

THE TIMES

Published every Saturday by THE TIMES COMPANY, Incorporated at 212 First Street, Portland, Oregon. Phone: Main 5637; A-2656.

THE TIMES is not responsible for any opinions expressed by correspondents appearing in its columns.

Entered in Postoffice at Portland, Oregon, as second-class matter.

"A FEARLESS EXPONENT OF INDUSTRIAL PEACE"

SUBSCRIPTION RATES—\$2.50 per year, in advance.
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Saturday, August 3, 1912

TRANSFERS AND PUBLIC ACCOMMODATION.

Is it the policy of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to accommodate the public when it may be done without loss or expense, or to reject that consideration for the purpose of creating a new condition wherein it will be possible to reap an added harvest of nickels without rendering any greater service?

This question is entirely pertinent at the present time. It has been raised by the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company itself in such a manner that the answer to it must lie against the public and in favor of the extra harvest of unearned nickels.

There should be reason in all arrangements, not excepting the matter of streetcar transfers. To thousands of people it is a matter of great accommodation to be able to get off the cars in town and make some purchase which nine times out of ten is related in some way to the journey in hand. This applies, especially in the summer season, to those who go out into the suburbs or, maybe, outside the city on picnic jaunts for a day. Such people very often like to stop over long enough to buy fruit or picnic edibles or conveniences of some sort. Aside from this there are a thousand and one instances wherein the privilege of a reasonable stopover in the heart of the city is of great advantage to the streetcar patron, involving no loss whatever to the street railway company.

The proposal to hold the transfer privilege down to the practice of immediate connection is one of the street railway reforms which shows that all the corporate professions of public accommodation are only skin deep. It is another manifestation of the desire and the purpose to grab everything in sight.

The intimation of the establishment of an exchange wherein the morning streetcar patron from one suburb disposes of his transfer to the afternoon passenger from another suburb does credit to the imagination, but otherwise is not worthy of consideration. The real apology is the extra nickel in the tens of thousands of instances wherein streetcar patrons must spend a few minutes in the city before completing their journey.

And, speaking of continuous journeys as they are related to the transfer privilege, what recompense does the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company propose to offer when it compels its patrons to stand for ten, fifteen or twenty minutes extra waiting for a car that conforms to a schedule in theory only? If the streetcar people may without compensation discommode the passenger who must ride eventually, wherein lies the justice of charging him an extra nickel because he does not take the next car to his destination, or, maybe, making the charge where the transfer time has elapsed by the company's delinquency?

When a citizen pays a nickel to be transported from one end of the local streetcar system to another, or from any point to any other point, in justice he is entitled to the ride that nickel buys, whether it is continuous or whether it be interrupted at a transfer point for half hour or such a matter, either upon his own volition or by reason of the lax management of the streetcar people.

Unjustly to put on the screws in this matter in order to squeeze out the nickels discloses the disposition on the part of the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, to get all it can and keep all it gets.

A WORKING GIRL ARMY.

There are 250,000 working girls in New York City who support themselves. They are between 14 and 20 years of age, and their average wage is \$6 a week.

The New York commission on the resources of working girls for amusement estimates that \$9 a week is the lowest sum on which a girl living in Manhattan can be entirely self-supporting. What are the amusements and how fares it with this army of working girls who receive \$6 a week and require \$9 to live on.

The commission concludes that most of these workers reside at home and contribute their earnings to the family purse. But, there must be recreation and amusement for them, and therein is the great social problem, not only of New York, but of all large cities.

The commission has secured legislation that has brought about the closing of fifty-eight public dance halls and substituted supervised places of amusement. These unsupervised halls were the fester places and plague spots of the city. It is estimated that they were attended by 100,000 persons a week in Manhattan alone. The wage of \$6 a week, the human yearning for amusement, the struggle for survival, the self-denial and long hours of labor, the humdrum of life, and the wiles of human vultures and gray wolves who infest the dance halls and spread their nets for the unwary, make unregulated halls the great recruiting station for the scarlet world.

No human agency can render higher service than that to which the New York commission has addressed itself. The proof appears in the 250,000 working girls on a wage of \$6 a week and requiring \$9 a week for survival.

It is one of the tragedies of human life, and there can be nothing but applause for the noble men and women who are striving through the commission to alleviate its remorseless conditions.

Book Reviews

Fame-Seekers, by Alice Woods \$1.20. Illustrated. George H. Doran Co., New York City.

