

## **Constitution and by-laws of Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9**

The constitution and by-laws of the Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9 of Coffeyville, Kansas. The purpose of this union was to unite and associate all bricklayers to help secure work that was in their best interests.

Creator: Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9

Date: January 14, 1907

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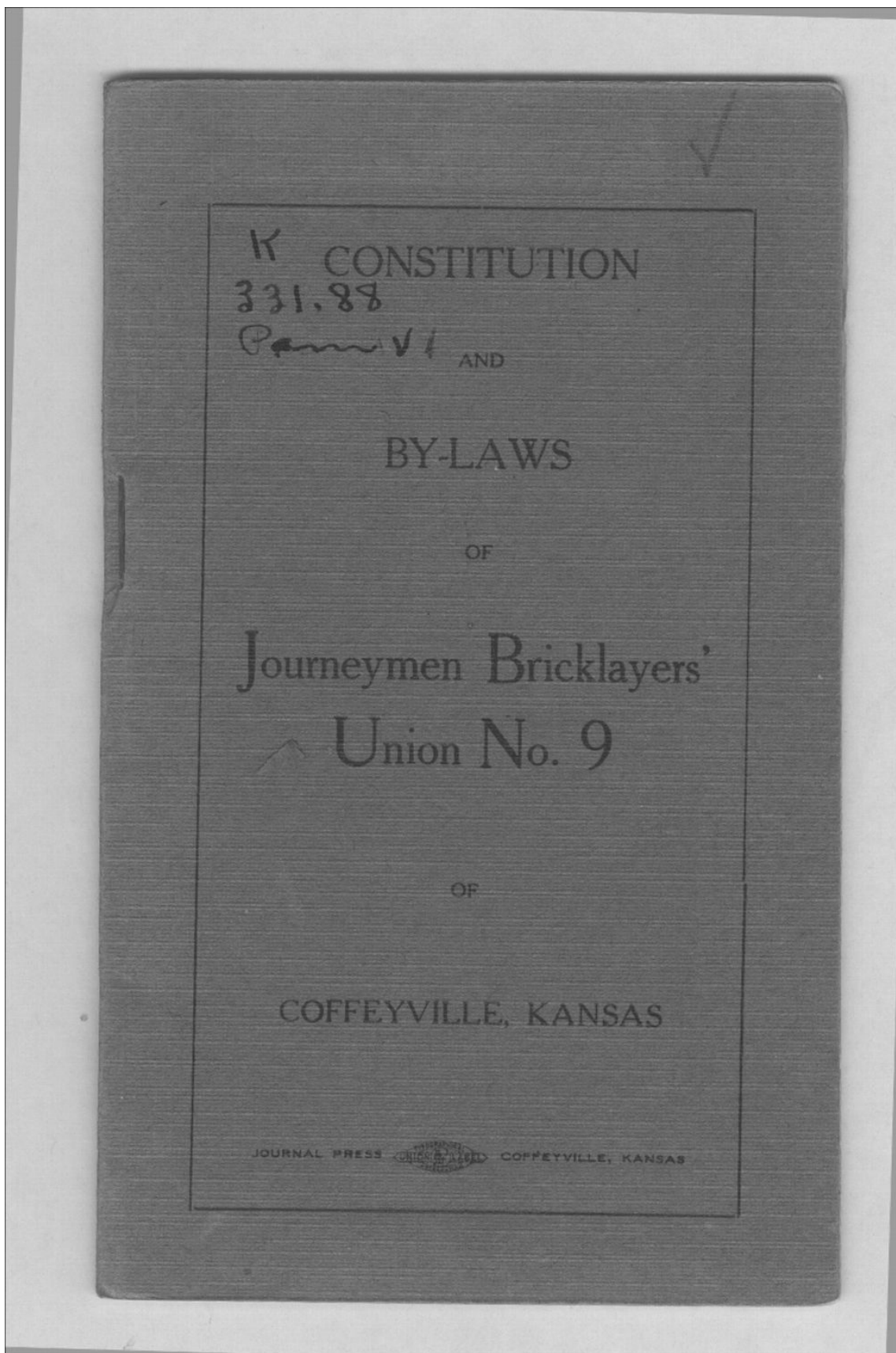
