

AROUND TOWN

What the Union Men of Portland Are Doing.

A GOOD SHOWING IN ALL TRADES

A Compendium of the Various Local Organizations in the City—All in a Healthy Condition and Growing.

FEDERATED TRADES COUNCIL.

Portland, May 16, 1902.
Meeting called to order by President Gurr at 8 P. M. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Credentials: I. L. A. No. 265, V. Graustrom; Bakery Drivers No. 303, M. E. Gruber, Fred Siderius, E. O. Gloss.

Communications: From City Council, regarding resolution of May 2; filed. From Sawmill Men's Union, declaring Portland Lumber Manufacturing Company fair; name taken off blackboard. From Port of Portland; referred to committee—Goldrater.

Toolery, Jameson. From Metal Polishers' and Buffers' National Union, declaring National Cash Register Company fair; name taken off blackboard.

From Bro. Westphal, resigning from grievance committee; accepted. Bro. Brown appointed to fill vacancy. From Secretary Oregon State Federation, inclosing resolutions indorsed at convention and referred to Council; referred to new business. From Central Federated Union of New York, regarding the increase of salary asked by letter-carriers; referred to legislative committee.

From Sheet Metal Workers; referred to grievance committee. From A. F. of L., stating that Amalgamated Woodworkers have jurisdiction over cabinet-makers and machine and factory workers; filed.

Reports of committees: Grievance—Reported success in settling difficulty of Steam Engineers and progress with Foster & Son; further time granted. Organization—Blacksmiths organized. Steamboatmen's Union installed, several new unions in process of organization.

Arbitration—Reported at length on the Planing-Mill Workers' strike; were unable to adjust the differences between them and the mill-owners; recommended that the matter be referred to Building Trades Section by a committee; report adopted. Excursion committee reported progress, and that many valuable prizes had been donated for the athletic contests. Special committee on waiters' trouble presented bill for \$24, which on motion was ordered paid.

Special committee appointed to visit Oregon City and endeavor to settle the Textile-Workers' strike reported that millowners refused to sign agreement. W. H. Barry, secretary State Federation, also reported that he had visited Oregon City, and with the conference committee of the Textile-Workers' Union had tried to get Jacobs Bros. to sign a contract for one year.

Bro. Barry stated that the Jacobs Bros. were willing to grant an increase in wages, but were not willing to recognize the union.

It was moved and carried that a committee of three be appointed to draft suitable resolutions of sympathy for the striking textile-workers of Oregon City, and to condemn the millowners' action in refusing to recognize the union, the resolution to be read at a mass meeting to be held in Oregon City Monday evening, May 19. Committee: Jones, Mickley, Lissberg. Several delegates signified their intention to attend the mass meeting. Resolution No. 32, indorsed by State Federation, regarding P. C. & O. Ry., was filed, as was line is now organized. Nos. 37, 52 and 53, introduced by Team-drivers' locals, regarding condition of some of the city streets, the practice of loading and unloading cars at other points than at terminal yards, and street railways carrying goods without a franchise giving that permission, were all referred to the legislative committee. Bartenders' card was exhibited and indorsed, and union men are requested to ask for it where not exhibited.

There was some little discussion about union men of the city being unacquainted with various conditions existing in the ranks of organized labor. It was the sense of the Council that the secretaries of the various locals be requested to read the minutes of the Council at their meetings, and that the members of organized labor pay strict attention to the names mentioned as unfair, and refuse to patronize such firms.

Delegates reported that business was generally good except with a few unions whose slack season is now on. Woodworkers will give a dance May 31.

BEERDRIVERS AND BOTTLERS.

At the meeting last Saturday evening two applicants were obligated into full membership, and considerable routine business transacted. The craft is reported as sailing upon smooth waters, and in a healthy financial condition. It was voted to take 60 tickets for the Federated Trades excursion on the first of June, and the Brewery Section will ride in a car of their own.

PAINTERS' UNION.

At the last meeting of the Painters, 11 new members were initiated. Bro. M. O'Shea is still in a very critical condition. Bros. Beecher and Wimer are down with the smallpox.

Hereafter the union will conduct its meetings in new quarters, 234 1/2 Morrison street.

Business Agent Porter is doing good work, everybody is working, and non-union men are getting scarce.

SHIPWRIGHTS, CAULKERS AND SHIPJOINERS.

At a meeting held last Saturday evening in their hall on Yamhill and Second streets, the Shipwrights, Caulkers and Shipjoiners passed a resolution binding the members of the union against handling or having anything whatever to do with lumber or finished

material coming from planing mills and sash and door factories that are on the unfair list. An order has also been issued by the union through its secretary to that effect.

BUTCHERS' UNION.

The Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, Local No. 143, held their regular weekly meeting at Eagles Hall last Thursday evening. The Western Meat Market was put on the unfair list at the Retail Trades Section, and the name of T. J. Uhlman has been taken off, as he has signed the agreement.

A committee was sent to visit the Longshoremen, who meet Thursday evening, to ask their support in observing the union shop card when purchasing meat, and were tendered their hearty co-operation.

STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

Last Monday evening Division No. 181 of Street Railway Employees met at their hall in the Union Block. Sixty-two new members initiated and also 11 applications were placed on file. The matter of Mr. Bilyeu, who was discharged from the P. C. & O., was then taken up and discussed, and the delegates to the Federated Trades were instructed to ask that a committee be appointed from the central body to confer with the officials of the P. C. & O. to have Mr. Bilyeu reinstated. The meeting was the most enthusiastic ever held by the union and all are much encouraged, as the employees of the Portland Railway Company and the P. C. & O. are together in one body.

