

WORLD FAMOUS STATE ST. VITAL TO CHICAGO LIFE

Retail Buying Center,
Corner Drug Store

BY PHILIP HAMPSON
State street is a vital part of Chicago life. It is the city's retail buying center. It is the corner drug store, the common meeting place; it is the one street where eventually "you will meet every one you know."

Today State st. is renowned as the world's greatest shopping center and the world's lightest street. It has more than 1,000 acres of retail store space where anything may be purchased—from a needle to an airplane. Its business last year was estimated to have exceeded 400 million dollars. And when the people take over as they did on V-J day there may be almost a million persons packing the thoroughfare.

Builders of Chicago
Many of the men who built Chicago were prominent on State st. in the days of the city's early history. Included in the street's historic roll call are such names as Potter Palmer, Marshall Field, Levi Z. Leiter, Leon Mandel and his brothers; Edward Lehmann, Charles D. Peacock, Charles W. Partridge, Otto Young, Charles Netcher, Andrew MacLeish, Harlow N. Higginbotham, Abram M. Rothchild, and Henry C. Lytton, who in reaching the age of 100 survived all the others.

State st. grew up with Chicago. In 1830, before Chicago was incorporated, the name State road appeared in a survey made by the Illinois and Michigan canal commissioners. It actually became a street of sorts in 1833—at a time when bear and deer could be shot within sight of it; when the howling of Indians kept the few visitors awake at night.

Went to Lake Street

However, State st. was not important as a shopping center in those early days. It was to Lake st. that the fashionable ladies of the '60s went for their dresses, their hats, and their shoes. In January, 1860, S. C. Griggs & Co., 39 and 41 Lake st. advertised in THE TRIBUNE a new book by Charles Dickens. It was titled "A Tale of Two Cities" and it sold for \$2.50 for a de luxe edition and \$1.50 for a cheaper one. It was the same year that H. W. Wetherell, 54 Lake st., solicited the patronage of the ladies for his new spring millinery.

It was many years before State st. caught up with its rival. Among the first buildings erected on State st. is said to have been a log school house built in 1833 at the corner of what is now Wacker dr. In January, 1834, the town borrowed \$60 to drain State st. It needed it, as evidenced by signs put up by jokers after the rains of the spring and autumn. The signs said, "No bottom," "Team underneath," and "Stage dropped thru." On Jan. 1, 1848, the first building owned by the city came into existence at Randolph and State. It was a two-story affair with market stalls on the first floor and city offices on the second.

Potter Palmer Starts Store

In 1852 young Potter Palmer, the son of an Albany, N. Y., brewer, Quaker, opened a retail dry goods store at 137 Lake st.—the seed from which grew Marshall Field & Co. The young Lake st. merchant was destined to make State st. the city's No. 1 merchandising center.

In 1856 Marshall Field came to Chicago from Massachusetts and went to work as a clerk for Cooley, Wadsworth & Co. He opened a dry goods house at 205 S. Water st. now Wacker dr. He, too, was to have a great influence on State st. In 1865 Field and Levi Z. Leiter bought interests in the Palmer business and the firm name was changed to Field, Palmer & Leiter. In 1867 Palmer dropped out and the firm was known as Field, Leiter & Co.

In 1868 the firm took a bold step by moving out of the Carroll Park st. to a building erected by Palmer at the northeast corner of State and Randolph. Palmer showed his faith in the future of the street by buying and selling during his career fortune estimated to have totaled about a mile. He put up a handsome hotel in State st. only to have it destroyed a few days later by the fire of 1871. When it burned he built another. He backed merchants in distress with his own money. He worked hard to build State st.

The Finishing Touches

It was the 1871 fire that put the finishing touches to Lake st. as the shopping center. In the rebuilding of the city State st. moved into first place.

In 1881 Leiter retired from the retail store business and the company became known as Marshall Field & Co.

Meanwhile other names that were to become a part of State st. were figuring in the news of the Chicago business world. In the 1850s three brothers, Leon, Simon, and Emanuel Mandel, were starting careers which ultimately led to the establishment of the firm on State st. now known as Mandel Brothers.