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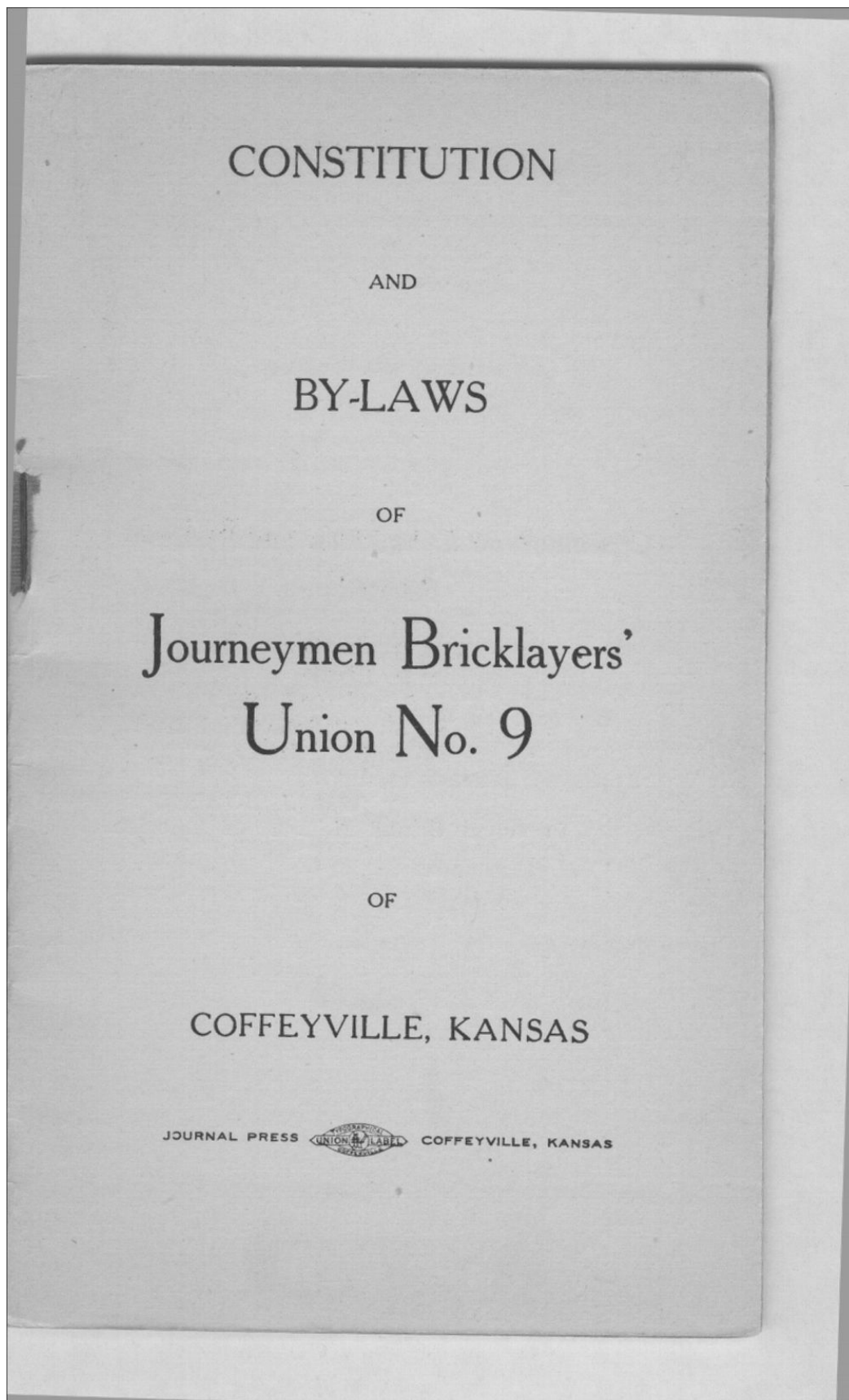
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## Constitution and by-laws of Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9



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Committee on Constitution and By-Laws  
Revised

W. H. TOWNE,  
A. R. LOVE,  
JAS. O'CONNORS,  
F. M. GUNSENHouser,  
L. A. BLAKLEY.

Approved, January 14, 1907.

