday in June and end the first Monday in August.

1887 Atlantic City, N. J., Legislation.

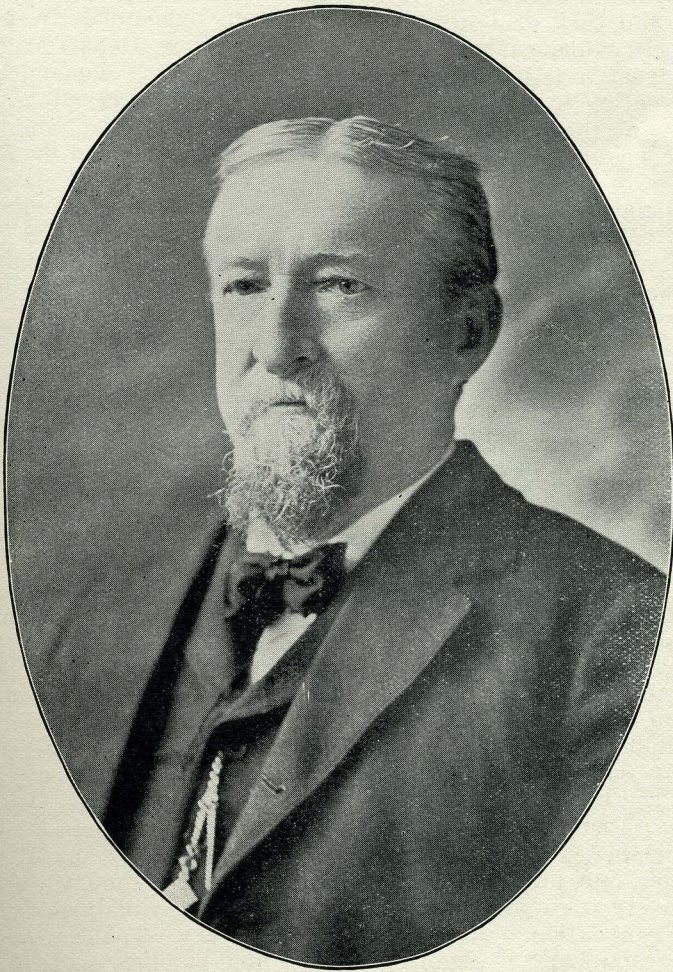
Never since the inception of the American Flints had so much been undertaken by a single convention. Almost every department presented some

demands that were calculated to meet with serious opposition from the manufacturers. In the Cutting Department apprentice restrictions were demanded, besides a list of prices. In the Engraving Department a change in the working hours was demanded, and apprentice restrictions. In the Shade Department changes in numbers and wages were demanded. In the Prescription and Chimney Departments an advance in wages was demanded. In the Tableware Department an advance in wages was demanded, and a complete move list presented to the manufacturers. In the Iron Mould Department for the first time a list of moves and wages was demanded for the West alone. The Mould Making Department, of all departments, made no demand.

Conferences Held.

The first opposition to changes of the convention manifested itself in the Prescription Department. When, by order of the committee, the wage committee of the workers met the manufacturers' committee on July 26, to present the demands of the convention a very spirited talk ensued over the subject, making it necessary to adjourn until the following day. When the meeting reconvened on the following day, there was no improvement in the situation, and, after a long discussion, the meeting adjourned until August 10.

Meanwhile the convention's load seemed bearing heavy in other quarters. In the Chimney Department the new list had been presented in all houses, but as yet few if any of them showed any signs of resuming work under its terms. Not a few of them expressed objections in very emphatic language to the annual changes made in the list in the interest of the workers. This action on the part of the Chimney manufacturers seemed to be prompted by their sympathy for the manufacturers in the table ware department who were holding conferences almost daily in some districts, trying to organize a general opposition to the work of the convention. Representatives of the two departments were daily in communication, and the most strenuous efforts made to induce chimney manufacturers to sign a



JOHN N. BRANNEN.

President 1880-81-82.

paper that had been circulated among table ware manufacturers for signatures, pledging the signer to opposition to the demands of the workers.

On July 27, at the request of the manufacturers, a meeting was held between them and a committee of the workers, at which the changes made by the convention were again presented to them. No definite action was taken on the changes, the manufacturers agreeing only to consider the matter, and report their answer through each factory committee.

Critical Period.

On August 10, the joint wage committee of the Prescription Department again met. Proposition after proposition touching the wage list was presented and voted down, the manufacturers positively refusing to make any advance in the list. To add still further to the unpleasantness of the situation, it was learned that W. H. Hamilton & Co. had positively arranged to resume work on August 14.

The situation seemed very critical; so much so that the committee, after considering the uncertainty that prevailed in other departments, deemed it wise to settle on the scale of 1887, with 10 per cent off of plain prescription ware and plain ball neck panels. In settling upon this basis the moral support of Pittsburg prescription houses was gained for the first time to the A. F. G. W. U., while the wage of the Pittsburg blowers was advanced 10 per cent on all other ware than plated and plain prescription ware and plain ball neck panels.

Pending the settlement in the Prescription Department, some very strong efforts were made to arrange a representative meeting between the workers and manufacturers of the Tableware Department, to discuss the latter's objections to the convention list. Up to August 11, the efforts showed no results. In the Ohio Valley the manufacturers had declared immediately after convention that their houses would not resume work until they knew positively the Pittsburg houses would accept the list. In the Pittsburg district few houses as yet showed any signs of resuming work and certainly no indication of ac-

cepting the list in the shape it came from the convention. The chief objection to the list so fully expressed by manufacturers was that no wage list was attached. "The list," said they, "which makes numbers uniform, but which leaves wages widely at variance in different localities, is not a good list."

A few days after the settlement in the Prescription Department we received the official notice that the Associated Manufacturers had appointed a committee of seven who would be pleased to meet us on September 18th to discuss the new list. Closely following the receipt of this notice an almost general resumption of work was made in the chimney houses. Work was resumed also in a few tableware houses, but the greater number of them remained idle, awaiting the results of the meeting of the 18th.

Press Department Confers.

In the brief time preceding this date, six of the largest table ware Local Unions were hurriedly notified of the action of the Associated manufacturers, and requested to elect one member of a committee to meet the manufacturers. In response to this request, Messrs. Jacob Miller of Local Union No. 4, Jacob Pence of Local Union No. 15, C. N. Edmonds of Local Union No. 34, Frank Dick of Local Union No. 48, David Pugh of Local Union No. 52, and G. J. Gessner of Local Union No. 65, were elected to meet the manufacturers. The manufacturers stated that they were ready to make a list, but insisted that the idle houses should be put to work under the assurance from the workers' committee of a 30 days' notice of stoppage of work in the event of disagreement.

This proposal, after a day's wrangling, was finally agreed to by the workers' committee, and a second meeting fixed for the 24th to begin the work of making a list.

Press Department Rejects.

In agreeing to give 30 days' notice of stoppage of work, the workers' committee was actuated by the belief that one month's time at most would be sufficient

to re-arrange the list. If disagreement at the end of that time could not be avoided and it became necessary to give the notice, the workers at its close would be in much better shape to enter a contest than they were at that present time, when two months' idleness had exhausted nearly all their means, and also left the trade in poor shape to support them. On the 24th the work on the list commenced, and for two months continued slowly but satisfactorily, until an entire list was completed, except to determine how gatherers should be paid. Prior to this time gatherers had been paid *lehr count*; it was now proposed to pay by the piece. This change was resisted by the workers, when the manufacturers estimating the loss by breakage to be about two and a half to four per cent, offered to add the latter amount to the wages fixed in conference in order to cover the loss entailed by the change in system. This offer was submitted to the Tableware Department and rejected.

Once during the proceedings of conference the manufacturers expressed a desire to work at the old list, but the sentiment of the committee was opposed to it. Too much time and money had been spent in this and in previous years to try to gain uniformity to abandon the pursuit now when the object seemed to be within our grasp.

After their offer of a 4 per cent advance had been rejected some of them again intimated the desire to work at the old list, but they were told it was out of the question to agree without a list, and a formal notice of stoppage of work was served upon them.

Press Department Reconsiders Action.

After the notice had been given, not a few of the tableware department openly deplored the haste with which the manufacturers' offer had been rejected. These reports reaching the officers, they concluded to consult those interested about withdrawing the notice, in order to put the responsibility of the contest on the manufacturers, pass through the winter, and to allow the trade to prepare for the contest that now seemed as certain as fate. The plan seemed to meet with ap-

proval. Accordingly another meeting of the committee was held, at which the workers formally withdrew their notice of stoppage of work, and offered to submit the manufacturers' proposition to the vote of the entire trade, or to arbitration. The offer was rejected, and the workers now began preparations for a contest they felt could not be avoided.

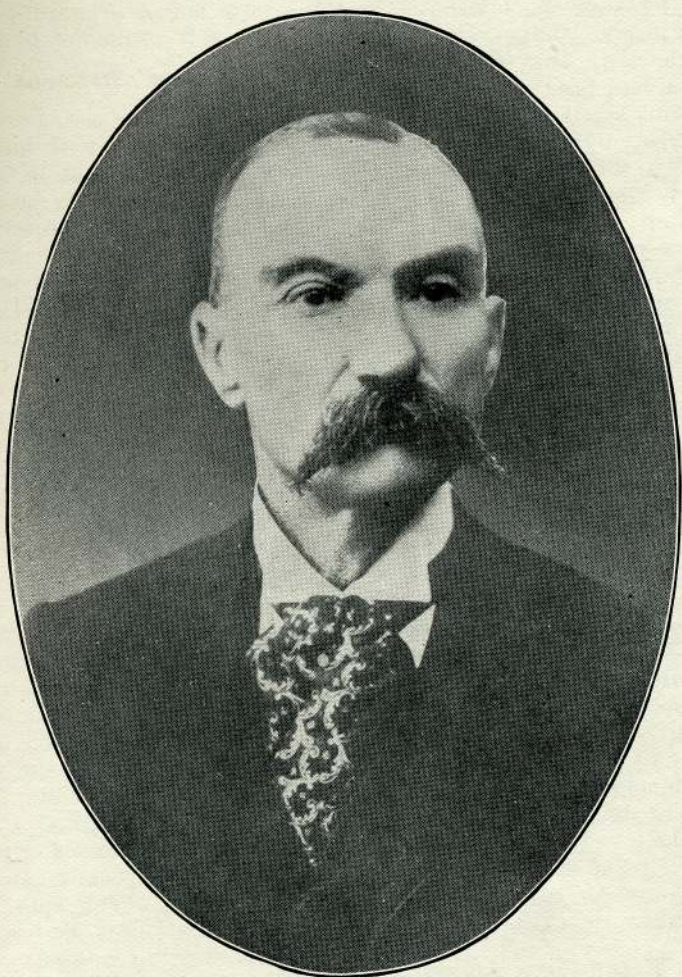
Employers' Demands.

On December 2, the associated manufacturers presented us with an entirely new press list, and a set of very obnoxious rules. A few days later we received from the same source copies of shade, iron mould, paste mould, and caster place lists that had been compiled by the manufacturers. These lists were presented to the committees in all the general flint houses of the east, and all the tableware houses of the west, except twelve, and were to take effect on and after Jan. 2, 1888. Thirty-eight houses were involved.

Immediately upon presentation of these lists, many of the locals asked for instructions. All were advised to stand to the convention list until a plan of action could be formulated by the board, a meeting having been arranged for the second week in December.

The trouble started originally in the press ware branch, and assumed larger proportions than anticipated and covered all branches except the chimney and prescription departments, the manufacturers having compiled rules and wage lists for the pressed ware, iron mould, paste mould, shade and caster place departments. The rules, a copy of which is given below, had been served by the following houses:

Challinor, Taylor & Co., and Richard, Hartley & Co., of Tarentum; Bryce & Higbee, of Homestead; The Belmont, the Aetna, and the Bellaire Goblet Co., of Bellaire; the Elson Co., of Martins Ferry; A. J. Beatty & Son, of Steubenville; the O'Hara, Cavitt, Jones & Co., Bryce Bros, King, Son & Co., McKee Bros., Duncan Sons & Co., Doyle & Co., Adams & Co., and D. Ripley, of Pittsburg, in all of which houses work had been suspended. Boston & Sandwich Co., of Sandwich; Mt. Washington Co., of New Bedford; the New England



GEORGE W. PAYNE.
Secretary 1880-81-82.

Co. and the Union Co., of Boston; E. P. Gleason, F. Thill, Concord Street Glass Works, of Brooklyn, Meriden Glass Co., of Meriden, Conn.; C. Dorflinger of White Mills; Brox and Buckley of Port Jervis, Gillinders, Rohrbacker & Harmon, and Gills of Philadelphia; Dalzells of Wellsburg; The Central, Hobbs, Brockumer & Co., of Wheeling and Hemingrays of Covington, Ky.

Rules Submitted by the Manufacturers.

On and after January 2, 1888, the following rules, regulations, numbers and wages shall govern this factory for the year 1888.

Rule 1. The right of the manufacturer to employ or discharge employes must be acknowledged.

Rule 2. Employers or employes must not discriminate for or against any individual, because he or she is or is not a member of any organization.

Rule 3. Each manufacturer is to regulate his or their working hours but in no case shall a day's work exceed ten (10) hours—special contracts excepted.

Rule 4. A man or boy promoted to position in the shop, shall not be entitled to the wages of the position until he shall have served six (6) months. Two promotions shall constitute a workman's apprenticeship, viz.: first, to that of gatherer and second to that of finisher, presser or blower.

Rule 5. A falling off in numbers made in a move, by reason of a change of moulds, (if changed by order of the manager), will entitle the shop to the average wages of a move.

Rule 6. The shop shall not be charged for any defective ware not caused by its own fault, provided that workmen failing to report imperfect metal or moulds, shall be responsible for imperfect goods made thereby.

Rule 7. The number and kinds of apprentices and workmen employed in the several departments of a factory shall not be limited.

Rule 8. Articles, the numbers of which have not been provided for, shall be arranged by the management and workmen.

Rule 9. Such employes as the manager shall deem competent, may finish ware melted on plugs or formers.

Rule 10. Pressed ware shops shall be paid for all seconds caused by bad workmanship, if the same are packed; if broken down, the workmen shall have the right to examine.

Rule 11. In case of a disagreement in any factory in this Association, it shall if possible, be settled in the factory in which it occurs. In case of a failure to agree, the matter shall be referred to the manufacturers' executive committee for settlement, and they if deemed necessary, may confer with the workers' executive committee. Pending the discussion and decision of such differences, there shall be no lockout, strike or cessation of work by either employer or employe.

Rule 12. The summer stop shall commence on the last Saturday of June and continue six (6) consecutive weeks.

Executive Board Confers on Employers' Demands.

At a meeting of our Executive Board, held December 11, the following amendments were made to the rules, and directed to be submitted to the manufacturers:

We suggest that Rule 1 be changed to read: The right of the manufacturers is acknowledged to discharge for sufficient cause; as, for instance, drunkenness, incompetency, neglect of work, or the violation of any acceptable factory rule.

As Rule 2, if adopted, would tend to the destruction of our Organization, we ask that it be stricken out.

We suggest that Rule 3 be changed to read: Fifty-five hours a week shall constitute a week's work in the press and in the engraving departments, and fifty-eight in the mould and cutting shops.

We suggest that Rule 4 be changed to read: Each firm shall be entitled to employ in the press department for each ten pots, two gatherers who shall each work one year at 10 per cent less than schedule price.

Rule 5 we accept.

Rule 6 we accept, but suggest that in the absence of the manager some other

person in authority be designated to receive reports of bad metal, etc.

We suggest that Rule 7 be changed to read: The number and kind of apprentices and workmen employed in the several departments of pressed ware factories shall be limited on a basis to be agreed upon by both sides.

Rule 8 we accept.

We suggest that Rule 9 be altered to read: Such employes as the manager may deem competent may finish on plugs or formers small miscellaneous ware not exceeding in size a four and a half inch nappy.

We suggest that Rule 10 be made to read: If to be broken down the workmen shall have the right to examine.

Rule 11 we accept.

Rule 12 we accept.

The Board also directed that the press branch demand the conference list with manufacturers' proposition to gatherers. To this answer the manufacturers have made a rejoinder, reaffirming all rules.

The Board directed that all locals that have received the rules, refuse to accept them unless modified, and to accept no list not sanctioned by the general trade.

War Declared.

When the list was presented in the factory of King, Sons & Co., the men immediately quit work, and were idle one week, when by order of the National Officer, the men employed in sixteen other tableware houses, all involved in the original controversy, were called out.

Two reasons prompted the action:

First—The action of King, Sons & Co., men had made the others restive, and if not ordered out, they were likely to quit of their own accord, and become difficult to control.

Second—If the men were ordered out of the houses where the original controversy occurred, it might intimidate other houses that had served the list, and cause them to continue work.

On December 11 a full meeting of the board was held, and the entire controversy presented to them in detail. The

board at this meeting formulated an answer to the rules of the manufacturers. Five rules of the rules were accepted, the others amended. The suggestion of the manufacturers fixing January as the time for changing the scale was also accepted.

The board appointed a sub-committee to notify President Jones that they would be pleased to meet the manufacturers' committee with a view of settling the trouble. Efforts to settle were futile; the manufacturers were not ready to settle, and on Dec. 31, nineteen houses locked out their employees.

Central Glass Company, Wheeling, W. Va., Arbitrates.

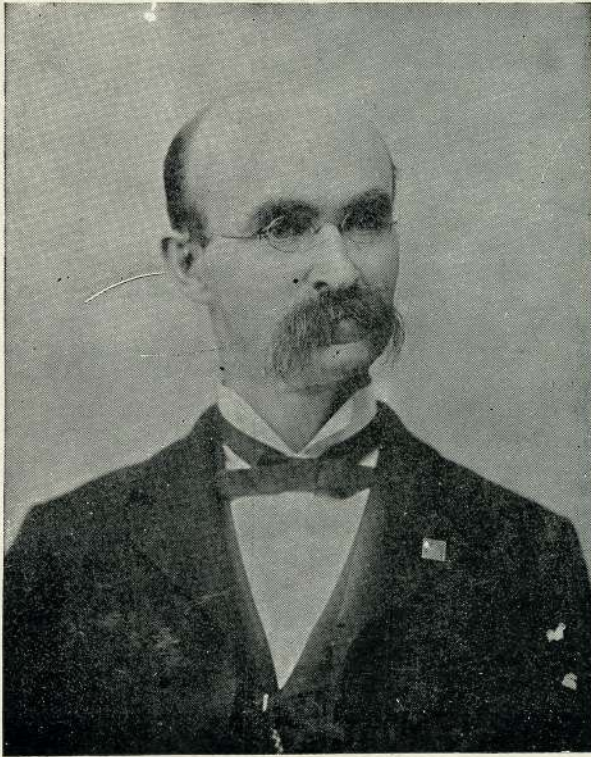
At this time a dispute arose at the Central Glass Works at Wheeling, which company was involved in trouble over the point of violating an agreement, and Senator N. B. Scott agreed to submit that point to a board of arbitration and to abide by its decision. Accordingly William Doyle was selected to represent the Central Glass company and President W. J. Smith the workers, and Mr. Augustus Pollock, a stogie manufacturer, was selected as third man. The case was reviewed and Mr. Pollock decided in favor of the men and the Central Glass company resumed operation, much to the displeasure of the other employers, and we understand that some punishment was inflicted on that concern.

Conference Held.

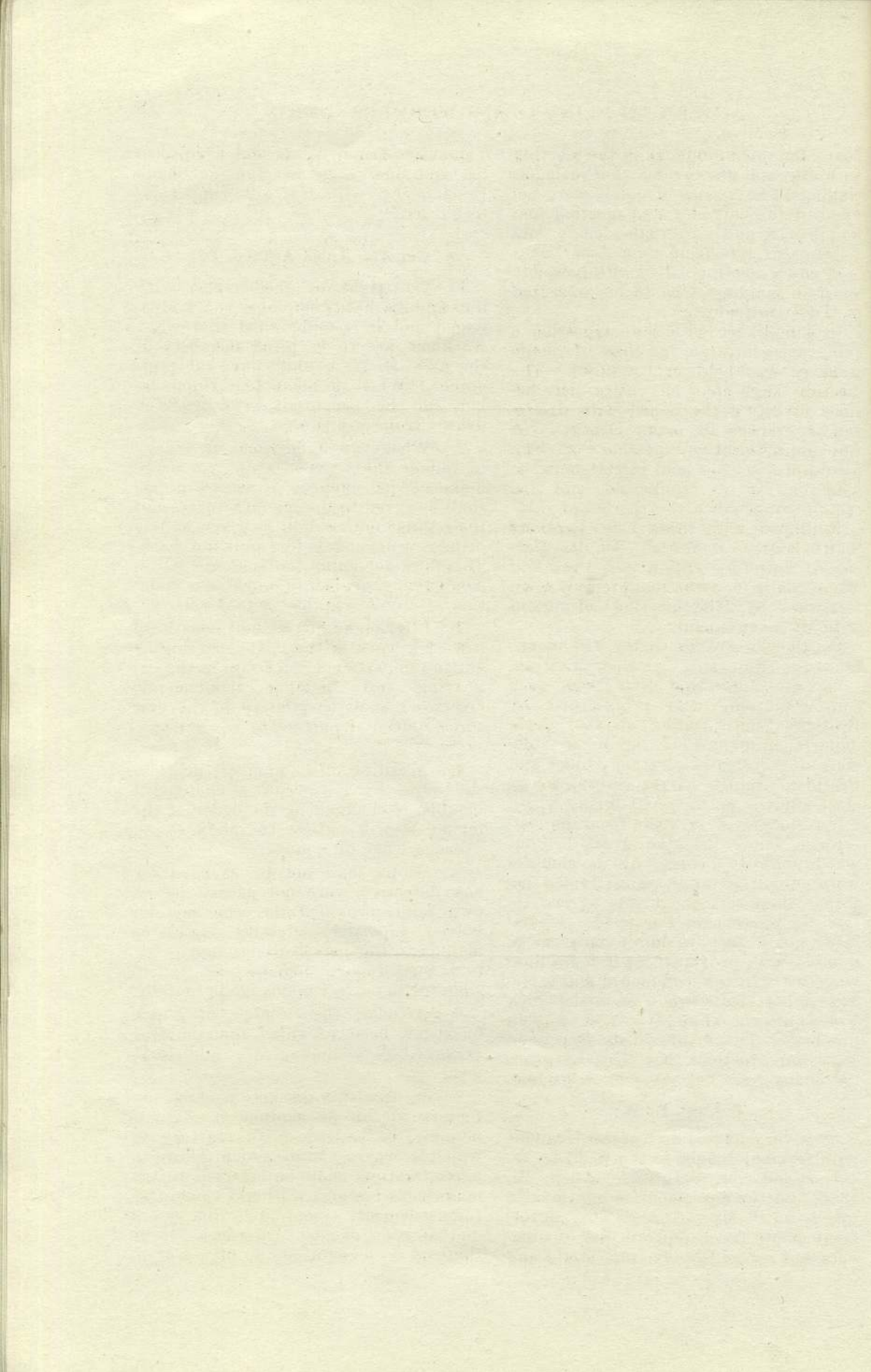
On February 2, an official communication was received from President Jones, notifying us that their board desired a meeting with our board to try to adjust the differences between them, and a meeting was arranged.