In 1866 Andrew MacLeish joined the retail business of Carson & Pirie which was at the corner of State and Scott & Co. In January, 1875, the firm advertised in THE TRIBUNE a clearance sale at its store at Madison and Peoria sts. The firm moved to State st. in 1886. In 1904 it bought from Harry Gordon Selfridge the building which housed the establishment of Schlesinger & Mayer. The building was designed by Louis Sullivan, noted Chicago architect, and continues to be a main attraction for visiting architects.

In the 1860s C. W. and E. Partridge came to Chicago, bringing with them a lad named Charles Netcher. They opened a store on State st. gave young Netcher a share and thereby participated in the birth of the Boston store.

Establishes Silk House

Charles A. Stevens came to Chicago in 1889 and established a silk house on State st. He was joined by his four brothers and the firm now is a leader in women's apparel.

E. J. Lehmann, born in Germany

When State St. Had Mud and Horse Cars



This view of State st., looking south from Lake st., was made a few years before the Chicago fire of 1871, when horse cars pulled shoppers along the muddy streets at three miles an hour. The sidewalks were of planking.

[Chicago Historical Society]

Tribune Shares Success with Employees; Security and Benefits Are Unsurpassed

BY PHILIP KINSLEY
(On Tribune pension after 25 years as a Tribune reporter.)

Security is a word that has come to mean much in the social thinking of today. This story discusses this subject from one angle only—the relation of THE TRIBUNE to its employees.

Philip Gibbs, an English journalist, says in "Adventures in Journalism": "As nobody, according to the proverb, has ever seen a dead donkey, so nobody has ever seen a retired reporter living on the proceeds of his last lot, like business men in other adventures of life. He must go on writing and recording, getting news until the pen drops from his hand, or the little bell tinkles for the last time on his typewriter, and his head falls over an unfinished sentence."

That was Fleet Street
Well, Mr. Gibbs worked in Fleet st., not in Tribune Tower. That is one fact. Another fact is that times have changed. Among this generation of reporters the writer knows of many who are retired on the results of their last lot, plus pension, living in comfortable security away from the fever of the world. The Tribune pension roll now contains the names of 107 men and

DEEPER AND DEEPER SHE SINKS; A STORY OF MUDDY STREETS

Charles Cleaver, pioneer in the rendering, tallow, candle, and meat products business in Chicago, who was born in London in 1814 and lived here from 1833 until his death in 1893, has told some horrendous tales of early Chicago's "mud streets."

"I once saw a lady stuck in the mud in the middle of Randolph st. at the crossing of La Salle st.," he wrote. "She was evidently in need of help, as every time she moved she sank deeper and deeper. An old gentleman from the country, seeing the situation, offered to help her, which had such an effect upon her modesty that with one desperate effort she drew her feet out minus her shoes, which were afterward found over a foot deep in the mire, and reached the sidewalk in her stockings."

In 1849, came to Chicago as a youngster and got a job as a hotel bell boy. He founded the Fair store.

Henry C. Lytton, born in New York, July 13, 1846, came to Chicago in 1867 and pioneered by opening a store at the northwest corner of State and Jackson. Later he built the present Lytton building at the northeast corner of State and Jackson. He retired in 1920 but when his son George died in 1933 he returned to business.

In 1902 Maurice L. Rothschild opened a Chicago store at the southwest corner of Jackson and State. The old Rothschild company store at State and Van Buren sts. passed into the hands of Marshall Field & Co. In 1923 and was operated for a time as the Davis store. It is now the downtown store in the Goldblatt chain. Across Van Buren st. on State the former Siegel, Cooper & Co. store is now the downtown store of Sears, Roebuck & Co.

Many Other Shops
One of the oldest names in State street is that of C. D. Peacock, jeweler.

Besides the many large department stores, State st. has dozens of specialty shops and "five and tens," mostly catering to the women, but a few specialize in men's wear. The street possesses a number of fine movie theaters.