WM. J. BOWEN,  
President B. and M. I. U. of America.

## Constitution and by-laws of Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9

### ORDER OF BUSINESS.

- 1—Roll call of officers.
- 2—Excuse of officers.
- 3—Reading of the minutes.
- 4—Nomination and election of officers.
- 5—Report of committee.
- 6—Has any brother a friend to propose for membership.
- 7—Election of candidates.
- 8—Conductor will retire and see if there are any candidates for initiation. If so, report.
- 9—Communications and bills.
- 10—Are there any brothers out of work?
- 11—Does any brother know of anybody wanting bricklayers?
- 12—Stewards report.
- 13—Unfinished business.
- 14—New business.
- 15—General good of the order.
- 16—Report of financial secretary.
- 16—Adjournment.
- 18—Roll call of members at each monthly meeting.



## Constitution and by-laws of Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9

### PREAMBLE.

**Whereas,** An experience has demonstrated the ability of concentrated efforts in arriving at specific ends, and it is an evident fact that if the dignity of labor is preserved it must be done by united action; and

**Whereas,** Believing the truth of the following maxims, that "in union there is strength," and that "self preservation is the first law of nature," we hold that the justice and truth of the principles of industry, sobriety and the proper regard for our fellow-men, form the basis upon which the true principles of unionism rests; we therefore recognize no rules or principles which elevate wealth above industry or the professional man above the working man; we recognize no distinctions in society except those based upon worth, usefulness and good order, and no superiority except that granted by the Great Architect of our existence; and believing that by organization only can the equality of capital and industry be attained, therefore, be it

Resolved, That each member read and fully digest the following rules, and it will be found that by strictly adhering to the same the evils attending our occupation, the advancement of the rights and privileges of labor, the cultivation of brotherly affection and mutual regard for each other's welfare, cannot fail to be the result, and every good member of this Union will admire and expect that we will have obtained it by our united preserverance and exertions.

Deeply impressed with these considerations, and in order to embrace the benefits which may be derived from our Union, we have adopted the following rules and regulations for our guidance:

## Constitution and by-laws of Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9

### CONSTITUTION

#### ARTICLE I.

##### Title and Object.

Section 1. This union shall be known as the Coffeyville Bricklayers' Union, No. Nine (9), of the B. and M. I. U. of Kansas.

Sec. 2. The object of this union shall be to unite and associate together all practical bricklayers, for the purpose of securing concert of action in whatever may be regarded as conducive to their interests.

#### ARTICLE II.

##### Officers.

Section 1. The officers of this union shall consist of a president, vice president, recording secretary and treasurer, financial secretary and corresponding secretary, a board of three trustees, a committee of arbitration, a deputy and an alternate deputy, sergeant-at-arms, conductor and appointive office.

#### ARTICLE III.

##### Officers—How Chosen and Term of Office.

Section 1. Each officer elected in this union shall be elected by ballot except sergeant-at-arms and conductor—appointive, and shall hold his term of office one year unless removed for conduct unbecoming his official station.

Sec. 2. The deputy and alternate deputy shall be elected at the first meeting in December and hold their term of office for one year. Upon the death or resignation of the deputy the alternate shall take the office of deputy and an alternate shall be elected and installed at the next regular meeting.





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Sec. 3. Should a vacancy occur in any office, by resignation or otherwise, the union shall proceed to elect a successor to serve the remainder of the term of the original incumbent.

Sec. 4. The nomination shall take place the second meeting night in December and the election on the following meeting night. It shall require a majority of all votes cast to elect. If there is no election on the first ballot the lowest candidate shall be dropped, and so on until one shall receive a majority.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### Installation of Officers.

Section 1. The installation of officers will take place on the last meeting night in December. Any officer may be removed from office for conduct unbecoming his official station or for neglect or inattention to his official duties.