In the iron mould department we had never had a list, and there were as many variations in numbers, wages and methods of work, as there were factories engaged in this line of work. In the shade department, also, the list was far from being uniform.

The time was opportune to establish uniformity while manufacturers were giving their aid in this direction. To take advantage of this opportunity, and to furnish practical information to the



THOS. J. IRWIN.
President 1883.



board for their guidance in the meeting with the manufacturers, all the locals making these classes of goods were notified of the contemplated meeting and its purpose, and were requested to send a representative from each department to attend a meeting called with power to assist in making a list to be presented to the manufacturers.

In compliance with the suggestion a full representative meeting of shade workers was held in Brooklyn. The meeting suggested an entire list, besides investing the board with discretionary power to make changes. A full representative meeting of iron mould makers was held in Pittsburg, at which a list was suggested, and discretionary power given the board.

Equipped with these lists, Brothers Smith Butler, McMullen, Schultz, Corcoran, Secretary Dillon and President W. J. Smith met the manufacturers on February 8. The meeting adjourned without a settlement.

On the 20th of February, the manufacturers requested another meeting, this time suggesting four from each side. Our side was represented by Brothers Smith Butler of the shade department, John Corcoran of the tableware department, Secretary Dillon and President Smith. After several weeks close application to work, during which a few changes were made from the conference shade list, the great lockout was brought to a close. All the changes were submitted to those interested before a final settlement was agreed to. By the agreement the shade department got a list absolutely uniform in number with provision made for a dual wage list. In the iron mould and tableware departments lists were made which were uniform alike in wages and in numbers. These three lists contained some imperfections, but they, by gradual change, are becoming more perfect.

Contest Ends.

This very important contest, fraught with terrible danger to the A. F. G. W. U., ended on Saturday, April 28, 1888, and the agreement to continue in effect until May, 1889. This agreement comprised a uniform list of numbers and wages for the Iron Mould and

Tableware Departments and a uniform list and dual wage list for the Shade Department, with the following rules to govern:

General Rules Agreed To.

1. The right of the employer to hire and discharge employes is acknowledged and it is understood that when workmen are to be hired members of the A. F. G. W. U. shall have the preference. When no competent Union labor can be procured, labor can be drawn from any source.

2. Whenever it becomes necessary to reduce the force of employes or to make needed changes, a week's notice shall be given to the manufacturers and the regular notice shall be given by one or more workmen before quitting work. This does not apply to drunkenness, incompetency, neglect of work or a violation of any acceptable factory rule.

3. Fifty-eight hours shall constitute a week's work in the mould making or cutting department; 55 hours in the engraving and blowing departments. Overwork shall be allowed in the first three named departments when necessary.

4. A falling off in numbers made in the move by reason of a change of moulds, if changed by the order of the manager, will entitle the shop to an average wage of a move.

5. Shops shall not be charged for any defective ware not caused by its own fault, provided the workmen involved reported defective metal or moulds to the person designated to receive such report, shall be held responsible for imperfect goods made thereby.

6. Articles, the number of which have not been provided for, shall be arranged by the management and workmen.

7. In case of a disagreement in any factory in this association, it shall, if possible, be settled in the factory in which it occurs. In case of a failure to agree, matters shall be referred to the manufacturers and workers' committee for settlement. Pending a discussion and decision of such differences, there shall be no lockout, strike or cessation

of work by either employer or employed.

8. The summer stop shall commence on the last Saturday of June and continue for six (6) consecutive weeks.

Besides the foregoing rules, some regulations, having local application were adopted without being inserted in the respective department list.

This closed one of the greatest and most serious contests in which the Flints as an organization were ever engaged.

The cost of this contest to the trade in benefits was more than two hundred thousand dollars, while the cost in wages to those involved did not fall short of one-half million dollars.

Danger Signal and Assessments Levied.

After the adjournment of the Atlantic City 1887 convention, it became evident that a general strike or lock-out would occur in all branches except the chimney and prescription departments, and on November 1, an assessment of \$1.00 a week was established for the purpose of extending relief to the 1400 members expected to be involved, and while the legality of this assessment was questioned the officers of this association assumed the position that, "necessity knows no law." It later developed that the strike would cost at least \$8400.00 a week, and on December 12, the assessment was increased to \$1.50 a week, and the contest assumed larger proportions than was anticipated. February 21, 1888, the assessment was increased to \$1.75 a week.

Assessment Plans.

The Organization had a little over 5,000 members and 2,700 of these men were locked out, and it would have required an assessment of nearly \$6.00 a week to pay benefits in full. The officers realized the impossibility of collecting such a heavy assessment and the folly to establish such a large assessment. There was a balance of \$87,073.60 due the members of the Organization, and in order to raise this amount an assessment of \$16.00 was levied on May 14 on each employed member, and each member was given a

reasonable period of time to pay this assessment.

As Treasurer of the Association, W. J. Smith called the 1887 convention delegates' attention to the wisdom of creating and maintaining a healthy treasury.

The committee on officers' reports acted on the advice and recommended the following:

"In the matter of raising a surplus fund for future protection we find by the report of the secretary and president that we now have 5000 members, whose aggregate earnings amount to \$3,000,000 a year and at one-half of one per cent, or in other words, if a member earns \$100 a month his assessment would be 50 cents a month, which would cover all assessments outside of Local dues. This amount to be collected weekly, or semi-monthly and forwarded to a board of trustees, consisting of three members of the Executive Board who shall be selected for that purpose, said trustees to give good security covering the amount held by them."

"The security of said board to be approved by the balance of the Executive Board, said fund to be used for strike purposes."

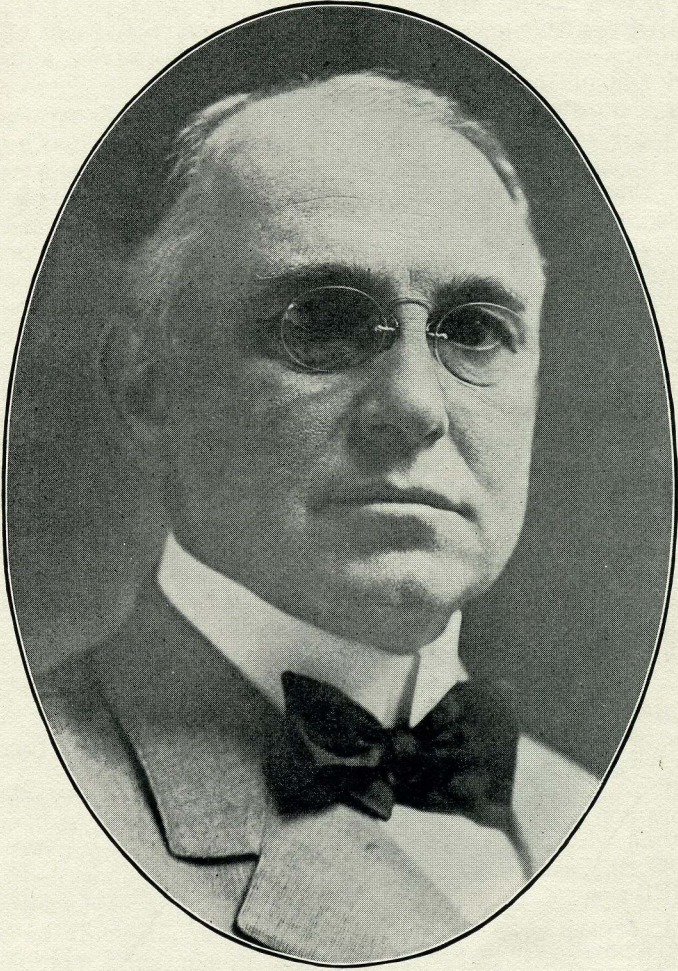
This recommendation failed of passage by a vote of 56 to 55.

Canton (1888) Convention.

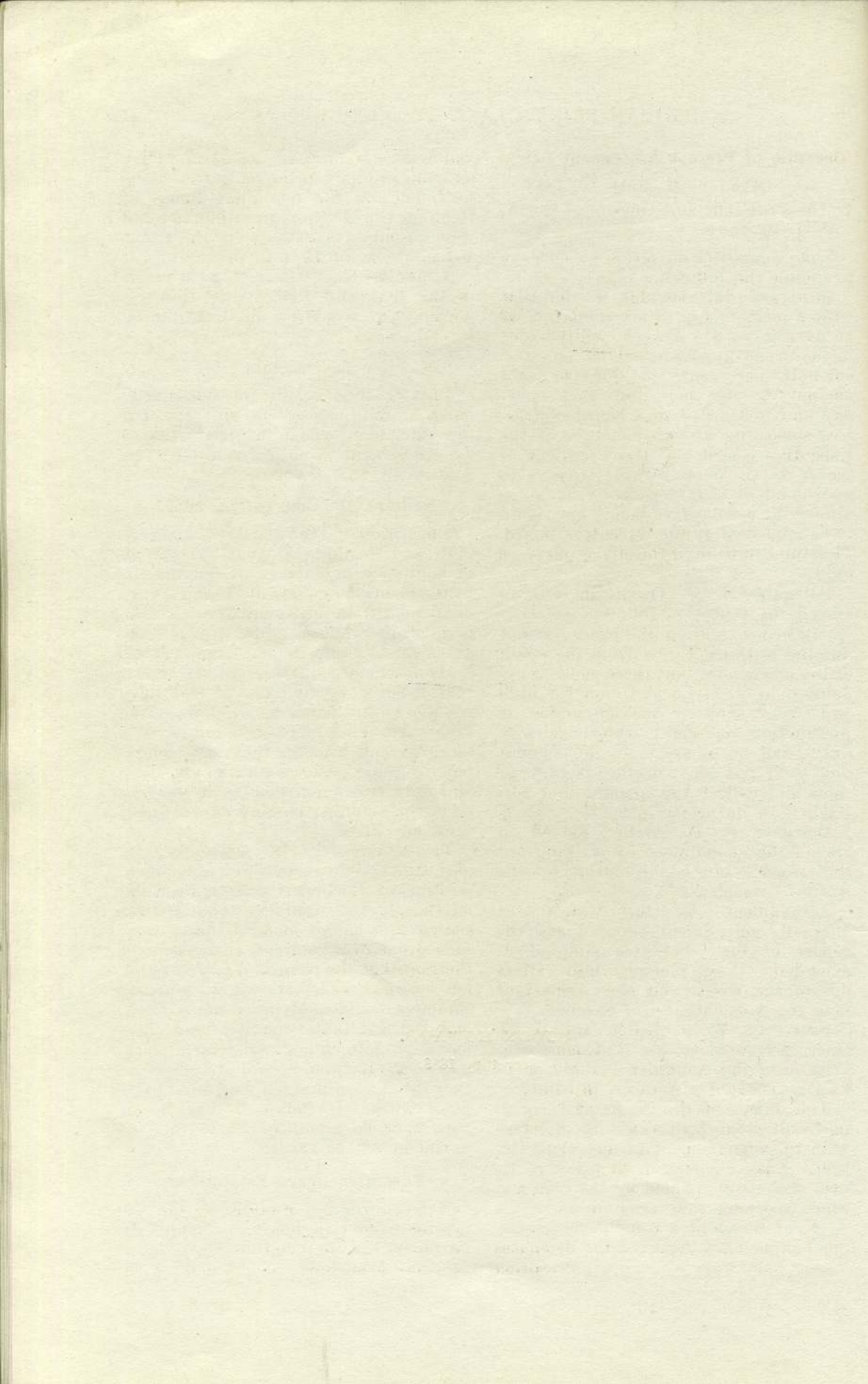
The eleventh convention was held in Canton, Ohio, 144 delegates in attendance, representing 6,000 members.

The enormous expenses attached to the 1887 and 1888 contest, the deplorable financial condition at its end and the Association's inability to pay relief and its dangerous effect convinced the delegates to the Canton, 1888, convention that it was imperative on their part to establish a solid financial system.

Treasurer Smith again called their attention to the necessity of a surplus fund and he declared the Organization's failure to have such a fund invited, to some extent, the contest just ended, and finally a surplus fund committee was appointed. This committee, John N. Branen, W. J. Clare, James S. Burke, James Thoburn and C. J. McHenry, submitted the following report:



JOHN HOWARD.
Secretary 1883.



Creation of Present Assessment Law.

Canton, O., July 12, 1888.

To the President and Officers of the A. F. G. W. U.

Your committee on surplus begs leave to submit the following plan:

In regard to the surplus, we find that with a membership of six thousand, at an average of \$14 a week, will amount in one year to \$3,840,000, at one and one-half per cent, to \$57,600, said amount to be collected each payday and forwarded to a board of trustees consisting of two members of the Executive Board and the President of the A. F. G. W. U. These trustees to give bond of \$5,000, as individuals, or \$15,000 as a collective bond, such bond to be approved by the Executive Board. This fund to be used for strike purposes only.

Delegate M. J. Owens moved to amend the report as follows:

"In order to know the exact amount due the National Union from the result of the assessment law, there shall be appointed by each Local Union for each and every shop or factory under its jurisdiction, one clerk, whose exclusive duty shall be to ascertain the amount due each pay day in the factory or shop and collect the amount and forward it to its proper place."

Delegate F. B. Archer moved to amend the amendment by striking out the word "one" and inserting the words "two clerks."

Amendment to the amendment adopted; amendment adopted and the report of the committee adopted as amended, thus placing into effect one of the wisest and most important laws the Association ever enacted.

Secretary W. J. Dillon and J. H. Burt, delegates to the Baltimore convention of the American Federation of Labor, reported as follows, in brief:

The object of the A. F. of L. is to unite all labor bodies, not to interfere with the management of any organization. Each association to preserve its own autonomy. Aided by the Iron and Steel Workers they tried to have the A. F. of L. adopt a compulsory assessment plan. They reported the delegates "were not aware of such a proposition

and were not prepared to act." They had the product, principally the Globe jar made by the non-union house of Hemingray placed on an unfair list and were promised assistance by the Globe Tobacco Co., of Detroit, Mich."

Although deeply in debt, as a result of the 1887 and 1888 strike, they reported, "we asked no aid from the A. F. of L."

Assessments.

July 12, 1888, a rule was adopted to make a trade assessment of 1½%, but the officers informed the trade that a 2% assessment would be collected after August 13, 1888.

Bellaire, O., Convention, 1889.

The season of 1888 and 1889 was very dull, and during this year the system of holding a conference of the various departments was instituted, and President Smith, in his annual report expressed the thought that it would be an excellent thing for our organization.

He also stated in his annual report that, "Not since the panic of 1873 have we known trade to be so dull in the tableware department, and this is, to a large extent, true in the shade, chimney, iron and paste mould departments, and only two departments, the cutting and the mould making department show any life."

The attention of the delegates was also called to the serious non-union competition of Rochester and Cumberland on thin blown tumblers, and it was shown that union manufacturers were to a great disadvantage on account of the fact that the moves on punch tumblers were limited very low, whiskey tumblers being made at a move of 475 and 450 and table tumblers made at a move of 380 and strictly turn work, while at Rochester and Cumberland they worked unlimited and absolutely piece work. He advised that heroic treatment be administered to this department of the trade.

Executive Board Established.

This convention established the following executive board: Shade department, 2; prescription department, 2; press branch, 3; mould making, 2;

cutting, 2; caster place, 2; iron mould, 2; engravers, 1; chimney branch, 2; paste mould, 1; stopper, 1, and the following resolution passed:

"That it be the sense of this committee to recommend to the convention, that when any trouble occurs in any respective branch, the executive members of that branch to be called to settle the question only." They further recommended that the President in his selection of the Executives, distribute them east and west. The press ware department recommended to the convention that the president of the association select a committee of five to act as a conference committee representing the press branch for the purpose of making all changes during the ensuing year and for settling the lists and wages."

Delegates to the Boston convention of the A. F. of L. were John Corcoran, and Secretary Wm. J. Dillon. In their report they stated that the membership of the A. F. of L. was 600,000 and among the questions considered was, "Child Labor," "Alien Contract and Labor Laws," "Contract between Employer and Employed," "The Boycott." Our delegates again vainly endeavored to have a strike assessment plan adopted by the A. F. of L. and the eight-hour movement was also acted upon.

Non-Compulsory Death Benefit Fund.

In his annual report to the 1888-89 convention, Vice-President Hinckley recommended the establishment of a death benefit fund, and in 1889 Local Unions No. 2, No. 6 and No. 41 offered constitutional amendments in this particular respect.

The Committee on Officers Report recommended the matter be laid over till the amendment sheet was considered.

When the amendment sheet was discussed a motion was made to refer the question to a committee of ten. The following named committee was appointed: F. B. Archer, Thos. P. Downey, Jas. E. Flynn, Jos. Gormley, Wm. Haupt, Wm. L. Dooling, Wm. Beutow, Leopold Linden and B. E. Rubrecht. The committee recommended that a

non-compulsory association be formed known as the "Death Benefit Fund" of the A. F. G. W. U. under the following laws:

"Upon the death of a member of the A. F. G. W. U. an assessment of 25 cents per member shall be levied and collected by all Local Unions from their members, who shall forward the same to the National Office out of which a sum of \$1,000.00 shall be paid to the family or legal heir of the deceased member, the balance of assessment in the hands of the National Treasurer for the necessary expenses, and the accumulation of funds to be known as the 'Death Benefit Fund.'

"When said funds reach an amount of \$2,000.00 no assessment shall be levied until the same has been used for the purpose intended by this amendment.

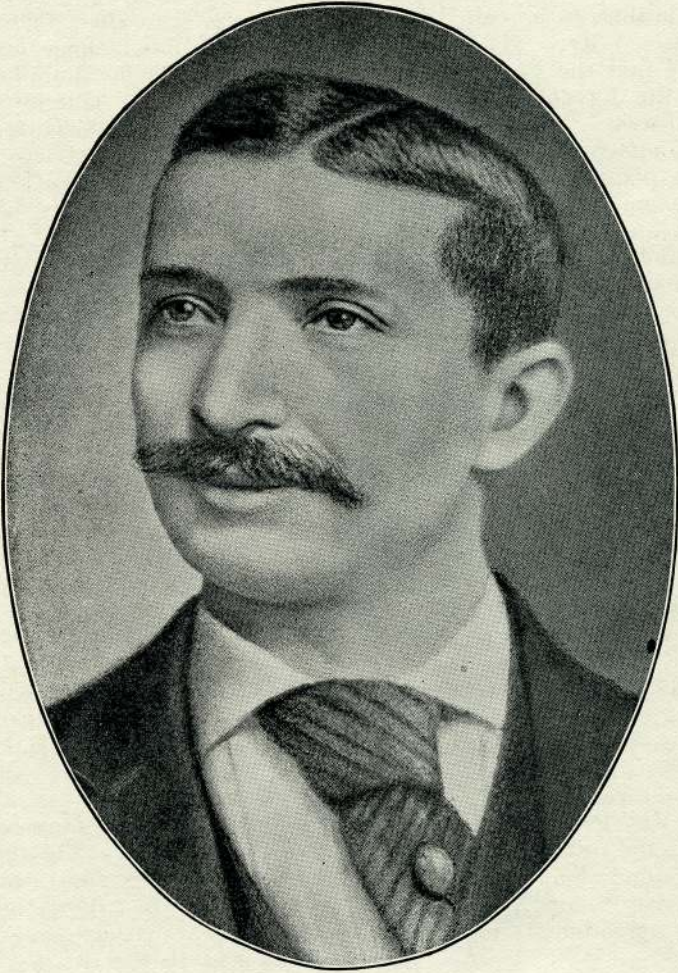
"No benefits shall be paid until the membership reaches 1,000, and the President shall be empowered to levy an assessment of \$1.00 on each member, and as the membership increases or diminishes, the assessment pro rata of the initiation fee shall be 25 cents for the first year, and \$3.00 after that time, and no person not a member of the A. F. G. W. U. admitted.

"At the first regular meeting of each Local Union, the recording secretary shall secure the names of those desiring to become members of this fund, and send the same to the National Secretary."

The report was adopted.

An effort was made to make this a complete success, and a membership of 2043 compiled; a short time subsequent 173 of these withdrew, leaving a membership of 1870.

At a membership of 6,600 it was shown, according to the death rate which was 11 to the thousand at that time, that a \$1,000.00 insurance policy could have been paid at a cost of 16 cents per member per death, or \$10.56 a year at that time. And it was stated that the death rate was higher that year than any preceding year. It was also shown that our death rate at that time was as low as the death rate in the Masons or the Ancient Order of United Workmen.



WM. J. SMITH.
President 1884 to Jan. 1, 1900.

The Baltimore Convention, 1890.

The Baltimore convention of 1890 was the first convention the writer had the honor of attending; its records show a membership of 6700; its membership in 1880 was 1754, an increase of 381% in ten years. This membership was distributed as follows:

Stoppering department.	55
Engraving department.	115
Paste Mould department.	134
Caster Place department.	154
Lamp Working department.	183
Mould Making department.	260
Shade department.	385
Cutting department.	397
Iron Mould department.	689
Prescription department.	1203
Chimney department.	1546
Press department.	1573

Complaint of Evil Competition and First Declaration for Bounty Plan.