A few prominent dates in State st.'s long history follow: April 25, 1859, first horse car; Jan. 28, 1862, first cable car; July 22, 1906, electric trolley cars substituted for cable cars; Oct. 19, 1897, elevated trains started operating around the loop; Oct. 16, 1943, first subway train; Oct. 14, 1926, became brightest street in the world when President Coolidge started new \$100,000 lighting system.

As to the future? The State Street council has announced a 25 million dollar improvement program,

women from all the departments of the paper living in such places as Miami Beach, on the California coast, in the deep south, and even in London and Paris.

This reflects not only the financial stability of the organization, but the desire of its owners to share this success with employees. The Tribune bonus system, a sharing of profits in addition to salaries, has added materially in giving employees an opportunity to provide for their own security.

The Starting Wage
Forty years ago the starting wage for a reporter was \$10 a week. The best reporters had a hard time rising above \$30.

Joseph Medill of THE TRIBUNE in 1881 explained the secret of the success of the Chicago press (and by this is meant chiefly THE TRIBUNE) to the Chicago Press club as follows:

"If I were asked what is the secret of the rapid rise, the remarkable success and wide-reaching influence of the Chicago press, I should probably attribute it, in large part at least, to competition with each other, to a never ending struggle to produce the best, most comprehensive, useful, trenchant and attractive newspaper regardless of expense, and the employment of the best talent within reach in each department and subdivision of the respective establishments."

First, Last, and Always

The late Edward Scott Beck, for 30 years managing editor of THE TRIBUNE, said the secret lay in the fact that THE TRIBUNE editors were newspaper men, first, last, and all the time.

These explanations are undoubtedly correct, but there are others. In order to get the news and present it in a superior way, a newspaper must have the best talent in these fields, as Joseph Medill said. But in order to get and hold this talent there must be financial reward.

In common with other men, reporters and copywriters want to build comfortable homes, educate their families, and have time and money to enjoy leisure and beauty. In order to meet this demand the newspaper must be financially successful. Only the financially independent newspaper is free to print the news financially free and able to hire and maintain the best newspaper staff in the world.

And now we come to what, in the writer's opinion, is the best example in Tribune history of the methods and enterprise used by THE TRIBUNE to make itself free and able to build and hold a great organization of men.

Manufacture of Newsprint

It was early in this century that the momentous decision was made to have THE TRIBUNE manufacture its own newsprint. Paper on which the news is printed comprises about half the cost of publication. With a low cost, dependable supply of paper, it was decided, the future of THE TRIBUNE would be secure.

A subsidiary company, the Ontario Paper Company, was formed, and expansion began into the Canadian forests, where grew the finest supply of spruce for wood pulp on this continent. The inhospitable wilderness of eastern Quebec, on the Gulf of St. Lawrence, was chosen for this experiment, and millions of dollars were poured into it before any return was realized.

It was necessary to build a new organization, not of writers and printers, but of engineers, forestry experts, and builders. Railroads, highways, and waterways were built, a steamship company organized out of rock and cut out of forests. Within the next two decades THE TRIBUNE's Canadian organization built one of the greatest industries in Canada, one able to function independently even of the parent company, and a supply of paper at reasonable cost was assured to THE TRIBUNE and its New York offspring, the Daily News.

Always an Opportunity

Within the Canadian organization, as in the Tribune office itself, there always was opportunity for keen talent, young and old, the incentive not only of stability but of rich reward for outstanding work.

It is one of the reasons for THE TRIBUNE's independence, not only in printing the news but maintain-

ing a loyal staff capable of gathering the news. It proves that Mr. Gibbs' dismal picture of the poverty stricken, aging reporter need not exist, and explains why the reporter of Gibbs' description does not exist in the Tribune organization.

THE TRIBUNE was one of the first employers in America to initiate a comprehensive employee benefit plan, incorporating these services to its workers in one department more than a quarter of a century ago.

THE TRIBUNE's plan is so comprehensive and generous it has been copied widely throughout American industry. Many employee benefits commonplace today were pioneered in by THE TRIBUNE.

Canadian Workers Included

Today, THE TRIBUNE's plan is unsurpassed anywhere for the security and benefits it guarantees employees of this newspaper. A similar general plan extends to all subsidiary companies of THE TRIBUNE, including workers in its great newspaper production industry and steamship line in Canada.