Sec. 2. Any officer of this union absenting himself from the regular meeting, unless in case of sickness or death in the family, or absence from the city, or shall be excused otherwise, the fine of twenty-five cents for every night of such absence.

Sec. 3. Any officer of this union absenting himself three successive nights without a reasonable excuse or leave of absence, his office shall be declared vacant.

Sec. 4. All vacancies shall be filled in the same manner as the former incumbent for the residue of the term, except they shall be nominated, elected and installed the same night.

### ARTICLE V.

#### Duties of Officers.

Section 1. The president shall preside at all meetings of the union, decide all questions of order (subject to appeal) and enforce the by-



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laws, rules and regulations of this union, sign all orders on the treasurer, that may be passed and certified to by the recording secretary; he shall call all special meetings when requested in writing to do so by seven members; appoint all committees not otherwise provided for, and perform such other duties pertaining to the office of president which the by-laws of this union may require of him.

### **Duties of the Vice President.**

Sec. 2. The vice president shall assist the president in the discharge of his official duties, and in his absence discharge the duties of the president. He shall have charge of the door and admission of members during the session of this union.

### **Duties of Recording Secretary.**

Sec. 3. (A) The recording secretary shall attend all meetings and keep a correct record of all proceedings of each meeting, and record the same in a book provided for that purpose; he shall keep a record of all fined and suspended members of this union, which record he shall let the financial secretary have from time to time, so that he can enter these fines on his book. He shall also keep a list of deceased members, and performe such other duties as may be incidental to his office. On retiring from his office he shall immediately turn over his books, papers, and such property belonging to the union. For the performance of the duties of recording secretary he shall receive 50 cents per meeting night.

### **Duties of Treasurer.**

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the treasurer to receive all moneys from the financial secretary, giving him a receipt for the same; pay all orders signed by the president with the seal



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of this union attached to the same. He shall deposit all moneys he may have in his possession, after paying the orders of the evening, and he shall at no time retain more than fifty (\$50.00) dollars in his possession of funds belonging to this union. He shall be furnished a bank book from the bank where deposited, and such moneys shall be deposited the following day after meeting; and he shall present said book for inspection each meeting night, if so required by the union, and at the expiration of his term of office he shall turn over all property belonging to the union to his successor in office, and he shall have his books at all times ready for inspection by the trustees of the union. For the performance of the duties of treasurer he shall receive 50 cents per meeting night. A bond of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars must be furnished by the officer, cost of same to be paid by the union.

### **Duties of Financial Secretary and Corresponding Secretary.**

Sec. 5. (A) It shall be the duty of the financial secretary to keep a just account between the union and its members; announce the money received every meeting, and immediately hand it over to the treasurer and take his receipt for the same. In the absence of the treasurer he shall hand it to the chairman of the board of trustees. He shall also make out a list of delinquent members every quarter, of such as are three months in arrears, and a list of such as are six months in arrears; he shall also keep a delinquent list in a separate place in his book, or secure a book for that purpose at the expense of the union; he shall also keep an enrollment of the name and residence of each member, and he shall also read the names of all members not taking out their working card



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two weeks after the regular card night. At the expiration of his term of office, he shall turn over all property of his office belonging to this union to his successor.

### **Duties of Corresponding Secretary.**

Sec. 5. (B) It shall be the duty of the corresponding secretary to receive all communications addressed to this union, read the same in open meeting and answer such as provided for by article 17, sections 10, 11, 12 and 13, of the International. For the performance of the duties of corresponding and financial secretary he shall receive one (\$1.00) dollar per meeting night. A bond of five hundred (\$500.00) dollars must be furnished by this officer, cost of same to be paid for by this union.

### **Duty of Conductor.**

Sec. 6. The conductor shall examine the members in the pass word at the opening of the meeting and report to the president such members as are without the pass word. He shall assist in the initiation of new members and admission by cards; canvas all votes on motions and resolutions, and he shall be messenger of the president and the union.