During this season bitter complaints were made by the employers regarding the evil competition prevailing on thin blown tumblers, common tumblers and jellies, and in 1889 the convention decided to try the bounty plan on common tumblers with a view of remedying the inequality of cost between union and non-union houses so as to give the union houses a fair share of the tumbler trade. The convention, by an almost unanimous vote, decided to pay the bounty to the members of the union working on certain goods coming into competition with the product of union and non-union houses. The trade vigorously opposed the proposition, so much, indeed, that the officers concluded it would not be wise to press the order of the convention.

During the season of 1889-90 it was discovered that some press ware manufacturers were using boys to finish wares on a former in the tableware department which resulted in a brief strike at the Seneca Glass Co., Tiffin, O., which was settled by the company employing a finisher, the company taking the position that the O'Hara Glass Co. of Pittsburg, Pa., was using boys to finish on a former, and they asked for the same privilege. The writer served as a committeeman at the Seneca com-

pany at this time. Secretary Dillon visited Tiffin and assured the company that it would be stopped in Pittsburg.

Several meetings were held with the O'Hara Glass Co. in which the officers endeavored to have the company comply with the agreement; the company refused and a strike occurred on Oct. 21, 1889.

The First Attempt to Enjoin by Court's Ruling.

Several weeks after this strike the company applied to the courts for an injunction, asking the court to enjoin the officers of our union from continuing to order our men not to work for the O'Hara Glass Co. In its appeal the O'Hara company alleged that their employes, members of the A. F. G. W. U., had not ceased work through any desire of their own but because of the fear of being called a "Scab" and being deprived of the privilege of working at their trade if they disobeyed the order of the union officials." Paradoxical as it may appear in the hearing of the case, several members testified that if it had not been for the orders of our officials they would have continued at work.

The officers testified that the Associated Manufacturers, of which the prosecutor was a member, had agreed to pay a certain rate for wages for finishing, that in violation of the agreement the prosecutor employed boys to do the finishing and did not pay the wages stipulated in the list.

The court took occasion to say that both workers and manufacturers were conspirators against the public in making an agreement that restricted production. Said he, "People that come into the courts of equity must come with clean hands." He took the case into advisement and a few days after the hearing rendered a decision, refusing to issue an injunction.

Our officers at that time hoped that the decision of the court in the O'Hara case would settle the question of former finishing but they were disappointed. A little later it was reported that Bryce Bros. of Pittsburg, were employing boys to finish on formers and paying them less wages than the list. A grievance was sent to the trade and the trouble

was adjusted later by the adoption of the rule now in the press ware list.

Adoption of the Cumberland System In the Punch Tumbler Department.

The workers' attention was called to the wide difference in the conditions prevailing at the union and non-union factories making punch tumblers and stem wares by President Smith and to the fact the dull conditions were due to the non-union houses absorbing all this trade and enjoying steady operation while union houses operated in a haphazard manner and all kinds of dissatisfaction among the workers prevailing.

At this time our members worked to the following limited and turn work list, they made their moves in two and one-half to three and one-half hours' time and loafed around the factory waiting on the four-hour law enforcement:

1889 Union List.

Single shop, one (1) blower, one (1) gatherer and two (2) boys, and no cutting off boy allowed.

Capacity	Move
From 1 to 4 ounce.....	475
Over 4 to 6 ounce.....	450
Over 6 to 9 ounce.....	380
Over 9 to 11 ounce.....	350
Over 12 to 17 ounce.....	330

Medium Bottom Tumblers.

Capacity	Move
From 1 to 4 ounce.....	375
Over 4 to 6 ounce.....	350
Over 6 to 9 ounce.....	300
Over 9 to 12 ounce.....	240

Sham Bottom Tumblers.

Capacity	Move
From 1 to 4 ounce.....	350
From 4 to 6 ounce.....	325
From 6 to 9 ounce.....	250

Competition on blown tumblers and stem wares reached an awful state, owing to the evil competition of the Rochester Tumbler company, and the Cumberland factory at which they worked unlimited and piece work and received pay for that which the companies decided to pay.

At Cumberland, Md., a number of the workers subscribed for one hundred dollars worth of stock, anticipating that

they would soon become large factory owners and the advantage their company had over union houses enabled them to progress quite rapidly.

President Smith called the workers attention to the complaints of the employers and the seriousness of the situation and it was agreed to investigate matters, and a committee from Wheeling and Tiffin was sent to Rochester and Cumberland, with the result that the Punch Tumbler department adopted the "Cumberland System," as provided by the following agreement:

"Cumberland System."

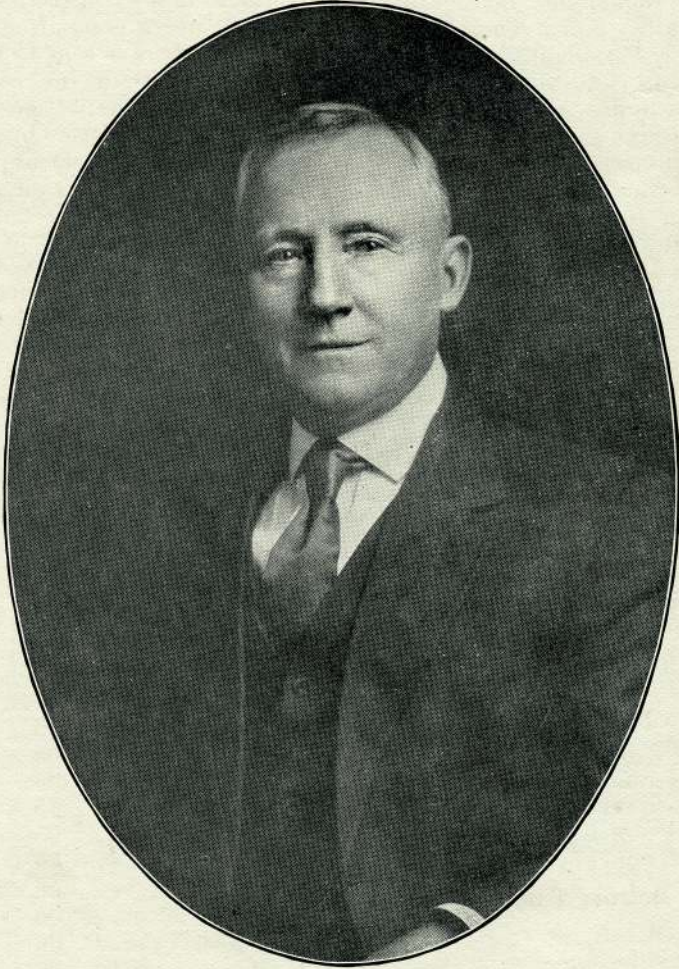
"Glass must be kept in readiness for the workers to start promptly at 7:00 a. m. All skimming must be done by the foreman or some other person than a member of the shop. It is understood that the workers are not to be held responsible for glass. Goods are to be sent in just as they run except such as contain blisters and large stones which are to be thrown away.

The shops are to be paid piece work at the following prices:

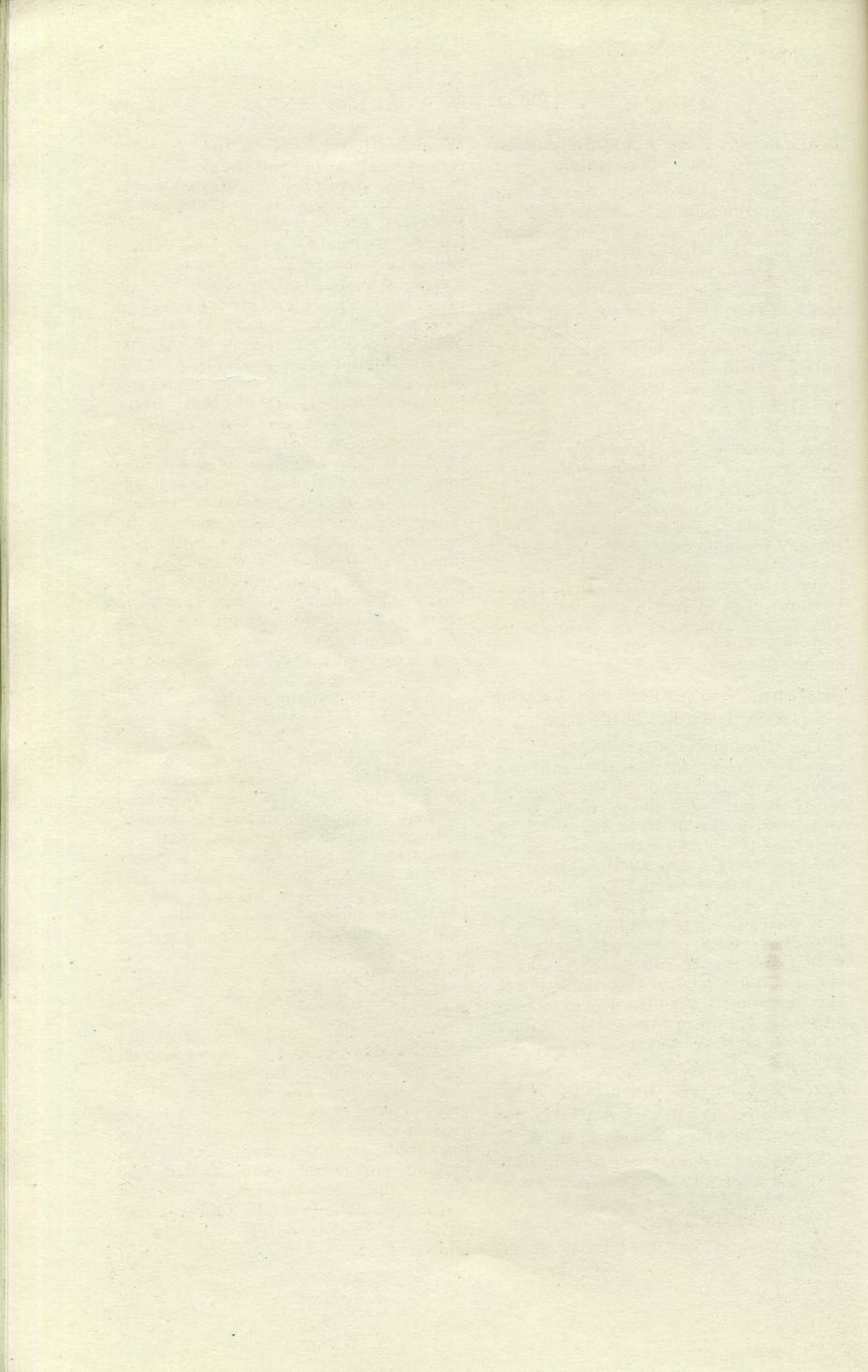
Capacity of Tumbler	Blowers' Wages per doz.	Gatherers' per doz.
1 Ounce.....	\$0.03 ³ / ₄	\$0.02 ³ / ₈
2 Ounce.....	.03 ³ / ₄	.02 ³ / ₈
3 Ounce.....	.04 ³ / ₈	.02 ¹ / ₂
4 Ounce.....	.04 ³ / ₈	.02 ¹ / ₂
5 Ounce.....	.05	.03 ¹ / ₈
6 Ounce.....	.05	.03 ¹ / ₈
7 Ounce.....	.05	.03 ¹ / ₈
8 Ounce.....	.05 ¹ / ₂	.03 ³ / ₈
9 Ounce.....	.05 ¹ / ₂	.03 ³ / ₈
10 Ounce.....	.05 ¹ / ₂	.03 ³ / ₈
11 Ounce.....	.06	.03 ³ / ₄
12 Ounce.....	.06	.03 ³ / ₄
13 Ounce.....	.06	.03 ³ / ₄
14 Ounce.....	.06	.03 ³ / ₄
15 Ounce.....	.06	.03 ³ / ₄
16 Ounce.....	.06 ¹ / ₂	.04 ¹ / ₂
17 Ounce.....	.06 ¹ / ₂	.04 ¹ / ₂
18 Ounce.....	.06 ¹ / ₂	.04 ¹ / ₂
19 Ounce.....	.06 ¹ / ₂	.04 ¹ / ₂
20 Ounce.....	.07 ¹ / ₄	.05 ¹ / ₄
21 Ounce.....	.07 ¹ / ₄	.05 ¹ / ₄
22 Ounce.....	.07 ¹ / ₄	.05 ¹ / ₄
23 Ounce.....	.07 ¹ / ₄	.05 ¹ / ₄

Medium Bottom Tumblers one size greater in price.

Sham Bottom Tumblers two sizes greater in price.



EDWARD PHILLIPS.
Treasurer 1885.



Death Benefit Fund Abolished at Baltimore, 1890, Convention.

The fact that the death benefit fund was non-compulsory and its membership few, which made the assessments high, and the officers had no power to compel the payment of the assessments owing to the fact that the Burial Fund was non-compulsory and the association was indebted to this fund, the matter was referred to a special committee. Said committee was Geo. W. Payne, Jas. Smith, Wm. H. Beutow, G. W. Humphrey, Henry Doyle, Val. Rimmell, M. J. Laffey, Jas. McMullen, Thos. Downey, Jas. Driver and G. W. Murphy, and they recommended that the "National Officers be empowered to compel those who were in arrears to the Burial Association to pay up." They further recommended that "the Burial Association be disbanded on the first of August, 1890, and that all delinquents be compelled to pay within 90 days." The date of August 1 was stricken out and July 17 inserted, and the report as amended adopted.

Glassboro, N. J., Affair and Relation With Green Bottle Blowers.

The Glassboro matter seems to be one of the most significant points connected with the strained relations of the G. B. B. A. and the A. F. G. W. U. and later of the A. F. of L., and I believe it advisable to devote some space and time to this important subject.

You will note by the following and other records that while our association was unwilling to admit the Green Blowers to membership, yet they were willing to render all the assistance, moral and financial, within their power, and they spent time, patience and energy with a view of preserving the flickering life in that branch of the Knights of Labor.

Agreement Between Green Bottle Blowers Known as District Assembly 149 Knights of Labor and A. F. G. W. U.

Minutes of a conference held in Philadelphia between the representatives of D. A. 149, and the A. F. G. W. U.

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 14, 1889.

A conference was held today at the

Windsor House between the representatives of D. A. 149 and the A. F. G. W. U. There were present: Master Workman John Coffey, John Williams, E. F. Greins, Jos. D. Troth, Joseph Penny-packer, George H. Foster and Henry Kaltenbach of D. A. 149; George W. Payne, Wm. L. Dooling, John V. Sailor, John F. Hinckley, Anthony Kelley, James McMullen, Samuel Bagot and Wm. J. Smith of the A. F. G. W. U. Mr. John Coffey was chosen chairman and Wm. J. Smith, secretary. Chairman Coffey stated that Green Bottle manufacturers had formed a combination against the members of D. A. 149, and had demanded a reduction of twenty-five per cent, and the abrogation of all apprentice restrictions, and he had been recently informed that the houses in Millville, Baltimore and Glassboro, in which flint and green glass is made, intended to try to have orders filled in flint houses in order to defeat the league; the object of the meeting, therefore, was to make such treaty with the Flint as would be of mutual benefit to both, and would circumvent the manufacturers.

Mr. Sailor offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That it be the sense of this meeting that all wares not specified in the Flint list that have heretofore been worked exclusively in Green houses, and specified in Green list, shall not be worked in Flint houses during the trouble between the Green houses and D. A. 149; provided, this shall not apply to new moulds.

Mr. Payne moved to amend by inserting after the word "bottle" the language "lettered or plain."

Mr. Coffey presented the following substitute:

Resolved, That we jointly agree not to allow any moulds to be worked in any factory where flint glass is made, that heretofore has been worked in green factories, whenever it becomes evident to the co-joint committee that the intention of the manufacturers in placing such orders is to defeat the aims of the green blowers.

Question called on Mr. Coffey's substitute. Substitute lost. Resolution laid on table.

Mr. Foster, of Hamilton, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That it be the sense of this meeting that all orders made in Green houses shall, when identified by local committees, not be allowed to be produced in flint houses during the trouble between the manufacturers and D. A. 149, and be it further

Resolved, That the employes of Baker Bros. and Swindell Bros. of Baltimore, shall not be permitted to work any green glass, pending the present trouble between green manufacturers and D. A. 149. Resolution adopted as read.

Mr. Smith presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That D. A. 149 hereby agrees not to work any moulds made by non-union mould makers. Resolution adopted as read.

Mr. Troth, of Millville, offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Executive Board of the A. F. G. W. U. hereby agrees to direct their mould makers not to make moulds for any non-union green houses under the jurisdiction of D. A. 149. Adopted.

In conformity with the foregoing agreement members of the A. F. G. W. U. are hereby directed not to aid in any way to fill green orders during the trouble between Green glass manufacturers, and their employes, and mould makers; members of the A. F. G. W. U. are directed not to make moulds or plates for Green houses during the trouble, nor for non-union green houses at any time. Adjourned.

SYMPATHETIC STRIKE TO HELP GREENS IN GLASSBORO, N. J.

Taken from Circular No. 8, Dated November 14th, 1889.

No. 39 submits to the trade the following petition: At a special meeting of Local Union No. 39, held at Glassboro, N. J., on November 11, 1889, it was unanimously agreed to send the following petition to the trade: The trade being aware of the conference held in

Philadelphia, August 14, 1889, between the Green and the Flint associations. The glassworkers and mould makers of No. 39 complying with the rules of said conference also the firm has complied with the same, but we deem it our duty to place before the trade the situation of things here with our firm. They have started one Green factory, with all boys, as non-union, in the same yard with us, and we consider these boys will, in the future, be an injury to us. We now ask the trade to sustain us if we refuse to work for the firm of John P. Whitney.

P. S. We desire also that the trade shall know that our firm has two-thirds of their flint ware made elsewhere at present, and if we stop, no other flint house should make the ware.

(Signed)

Fritz Rohland,	John Rassin,
Fritz Lippert,	John Brady,
N. Borntrager,	Gottfried Wienke,
C. Wolfbrandt,	Wm. Frank,
J. Stanger,	W. Simmerman,
Wm. Kink,	Wm. Aberdroth,
J. Hundermark,	Wm. Schrimpt,
Jos. Fleckstein,	R. Spengler,
J. P. Brown,	Wm. Jaeger,
Chas. Abendroth,	C. Brown,
Albert Rohland,	Julius Frank,
J. Flohr,	Julius Gunddbach,
Fred Schrumpt,	J. Patterson,
Chas. Tagmeier,	Chas. Schmidt,
A. Thilo,	C. Sturges,
Otto Frank,	Chas. Reitz.

We called attention in a previous circular to the demoralized condition of the Eastern Green League then engaged in a contest with the manufacturers against a reduction of wages, and pointed out the evil consequences that would likely result to our organization from the defeat of the league; at the same time we urged upon our members the necessity of giving moral and pecuniary aid with a view of preventing the League's defeat.

Since that time the situation has become more deplorable, and the danger to the Flints brought so near as to make the situation grave. At Glassboro, at Williamstown and at several other places the firms have filled their houses with boys. With proper financial aid, the journeymen can and will stand firm



WILLIAM J. DILLON.
Elected Secretary 1886. Resigned 1893.

against this onslaught, but the fact that outside of the members of their own craft, the lockedout men have not received one cent's worth of aid, and even from their own craft the aid received, because of so few being at work, is insignificant. Without more aid than they have thus far received, a break among the journeymen is almost as certain as fate. Our trade has voted to lend them \$5,000.00, but this is not enough; more aid must be forthcoming, or the end disastrous to all of us must soon come. We cannot afford to tax our trade any further, but we can ask our Locals to locally lend what aid they can. We therefore appeal to them to send what help they can to help prevent the defeat of the Green blowers.

All loans should be sent to this office.

WM. J. SMITH, President.

WM. J. DILLON, Secretary.

Glassboro Matter.

In addition to the donations made the Green Bottle Blowers by the A. F. G. W. U., liberal contributions were made by various Local Unions throughout the trade, and it was most gratefully acknowledged by the officers of that association.

Extract from President Smith's report to the 1890 convention, page 29.

"The most important trouble that occurred in the bottle department during the year was that which took place at the Whitney Glass Co., immediately before the holidays. This was a sympathetic strike made in the interests of the locked out Green blowers.

With a view of deterring Whitney from at least putting any more boys in, the writer sent a telegram to Secretary Abenroth advising him in substance that our association was opposed to the displacement of men by irresponsible boys and that it was advisable for him to send their case to the trade."

Vice President John F. Hinckley was sent to Glassboro; also Brother John V. Sailor, with a view of calling on the company and trying to settle the trouble and they failed, and later they arranged a meeting between President Louis Arington, Messrs. Griner and Kaltenbach of the Green Bottle Blowers, J. P. Whitney, W. D. Moore and

Mr. Swindell of the manufacturers with President Smith and John V. Sailor representing the Flints. Everything was done to bring about a settlement and they failed. Finally on December 24 the trade voted to sustain the Flints, and we declared war on that company.

Later Vice President Hinckley arranged a meeting at the Continental Hotel in Philadelphia, Pa., with a view of settling the trouble. Our Association was represented by President Smith, John F. Hinckley; the Green Bottle Blowers were represented by President Louis Arington, J. Troth, Geo. Foster, Ed. Griner and Mr. Phelan; the manufacturers were represented by W. D. Moore, John Moore, Walter Swindell and J. T. Whitney. After a few preliminary remarks pointing to a settlement and denials on both sides and there seeming to be no prospects of a settlement, the meeting adjourned, and the strike at Glassboro was lost to the Flint and Green Associations.

We wish our readers to pay strict attention to this particular phase of the subject copied from the records of our Association and in the annual reports of President Smith and Vice President Hinckley, as this Glassboro matter will be touched upon later

Steubenville, Ohio, Convention, 1891.

During the season of 1890 and 1891, things moved quietly, excepting the troubles heretofore mentioned. At this time the President of the American Flints appointed the delegates to the A. F. of L. convention. Geo. W. Payne was selected for the purpose. He, having accepted a position as glass house manager, was substituted by Secretary W. J. Dillon, and his report was confined principally to the subjects attracting attention at the previous conventions.

The Corning strike and the Ravenna railroad disaster, it seems, influenced the delegates to decide to hold the 1892 convention in Corning, N. Y.

Establishment of Conference Committee.

The settlement of the 1887-88 strike commenced the holding of regular annual conferences, and no law was adopted in this matter until the Steu-

benville, O., 1891 convention, when there was inserted under Art. 28, Sec. 7, the following:

"The committee on conference shall be composed of five members each from the iron mould, press, and from some other branch on which a conference was held to meet a regular committee from the manufacturers, said committee to be elected by the trade from their respective departments."