Among the main benefits all Tribune employees receive after passing medical and dental examinations upon starting employment are sickness and accident pay up to 26 weeks' full pay and a like amount of half pay after 10 years' service, safety measures, maternity leaves, free emergency treatments, free dental prophylaxis, free nursing service and visiting nurse service, vacations of three weeks with pay, and a liberal pension plan to which employees do not contribute.

Group Life Insurance

The company offers group life insurance at extremely low rates with the first \$1,000 of insurance free, and a supplemental pension and insurance program for eligible employees which is free. The benefit plan includes wedding gifts to newly married employees.

Three important services of the plan are the Medill Building and Loan association which combines a savings plan and home financing, the Dearborn Mutual Benefit association, a contributory death benefit plan, and the Chicago Tribune Employees' Credit union, combining savings and loans. All are located in Tribune Tower.

The building and loan association has financed 787 homes for Tribune employees, lending them \$3,953,125 on mortgages, and has \$24,797 in tax deposits on hand from members so that no Tribune worker financing thru the association is delinquent on a tax payment. The solvency of the employees using this service is indicated in the fact that the association has \$70,064 in advance payments on real estate loans.

Third Own Own Homes

Another indication of the stability of Tribune employees is that nearly one-third of them own their own homes. A total of 1,117 homes are owned by the 3,725 employees of THE TRIBUNE company, Chicago Tribune Building corporation, and W-G-N, Inc., immediate affiliates of THE TRIBUNE in Chicago. This amounts to an even 30 per cent, while the proportion is somewhat higher for Tribune company employees alone, 972 of the 3,200 total owning their own homes.

There are 68 home owners among the 225 Chicago Tribune Building corporation employees, or 30.2 per cent, while 77 of the 300 W-G-N employees, or 25.7 per cent, own their own homes.

Home owners by departments in THE TRIBUNE company include accounting, 47; guards, 16; advertising, 95; production, 5; purchasing, 4; business office, 11; editorial, 101; pressrooms, 105; roto etching, 28; engraving, 61; stereotype, 27; composing, 155; ink plant, 3; maintenance, 47; receiving, 119; job printing and stockroom, 4, and circulation, delivery, and mailing, 144.

Aid to Service Personnel

One of the most generous features of the benefit plan was the supplementary compensation for employees in military service, wherein the company paid the difference between military pay and pre-service pay up to 100 per cent for employees with families, and cash bonuses for single employees.

Every Tribune worker in service during the last war was accorded military leave and full seniority for military service and a job equal to or better than the one he left was waiting for him when he returned.

LABOR MARCHES TO NEW POWER IN 100 YEAR SPAN

\$1 a Day Wages Paid
Laborers in 1847

BY GEORGE HARTMANN

The most important single social phenomenon THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE has recorded during its first century has been the organization of labor, the realization by the working man that he has enormous economic and political power when he joins in solidarity with his fellow laborers.

THE TRIBUNE, over the century, has told this great story, affecting the lives of everybody, accurately and fairly. It has always been a labor conscious paper.

Labor news is big news because the social force of labor organizing always has been dramatic and filled with great strife. Sometimes it has been characterized by bloody street fighting, murders, and arson.

Legislative Battles

More frequently, the battles have been waged in legislative chambers, courtrooms, or in private conferences, but they have been just as dramatic. The fate of the people has hung upon them. Always, THE TRIBUNE has told the facts.

THE TRIBUNE's editorial opinions often have not coincided with the ambitions and designs of the particular labor groups which have been active, but always they have been predicated on the general welfare of the community or nation.

In its personal relationships with organized labor, THE TRIBUNE has been successful and happy because it has been fair to its employees. It has employed union labor for as long as there have been unions in Chicago in the type of work affecting it.

Union employees of THE TRIBUNE today enjoy bonuses, advantages, and benefits far beyond those received by members of the same union in other employment, and they have for many years.

The position of labor in society 100 years ago today is of interest as a gauge of what has happened since.

Laborers on the Illinois and Michigan canal were getting \$1 a day in 1847. They struck for \$1.25 and were not successful. It was a 12 hour day.