### **The Duty of Sargeant-at-Arms.**

Sec. 7. The sargeant-at-arms, under the vice president, shall have special charge of the door. Under no circumstances shall he permit any one to enter the hall who is not qualified, unless directed to do so by the vice president. Should any member at any time during the meeting, behave in a disorderly manner, by being intoxicated, or in any other disorderly manner disturbing the meeting so as to interfere with the business of the meeting, and if he should be requested to leave the hall by the presiding officer, and if he refuses to obey, it shall be the





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duty of the sargeant-at-arms to eject the disorderly brother, and if necessary, to call on any member, or all, to assist him in the performance of his duties; and should any brother when called upon, refuse to assist the sargeant-at-arms in the performance of his duties, the same may be fined, as the president may see fit.

### **Duty of Trustees.**

Sec. 8. It shall be the duty of the trustees to act in the capacity of the finance committee of the union. They shall at the end of every month, or quarter, audit the books of the financial secretary and treasurer, and make their report in writing, giving an itemized accout of the financial condition of the union. They shall have general control of all property of the union and they shall have power to invest all moneys which the union may place in their keeping in a safe and profitable manner (subject to the approval of the union). They shall make a report in writing of their actions at the end of each quarter.

Sec. 9. All officers at the expiration of their official term (or removal from office) shall deliver to the trustees all books, papers, moneys, any other property that they may have in their possession belonging to the union. No officer shall be relieved from the responsibility of his official station until he has complied with the requirements of this section and his successor has been duly installed and qualified.

### **Duty of Deputy.**

Sec. 10. It shall be the duty of the deputy to install all officers and members of this union, and see that the laws of this constitution are rigidly enforced, and perform all duties prescribed by article 21 of the International Constitution. In the absence of the deputy, the

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alternate shall discharge the duties of the deputy.

### ARTICLE VI.

## See I. U. Constitution

For Trials and Penalties

### ARTICLE VII.

#### General Good of the Union.

Section 1. Any member can take work to the amount of \$150.00 and not be considered a contractor. Any member wishing to become a contractor must take out a withdrawal card, which he can deposit with \$20.00 and again become a member providing he has not violated any laws of this union. No withdrawal card will be issued unless applicant is square on the books.

Sec. 2. Any member found guilty of giving estimates to any person, contractor or otherwise with intent of contracting before he has withdrawn from the union, shall be fined not less than ten (\$10.00) dollars.

Sec. 3. If any members of this union are at work on a job, where the laws of this union are involved in a dispute, the same shall not be called off, but shall continue to work on said job, and the question of dispute shall be adjusted by the committee of arbitration, and it shall be the duty of the steward on said job to immediately notify the arbitration committee, and they, as soon as notified, shall proceed immediately to inquire and adjust such questions involved.

Sec. 4. Each member of this union shall pay such sums for monthly dues as the by-laws may specify (unless otherwise provided). Any mem-





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ber omitting to pay the same shall be read delinquent and dealt with as the by-laws prescribe.

Sec. 5. This union shall not be dissolved as long as there are seven members willing to continue it, and seven members shall constitute a quorum. Nor shall the funds or property of this union be divided in any manner among the members as long as there are four dissenting votes.

Sec. 6. Eight hours shall constitute a day's work, commencing at 8 o'clock a. m., and ceasing at 5 o'clock p. m.

Sec. 7. All over-time shall be time and a half time, and all Sundays, Christmas, and July 4th, shall be paid double time. In case of emergency this union shall have power to regulate the working of more than one gang on any job and designate the hours to be worked by the same. In no case shall work be done on Labor Day.

Sec. 7½. Any member or members of this Union going to work before time is called shall be fined five dollars (\$5.00).