This law continued in effect until the Martins Ferry, O., 1905 convention, at which time it was decided to combine the executive board with the conference committee, to be elected by a vote of the department.

Corning Strike, 1890.

Efforts were being made at this time to organize the non-union factories, and officers were sent to Corning for the purpose of accomplishing their object, and on account of the young element that predominated in that city they met with remarkable success. The work was conducted secretly until late in December when all but a few of the employes were members of our organization. The company attempted to destroy the union by discharging its leaders which resulted in 360 men walking out of the factory on December 28. At this time the company was paying 50% less in wages than the union list. The men demanded the reinstatement of the discharged members and the unionization of the factory; these conditions were so unfavorable to the company that they decided to resist, and a long strike ensued. The Corning Glass company was officered by Mr. Emery Houghton and several sons.

At this time other concerns were endeavoring to get into the electric bulb business, and some bulbs had been made at the Thills factory in Brooklyn but not to any great extent. The Whital-Tatum Glass company of Millville, N. J., put on a few shops, but it took the Libbey Glass company of Toledo, Ohio, and the Phoenix Glass company, Monaca, Pa., to make an effective effort in the matter, with the results that instead of the Corning concerns then producing 95% of the electric bulbs used in this country, their productions now do not

exceed 50%. The Libbey Glass company employs more men at this time than Corning did when the strike occurred.

If the Corning company had acted wisely for their interests and settled, they probably would control this business today. Their factory with 13 furnaces has not operated over seven furnaces at any one time since that strike.

Corning Boys to Findlay, O., and Ravenna Railroad Disaster.

In the latter part of January, 60 electric bulb shops and three tubing shops were sent from Corning to Findlay, O., to work at the leased Globe and Chimney factory by the Libbey Glass Company.

Those men worked steadily the remainder of the season at that factory, and the majority of them left on a special train over the Erie railroad for Corning, N. Y., and while the train was standing in front of the depot at Ravenna, O., at an early hour in the morning, a freight train crashed into the rear coach killing 19 almost instantly and wounding a large number of the others. This disaster was one of the most tragic events in the history of our organization.

A number of men were pinned in the wreckage and the hot cinders from the freight engine ignited the passenger coach. A mistake was made in registering the fire alarm, and those who might have been rescued by firemen and correct service of the fire department, were burned to an unrecognizable crisp. In fact, only a few of the nineteen who met their death in the disaster were recognized, and all of them, except one, were buried in one lot at St. Mary's cemetery in Corning, N. Y.

The news of this wreck was sent to the Steubenville, O., convention, and it decided to erect a suitable monument to commemorate their lives, a photograph of which we herewith append.

The accepting of a position in Findlay, O., was the first time a large number of those unfortunate deceased members were obliged to leave home, and the correspondence between them and their loved ones excited considerable in-



INSCRIPTION ON MONUMENT ERECTED BY A. F. G. W. U., 1892, IN ST. MARY'S CEMETERY, CORNING, N. Y.

"This monument has been erected by the American Flint Glass Workers' Union to the memory of eighteen of its members who were killed in a railroad disaster which occurred at Ravenna, O., July 3, 1891, while they were enroute from Findlay, O., to their homes in Corning, N. Y., whither they were journeying to meet loving friends from whom they had been separated by an effort to improve their industrial conditions. Erected 1892."

Wm. Kane, 16 yrs.
 Dennis F. Cassidy, 18 yrs. 3 mo.
 Albert E. Gunthrup, 20 yrs. 3 mo.
 Owen Hardiman, 20 yrs. 7 mo.
 Fred Byrne, 20 yrs. 8 mo.
 James H. Gilday, 20 yrs. 8 mo.

John J. Deneen, 20 yrs. 10 mo.
 John J. Coyle, 21 yrs. 2 mo.
 Patrick W. Ryan, 21 yrs. 3 mo.
 Thomas J. Nolan, 21 yrs. 7 mo.
 Wm. P. Newcomb, 21 yrs. 8 mo.
 Wm. Kimball, 22 yrs.

John P. Griffin, 22 yrs.
 Patrick Ryan, 22 yrs. 8 mo.
 Fred Hauff, 22 yrs. 7 mo.
 Dennis F. Ryan, 22 yrs. 9 mo.
 David P. Relihan, 22 yrs. 9 mo.
 Thomas P. Keville, 26 yrs.

The total height, from ground to top of this monument is twenty-seven feet. Its width is twelve feet and seven inches: the base stones are four feet seven inches square.

terest for their return, and a great jollification was arranged for their arrival. The untimely and terrible death they met, their charred remains hauled into Corning in a baggage car subsequent to the awful news being sent there, cast a terrible gloom over Corning and seemed to intensify the extreme bitterness prevailing in that city.

A Non-Unionist Murders Daniel Donohue.

The non-unionists in Corning armed themselves and seemed to be prepared to murder on the slightest occasion, and a little later, without provocation, Mr. Daniel Donohue was shot and instantly killed by a non-unionist named William Frost.

The murderer was tried at Bath, N. Y. and defended by John. B. Stanchfield, a very able and prominent attorney in New York state. He declared before the jury that, "I have a little auburn haired boy at home, and rather than see him a member of the A. F. G. W. U. I would have the grass growing green on his grave." This statement was preserved by the New York trade unionists, and used with successful effect against Mr. Stanchfield when he later posed as their friend and solicited their votes in a political campaign for the position of governor in that state. The jury acquitted the murderer on the grounds of self-defense.

This contest cost an enormous amount of money—about two hundred thousand dollars not including wages that were lost, and it was finally declared off.

Corning, N. Y., 1892, Convention.

In an effort to arrange for the convention of 1892, the committee found themselves unable to secure a hall and the association was obliged to build a wig-wam on Market street in which the convention was held.

The reports do not show the membership for the year, but they do state that the trade was quiet and dull and their expenses for relief averaged about \$1,327.00 a week, and for the season, \$69,633.99.

Non-Union Competition on Jellies, Tumblers, Beer Mugs and Summer Stop Problem.

President Smith, in his annual report to this convention, called attention to the serious competition on common tumblers, jelly tumblers and beer mugs, and he stated "it was shown that most of the trade is lost on this class of goods by union houses, on account of the Rochester Tumbler company working during the summer season, the time when there is a demand for that class of goods." He also called attention to the fact that the manufacturers demanded Rochester prices and conditions on jellies, beer mugs, and common tumblers, and he referred the convention to the fact that the conference committee adopted the following resolution: "In order to give some relief to union houses from the competition of non-union houses, that this joint committee recommend to the workers' convention that it grant permission to union houses to manufacture jellies, common tumblers and beer mugs during the summer season."

This resolution was submitted to the convention with a favorable recommendation to the conference committee.

The press ware committee rejected the proposition of the employers.

\$50.00 Accident Insurance.

At this convention it was decided that, "If a member of this association meets his death by accident while traveling with his card in his possession from one locality to another in search of employment, the nearest Local Union shall take charge of his remains and give it a burial at an expense not to exceed \$50.00."

For the second or third time the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association applied for admission to membership and the convention adopted a resolution which provided that they could be admitted with no special privileges.

The organization was still in debt and experiencing considerable trouble trying to collect the amount due to the beneficiaries accruing from the voluntary death burial fund established and abolished a few years previous.

The convention adopted resolutions of sympathy with the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers engaged in the Homestead strike, and declared its opposition to accept Carnegie libraries.

It was also decided that no member of the A. F. G. W. U. shall furnish blow pipes, snaps, patent tools, charcoal, rosin or shadows of any description.

This convention donated \$200.00 to the striking Granite Workers' union.

Geo. W. Payne was elected delegate to attend the A. F. of L. convention.

Application of Glass Packers for Admission.

At this convention, Mr. Levy Regan, representing the glass packers, asked, on behalf of that organization, admission to the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, and after quite a discussion on the subject, the application was rejected.

In connection with this Secretary Dillon talked at some length on the advisability of a more harmonious and closer industrial relation with the packers and other labor employed around a glass factory.

Marion, Ind., 1893 Convention.

One hundred and ninety delegates representing 7,400 members attended this convention. The average idle members during this year was 8½ per cent.

Secretary Dillon, referring to the expenses of the Association, reported that since 1886, or for a period of seven years' time, the organization expended \$919,429.27, 70 per cent of said amount was spent for relief, and the Corning strike to May 31 had cost \$121,393.00 Seven thousand five hundred dollars was still owed the Association on the voluntary death benefit fund established by the Bellaire, 1889, convention.

Continuous Tank Furnaces.

The introduction of a continuous tank furnace for making flint glass at which we demanded covered pot prices and the Green Association worked at open top prices, commanded the attention of this convention, as the results had a disturbing effect on trade conditions and a committee was sent from

this convention to the Green Bottle Blowers' convention at Milwaukee, Wis., for the purpose of endeavoring to remedy the evil.

Semi-Automatic Machines.

Working of semi-automatic machines for making bottles at the Ripley factory in Pittsburg required the attention of the National Officers, as a dispute arose over the wages to be paid the men at that factory, and a little while later the Huntington, W. Va., Bottle Co. displaced their blowers and installed semi-automatic machines. Mr. Hemphil, of the O'Hara Glass Co., Pittsburg, Pa., and C. L. Flaccus organized a company and purchased the "Yellow Cow" glass factory of Beaver Falls, Pa., and started that factory on semi-automatic machines; each of these machines demonstrated its ability to make wide mouth bottles.

President Smith, in his annual report, declared that these machines operating under non-union conditions would certainly have an injurious effect.

Creation of Compulsory Death Benefit Fund.

Constitutional amendment by Local Union No. 49, Tarentum, Pa.

ARTICLE XXX.

Section 1. Upon the death of any member in good standing the National Secretary shall be notified, and he shall levy an assessment of 10 cents on each member of the A. F. G. W. U., the financial secretary to collect the same and forward to National Secretary.

Sec. 2. At the death of any member in good standing the National Secretary shall notify the secretary of each Local Union, and the assessment must be paid within thirty days, this money to be paid to his executors, administrators or assigns, upon satisfactory proof of the death of the brother.

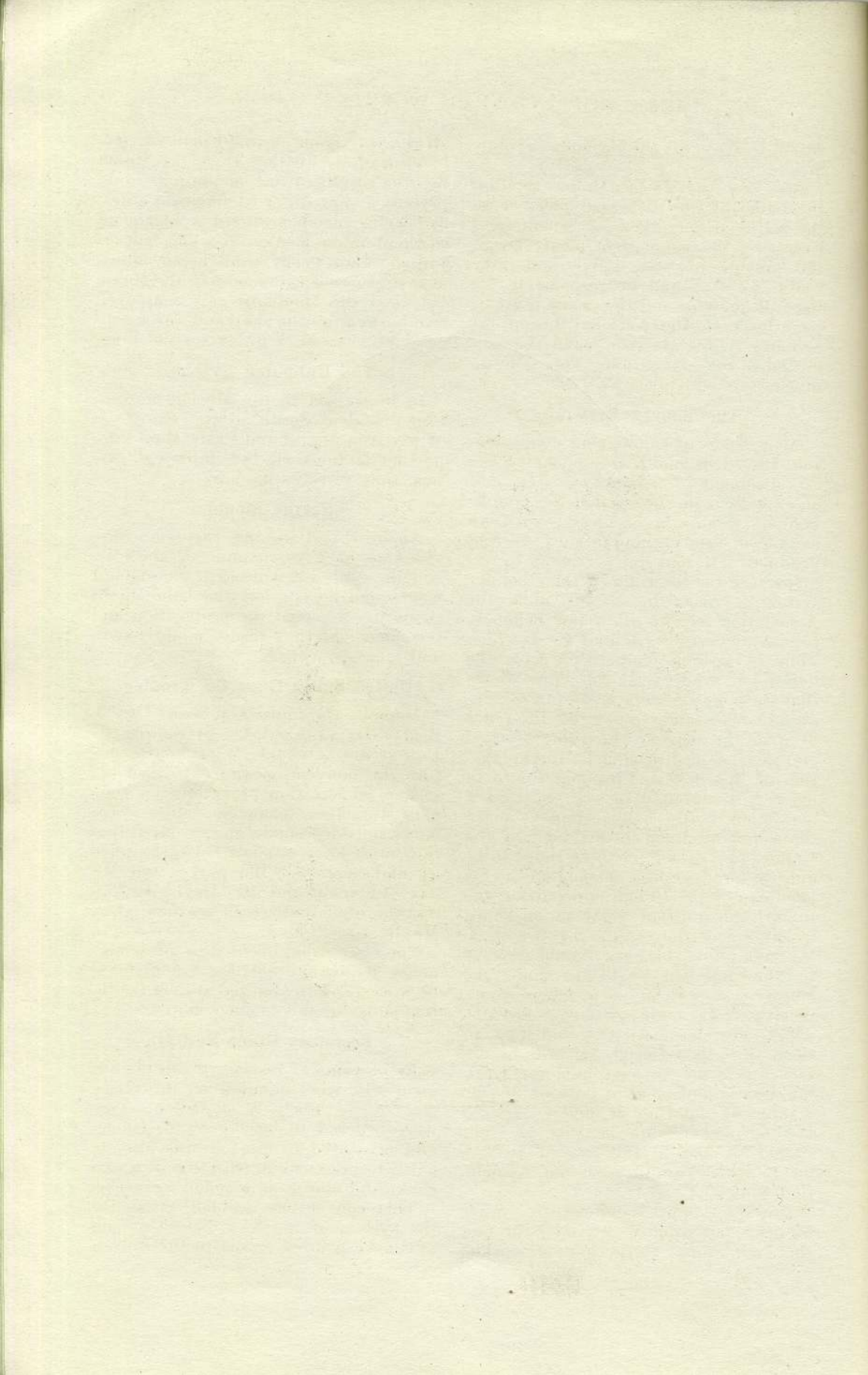
Sec. 3. Any Local Union failing to collect and forward the assessments within the time specified in section 2 of this article, shall be fined the sum of ten dollars (\$10.00).

Sec. 4. Any member who shall be in arrears to the amount of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) shall not be en-



WILLIAM DOOLING.

President 1894-95.



titled to any of the benefits of this article.

Sec. 5. Any Local Union sending the name of any deceased member to the National Secretary for benefits and collecting the same when in arrears to the amount of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50), shall be responsible for the full amount, and the same must be paid back to the National Union before its representatives shall be admitted to the convention. This shall go into effect September 15, 1893.

The Bounty System.

As a means of combatting non-unionism, President Smith recommended the establishment of a bounty system and he expressed the belief that the bounty system would be a less expensive method of meeting non-union concerns' products. It may be pertinent to explain here the meaning of the "bounty system." According to this plan, our Association was to allow our members to make a certain grade of goods which came in serious competition with the non-union product, at the same wages that these goods were made for in non-union houses, and we pay the difference between the price at which they worked and the specified price list. In explanation of this matter President Smith in his report stated, "Let us say that a non-union bottle house employs eight shops paying them 90 per cent of the Union list. Assuming these shops to be able to produce the same quantity as members of the Union, and putting the weekly earnings of eight union shops working according to the list at \$600.00 the non-union blowers would receive for the same work \$540.00. Under the bounty system then, our members would receive from their employer \$540.00, while our Association would pay to them the other \$60.00. It will be observed that the Association is now fighting non-unionism at a cost of \$60.00, where, by fighting it under the old method and paying benefits to eight shops, 24 men, at the rate of \$6.00 a week, which would cost the Association \$144.00."

President Smith's figures are rather inviting, but when we consider the fact that non-union bottle houses worked

all the way from 30 to 70 per cent less in cost of production than the Union list, the results of the calculation would present a very different financial story, as I well remember when I went among the non-union men in the gas belt of Indiana that flasks were being blown at a 40 per cent rate less than the Union list, and the company only employed two blowers on the shop and one finisher at \$1.25 to \$1.50 a day for finishing.

The Unlimited System.

In his report to the Marion convention President Smith advised the Press Ware, Iron Mould and Paste Mould departments to work the unlimited system, they rejected his advice.

Neville Mould.

About this time the reversible Neville mould was introduced, and Mr. Neville wanted it worked at iron mould wages and moves, but the Iron Mould committee rejected the proposition and recommended that paste mould moves and wages govern.

United States Glass Co. Trouble.

Messrs. Captain Anderson, R. J. Beatty, David Jenkins, representing the United States Glass Co., appeared before this convention and explained the serious competition prevailing on common tumblers, common jellies, beer mugs, mustard goods, and declared that they must have relief. Mr. Beatty acted as spokesman for the party, and Mr. Jas. Anderson and Mr. David Jenkins corroborated that which was stated by Mr. Beatty.

The convention decided to allow beer mugs, jellies and common tumblers, to be worked on the limited system for the remainder of the summer stop.

Secretary Dillon Retires.

Resolutions of respect, gratitude and good will were adopted on the retirement of Secretary W. J. Dillon. They were ordered to be engrossed, framed and presented to him; it was also decided to present him with a gold watch, chain and charm as a token of esteem.

This convention decided to abolish the system of the Vice President submitting a printed report to the conven-

tion, and decided to establish the office of Assistant Secretary. W. J. Clare was elected to fill the newly-created office, and Mr. John Kunzler was elected to fill the position of Secretary.

P. J. Kelly was elected a delegate to the A. F. of L. convention.

Montreal, Quebec, 1894, Convention.

One hundred and sixty delegates, representing 7,300 members, attended this convention. The expenses for the year were \$245,623.13.

United States Glass Co. Contest.

Immediately after the adjournment of the Marion, 1893, convention, an industrial paralysis struck our country; business became terribly stagnant, governmental officials very perplexed, and the whole situation thrown into a chaotic condition.

The United States Glass Co., with the fierce competition on common tumblers, beer mugs and jellies confronting them, concluded that, inasmuch as the trade was dull with no immediate prospects of any improvement, it was the proper time to insist that their demands in this particular respect be conceded. The workers declined to agree to their wishes, and a lockout ensued.

In brief, the Associated Manufacturers attempted to abolish the arbitrary summer stop rule, the removal of the limit on moves in the Press Ware, Iron Mould and Paste Mould departments, equalization of moves and wages for making tumblers and beer mugs between union and non-union houses.

After considerable discussion on the employers' demands, the conference committee decided to recommend the following resolution:

"Allowing continuous employment in union houses on all goods made by non-union houses; the unlimited production on press, iron mould, paste mould goods, shops to work 4½ hours."

The conference committee's resolutions were rejected by the Marion convention, although recommended by the National Officers.

In Circular No. 12, issued October 8, 1893, it is stated: "By the vote of the trade we are now brought face to face with a conflict in the Press and Iron

Mould Departments that is beyond ordinary means to avert. Every ordinary means of which we conceived were employed to try to avoid the contest at the present time, going to the extreme of appealing to the trade against the Press and Iron Mould Departments, requesting that body, the only one to which we could appeal, to interpose its authority and avert a conflict."

"For reasons best known to the trade it has not responded to our appeals in sufficient numbers to make its authority felt, but on the contrary, has voted not to accept the proposition."

"While we urged the adoption of the proposition we accept the verdict of the trade and shall do our utmost to take care of the interests of the A. F. G. W. U., with the earnest wish that we may have the hearty co-operation of all our members in our efforts to conduct the conflict with a successful issue."

At this time the Crystal Glass Co., Bridgeport, advertised for non-union men, and the United States Glass Co., at Fostoria, posted a notice in the factory informing the men that a resumption of work would take place on October 16 at the terms sent to W. J. Smith, which meant that it expected to run non-union, and the Pittsburg factories adopted the same plan. A little later a notice was posted at the Tiffin, United States Glass Co., factories that if the men wished to continue work there they must relinquish their membership in the Union and work as individuals.

This conflict involved Local Unions 4, 9, 10, 15, 21, 31, 34, 38, 48, 51, 52, 53, 55, 58, 65, 66, 74, 76, 80, 86, 93, 97, 99, 106.

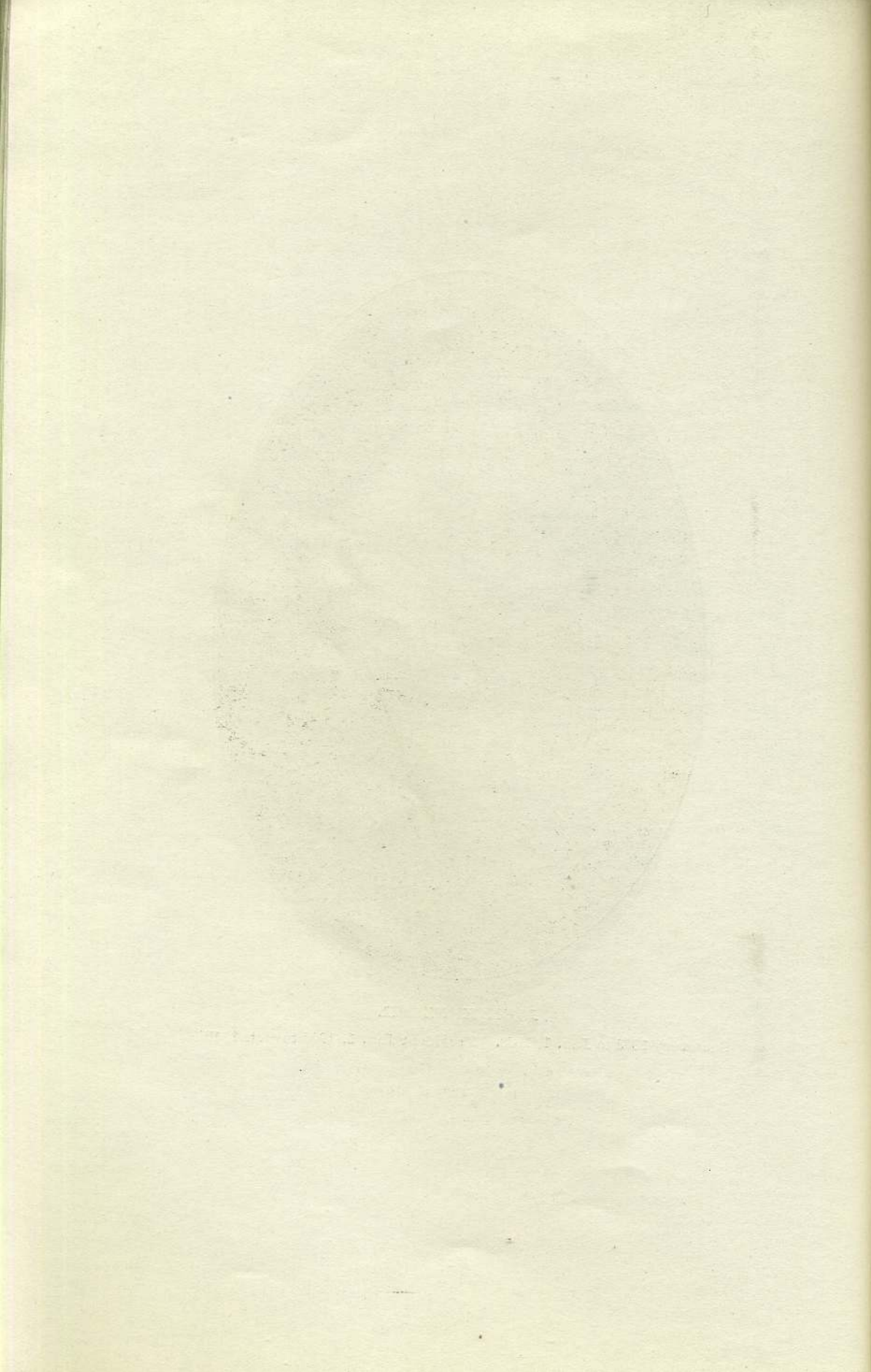
The Wellsburg factory started with a few stockholders and other men, and Factory K of the U. S. Glass Co., Pittsburg, started its plant with a foreman and a few skilled men, and the same was followed at Tiffin, O. Bunks were hauled into the factory and the men housed and fed thereat.