Store clerks worked 12 hours a day except on Saturdays and inventory days, and other special occasions, when they might work 18 or 20 hours. They were paid from \$2 to \$6 a week.

Plentiful Labor Supply

Other labor was paid in proportion. The highest skilled labor, machinists and artificers, received \$1.25 for a 12 hour day.

Labor was plentiful, with Irish, German, and Scandinavian immigrants crowding the seaways to America and to Chicago. At the same time, life was far from miserable and the pay was in no sense "starvation wages."

Food was plentiful and extremely cheap. Meat could be bought for pennies or could be brought down with a rifle, and gardens grew at State and Madison sts. A fine home could be rented for \$50 a year.

There was little leisure time for either the laborer or his boss, but there was little to do with leisure time. Entertainment and luxuries were scarce for both of them. Formal education was about on a par for laborer and employer. Employers generally were uneducated men who had risen on ingenuity, hard work, luck, and a little capital.

An Era of Capitalists

It was an era of capital. Men seldom went money, even on short term and with prime security, for less than 12 per cent. The usual annual interest rate was around 30 or 40 per cent.

There were no labor unions and this general picture did not change appreciably for the next 40 years. Many early labor unions of 1840 and 1850 died during the panic of 1873. Labor legislation, if it could be considered such, was strictly repressive.

In the 1880s, when the order of Knights of Labor, the first militant, aggressive, and successful amalgamation of laboring men, stirred into life, labor legislation in Illinois amounted to the following:

There was an 8 hour day law on the books, passed in 1867, but it was virtually defunct because of a "prior contract" provision, and the courts held that hiring a man to work 12 hours a day was a "prior contract."

Law Amended Frequently

There was a mechanics' lien law, but it had been amended frequently after passage in 1824. There was an amendment to the garnishment law exempting very small wages. The state let prison labor from Joliet and Chester out on contract for as little as 50 cents a day each.

Another statute, the La Salle "black law" of 1863, provided that any person "who by threat, intimidation, or otherwise seeks to prevent any other person from working at any unlawful business on any terms that he may see fit" might be fined \$100.

The same law imposed a \$500 fine on "any persons combining to deprive the owner of the lawful use and management of property or to prevent other persons from being employed by him on such terms as they may agree upon." This statute was as dead as the 8 hour day law, and no grand jury indictment had been brought under it since 1865, but it was a tacit threat to labor organizers.