Sec. 8. Masonry: Bricklaying masonry shall consist of the laying of bricks in, under or upon, any structure or form of work where bricks are used, whether in the ground or over its surface, or beneath water; in commercial buildings, rolling mills, iron works, blast or smelter furnaces, in mines or fortifications, and all underground work, such as sewers, telegraph, electric, and telephone conduits, where a trowel and mortar are used, and all pointing, cleaning and cutting of brick walls, or other work requiring the labor of a skilled person. Fireproofing, block arching, terra cotta cutting and setting, where done on a building, and the cutting of rock faced brick, and the setting of



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all cut stone trimmings on brick buildings, is considered bricklayers' work, for which the regular rate of wages for the locality must be charged, as the same is considered brick masonry. The cutting, rubbing and grinding of all kinds of arch brick must be done by members of the B. and M. I. U.

Sec. 9. Stone masonry shall consist of laying all rubble work, with or without mortar, setting all cut stone in yard or in quarries by stone cutters, when the same is covered by stone; cutting all shoddies, including all broken Ashlar, rock-faced Ashlar, range of random Ashlar, jams, corners and ringstones, and laying of same, and cleaning and pointing of stone work.

This is to apply to all work on buildings, sewers, bridges, railroads or other public works where the same can be controlled by the union in locality, and to all kinds of stone, particularly to the product of the locality where the work is to be done, and the same shall be considered stone masonry.

Sec. 10. Artificial Masonry: The cutting, setting and pointing of cement blocks or artificial stone, and all cement that is used for backing up external walls, the building of party walls, columns, girders, beams, floors, stairs, arches and plaster block partitions, where substituted for brick, shall be done by the bricklayers, and where substituted for stone, shall be done by stonemasons, and all subordinate unions shall have this section and paragraphs inserted in their constitutions and by-laws.

Sec. 11. Agreements and Arbitration: Desiring to keep pace with the progress of the times, after profiting by many years experience, and believing that most all labor troubles can be settled and rectified through the channels



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of reason and conciliation without having recourse of strikes, the International Union ordains that all Subordinate Unions under its jurisdiction must embody in their constitution or by-laws a general law, providing for a form of agreement with employers, and the establishment of a joint committee of arbitration, for the purpose of establishing a means whereby all questions of dispute between themselves and employers can be peaceably settled.

Sec. 12. The form and nature of such agreement shall govern such matters of interest as are most likely to form subjects of dispute, such as the regulation of the rate of wages per hour for general work, the rate per hour for extra or overtime, specifying the rate and hours for each, the rate for holidays, and specifying the same, the number of hours worked per day, the government and regulation of apprentices, and such other questions or rules as may be of joint benefit to employers and employees represented by such agreement. Such agreement shall remain in effect and force from one year from date agreed upon, or until changed by subsequent agreement. All questions to be settled by this committee must be referred to it without being exclusively acted upon independently by either association. Such agreement shall not include any clause binding members of Subordinate Unions to work for only members of Master Builders' Associations; this law not to interfere with agreements made with employers, which includes all work of masonry prescribed by the I. U. law.

Sec. 13. The formation of these articles of agreement shall be the work of the joint committee on arbitration, which committee shall consist of not less than three members from each of the associations represented (and it



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should be expressly agreed that all questions pertaining to the mason trade should be settled by those connected therewith, and none others) and it shall consider all matters of mutual interest to employers and workmen as may be referred to it, and its decision and findings shall be conclusive and binding upon all parties concerned.

Sec. 14. It should also be understood and agreed upon by both parties, that pending all differences submitted to the committee for action, that work shall proceed without stopping. The Subordinate Unions shall, in their laws, specify when the members of this joint committee shall be elected, state their duties, and they shall be governed by such rules of procedure as such joint committee may adopt for its government.

Sec. 15. In localities where there are three or more unions in one jurisdiction, each union will elect but one delegate to such committee on arbitration, the number of delegates representing the employers to be of the same number as there are delegates from the unions.

Sec. 16. In localities where there are but two unions, one a bricklayers' and one a stonemasons' union, each union shall elect three delegates to meet a like number of employers, and they can all act in one joint committee, or each branch can form its own joint committees. In this latter case, the conclusion of both joint committees must in nowise conflict with the rights guaranteed to members by this constitution.

### ARTICLE VIII.

#### Traveling and Working Cards.

Section 1. Any member in good standing desiring to leave the jurisdiction of this union





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shall, on payment of all arrearages, be entitled to receive an International Traveling Card.