In Circular No. 14, issued October 26, 1893, it was announced: "The great glass trust, the United States Glass Co., has issued a code of rules, the most obnoxious ever confronting glass workers. They are 20 in number, beginning with the wiping out of old customs, they im-



JOHN KUNZLER.

Secretary 1893 to Jan. 1, 1900. President Jan. 1, 1900 to Oct. 1, 1901.





C. E. VOITLÉ.

Vice President Jan. 1, 1900 to Oct. 1, 1901.

President Oct. 1, 1901 to March 15, 1903.

pose upon the workers working devises that throw our members out of employment, they increase the time of work without giving any compensation therefor, they reduce the wages without warrant, and to make a fitting climax to these iron clad rules, it is demanded that our members shall give up their manhood and leave the union."

Assessment Increased October 21.

By the advice of the Executive Board the 2 per cent assessment was advanced to 5 per cent on the earnings of all employed members. On December 31st, 1893, the 5 per cent assessment was increased to 10 per cent.

This became, without a doubt, the most significant and expensive revolutionary contest the Association ever had, and a conflict that is unparalleled in labor wars.

This great contest continued for nearly four years. The Association expended in benefits approximately \$1,200,000.00. It is safely estimated that our members lost in wages during that period of time, on account of the strike, \$3,000,000.00. Out of 1,500 original locked out men, only 12 of these deserted our Union and accepted work with the company.

The contest caused moves on a large number of articles to advance from 10 to 20 per cent in the Press Ware Department and the unlimited system was adopted, with but a few exceptions.

The six weeks' summer stop was lost and has not been fully regained to this date. The average number of men locked out during this year was 1,344.

Convention Items.

Benefit laws, popular vote of the trade, car fares, bounty system, Neville mould, Pullman strike, foreign competition, all occupied the attention of the Montreal convention.

President Gompers, of the A. F. of L., submitted a political platform adopted by their Chicago, Ill., convention, and with a few slight modifications it was ratified by the Montreal convention.

This convention, by resolution, declared its sympathy with the Pullman strikers and the American Railway Union in its struggle.

By resolution of H. W. Gauding it was decided to establish a labor bureau in each Local Union for the purpose of securing work for the unemployed.

W. J. Croke was elected delegate to attend the Denver, Colo., A. F. of L. convention.

Toledo, Ohio, 1895, Convention.

One hundred and sixty-five delegates, representing 7,300 members, attended the Toledo, O., 1895, convention. The expenses of the Association for the year reached the enormous amount of \$333,695.31.

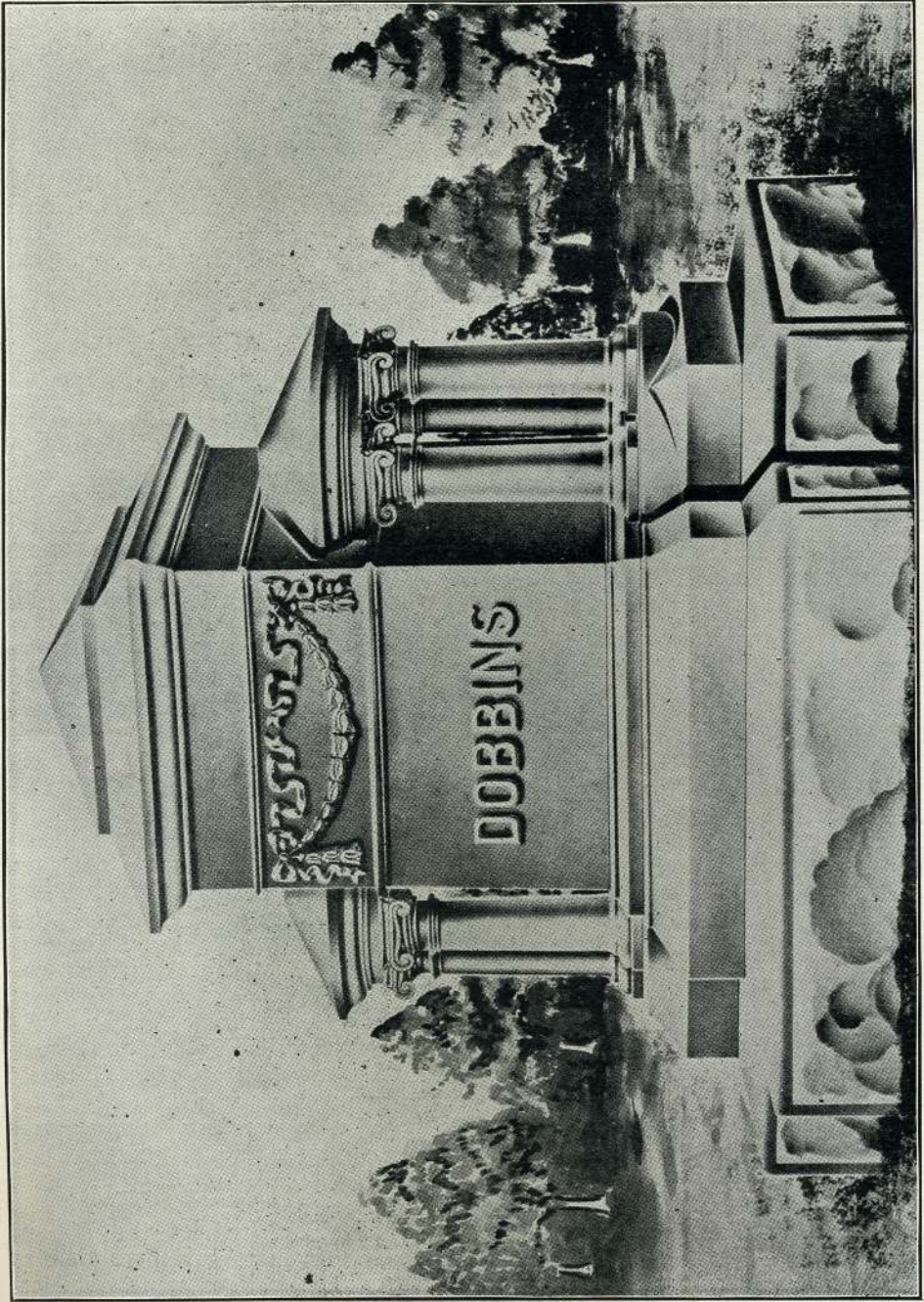
First Injunction Issued Against Our Union.

During this season the Flaccus Glass Co., Tarentum, Pa., contest arose. Our Association put forth its best efforts to defeat the company in its efforts to operate non-union.

This contest arose over the summer stop, and Mr. Flaccus insisted upon his right to operate, and the Union refused to concede, and the company started on a non-union basis. They covered their fence with barb wire, employed pickets, kept non-union men lodged inside their factory, and converted their pot room into a hotel. The company finally appealed to the court for an injunction restraining the officers and members of our Association from interfering in any manner with the non-unionists in their employ. The issuance of this injunction had an aggravating effect in Tarentum. Most of the non-unionists became arrogant in their conduct, strutted around the streets of Tarentum in a manner seeming to invite trouble, and finally one of the non-unionists named Sutton, from Dunkirk, Ind., was murdered in a street fight, for which a few of our members were sentenced to a long term in prison.

Buckeye Glass Co. Trouble.

Almost as spirited as the Flaccus trouble, for a short period of time at least, was the Buckeye contest at Martins Ferry, O. This trouble grew out of an effort on the part of the company to reduce wages. They employed Alex Humphrey as manager, and imported a crew of non-union men to their factory.



Monument erected at Martins Ferry, Ohio, to the memory of John Lawrence Dobbins by the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, of which organization he was National Secretary from January 1, 1900, to February 12, 1907. On the monument is inscribed the words uttered by him a short time before life ebbed away: "Convey to the American Flintists that I have no regrets, and that I wish them well," and "I have no regrets; I am only human. If I have wronged anyone, I expect to be forgiven."



JOHN L. DOBBINS.
Secretary Jan. 1900, to Feb. 12, 1907.

These men certainly received a warm reception at the hands of the Martins Ferry citizens, as they were very badly beaten, and finally some person threw a bomb into the building where, it is said, the non-union men were sleeping. Its explosion awakened almost every citizen in the city.

Indignation meetings were held in the interest of the company and non-union men were advised to arm themselves, and a period of lawlessness unequalled in wage contests of our Association ensued. Shootings were of a frequent occurrence, and President Smith, in his annual report to this convention, deeply deplored the lawlessness that occurred in this locality. "Whether perpetrated by strikers or others," he said, "it accomplishes no good for our cause."

A number of our members were imprisoned on a charge of assault, and it is due them to declare that they denied all knowledge of the most serious offences committed, principally the throwing of the bombs and the shooting.

Other Troubles.

During this season, trouble at Wellsburg, Hulton, Red Key, Parkers Landing, McCollough & Co., New Bedford, and trouble among the cutters at Hawley, Honesdale, White Mills, Corning and Port Jervis engaged the serious attention of the convention.

Assessments Reduced.

November 4, 1895, 10% assessments were reduced to 7%. December 17, 1895, 7% assessments were reduced to 6%.

Court of Appeals Established.

During this year, the rule providing for the court of appeals to settle disputes was established in the Chimney Department, and the following rule was adopted for the purpose of settling disputes in other departments: "In case of a disagreement in any factory under this Association, it shall, if possible, be settled in the factory in which it occurs. In case of a failure to agree, the matter shall be referred to the manufacturers' and workers' committee for settlement. Pending the discussion and

decision of said difference, there shall be no lockout, strike, or cessation of work by either employer or employed."

Important Matters.

Among the important matters attracting the attention of this convention were the non-union conditions, a uniform union stamp on bottles, foreign competition, semi-automatic bottle and jar machinery, benefit laws, protection of funds, interpretation of the week's notice law. Seventy-nine members were reported as having died during the year. An average of 1,061 men were on the relief roll during the year.

Alton, Ill., 1896, Convention.

When this convention was called, we had a membership of 7,250. The Organization's expenses for the year reached its highest mark, \$364,408.52. Average locked out, 909.

President Smith's Report.

In his annual report, President Smith called attention to the terrible condition of the Association due to the contests in vogue, the panic prevailing, foreign competition, non-union competition, and the continual introduction of electricity for illuminating purposes.

He advised the use of the union stamp, and placing of a representative on the road to advocate the same.

This movement was introduced and Brother Wm. Beek was appointed to try to unionize the non-union houses and to visit the glass dealers in Minnesota, Iowa, Michigan, Illinois, Indiana and Ohio.

The summer stop, and factory ownership were given considerable attention, principally the two months' summer stop in the bottle blowing department, and on account of the workers' failure to extend relief as requested by the Heintz Bottle Co., of Sharpsburg, Pa., that factory commenced to operate on a non-union basis.

On the recommendation of President Smith the death benefit fund was amended to read "\$500.00 shall be paid by the National Secretary on the death of an eligible member, said amount to be taken from the National Treasury and the Local Union members assessed 10 cents on each death."



WM. J. CLARE.
Assistant-Secretary 1883-1893.

Members in arrears to the extent of two dollars were not entitled to benefits, and Local Unions held responsible for correct reports.

Continuous Tank Disturbing Element.

The fact that members of the G. B. B. A. had worked continuous tank glass at Green Association prices from the time tanks were introduced in 1891 while our members insisted upon covered pot prices, seemed to cause this class of work to drift under G. B. B. A. jurisdiction. At this time the Association had 16 continuous tanks in operation and all of them employing our members.

With a view of remedying this evil, the delegates from Local Union No. 37 presented the following resolution:

Whereas, It is necessary in the relation of men toward men, that perfect justice should prevail; and,

Whereas, Justice is the foundation upon which the principles of unionism are based, and also that upon which they can exist and prosper; and,

Whereas, The absence of a spirit of equity in the individual is demoralizing, it becomes immeasurably so when exercised under the influence and with the sanction of a sister organization; and,

Whereas, The interest, usefulness and future of the A. F. G. W. U. is seriously impaired by the attitude of the Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada; therefore, be it

Resolved, That we, the A. F. G. W. U., in convention assembled, demand that the Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada comply with the provisions of the prescription list of the A. F. G. W. U. for all bottles made hereafter of flint glass; and be it further

Resolved, That in order to justify the above demand we pledge the united support of the A. F. G. W. U. to the Bottle Blowers as a whole, or to the

branches individually, as circumstances may determine.

F. DAHLSTROM.

THOS. MORAN.

CHARLES WOODS.

HARRY MACKINAW.

This resolution was adopted and a copy ordered to be sent, through the hands of the Alton delegation to the Green workers' convention at Streator, Ill.

The effort did not bring forth the proper results and the following resolution was adopted:

Significant Resolutions.

Whereas, The Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada has in the past antagonized the interests and welfare of its sister organization, the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, in a manner severely at variance with the principles of justice and unionism, to-wit: by the working of flint glass at prices far below the schedule adopted by the said Flint Glass Workers' Union; and,

Whereas, The Glass Bottle Blowers' Association has been repeatedly solicited to remedy the evil, and has neglected to do so; therefore be it

Resolved, That the President of the A. F. G. W. U. be empowered to devise and use such means as he may deem necessary for the protection of the Union, the means to be subject to the approval of the department where the abuses complained of occur; and be it further

Resolved, That the President of the A. F. G. W. U. be empowered to appoint a committee of five, himself to be a member, if possible, to present these resolutions to the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association during the annual convention at Streator, Ill., and to transact such business as may be of benefit to our Organization.

Signed DELEGATES L. U. NO. 37.

President Smith appointed the following committee to visit the Green Bottle Blowers' convention at Streator, Ill., as provided by the resolution: Frank Williams, Harry Mackinaw, H. T. Smith, J. J. Powers, Jas. Morrison.

Amalgamation of L. A. 300 K. of L. Window Glass Workers' Union, Green Bottle Blowers' Association, and American Flint Glass Workers' Union, Pittsburg, Pa., February 17, 1896.

Simon Burns, of L. A. 300, Jos. D. Troth, President of the G. B. B. A.; D. A. Hayes, Vice President G. B. B. A.; Conrad Auth, Treasurer G. B. B. A.; Wm. J. Smith, President; and John Kunzler, Secretary, A. F. G. W. U., in attendance. The following resolution was adopted:

Whereas, The window glass and flint glass trades have been closely bound and interwoven by tradition, association, manufacturers sometimes employing under one management employes of the three associations, and by workers changing from one craft to another, all of which established a mutuality of interest; and,

Whereas, Non-unionism has been introduced into several of the trades and has been growing at an alarming rate and non-unionism in one trade encouraging non-unionism in another, thus threatening, if not arresting, the interests of all, be it, therefore,

Resolved, That the members of L. A. No. 300, K. of L., the A. F. G. W. U. and G. B. B. A., for the purpose of forming a defensive and aggressive alliance to advance the welfare of all glass workers, do hereby form themselves into the United Glass Workers of America, and suggest for government the following constitution.

A constitution was published in Circular No. 9, February 20, 1896. Our Association voted in favor of the plan, but it did not materialize.

First Machine Made Bottle List.

The Press Ware committee at this convention recommended a list for operating semi-automatic bottle machines, and a special committee from the Prescription and Press Ware Departments

also recommended a list which was adopted.

Co-operative Attempts.

John F. Hineckley asked a loan of \$5,000.00 to start the Hyde Park, Pa., factory on bottles.

Local Union No. 32, of Ottawa, Ill., requested a loan of \$4,000.00 to start the bottle factory in that city.

A number of Bellaire, O., workers asked for a loan of \$5,000.00 to start a factory in Bellaire on lanterns and other goods. All of these requests were rejected.

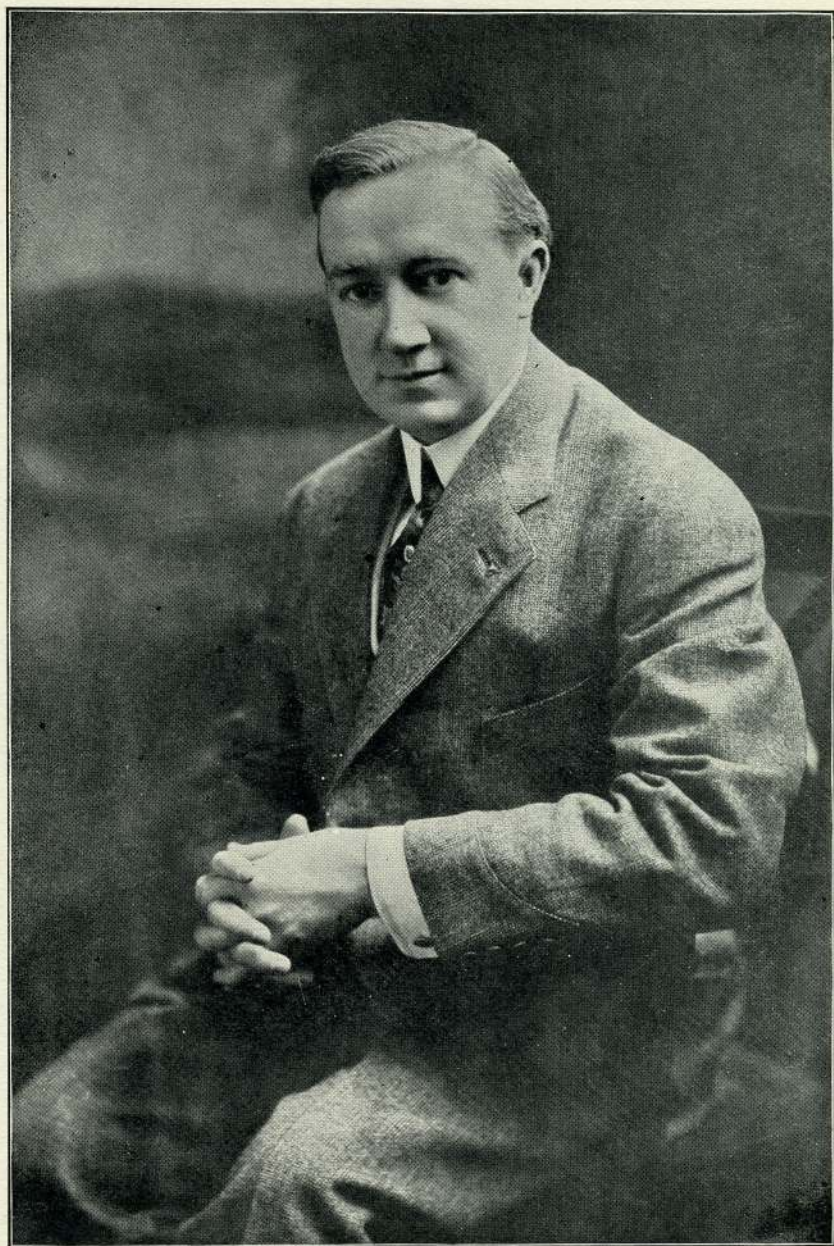
Alton Convention Superannuation Attempt.

Whereas, The A. F. G. W. U. has many members of the Association who have spent the best part of their life working for the Organization, and have now reached a point of age that renders them unable to follow their occupation; therefore, be it

Resolved, That any member who has been a loyal member of the A. F. G. W. U. for fifteen years previous to his reaching the age of 65 years, that he be entitled to a sum of \$3.00 each week the remainder of his life; provided, he remains a true and loyal member of the A. F. G. W. U.