With illustrations by May Wilson Preston, this attractive novel depicts with cleverness an American artist-story of Bohemian Paris, known and Trilby Land. **The Under Trail**, by Anna Alice Chapin. \$1.25. Illustrated. Little, Brown & Co., Boston.

Hate, love and a secret crosscut trail in the Virginia Mountains make up this attractive novel of the Southland. The characters are exceedingly well drawn.

Beggars and Scorners, by Allan McAulay. \$1.25. John Yane Co., New York City.

An historical novel well worth reading—harking back to the triumphs won in a similar department by Charles Major—depicting the struggles, intrigues, loves and hates of Scotch Jacobite exiles in Holland, after the memorable battle of Culloden in Scotland in 1745, when the English army, under the Duke of Cumberland, smashed the hopes of Bonnie Prince Charlie and his adherents.

A Cleveland Towing Company Required a Guaranty Before Taking Back Repentant Employees.

The Great Lakes Towing Company of Cleveland, Ohio, established a useful precedent when it demanded a financial bond from the Tug Firemen's Union before allowing its striking and now repentant employees to return to work. The offense was a particularly bad one. A contract entered into a year previous, and that was supposed to preclude a strike, had been deliberately broken, not under the pressure of grievances, but because certain agitators in Chicago had arbitrarily ordered the men to leave their work. Even the local union president had been ignored in the matter, orders being sent to the men direct from Chicago, and this fact was actually urged by the employees themselves in their plea for reinstatement. They acted, they said, in the heat of the moment and without reference to right or wrong. Now they ask to go back to work under the terms of the unexpired contract.

Under such circumstances the towing company was justified in questioning the value of any contract with a union to which no financial liability was attached. Obviously there could be no value to an agreement with a union that

recognized no ethical consideration whatever and that was ready to break any contract that could not be enforced at law. After such an object lesson in union honor the company asked for a bond for \$5000 as a guaranty against its repetition, and as this was a condition of reinstatement the bond was immediately forthcoming. Henceforth the Tug Firemen's Union will probably be a little more chary about breaking its contract. If it can not understand the obligations of an agreement it will have no difficulty in estimating the precise value of \$5000 and the inconveniences of forfeiture.

All agreements with unions everywhere ought to be based upon liability bonds. Without such bonds the agreements are useless. Moral obligations have no binding weight upon men who are ready at a moment's notice to throw aside their duties to their employer in obedience to orders from dictators of whom they know nothing and in quarrels that are not theirs. To give bonds in support of contracts is the general commercial practice even among men who attach a certain sanctity to an agreement. Why not impose similar liabilities upon those whose promises have been so often proved to have no value?—The Argonaut.

THE DEATH OF CLEOPATRA.

International vaudeville with every act a stellar act will be the delectable offering at Pantages for the week commencing with the Monday matinee, August 5th, when Jewell's Manikins will head the programme of rare excellence.

While many remarkable features are seen in the act, the greatest is "The Death of Cleopatra," a scenic production seldom equaled and never excelled in vaudeville. The peculiar part of the performance is that each character is represented by a mechanical figure. Not a human person appears in the performance, although the act serves to introduce Miss Lillie Jewell, the world's greatest manipulator of manikins.

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON, FOR THE COUNTY OF MULTNOMAH.

In the Matter of the Estate of LOUIS N. BISSONNETT, Deceased.
NOTICE OF PRIVATE SALE.
Notice is hereby given that in pursuance of an order of the above-entitled court made on the 23rd day of July, 1912, in the matter of the estate of Louis N. Bissonnett, deceased, the undersigned, the administrator of said estate, will sell at private sale, subject to confirmation by the above-entitled court, the following described real property, together with the improvements thereon, to-wit:
All that certain tract or portion of land situated in Multnomah County, State of Oregon, more particularly described as being the east half of Lot 12 and the east half of Lot 13, Block 3, Vernon Addition to the city of Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.
Said sale will be made on Monday, the 26th day of August, 1912, at 10 o'clock A. M. of said day, at room 514 Couch building, Portland, Oregon, in said city, county and state. Terms of said sale will be cash.
Dated this 24th day of July, 1912.
V. A. BREWER, Administrator.
L. D. MAHONEY, Attorney for the Estate, 513-514-515 Couch Building.
Date of first publication, July 27.
Date of last publication, August 24.



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