Sec. 2. Any member of the I. U. coming into the jurisdiction of this union on a Traveling Card must pay \$1.00 to the death fund. If a death does not occur between the time he pays the \$1.00 and draws a Traveling Card, said \$1.00 must be returned to member.

Sec. 3. Working Cards:—It shall be the duty of the Financial Secretary, at the commencement of each quarter to furnish each member who has paid his indebtedness to the union, a card stating such fact and granting permission in the name of the union to all members to work with them for three months from date thereof.

Sec. 4. Any member who is working in the jurisdiction of this union who fails to take out his Working Card on the first meeting night of each quarter, shall, with the consent of the union, be granted a permit to work one week; no member to be granted more than five permits in one quarter. Each permit to cost ten cents in cash.

Sec. 5. When a member withdraws his Traveling Card and draws his \$1.00 from the mortality fund, he shall not be entitled to any death benefit in case of death.

### ARTICLE IX.

Section 1. The union shall not allow any contractor or firm to employ more than one apprentice, and said apprentice shall remain at the business for four years. And no contractor will be allowed to have an apprentice unless he has been a contractor in the jurisdiction of this union at least one year, and he must keep his said apprentice employed during the build-

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ing season. Said contractor shall pay his apprentice the sum of seven (\$7.00- dollars per week straight time for the first year from April 1st to December 1st, and ten (\$10.00) dollars per week from April 1st to December 1st, the second year. From December 1st to April 1st, the first two years shall be pro rata for time worked, third year to be optional with contractor and union and fourth year not less than one (\$1.00) off the regular scale. No apprentice shall leave his employer before his term of apprenticeship expires without a written discharge from his employer, stating cause, etc. Each and every apprentice binding himself to serve a stated term shall be required to fill his contract with his employer or leave the business entirely.

Sec. 2. Any registered apprentice who is a son of a member of this union will be allowed to work on any job with his father (in case his employer has no work) and there is not more than one apprentice on the job at the time.

Sec. 3. And in no case shall any contractor enter into indentures with any boy who is over eighteen years of age to secure him as an apprentice. "Eighteen years of age" shall be construed as meaning that a boy is eighteen years of age until he is nineteen.

Sec. 4. Said boy shall take the required obligation as required by the union. He shall present himself to this union with his indentures properly signed, and to whom assigned, and for how long a time, a copy of which he shall deposit with the Financial Secretary and receive from him an apprentice card with his name and the name of his employer printed on the same, and he must present himself at each quarterly meeting and have his card renewed,





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or he will be subject to the same penalties as members of this union.

Sec. 5. In case a contractor shall retire from business he shall give the apprentice a written discharge, and said apprentice shall present himself to the union with such discharge, and shall be granted a permit to finish his time with any contractor who has not more than one apprentice.

Sec. 6. In case a contractor gives his apprentice a discharge he will not be allowed to have another apprentice until said apprentice has finished his time, unless said contractor shows good cause.

Sec. 7. The apprentice shall pay one half of the regular initiation fee on taking obligation, also one half of the regular dues. At the expiration of his time having been vouched for by two members he shall become a full member.

### ARTICLE X.

#### On Representation.

Section 1. One or more delegates may be elected representatives from this union, as provided in the International Constitution, his or their expenses to be paid by the union.

### ARTICLE XI.

#### Miscellaneous.

Section 1. Any member found guilty of divulging any private business of this union, giving the names or description in any way of any person or persons who speak for or against any person or matter in question, shall be fined the sum of five (\$5.00) dollars. All charges in this article to be as provided for in article 6.

### ARTICLE XII.

Section 1. This constitution and by-laws can-



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not be altered or amended, except by petition in writing, signed by nine members, at a regular meeting, and said alteration stated in writing and read at two (2) regular meetings before any action can be had. It will require seven-eighths of the members to vote in the affirmative of the changes proposed, except where there is a committee appointed for revision of constitution and by-laws, when it will only require two-thirds vote in the affirmative of the change proposed, and this article 12 and section 1 shall not be construed in any manner as to affect article 7, section 7.