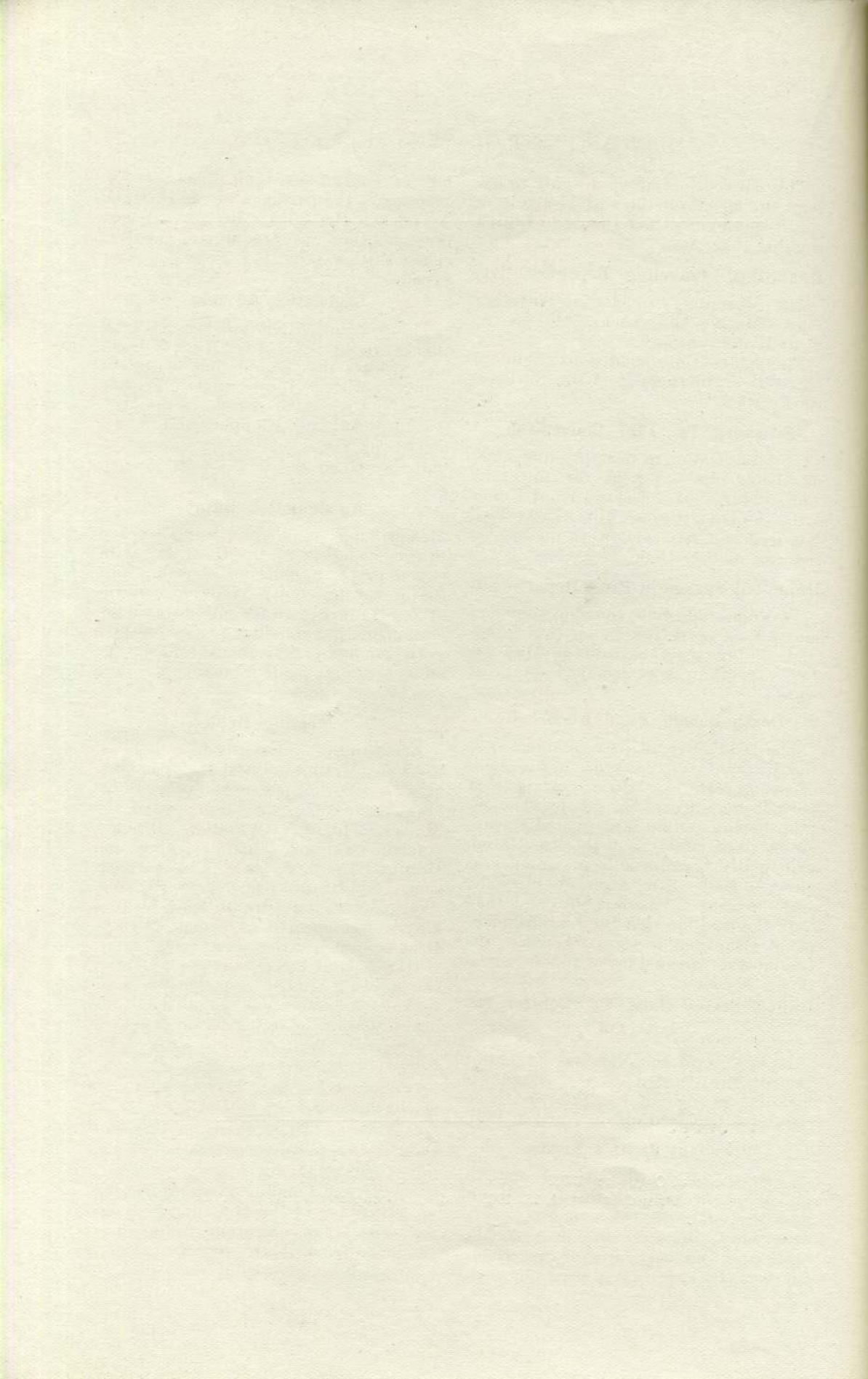
T. W. ROWE, L. U. NO. 81.

A motion was made to adopt this resolution. An amendment was made by Delegate Cline, of Local Union No. 45, to strike out \$3.00 and insert \$5.00. Delegate Morrison amended the amendment that in the event of the passage of the resolution it shall not become a law until ratified by the trade. Delegate Brennan, of Local Union No. 90, raised the point that the resolution was unconstitutional, because it was not submitted as a constitutional amendment. The chair ruled the point not well taken. Delegate Buetow, of Local Union No. 1, moved to refer to a special committee to devise ways and means to govern the same. Delegate Hassett, of Local Union No. 8, moved to lay the matter on the table for another year. Motion to lay on the table carried by a vote of 71 to 38.



T. W. ROWE.

General Organizer 1898. Elected Vice President Oct. 11, 1901. Became President March 15, 1903, and still occupies that position.



This convention adopted a law to exempt the men from dues who have been out of employment for a period of three months' time.

Established Traveling Representative.

Jas. Morrison was elected traveling representative and delegate to the A. F. of L. convention.

This convention decided to eliminate all trade regulations from the National constitution.

Pittsburg, Pa., 1897, Convention.

The Association at this time had 7,200 members. Its expenses for the year were \$222,835.51. The National Union owed the Local Unions \$158,875.09. Two hundred and five men were on the relief roll at that time.

Unlimited System in Press Department.

December 23, 1896, common tumblers and jellies, were placed on the unlimited sliding scale basis. On May 14, 1897, the limit was removed on press ware.

Death Benefit Fund Abolished.

The Death Benefit Law established at the Marion, 1893, convention was abolished January 1, 1897. During that period there were 232 deaths. The establishment of this law created considerable dissatisfaction in the Association principally because a large number of our men had all the insurance they desired in other organizations, and they took the position that the establishment of an insurance law was foreign to the fundamental principles of the organization.

United States Glass Co. Contest Declared Off.

By a vote of the National Executive Board, the United States Glass Co. lockout, among other strikes and lockouts, was declared off on April 3, 1897.

President Smith's Report.

President Smith advised the removal of the limit in the Iron Mould and Paste Mould Departments, called attention to the semi-automatic machinery, and advised liberal treatment thereof. He urgently advised the work-

ing of continuous tank glass at the same price the members of the G. B. B. A. worked the same. He also advised the abolition of preliminary conferences, stating that they were a useless expense.

Legislation Advised.

The convention advised the National Officers to advocate a tariff on foreigners, to have the limited time of patent rights reduced from fifteen to five years, and endeavored to have the Minnesota label law adopted, and it declared in favor of an amalgamation with the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association.

Amalgamation Effort.

Continuous tank glass being worked by the members of the G. B. B. A. at Green prices became an alarming factor in the flint bottle trade on account of our failure to have our sister association insist upon flint prices for flint glass made in continuous tanks. An effort was now made to amalgamate the two Associations.

Meeting Held.

Accordingly a meeting was held at the Central Hotel, Pittsburg, Pa., January 27, 1897. The Green Bottle Blowers' Association was represented by Messrs. Hayes, Arrington, Broome, Agard, Canning, Farrell, Flohr and Branin. The A. F. G. W. U. was represented by Messrs. Kunzler, Smith, Williams, Mackinaw, Branin and Kunkle. Hayes was elected chairman, Messrs. Broome and Kunzler secretaries.

It was announced that the object of the meeting was to consider the question of amalgamation, union label and other matter affecting both organizations. Mr. Wm. J. Smith offered the following paper.

"Whereas, 'In Union there is strength,' and,

"Whereas, There exists in this land today two separate organization of men doing the same work, and,

"Whereas, Combined capital has taken advantage of the fact that there are two separate organizations to force concessions from both by using each against the other;; and,

"Whereas, The A. F. G. W. U. is an organization of glass workers governing one of these associations and comprising workers of glass whose labor is strongly the same in its skilled character, therefore, be it

"Resolved, 1. That we recommend to the workers whose work is similar to that now being done by the members of the A. F. G. W. U. that they apply for admission, and if permitted to join that Association on the following conditions, to-wit:

"2. The title of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union to be changed to read, The American Flint and Green Glass Workers' Union, with the paragraph in the A. F. G. W. U. constitution respecting the officers to be elected shall be changed to read as follows:

"3. Officers of this American Flint and Green Glass Workers' Union shall be one President selected from the Association at large, whose duty it shall be as now provided by the constitution of the A. F. G. W. U., three Vice Presidents, one to be selected from the Green Bottle Blowers, a flint bottle blower, a lamp worker or a stopper grinder, and who shall be practical in one of these departments and shall look after their interest; one from the Press Ware, Iron Mould, Engraving, Cutting and Mould Making Department, who shall be practical in one of these Departments, and look after their interests; one to be selected from the Chimney, Paste Mould, Shade and Caster Place Department, who shall be practical in one of these departments, and shall look after their interest.

"4. All officers shall act as assistants to the President and Secretary.

"5. During the intervention of the conventions, the President shall be general superintendent of the organization."

After some discussion of the propositions contained in the paper presented by Mr. Smith, a motion was made and carried that they submit that to the vote of the members of both associations. Motion was also adopted to submit to the two trades the question of holding a general convention of the two

associations in July, 1897, for the purpose of completing details of a closer union.

In connection with this, a lengthy explanation was submitted to both associations for the purpose of enlightening them on the proposition and details connected with effecting the amalgamation. It was understood that the officers of each organization were to urge the adoption of the proposition.

The A. F. G. W. U. officers did their duty and the proposition was adopted by our trade by a vote of 3 to 1, but the proposition was rejected by the Green Bottle Blowers by a vote of 3 to 1. I understand that after the proposition agreed to was submitted to their judgment, that a certain official of that association wrote personal letters to prominent characters in localities where there was a big membership, advising them to vote against the proposition, and they followed that advice, resulting in the defeat of a well-intended plan.

Gompers and Garland.

President Samuel Gompers, of the A. F. of L., and President M. M. Garland, of the Iron and Steel Workers, addressed the convention.

Scathing Denunciation of L. U. No. 123, Praise of President Smith, and Penalty.

During this session an attack was made on President Smith's honesty, sincerity and ability, and the following resolution was adopted:

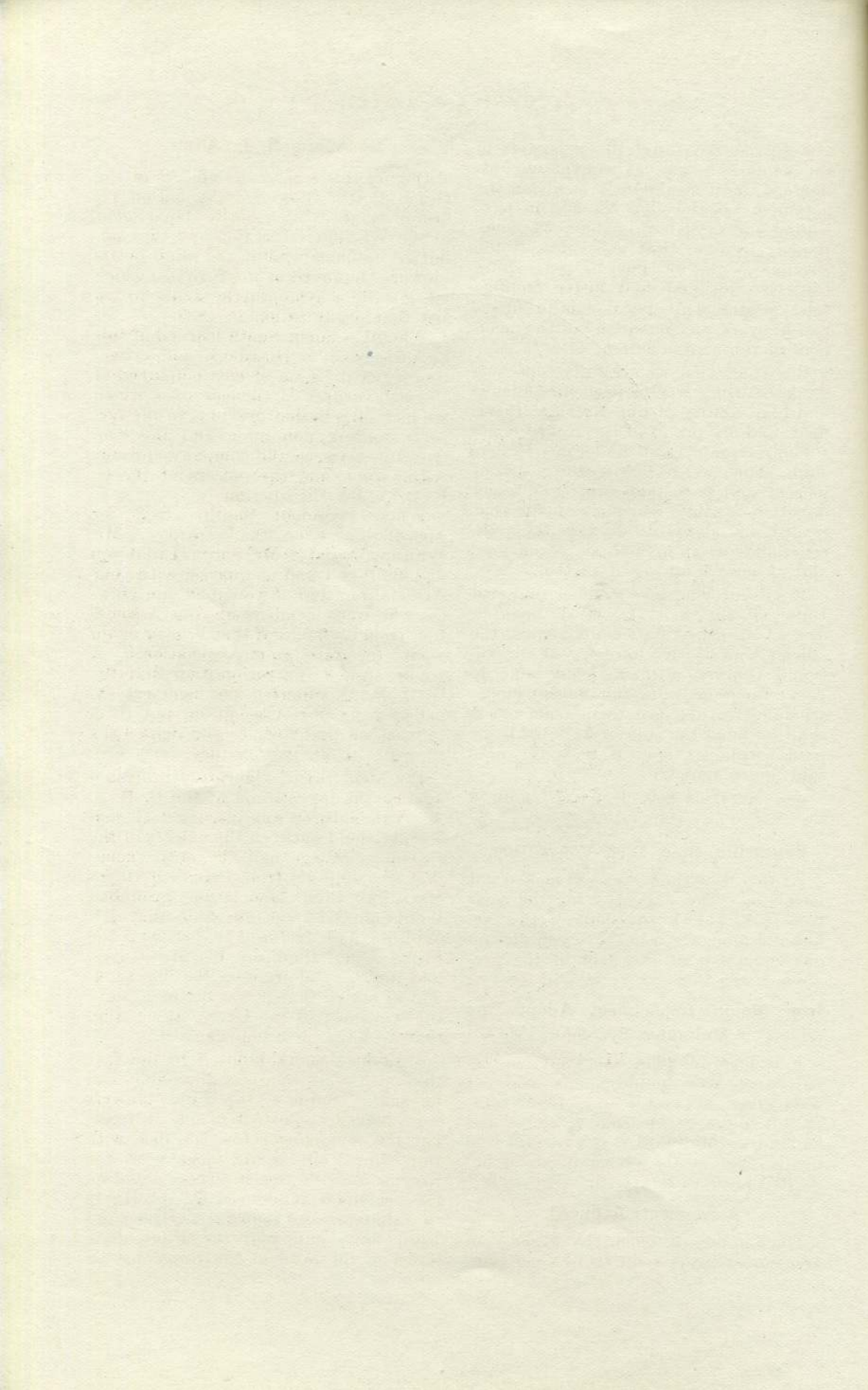
Whereas, We believe the attack on our worthy President, W. J. Smith, in the circular recently sent to the various Local Unions by Local Union No. 123, to be unjust, ungrateful, malicious and grossly insulting, as the assertions and accusations contained therein are false and vile in every particular; and,

Whereas, We believe the effect of such mean, unmanly, undignified and spiteful attacks on our National President to be prejudicial to the interests of the Organization, as they breed dissensions, create bad feeling, and destroy the confidence so necessary to the welfare and progress of our Union; therefore, be it



W. J. CROKE.

Elected Vice President 1903 and still holds that position.



Resolved, That we, the delegates in the twentieth annual convention assembled, most strenuously condemn the action of Local Union No. 123 in publishing and distributing the above-mentioned circular; that we condemn the circular as the outcome of pure spitefulness, selfishness and bitter feeling; false in statement, pernicious in effect, and in every way unworthy of the members of this Organization.

Resolved, That we are fully conscious of the sterling worth, keen intelligence and high ability of our National President, and are proud of the record made for our Organization under his leadership. That we recognize the years of patient and persistent effort and strict devotion to duty which has made that record, and above all, we have the highest confidence in his honesty of purpose and of action; and be it further

Resolved, That any member or Local Union of the A. F. G. W. U. making oral or published statements against the official honesty or character of its National Officers, without being able to prove them, or conniving, conspiring or scheming to displace them from office, shall be fined the sum of \$100.00, to be paid within six months from the date said fine is imposed.

Jas. Morrison was elected delegate to the A. F. of L. convention.

Zanesville, Ohio, 1898, Convention.

At this time there were 49 locked out members. The expenses for the year were \$194,711.81, the debt of the National Union was \$35,743.32, an enormous reduction of the debt of the previous year.

Iron Mould Department Adopts the Unlimited System.

February 16, 1898, the limit was removed on iron mould goods made of lime glass in crystal and other transparent colors, except shades, globes and chimneys. March 21, 1899, certain iron mould opal goods were put on an unlimited piece work system.

Assessments Reduced.

On January 2, 1898, the 6 per cent assessments were reduced to 4 per cent.

Glassboro, N. J., Affair.

During this season the officers of the Green Bottle Blowers' Association reorganized the Green bottle department of the Whitney Glass Co., and they admitted to membership the flint bottle blowers employed at the furnace, which we lost in a sympathetic strike to assist that organization in 1889.

When President Smith learned of this he proceeded to Glassboro and organized a Local Union of men employed at the pot furnace, a furnace over which we had jurisdiction previous to the factory running non-union and the controversy between the company and our Association, and the officers of the G. B. B. A. for jurisdiction.

When President Smith asked for jurisdiction over that furnace, Mr. Whitney stated: "Mr. Smith, I told you in 1889 that I had no quarrel with your Association, and if you took the blowers who were members of your Association from my factory, that I never again would recognize your Association." A strike ensued for recognition and the G. B. B. A. admitted the members expelled from our Association, put them to work on that furnace and helped the company to fill that factory.

President Smith vigorously protested against the ingratitude of the G. B. B. A. This subject was discussed at conferences held between the officers of the two associations, and the only excuse that we could get from President Hayes was that their association grounded their claims on the assertion that Mr. Whitney had "refused to deal with the Flints," and therefore he, Mr. Hayes, had the right to organize the flint tank, and he stated that it was better to have the workmen in the Green Association than to have them unorganized.

President Smith pointed to the fact that such a position was untenable, and he said, "Suppose the Flint blowers were locked out in Alton and Millville, and the companies refused to deal with the Flints, but would deal with the Greens, and the Green officers acted on the principles announced by Mr. Hayes that they proceed to organize Green and Flint men, and pull the Flint glass down to the level of the Green list on

prices for blowing? Such a principle would be destructive to the best interest of the bottle blowers."

The Flints' appeal was in vain. The Green Association continued a very ungrateful attitude, and the furnace lost in sympathy with the Green Bottle Blowers in 1889 was never regained, and that furnace is now controlled by members of the G. B. B. A.

Machinery.

The introduction of machines in the various departments of the glass trade excited considerable unrest to the officers and members of the Association. Machines for finishing common tumblers, the bottle and jar machines, very especially the Owens semi-automatic chimney and punch tumbler machines, required attention.

Ball Bros. Engage Our Members.

The Ball Bros. Co., of Muncie, Ind., installed semi-automatic machines for making fruit jars, and took a large number of locked out United States Glass Co. workers from Tiffin to Muncie to work, and during this season a list was established for the making of jars by semi-automatic machinery. The jurisdiction over all these machines was given to our Association, but as a matter of fraternal goodwill an agreement was made between the executive officer of Local Union No. 2, at Muncie, Ind., whereby some of the old Green jar blowers were to be allowed to work and to operate the machine, but permitted to retain their membership in the G. B. B. A. This was a serious mistake of our Association in dealing with those machines in that particular place, as we should have insisted upon those men uniting with our Organization, and from that period of time there has been a serious controversy over the right to work semi-automatic bottle and jar machines.

Owens Tumbler and Chimney Machine.

The Zanesville convention adopted a list for making punch tumblers on this machine, and during this season there was installed at Montreal a machine for making chimneys.

A long letter was received from Mr.

C. Root, calling attention to the Toledo Glass Co. using the Owens machine on lamp chimneys, and he declared that this machine might cause a revolutionary calamity, "such as we have never had in the business," and he invited the co-operation of our Association in dealing with this problem.

President Smith elaborated on that machine and he advised the union to join issue with the employers and purchase the machine and hold it in common, to be used only against non-union competition, and even at that suggestion he said that there were potent reasons that made such a course impracticable, principally the price of the machine and the fear of other machines being introduced, as he expressed the thought that the fear of the price could be removed by an alteration in the wage system and increase in the selling price of chimneys. His report in this respect is quite interesting.

General Agent and Organizer Established.

The Prescription and Press Ware committees recommended the election of a general agent and organizer. The salary of \$1,000.00 a year was established. T. W. Rowe was elected general agent; F. C. Dickens was elected a delegate to the A. F. of L. convention.

Muncie, Ind., 1899, Convention.

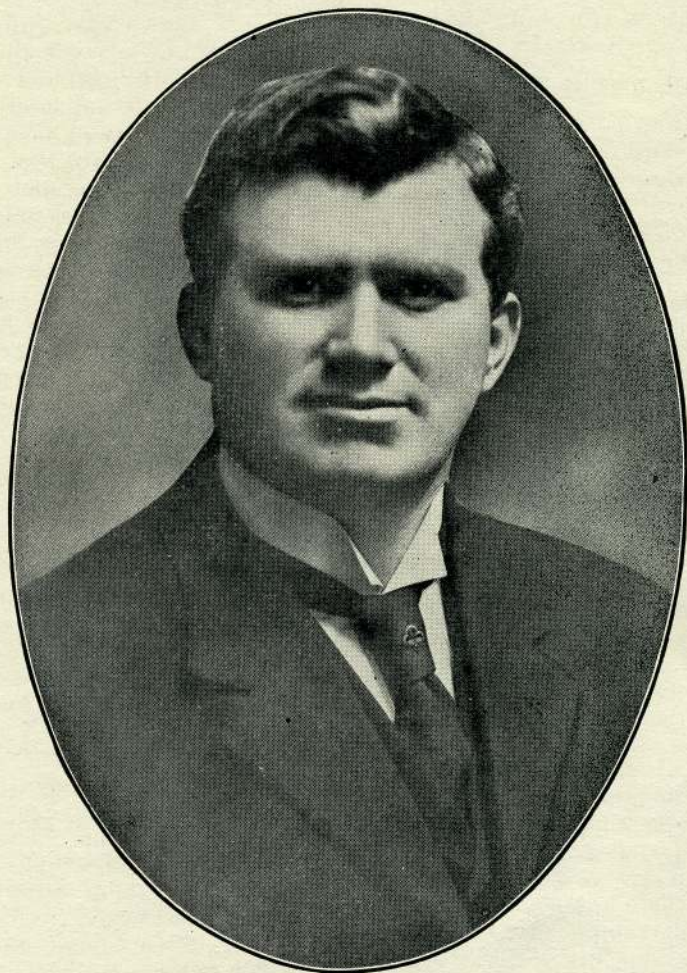
One hundred and seventy-three delegates, representing 7,100 members, attended this convention. The expenses for the year were \$73,820.44. The earnings of our members for the season 1898-99 increased \$256,723.00 over those of the year 1897-98, and the general trade appeared in a good condition. The country was recovering from the effects of a prolonged panic which commenced in 1893. This convention decided to hold biennial conventions.

Assessments Reduced.

On December 5, 1898, the 4% assessment was reduced to 2%.