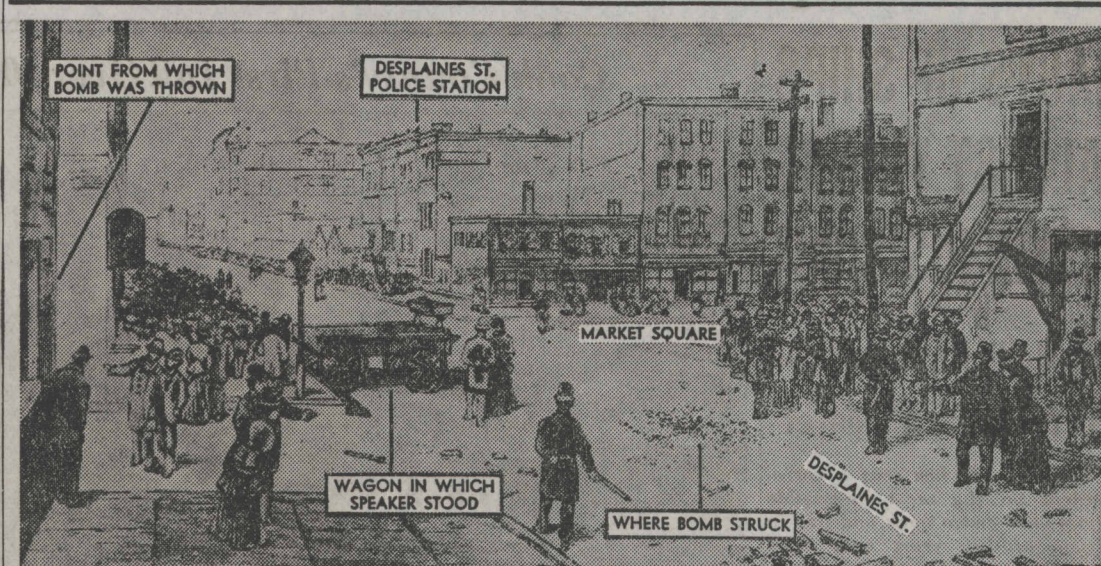
A Phenomenal Success

Beginning in 1884, the Knights of Labor achieved phenomenal success, and the older trade unions revived along with them. By the middle of 1886, as prosperity returned after the 1873 panic, it was reported that 328 trade unions and 306 Knights of Labor assemblies had a total membership of 100,843 in Illinois.

This was approximately 54 per cent of all Illinois workers employed in manufacture, an exceedingly high ratio. It was estimated that 47 per cent of these union members were new, having joined within the last 30 months.

It was in this period that the Illinois State Federation of Labor, the oldest and greatest single body of

Contemporary View of Scene of Haymarket Riot



Haymarket riot scene as drawn by Leslie's Weekly artist shortly after event.

Tribune's Varied Promotions Bring Enjoyment to Millions

BY PHILIP MAXWELL

THE CHICAGO TRIBUNE has won nationwide prominence for its sponsorship of promotions in a wide variety of activities.

You name it and this newspaper will find a spot during the year for you to have the time of your life, for with THE TRIBUNE, promotions and reader participation are synonymous.

Four million persons take part in these productions and more than two and one-half million dollars have been turned over to charitable organizations.

The sports department's All-Star football game between college all-stars and professional champions is an annual spectacle that has attracted a million fans to Soldier's field and Dyche stadium since 1934.

The Music Festivals

Music lovers have played a merry tune on the 17 Chicago Land Music Festival turnstiles on each third Saturday night in August at Soldier's field. More than 1,600,000 persons have sung under August stars at these festivals since 1930. Stars appearing have included John Charles Thomas, Lawrence Tibbett, Gladys Swarthout, Helen Traubel, Al Jolson, Marion Claire, and the late John Philip Sousa.

More than 15,000 guests in the last 10 years have attended the festival luncheon which is held the day before the festival.

Arch Ward, Tribune sports editor, who directs this newspaper's charity organizations, reports that this year more than 100,000 flying fists entered the nationwide Golden Gloves tournaments. More than one and one-quarter million fans attended the bouts in Chicago alone since they were inaugurated in 1928.

Starts All-Star Baseball Game

In 1933 Ward originated the All-Star baseball game and 49,500 fans attended the first one in Comiskey park. Players were picked in a national poll conducted by THE TRIBUNE. The game returns this summer to Wrigley field.

Other sports events are the charity week of racing, started in 1942, in which THE National Jockey club donates profits to Chicago Tribune Charities, Inc.; Silver Stakes, Tribune swimming meet, Silver Football award, Free Golf School, All-Star National Individual Match Bowling Championship, a tennis clinic, and the Tribune casting tournament.

Annual Fashions Competition

THE TRIBUNE also puts the promotional spotlight on women readers. For them have been held congresses at which current topics

were discussed; cooking schools and press clinics.

The American Fashions Competition was inaugurated by THE TRIBUNE in 1940 to stimulate interest in the creation of American fashions by Americans. It has brought attention to Chicago as a fashion capital.

In 1938 and for four successive years more than 80,000 attended the police and fire thrill show in Soldier's field; in 1933, 60,000 spectators applauded "The Romance of the People," a pageant, also in Soldier's field, and in 1943, 1,301,756 people visited three displays of American fighting equipment.

More than 350,000 attended an all-around demonstration staged by the 202d artillery of the Illinois national guard in October, 1939, in Grant park. This event was jointly sponsored by THE TRIBUNE and the national guard.

Medals to Cadets

Even before the establishment of R. O. T. C. in the Chicago public schools, THE TRIBUNE was an ardent supporter of military training and now awards gold and silver R. O. T. C. medals to outstanding cadets in more than 100 universities, colleges, normal schools, military academies and high schools in eight midwestern states.