### ARTICLE XIII.

Section 1. The arbitration committee shall settle all disputes that may arise on any job when notified to do so, as provided for in section 4 of article 7. They shall also discharge any other duties ordered by this union, their action to be subject to the approval of this union.

#### Committee of Constitution and By-Laws Revised.

W. H. TOWNE,  
A. R. LOVE,  
JAS. O'CONNORS,  
F. M. GUNSENHouser,  
L. A. BLAKLEY.

Approved, January 14, 1907.

WM. J. BOWEN,  
President B. and M. I. U. of America.



## Constitution and by-laws of Journeymen Bricklayers' Union No. 9

### BY-LAWS

#### ARTICLE I.

Section 1. The regular meetings of this union shall be held once a week. The hours of meeting shall be as follows: From the first of April to the first of November, at 8 o'clock p. m., and from the first of November to the first of April, at 7:30 p. m.

Sec. 2. The meeting shall be organized within fifteen minutes of the time specified in section 1 of article 1, providing there is a quorum present. Seven members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

#### ARTICLE II.

##### Nomination and Election of Officers.

Section 1. Nomination for elective officers shall be made at the regular meeting previous to the election. No member of this union will be eligible to nomination or election to any office or committee in this union if he is not present at the meeting making the said nomination, or election.

Sec. 2. The president shall appoint two tellers to conduct the election. The president shall declare the result of the election.

Sec. 3. No candidate shall be elected to office unless he is clear on the secretary's book.

Sec. 4. All officers will be installed at the first meeting after election.

Sec. 5. All officers of this union shall serve without compensation, except when otherwise provided, and no member of this union shall become a candidate for an elective office who has not been a resident and a member at least two months in the jurisdiction of this union ex-





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cept as representative to the International Union.

Sec. 6. All members shall belong to this union sixty days before allowed to vote on wages.

### ARTICLE III.

#### Dues and Fines.

Section 1. The dues of each member shall be 50 cents per month, payable quarterly, in advance.

Sec. 2. The Financial Secretary shall make out and present to the union at least every quarter, a list of names of members in arrears for dues.

Sec. 3. Any member who, after being notified of his indebtedness, does not report at the next regular meeting, shall be fined not less than one dollar, or suspended, as the union may determine.

Sec. 4. Any member fined must pay the fine when taking out the next quarter's card, unless otherwise provided for.

Sec. 5. Suspended members, being reinstated, shall pay the amount of dues standing against them at the time of their suspension, and the full amount of dues and assessments which they would have been subject to had they not been suspended. No member shall be reinstated without the consent of the majority of the members present.

### ARTICLE IV.

#### Officers and Their Duties.

Section 1. The president shall appoint committees not otherwise provided for, and fill all vacancies, but his appointments must be subject to the approval of a majority of the members present.



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Sec. 2. The president shall, at the beginning of each term or quarter, change the pass word, which shall be given to every member in good standing. No member shall make use of the pass word for any other purpose than of entering the union when in session.

Sec. 3. The financial secretary shall keep a list of all members. It shall be the duty of any member who changes his residence to notify the secretary of the same.

### ARTICLE V.

#### Stewards and Their Duties.

Section 1. It shall be the duties of members of this union, when starting on a new job, to appoint a steward, who shall immediately appoint a deputy steward. In case the steward leaves said job he must notify the deputy, who shall then act as steward, and he must appoint his deputy at once. Any steward leaving a job who fails to notify the deputy shall be fined one dollar. In case the deputy leaves the job without notifying the steward, he shall be subject to the same fine.

Sec. 2. It shall be the duty of the steward to examine all cards and permits, and all questions arising on said job detrimental to the interest of this union. He and the members working on said job shall adjust said grievance that may arise on said job. But if they cannot, the steward shall report the same to the arbitration committee immediately, as provided for in section 4 of article 7 of the constitution.

Sec. 3. Any member going to work on a job after it has been working bricklayers over one day, and finds no steward appointed, shall bring charges against the members working on said job, and if the charges be proven, said