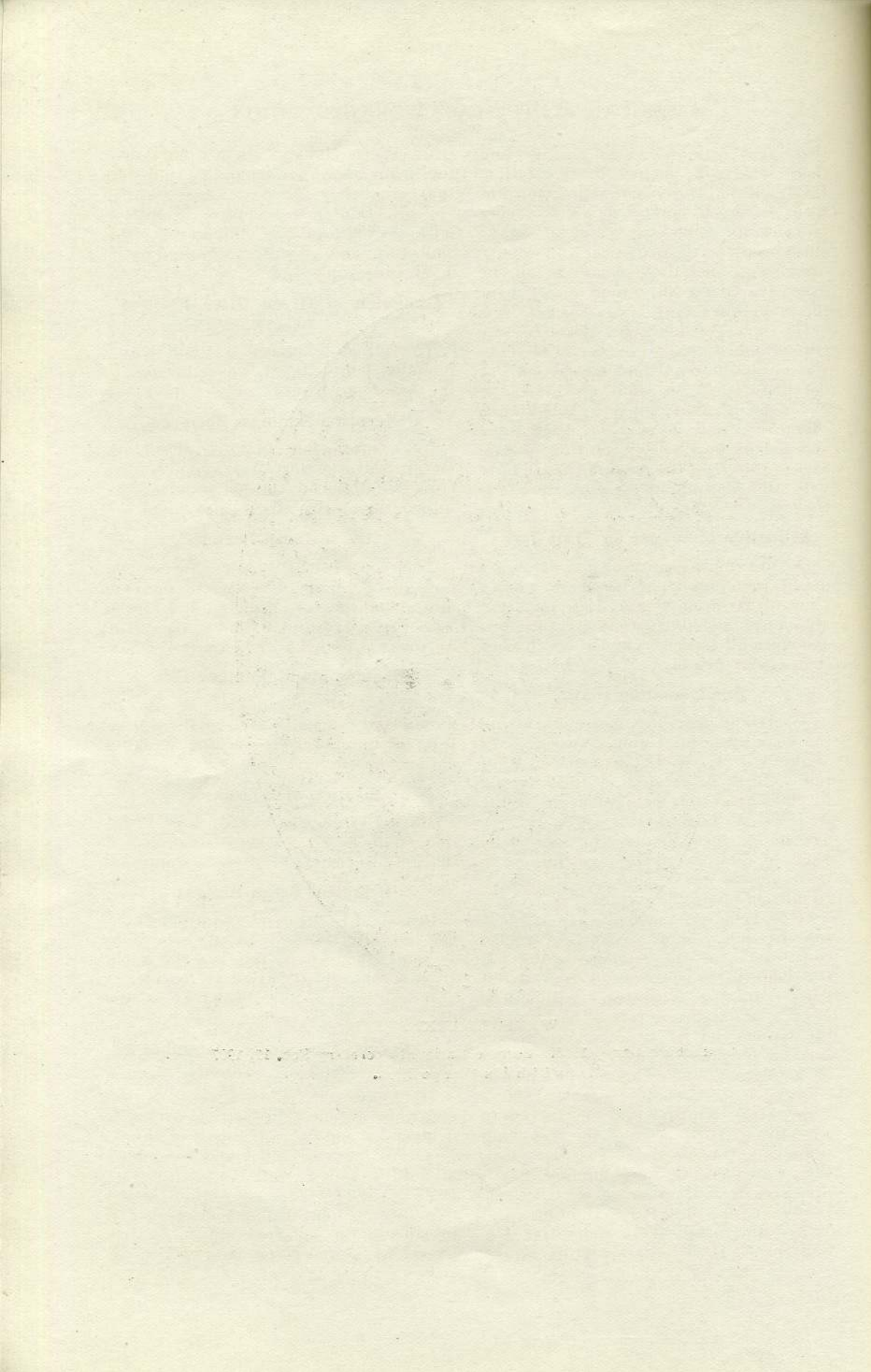
President Smith's Report.

President Smith declared that general business conditions were good and a greater number of men employed than



WM. P. CLARKE.

Assistant Secretary 1903. Became National Secretary Feb, 12, 1907
and still holds that position.



there had been for a long time, and there was more money in circulation. He stated that the organization had not spent so much money in years trying to meet its difficulties, and he gave much credit to the organizer and deputy organizers, including members of the executive board and others engaged for the good work they accomplished.

He gave considerable space to the Owens' machine, and he declared there was no doubt regarding its success. A detailed report on what the machine had done in Montreal and Toledo was submitted, and he advised that ways and means he devised for the association to purchase the machine or to unite with the manufacturers for the purchase of the machine.

Reduction of Wages on Fruit Jars.

During this season the G. B. B. A. reduced their fruit jar list 45% with a view of meeting competition on semi-automatic machine product, and our association based its wage at 5% higher than Green prices.

Amalgamation Plan.

A series of meetings was held during the year by Local Union Nos. 2 and 23 of the A. F. G. W. U., Branch No. 12 of the G. B. B. A. at Muncie, Ind., having for its object the amalgamation of the A. F. G. W. U. and G. B. B. A. It was agreed by these bodies that the delegates of their respective associations to their annual convention should offer a resolution along these lines.

C. N. Edmunds, delegate from No. 2, submitted a resolution to the Muncie convention for the purpose of having the convention elect nine representatives from the delegates assembled to meet a like representative body from the Green Bottle Blowers Association for the purpose of arriving at a plan of amalgamation. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 148 $\frac{3}{4}$ to 18 $\frac{1}{2}$.

Secretary Kunzler was instructed to wire the G. B. B. A., and the following committee was elected: T. F. Brennen, Geo. Pancoast, C. N. Edmunds, F. D. Strasser, T. J. Conboy, F. C. Dickens, D. W. Vaux, John L. Dobbins and James Morrison. This committee visited the G. B. B. A. convention in De-

troit, Mich., and did all in their power to bring about an amalgamation, but they absolutely failed.

C. N. Edmunds accepted a position with the Wilson McCollough Co., Marion, Ind., and he was substituted by T. J. McElherron.

Admission of Green Glass Pressers' League.

The Green Pressers' League which included white liners, was admitted to the American Flints.

Convention Endorses Socialism.

By a resolution submitted by E. J. Dillon and Patrick Murray, delegates from No. 6, the convention endorsed the international Socialistic movement.

Union Label League.

This convention, by a resolution, endorsed the efforts of the wives, mothers and daughters of Muncie, Ind., who were organized under the banner of the Womens' Union Label League.

Machine Made Chimney List.

This convention adopted a list of moves and wages to govern the operation of the Owens' machine making chimneys.

Election of Officers.

Mark Branin was elected Vice President, and F. C. Dickens was elected delegate to the A. F. of L. convention.

President Smith Resigns.

President Smith tendered his resignation on Nov. 14, to take effect on Jan. 1, 1900. He cordially thanked the warm friends who always tried to encourage and aid him in the discharge of his duties.

Special Convention December 28 and 29, 1899.

Mark Branin, Vice President, declined to accept the position as president and a special convention of the A. F. G. W. U. was called and assembled at Odd Fellows' Hall, Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 28, 1899. This convention lasted two days. John Kunzler was elected president, the salaried office of Vice President was created and Chas. E.

Voitle was elected to fill the position. John L. Dobbins was elected National Secretary.

The salary of President was increased from \$1,600 to \$2,000 a year, and the salary of the Vice President fixed at \$1,500. The salary of the superintendent of the Summitville Bottle company was fixed at \$1,200 a year.

Resolution of Esteem.

Resolutions of esteem were adopted and ordered engrossed and framed for presentation to the retiring president, and his many friends contributed towards a suitable token of remembrance.

Co-Operative Glass Co. Laws.

Laws and rules for the government of the Summitville Bottle factory were drawn up.

November 5, 1900, the 2% assessment was increased to 5% for a period of six weeks, at which time it reverted back to 2%.

Atlantic City Convention, 1901.

This convention showed its highest mark in membership, 237 delegates representing 9,096 members, 8,435 employed, 580 unemployed. The membership increased 1,900 during the year. General trade conditions were in good shape, except internal dissension, and the future prospects were bright.

Prescription Department Withdraws.

At this convention the majority of the prescription department delegates decided to withdraw from the A. F. G. W. U. and unite with the G. B. B. A. The division between the majority and the minority was almost equal. The Bottle Blowers left, declaring their object to try to lessen the evil competition arising from low wages and other less protective working rules in the G. B. B. A. as the bottle blowers felt that if they merged with that organization they could bring sufficient pressure to bear for the protection of Flint workers under the Green jurisdiction.

A very able minority report was submitted by a member of the Prescription committee, and the same was sent to the Prescription Department.

Resolutions were adopted condemning their action and protesting against

their admission in the G. B. B. A. and entering a protest to the A. F. of L. without any results.

Factories Unionized.

From the time of the adjournment of the Muncie, Ind., convention until the Atlantic City convention was held, 32 factories were brought under A. F. G. W. U. jurisdiction. Among the prominent glass factories were the Rochester Tumbler company, Cumberland Glass company, River Side and Wellsburg, and the Beaty-Brady of Dundirk, the Keystone Tumbler company, Fairmont Glass Works, and the Marietta Glass company at Red Key.

President Kunzler Advises Political Action.

In his biennial report President Kunzler advised political action on the part of the trade, and elaborated on the dissatisfaction in the bottle blowing trade, and advised against secession.

G. B. B. A. and A. F. G. W. U. Disagree.

The G. B. B. A. and A. F. G. W. U. relations became very strained during this season. The Green Association commenced to admit pressers to membership without any regard of the gathering boy, and admitted stropper grinders where it was convenient and ignored others where there was any danger of a question, and insisted that pressers, belonging to our association but working under the jurisdiction of their association, should pay assessments to their association.

Press Department Secures an Advance In Wages.

Feb. 1, 1900, the press department was granted an advance of 5% except on common tumblers and jellies.

Summitville Bottle Company Plans.

The aims and objects of the Summitville Bottle company were thoroughly explained in President Kunzler's report.

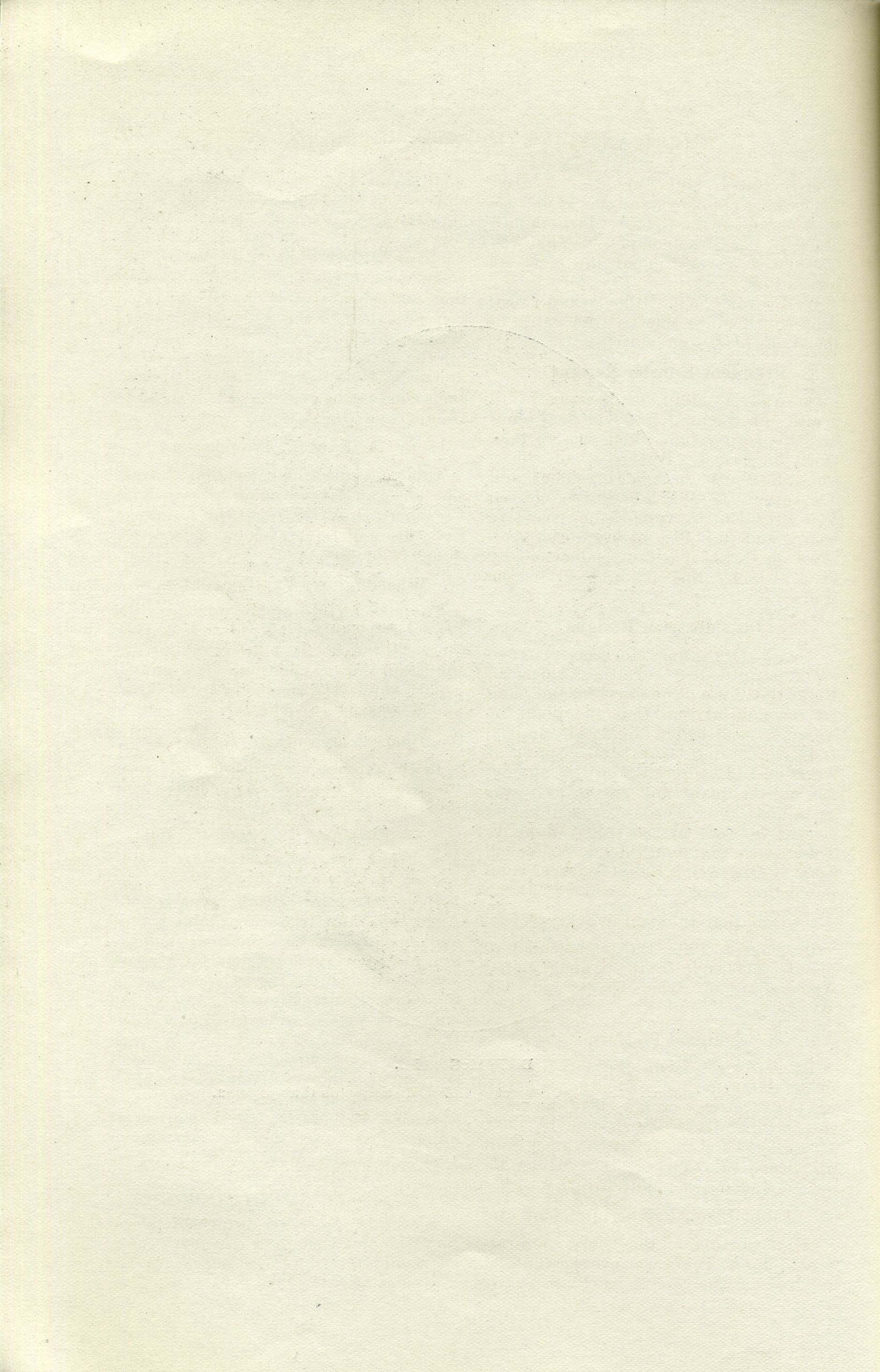
Machine Made Chimney Scale Adopted.

After several conferences and considerable debate during August and September, 1899, a list of wages, moves and rules were adopted to govern the operation of the Owens' machine, whose



D. J. McGRAIL.

Assistant Secretary. Elected 1907 and still holds that position.



United States right had been secured for making chimneys and gas globes by the combine of the Geo. A. Macbeth and Thos. Evans Glass company. This was considered a very important piece of legislation.

W. J. Croke, Wm. Gillooly and President Voitle were selected delegates to the A. F. of L. convention.

President Kunzler Resigns.

On Aug. 17, 1901, on account of ill health, President John Kunzler tendered his resignation which was to take effect on Oct. 1. By virtue of office, Chas. E. Voitle became President and Treasurer. T. W. Rowe was elected Vice President by vote of the executive board, and the office of organizer abolished on the propositions submitted by Local Unions Nos. 38 and 46 to the trade.

Jas. Morrison Resigns.

Aug. 23, 1901, Jas. Morrison resigned as superintendent of the American Fluid Bottle Co., Summitville, Ind., and on recommendation that the plant be leased. Local Union No. 3, Alexandria, Ind., No. 29 of Atlanta, Ind., No. 82 of Arcadia, Ind., entered a protest against leasing the plant and the protest was sustained and a board of directors elected by vote of the trade. John F. Tobin, Geo. Simpson, John W. Vogel, Thos. Carney and Ralph Barber, composed this board.

Donation to Steel Workers.

In August, 1901, the trade voted to donate \$3,000.00 to the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.

Political Platform.

In conformity with the action taken at the Atlantic City convention, a political platform was submitted to the trade in Circular No. 24, issued Jan. 10, 1902. It declared for the public ownership of all means of transportation, communication and other public utilities.

Tobin Elected Superintendent.

At a meeting of the board of directors, John F. Tobin was elected superintendent of the American Flint Bottle

company at a salary of \$1,800.00 a year and it was decided to place the Summitville factory in operation.

Protest to A. F. of L.

By vote of the trade it was decided that, on account of D. A. Hayes, sixth vice president of the A. F. of L. taking Washington, Pa., non-union men to fill the places of our striking members at Olean, N. Y., that a protest against such conduct be registered to President Gompers of the A. F. of L.

A. F. of L. Trouble.

This convention decided that charges should be preferred against Sixth Vice President, D. A. Hayes, of the American Federation of Labor, for violating trade union principles.

Wheeling, W. Va., Convention.

The membership of the organization dropped 2,100 during the past year large to the bottle blowers withdrawing from our association. The annual report showed a membership of 6,858 and a treasury of \$122,930.82.

Charges Against D. A. Hayes.

In compliance with instructions from the previous convention, charges were preferred against D. A. Hayes.

Pittsburg, Pa., Sept. 29, 1902.

Mr. Frank Morrison, Secretary A. F. of L., Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir and Brother:—We, the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, and members of the American Federation of Labor, do hereby prefer charges against Mr. D. A. Hayes, President of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association and Sixth Vice President of the A. F. of L., for violating the principles of trade unionism by securing the expelled and suspended members of our association from non-union houses and non-union factories, and placing them to work at union factories, thereby displacing members of the A. F. G. W. U.

Yours very truly,

JOHN L. DOBBINS.

Secretary Morrison informed Secretary Dobbins that their executive council would meet in Washington, D. C., Thursday, Oct. 9, 1902, to try the case.

A trial was held with Samuel Gompers, Frank Morrison, James Duncan, Jos. O'Connell, Max Morris, Thos. I. Kid, and John B. Lenon, representing the executive council; Messrs. D. A. Hayes, E. A. Agard and Secretary Launer, representing the G. B. B. A.; Messrs. C. E. Voitle, T. W. Rowe, John L. Dobbins, John F. Tobin, representing the A. F. G. W. U.

Mr. Hayes pleaded guilty of the charges but claimed a justification, and a lengthy debate pro and con followed, and on Oct. 18, we received the following decision:

Washington, D. C., Oct. 17, 1902.

Mr. Chas. E. Voitle, President A. F. G. W. U., Room 326 Bissell Block, Pittsburg, Pa.

Dear Sir and Brother:—In compliance with the request contained in your favor of the 15th I beg to quote herewith decision of the executive council against D. A. Hayes of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association.

Resolved, That the charges preferred against D. A. Hayes of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association of the United States and Canada by the American Flint Glass Workers' Union of conduct in violation of the principles of trade unionism are not sustained; and that the dispute in question was a trade disagreement, in which non-union men from one place were converted into union men in another place to complete the complement of men in the union factory required, and at the same time lessen the number of the best workmen in a non-union establishment.

Fraternally yours,

FRANK MORRISON.

This protest was announced to our trade and Local Union No. 64 of Philadelphia, Pa., presented a petition to be submitted to the trade asking that the trade withdraw from the A. F. of L. and that delegates be not sent to the New Orleans convention. This proposition was adopted by a vote of 1629 to 473.

Removal of Headquarters.

A resolution was offered to the convention by P. J. Scally for the purpose of removing headquarters from Pitts-

burg to Wheeling, and a resolution was offered by the delegates of 28, 81 and 124 to move headquarters to Toledo, O.

It was decided to refer matter to the trade.

President Voitle, J. F. Tobin, Edw. Healey, were elected delegates to attend the A. F. of L. convention.

Charges Against President Voitle and Vice President Rowe.

Local Union No. 3, of Alexandria, preferred charges against President Voitle and Vice President Rowe on the grounds of allowing factories to work during the month of September, 1902, while others were in a controversy and that President Voitle "used funds of the Association for the purpose of frustrating the carrying out of the Wheeling convention scale of wages."

The National Executive Board tried the accused officers and they were found "Not guilty."

Increase in Wages.

At the conference in 1902 the press ware department was granted another 5% increase in wages. The wages of the off-hand chimney gatherers were increased 20c a turn; the American system paste mould chimney blower 25c a turn; the American system gatherer 25c a day; German system blocker 25c a turn; German system gathering boy 25c a turn; machine chimney workers' wages advanced 7%.

At the conference held in 1900, 5% advance was given to the stem ware workers in the punch tumbler and stem ware department. At the 1902 conference their wages were increased 10% up to 14 oz. and 5% on sizes larger than 14 oz. on tumblers. The gathering boys' wages were fixed at 65% of the blowers' rate on all brackets. This advance commenced July 28.

The bulb blowers' wages were increased from \$2.15 to \$2.25 a turn and the gatherers from \$1.30 to \$1.40 a turn; larger sizes in proportion.

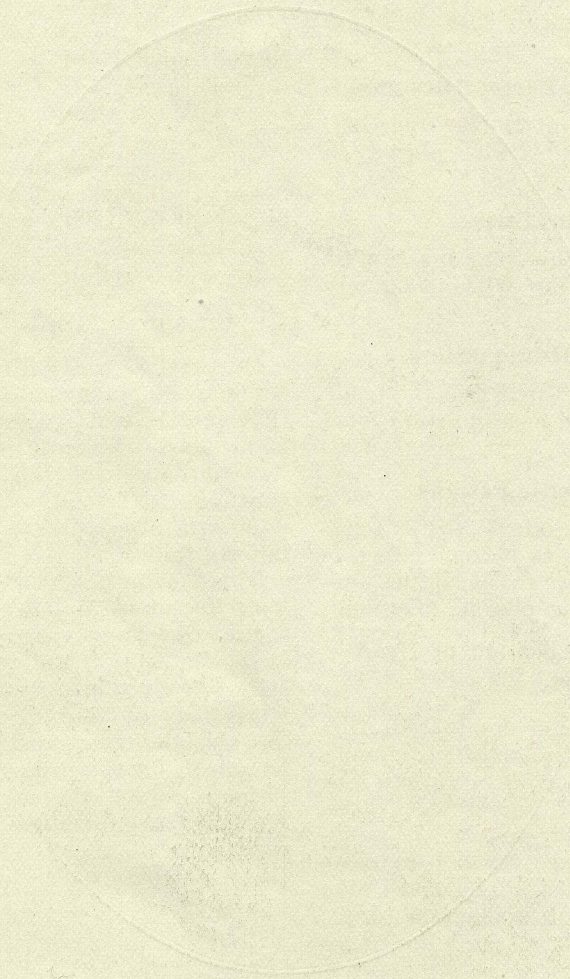
Donation to United Mine Workers of America.

\$3,000.00 was donated to the United Mine Workers of America to assist them in their anthracite coal strike.



H. W. GAUDING.

Managing Editor Commoner and Glassworker, and Father
of Labor's Memorial Day.



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Chimney Skimming Rule Controversy.

A dispute arose over the interpretation of the universal skimming rule adopted at the 1902 chimney conference, and after several meetings the rule was modified for the purpose of harmony, and the sixth skim rule now in effect adopted.

Summitville, Ind., Factory Resumes.

The American Flint Bottle company, of Summitville, Ind., was placed in operation during the year.

Hazel-Atlas Strike.

In November of this year the contest with the Hazel-Atlas Glass company commenced.

Removal of Headquarters.

By a vote of 1,649 to 1,285, the trade voted to remove the headquarters from Pittsburg, Pa.

President Voitle Resigns.

Jan. 24, 1903, President Voitle tendered his resignation to become effective March 15, 1903. By virtue of the constitution T. W. Rowe became president.

Nomination for Location of Headquarters.

Local Union No. 55 nominated Allegheny, Pa.; Local Union No. 127 nominated Columbus, O.; Local Union Nos. 9, 40, 53, 58, 59, 112, nominated Wheeling, W. Va.; Local Union No. 72 nominated Anderson, Ind.; Local Union No. 36 nominated Monaca, Pa.; Local Union No. 3 nominated Indianapolis, Ind.; Local Unions No. 28, 81 and 128 nominated Toledo, O.

Balloting was continued on this proposition until finally Toledo, Ohio, received the majority of votes, and on April 1, 1904 the headquarters were removed from Pittsburg, Pa., to Toledo, O.