Since 1920 THE TRIBUNE has awarded thousands of dollars to city policemen and firemen for their heroic deeds.

For three years during the last war THE TRIBUNE gave 25 trophies for distinguished service to rifle regiments and individual companies of the Illinois reserve militia.

In 1932 more than 150,000 persons paid admissions to witness the American air races and it was estimated that 200,000 watched it from roofs, trees and other vantage points outside the airport.

Readers who wish to help those less fortunate at Christmas join the Tribune Good Fellows. Tribune readers also give to the Algonquin summer camp in Fox river valley, established for needy children and tired mothers; join choirs which sing in forest preserves; share their dollars to buy ice to keep little Johnnie's milk cold in the summer time; and help Sally Joy Brown find crutches for Tiny Tim.

Sharing the Lilacs

They also made possible the Share Your Lilacs campaign which, thru the cooperation of the Chicago Plant, Flower and Fruit club, took flowers to invalids and shut-ins.

The latest Tribune promotion is the "Better Rooms for Better Living" interior decorating contest with 161 cash prizes totaling \$26,250.

PLANKING PROVIDES FIRST PAVING—WITH DISASTROUS RESULTS

Chicago's first effort at paving streets was to "plank" Lake st. about the time THE TRIBUNE was founded, 100 years ago. This consisted of laying pine timbers on top of the mud of the street after it had been dug down about to lake level.

"It was supposed that the sewage would settle in the gutters and be carried off, but the experiment was a disastrous failure for the stench at once became intolerable," one old settler wrote. The city fathers then decided to raise the grade of the streets to provide better drainage. Buildings had to be raised to the street level, and as one historian put it: "For a year or two Chicago lived mostly on jack-screws and grade people had to go up and down stairs two or three times in passing a single block."

the same period, and the "Debs war" of 1894 are other Chicago products, occurring in this city incident with the growth of her labor movement.

Chicago was also the city in which characters such as William Z. Foster, Earl Browder, and Ben Gitlow, who later recanted communism and resigned from the communist international, had their rise and cemented together a Communist party.

"Practically Dead" by 1890

Staley reports that the Illinois State Federation of Labor, "launched so auspiciously in 1884, was practically dead by 1890," and he blames as one of the chief factors for it the Haymarket riots of 1886 and the "anarchist hysteria" which followed, resulting in a public revolution against organized labor.

The period from 1886 to 1890 saw efforts of the new federation to take independent political action thru the formation of the United Labor party, but because of factional splits this party was declared to be a "complete fiasco" in its only test at the polls.

It is true, however, that the political movement in organized labor in the '80s and '90s aroused an enormous amount of interest in the problems of labor and brought the labor vote to the attention of politicians.

Altho great strides were made by the ISFL both in aiding local affiliates to organize workers throughout Illinois and in legislative gains for

the protection of workers, it was not until 1913, when Victor A. Olander was elected secretary-treasurer, that responsible labor leadership began to consolidate real gains for the union working man in Illinois.

Staley, in his University of Chicago study, describes Olander as an executive, a careful and analytical thinker, a systematic office man, and a dependable labor leader, known in the ranks of workmen as "one of the brainiest men in the labor movement."

Olander was born in Chicago in 1873, attended public schools for about six years, worked in a factory for two years, and then set out on the Great Lakes as a sailor. In 1901 the Lake Seamen's union selected him as one of its business agents. Two years later he was made assistant secretary of the union.

A Rapid Rise

His rise was rapid. He was a member of the union's national legislative committee working in congress for emancipation of workers on the sea, a job which resulted finally in the Seamen's act of 1915. He was second vice president of the International Seamen's Union of America in 1902, general secretary of the Lake Seamen's union in 1909, and secretary and treasurer of the international in 1925.

Olander, the seaman, had seen his comrades handcuffed and forced to work, or sent to jail when they refused to work.

Olander, the legislative representative of Illinois labor, still thinks and feels in terms of freedom. Freedom is his watchword and his passion. "The free man or the slave" is his constant theme. He is mental rather than emotional in his approach to the laboring man's problems.