Vice President Candidates.

In a circular letter issued Feb. 20, 1903, the following nominations as candidates for vice president were submitted to a vote of the executive board: Jacob Pence, Local Union No. 127; T. J. Conboy, No. 3; Jas. E. Carr, No. 80; Leonard Strickle, No. 91; D. J. McGrail,

No. 99; P. J. O'Hanlon, No. 114; Theo. Feltes, No. 36; Wm. Robinson, No. 48; Henry Bowers, No. 42; John W. Martin, No. 10; W. R. Neale, No. 128; Dan Cloz, No. 114; Wm. Gillooly, No. 64; Fred Edwards, No. 65; John Geahry, No. 61; John J. Schutta, No. 1; W. J. Croke, No. 6; James Flinn, No. 8; John Shanly, No. 8; Henry T. Smith, No. 1; Benjamin Rubrecht, No. 74; John F. Monahan, No. 64; Jacob Smith, No. 43; John F. Fisher, No. 111.

The Executive Board balloted on these candidates but reached no election until the 1903 convention. On the first ballot Jas. E. Carr received 14 votes, but it required 17 to elect.

Cincinnati, 1903, Convention.

During this convention an effort was made to amalgamate the Green Bottle Blowers' Association and the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, as the two Associations held their national conventions in this city. Everything was done within reason by our committee but we failed.

This convention elected W. J. Croke Vice President and Wm. P. Clarke Assistant Secretary.

Delegates J. J. Rudge and John Husellbee, representing the National Flint Glass Makers' Society of Great Britain and Ireland addressed this convention at length on the necessity of closer relation between the international glass workers' organizations, and they appealed for financial relief in behalf of their members on account of the lock-out then existing in England. Three thousand dollars was donated to that organization by a vote of the trade.

Summitville Factory Burns.

During this season the Summitville factory was destroyed by fire, and the National Glass Co. locked out our members at Rochester and Cumberland; also the Seneca and Morgantown Glass Co. locked out our men at Morgantown, W. Va.

Assessments Increased.

August 1, 1903, the 2% assessments were increased to 3%.

Labor's Memorial Day Adopted.

Labor's Memorial Day, the second Sunday in May, originated by Brother H. W. Gauding, managing editor of the Commoner and Glass Worker, and proposed to our trade by Local Union No. 127, of Lancaster, Ohio, was adopted on October 8, 1903. This day is quite universally observed by our members and the general labor movement.

President Gompers Appealing for Re-affiliation.

November 10, 1903, President Gompers wrote a long complimentary appeal to our Association for the purpose of persuading us to reaffiliate with their organization.

Local Union No. 23 submitted a proposition to the trade and the trade voted to unite, but when we applied for re-affiliation we were confronted with a protest registered by D. A. Hayes, of the Glass Bottle Blowers' Association, on the point of jurisdiction, and we have been unable to reconcile our relations with that association ever since.

Factory Project.

A committee of five appointed by the 1903 convention to act in conjunction with the Board of Directors, submitted a proposition to the trade in favor of organizing a glass factory. The proposition was adopted.

A Protest.

A protest was entered by Local Union No. 40, of Marietta, O., against the building of a factory and this protest was sustained by a vote of 1,817 to 1,203.

Important Notice Served.

In March, 1904, the Executive committee of the National Association of Manufacturers notified us that on and after July, 1904, they would not meet representatives of our Association unless the committee of workers came to conference with full power to settle wage list.

Assessment Increased.

On May 1, 1904, the 3 per cent assessment was increased to 7 per cent.

Protest.

Local Union No. 54, of Ottawa, protested against the Executive Board increasing the assessment, and the protest was sustained. The trade now increases or decreases assessments.

Marietta, 1904, Convention.

The most important event occurring during this season was the lockout by the Macbeth-Evans Glass Co. The company demanded the unlimited piece work system for operating the Owens machine on chimneys, and a reduction in wages from 10 to 50 per cent.

The National Officers appealed for reason, and Mr. Schnelbach, representing the company, declared that he had no further power in the matter but would consult with the company. We agreed to wait on said consultation, and were duly notified that the company would not modify its demand, and all negotiations with our Association were declared at an end. The company opened its Charleroi plant by concentrating managers from the various other factories in that city and persuaded the men to desert our organization and secured men from non-union localities.

Frank Johnson Murdered.

During 1904 Frank Johnson, a Swede, was murdered in Rochester, Pa., by two police, Messrs. Finler and Patterson, in the employ of the Rober O'Mara Co., of Pittsburg. Finler was charged with murder and tried and the jury reached a verdict of manslaughter. Patterson was acquitted.

Sliding Scale Adopted.

On March 5, 1905, the sliding scale became effective for the purpose of protecting the interest of the Chimney Department.

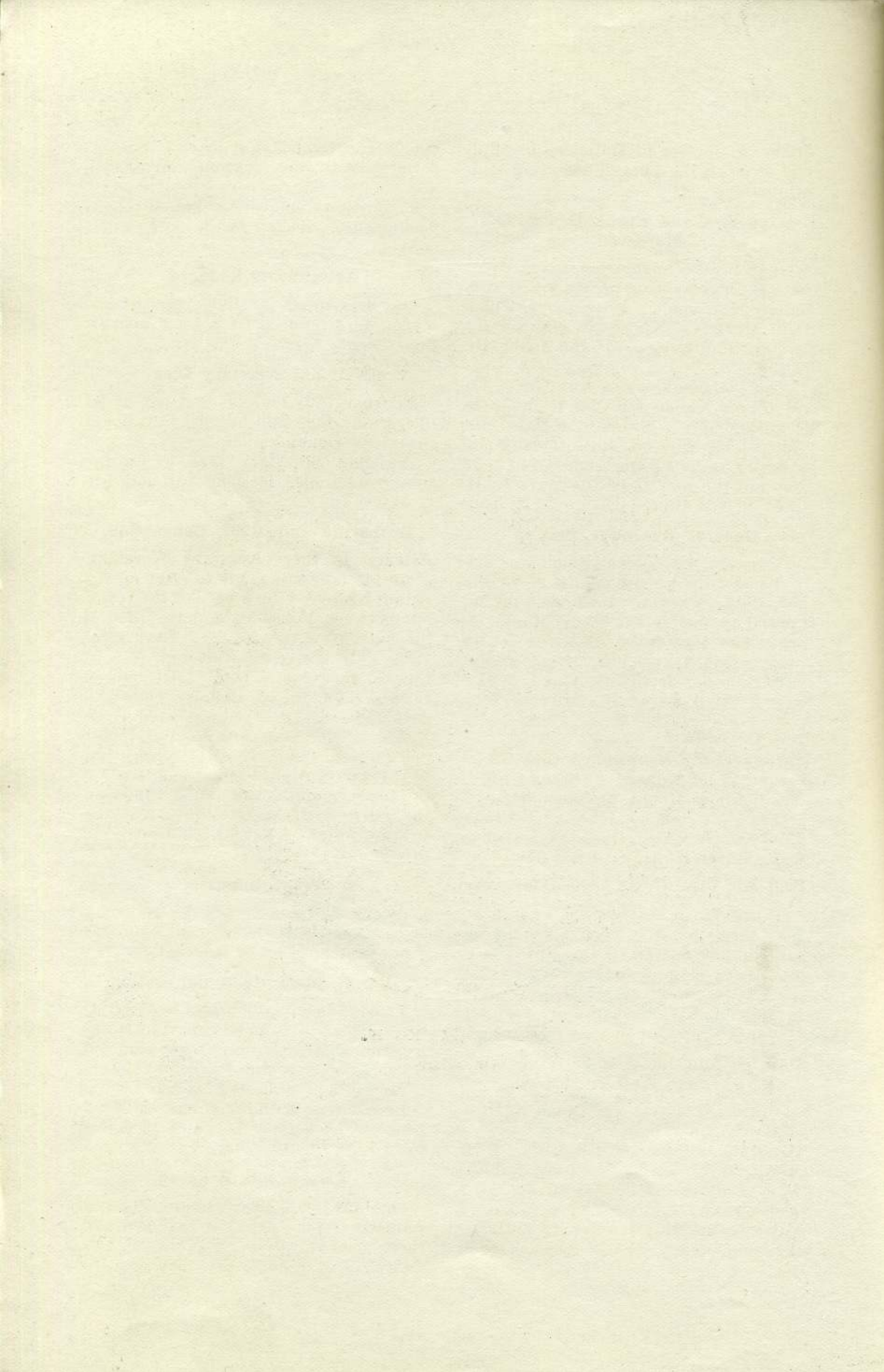
The 1905 convention was held in Martins Ferry, Ohio.

Injunctions Issued.

During this year injunctions were issued against our men at Rochester, Pa., Cumberland, Md., and various other points controlled by the Macbeth-Evans Glass Co. A number of our members were fined and imprisoned by



ROBERT LUCKOCK,
Organizer.



Judge Anderson, of Indianapolis, Ind., and others were alleged violating state injunctions.

Dave Sisk and Frank Deuchateau Murdered.

Dave Sisk, a member of Local Union No. 54, was shot to death by a non-union man named Fitzsimmons, alias Irish Murphy. Murphy is now serving an indefinite sentence in the Joliet, Ill., prison.

Frank Deuchateau, a member of Local Union No. 3, was shot to death by Dennis Meany, another notorious non-unionist, of Elwood, Ind. Meany was tried in Anderson on a charge of murder, and the jury failed to convict. He since died of tuberculosis.

General Executive Session.

A general Executive session was held in Toledo during the month of December, 1905. They recommended the unlimited system in the Paste Mould Department; they insisted on the conference committee being given greater power in all departments, all departments voted to give conferees more power, except the Press, Paste Mould and Shade.

They also recommended that the assessments be reduced to become effective January 1, but an amendment to this made it become effective February 15, 1906, at which time the assessment was reduced from 7 to 4 per cent.

Sea Isle City, N. J., 1906, Convention.

The 1906 convention was held in Sea Isle City, N. J. The delegates observed that Secretary Dobbins was ill, and they advised that he take a two months' vacation with full pay for the benefit of his health, and Secretary Dobbins went abroad.

Damage Suit for Alleged Violation of Sherman Anti-Trust Law.

During this year the Macbeth-Evans Glass Co. entered suit against Gill Bros. Glass Co., Lippincott Glass Co., T. W. Rowe, W. J. Croke, John L. Dobbins, Wm. P. Clarke, John Armstrong, M. E. McSwiggen, Louis Winstel, Geo. E. Snyder, Jas. E. Carr, for \$2,550,000.00 damages. They alleged a loss of \$850,-

000.00 and tripled that amount in conformity with the Sherman Anti-trust act.

T. W. Rowe, John F. Tobin and T. J. Conboy were elected to the A. F. of L. convention.

Assessments Reduced.

On September 3, 1906, the assessments were reduced from 4 per cent to 3 per cent.

National Secretary Dies.

February 12, 1907, as a result of an operation for appendicitis, National Secretary Dobbins died.

Assistant Secretary Wm. P. Clarke, by virtue of office, became National Secretary.

Evansville, Ind., 1907, Convention.

Attempt to Elect Assistant Secretary.

An attempt was made to elect an Assistant Secretary by a vote of the trade, but between February and the time of the convention they failed. The Evansville, 1907, convention elected Wm. P. Clarke, Secretary; D. J. McGrail, of Local Union No. 13, Bellaire, Ohio, Assistant Secretary. It also elected T. W. Rowe, Fred Shane and John F. Tobin delegates to the A. F. of L. convention.

This convention decided not to allow the local committee to solicit funds for the purpose of entertaining delegates to the convention and abolished car fare loans.

Wage Increase.

At the 1907 conference the gathering boys of the Press Department secured a 5 per cent increase in wages.

Detroit, Mich., 1908, Convention.

The 1908 convention was held in Detroit, Mich. The most important event was the election of four Organizers, Edward Zimmer, John F. Tobin, Joseph O'Malley and Robert Luckcock.

Fred Shane, John F. Tobin and T. W. Rowe were elected delegates to the A. F. of L. convention.

Assessments Reduced.

On January 6, 1908, assessments were reduced from 3 per cent to 1 per cent, their present rate.

Brooklyn, N. Y., 1909, Convention.

The 1909 convention was held in Brooklyn, N. Y., and decided to give the candidate in each department receiving the highest number of votes full power to settle the summer stop. It decided to make no further efforts towards securing a charter from the A. F. of L. and elected T. J. Conboy, Robert Luckcock, Jos. O'Malley and Edward Zimmer Organizers.

The sliding scale in the Chimney Department was abolished June 30, 1909.

During this season the work of organizing, particularly in the Cutting Department, showed gratifying results. The Cutting Department membership increased to a greater number than any other department during the year.

Establishment of the Magazine.

The Toledo Local Unions proposed to establish an official journal to be published by the Association and edited by its National President, and it provided for the engagement of a competent stenographer to assist him in his efforts. The proposition was referred to a vote of the trade and the trade voted to establish the journal. On November 15, 1909, the first issue of *The American Flint* was published.

This magazine seems to be giving universal satisfaction, and marks an extraordinary progressive step in the American Flint Glass Workers' Union.

Toledo, Ohio, 1910, Convention.

Arrangements for the 1910 convention to be held in Toledo, O., are now completed, and this souvenir will be presented to the delegates attending.

Among the delegates attending this convention are two of the pioneers of our Association, Brother Michael J. Kane, of Millville, N. J., and Jas. Green, from Local Union No. 73, Toronto, O. Brother Kane can now be called "The Grand Old Man" of our Association, as he has been in continuous active duty serving as local official, delegate to the conventions, a member of the National Executive Board for a long number of years, and despite his age he seems to be more energetic and active than the vast majority of the younger men in our Association.

Finale.

Please observe that I have just briefly touched on incidents occurring the past few years. I did this principally because important matters are fresh in the minds of our members, and I believe the most important points our members wish to know is that pertaining to its early days, trials and tribulations, the introduction of its laws and their alterations, the convention time and places and officers elected.

John N. Branin is living in Baltimore, Md.; George Egler, in Pittsburg, Pa.; Richard Kelly, Pittsburg, Pa.; Benjamin Rubrecht, Dunkirk, Ind.; Thos. J. Irwin, Martins Ferry, Ohio; W. J. Dillon, Pittsburg, Pa.; Fred Nunn, Upper Alton, Ill.; G. W. Payne, Millville, N. J.; Edward Phillipps, Steubenville, Ohio; John Hinkle, Tallapoosa, Ga.; W. J. Clare, Pittsburg, Pa.; F. H. Williams, Baltimore, Md.; Thos. Smart, St. Louis, Mo.; John Kunzler, Pittsburg, Pa.; C. E. Voitle, Jeannette, Pa.

The A. F. G. W. U. has experienced many changes in its working systems, has fought some terrific battles, is composed of an intelligent membership, is in excellent condition and progressing nicely, but there remains a vast amount of work to be accomplished, and each member should be sensible to the fact that it is his duty to assist in every honorable manner to improve and protect its interests.

Officers and Conventions.

1878. Robert A. Steen president, Richard Kelly recording secretary, Benjamin Rubrecht corresponding secretary, Geo. Egler financial secretary, W. J. Smith treasurer. Elected by Pittsburg, Pa., convention.

1879. Brooklyn convention elected R. A. Steen president, Richard Kelly secretary, James Martin treasurer.

1880. Philadelphia convention elected John N. Branen president, Conrad Waltman vice president, Geo. W. Payne secretary, R. K. Pierson treasurer.

1881. Wheeling convention elected John N. Branen president, R. Kearney vice president, G. W. Payne secretary, Conrad Waltman treasurer.



EDWARD ZIMMER.

Organizer.

1882. Brooklyn convention elected John N. Branen president, Geo. W. Payne secretary, Conrad Waltman treasurer.

1883. E. Cambridge, Mass., convention elected Thos. J. Irwin president, John Howard secretary, Jas. Denning vice president, Chas. Gleason treasurer.

1884. Pittsburg convention elected W. J. Smith president, John Q. Schaeffer vice president, Fred Nunn secretary, B. E. Rubrecht treasurer.

1885. Philadelphia convention elected W. J. Smith president and secretary, John F. Hinckley vice president, Edward Phillips treasurer.

1886. Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, John F. Hinckley vice president, Wm. J. Dillon secretary. Office of president and treasurer combined and continued until 1909, when secretary and treasurer were combined to make bonds more secure.

1887. Atlantic City convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, John F. Hinckley vice president, Wm. J. Dillon secretary.

1888. Canton, Ohio, convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, John F. Hinckley vice president, Wm. J. Dillon secretary.

1889. Bellaire, Ohio, convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, John F. Hinckley vice president, Wm. J. Dillon secretary.

1890. Baltimore, Md., convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, Wm. L. Dooling vice president, Wm. J. Dillon secretary.

1891. Steubenville, Ohio, convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, Wm. L. Dooling vice president, Wm. J. Dillon secretary.

1892. Corning, N. Y., convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, John F. Hinckley vice president, Wm. J. Dillon secretary.

1893. Marion, Ind., convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, John F. Hinckley vice president, John Kunzler secretary, W. J. Clare assistant secretary.

1894. Montreal, Quebec, Canada, convention elected Wm. J. Smith president,

Wm. L. Dooling vice president, John Kunzler secretary, Wm. J. Clare assistant secretary.

1895. Toledo, Ohio, convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, Wm. L. Dooling vice president, John Kunzler secretary, Wm. J. Clare assistant secretary.

1896. Alton, Ill., convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, F. H. Williams vice president, John Kunzler secretary, W. J. Clare assistant secretary.

1897. Pittsburg, Pa., convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, F. H. Williams vice president, John Kunzler secretary, W. J. Clare assistant secretary.

1898. Zanesville, Ohio, convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, Thos. Smart vice president, John Kunzler secretary, W. J. Clare assistant secretary, T. W. Rowe organizer.

1899. Muncie, Ind., convention elected Wm. J. Smith president, Mark Branin vice president, John Kunzler secretary, Wm. J. Clare assistant secretary, T. W. Rowe organizer.

1899. Special convention December 1899 Pittsburg, Pa., elected John Kunzler president, Chas. E. Voitle vice president, John L. Dobbins secretary.

1901. Atlantic City convention elected John Kunzler president, Chas. E. Voitle became president, T. W. Rowe vice president, and the office of organizer abolished by vote of the trade.

1901. Sept. 1901, John Kunzler resigned and by virtue of office Chas. E. Voitle became president, T. W. Rowe vice president, and the office of organizer abolished by a vote of the trade.

1902. Wheeling convention elected Chas. E. Voitle president, T. W. Rowe vice president, John L. Dobbins secretary, Wm. J. Clare assistant secretary.

1903. Cincinnati, Ohio, convention elected T. W. Rowe president, W. J. Croke vice president, John L. Dobbins secretary, Wm. P. Clarke assistant secretary.

1904. Marietta, Ohio, convention re-elected the same officers.

1905. Martins Ferry, Ohio, convention re-elected the same officers.



JOSEPH O'MALLEY.

Organizer

1906. Sea Isle City convention re-elected the same officers.

1907. Owing to the death of John L. Dobbins on Feb. 12, 1907, Wm. P. Clarke became secretary and the trade repeatedly balloted on candidates to succeed him as assistant secretary and failed to elect.

1907. Evansville, Ind., convention elected T. W. Rowe president, Wm. J. Croke vice president, Wm. P. Clarke secretary and D. J. McGrail assistant secretary.

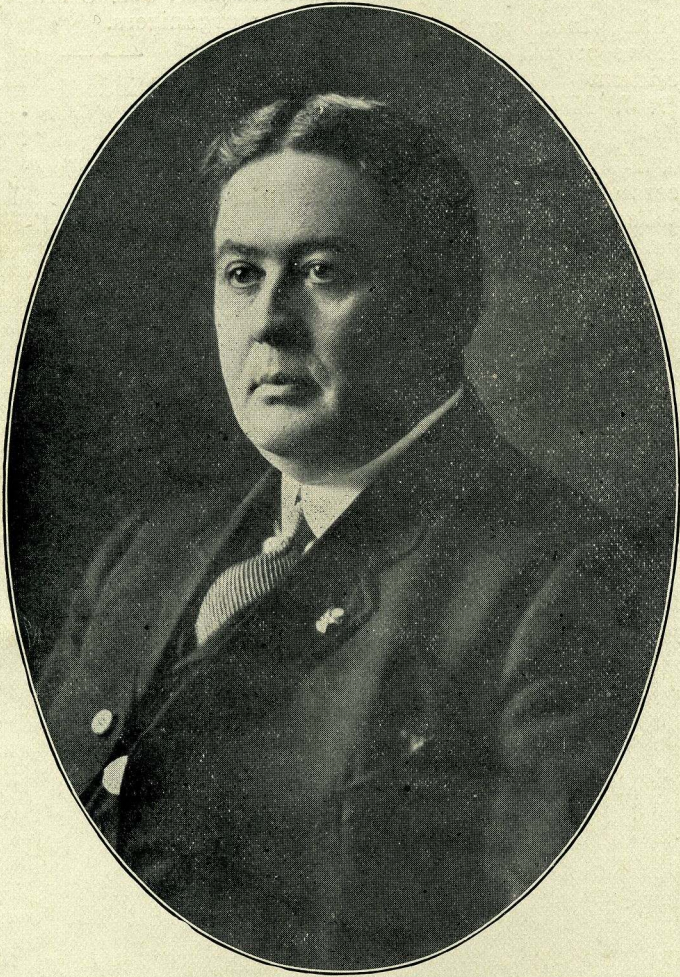
1908. Detroit, Mich., convention re-elected the officers of the previous year and elected Robert Luckock, Joseph

O'Malley, Edward Zimmer and John F. Tobin organizers.

1909. Brooklyn, N. Y., convention elected T. W. Rowe president, Wm. J. Croke vice president, Wm. P. Clarke secretary-treasurer, D. J. McGrail assistant secretary, Robert Luckock, Edward Zimmer, Jos. O'Malley and T. J. Conboy organizers.

I am grateful indeed for the cordial, prompt and valuable assistance rendered by Brothers John Kunzler, George Egler, B. E. Rubrecht, Edward Phillips, Jacob Rosenthal and John Corcoran in preparing this history.





T. J. CONBOY.
Organizer.