I. L. A. LOCAL 265.

At the regular meeting last Thursday evening Andy Madsen was elected delegate to the I. L. A. convention, which convenes in Chicago July 14. Delegates from Europe will attend this convention, at which an attempt will be made to affiliate the European unions with those of America. This was attempted at the convention held in London, England, last year, but by the advice of Daniel Keefe, the present president of I. L. A., it was thought best to defer any such action until the Pacific Coast was better organized. At the convention in Chicago it is quite likely that the affiliation will be consummated. The convention will be a large one, as most unions will send delegates. Mr. Madsen will leave Portland for the East about July 9.

BARBERS' UNION.

With Vice-President Weber in the chair, the meeting was called to order with a large attendance.

President Hutchinson could not be present on account of a severe fall he received from his wheel. It will be several days before Brother Hutchinson can be at his post again.

C. H. Kelley was received by retiring card, and B. F. Arndt was initiated. Two members were reinstated.

The corresponding financial secretary has received notice from the general secretary-treasurer to visit Salem and install the officers there, of the new Local No. 24, to which a charter has been granted.

Brother Sanders has accepted a position in Ilwaco, Wash. Brother Sanders is one of the many most proficient workmen at his profession.

ELECTRICAL WORKERS, LOCAL 125.

There has been a very large increase in membership since January 1. The local has more than doubled and now has about 100 members. The members are all alive, as well as the wires. Every shop in the city is union except two or three small ones. Linemen and telephone men are pulling wires for the union. There is hardly a meeting without an initiation. The inside men have their eight-hour day and scale of wages, and so have no kick from them. Hope the line and telephone men will soon have theirs.

The master electrical workers, who have just organized, paid the union a very friendly visit and made very encouraging remarks.

The question of a City Inspector is under consideration, and it is hoped that a competent man will be installed in the position soon.

Business is good, though some of the boys are idle, but hope the millmen's strike will soon be settled so that all the boys can return to work.

SAWMILL WORKERS.

At the meeting of the Sawmill Workers last Sunday, about 300 members were present, and 50 new ones initiated. While there are a few who are dissatisfied with the provisions of settlement between the employers and employees, the majority are satisfied, for several reasons. The latter hold that the settlement was a greater victory for organized labor than at first appears. In the first place, they contend, the mill owners practically recognize the union, since they went into conference and signed a contract with the members of the union for the period of one year. In the second place, it unifies the wages and places into the hands of the mill workers over \$120,000 per year by the increase, besides it eliminates any possibility of cutting down wages in the fall when the city becomes overcrowded with idle men, where formerly they were secured for \$1.50 per day, and less. And in the third place a confidence has been established in the strength of the union that heretofore was a little uncertain. Taking everything into consideration, most of the members feel that the union scored a victory.

WOMEN'S LABEL LEAGUE.

The Ladies' Auxiliary to the I. L. A. Local No. 265, have been notified that a charter has been issued and will soon be here. During the interim, in which the charter will arrive, the ladies have arranged for a social and dance, to take place on the evening of May 29, in Union Hall, corner Stark and Second streets, third floor. All ladies who are interested in the movement are given a cordial invitation to attend, free of charge. Gentlemen will be charged the small admittance sum of 25 cents. A splendid musical and literary programme has been arranged, and Mrs. Frank Ferron will delight the audience with a few selections on a piano, furnished free by courtesy of the Eilers Piano House, 351 Washington street, the home of the Chickering, Kimball and Weber pianos. The committee on arrangements consists of Mrs. F. Willis, Mrs. W. Lockington,

Mrs. B. Biglin, Mrs. Bays, and Mrs. C. Lockick. These ladies are adepts in entertaining and they assure every one who attends a pleasant time. A dainty lunch and light refreshments will be one of the welcome features of the evening.

TEAMDRIVERS, LOCAL 162.

The meeting Tuesday evening was well attended, with all of the officers at their stations. An application was received and a new member added to the union.

The initiation fee of William Hart, alias some other name, was returned to him, as it was discovered that he had scabbed on the George W. Elder during the time she was tied up in this port, that he took passage upon the boat when she got away for San Francisco, and drove team during the water front strike in that city a year ago in July.

It was reported that a number of firms are not paying \$2.50 per day to teamsters, as was agreed, and have discharged and replaced a number of drivers with cheaper men. A committee was appointed to investigate the matter. These firms should remember that unless they deal fairly with organized labor the latter will refuse to use their goods.

The East Side Transfer Company claims that it has never been notified of the raise in wages. This company not only received official notice, but could have read it in the papers, which had reports from time to time regarding the advance requested, and the agreement.

A donation of \$25 was voted to the widow of Samuel Walker, and sympathy of the union extended to her in her recent bereavement.

Local 162 will give a smoker Tuesday evening, May 27, 1902. Teamsters will please take notice.

ALONG THE WATER FRONT.

For some weeks work has been quiet along the water front. Many members of the unions have sought employment on the Lower Columbia during the fishing season, others have left the state to return again in the winter, and still others, who find as much pleasure in Portland as elsewhere, continue to remain here and work when they have an opportunity. The rising river, however, promises work for all idle men ever seek employment.

Fully two feet more water wharves. Before the river will have reached its height, and freight is being elevated from the lower floors and carted away to places of safety.

Next Saturday evening the members of I. L. A. Local 264, will give a smoker and hold a jollification in honor of George Hornby, a member of that union, who was elected second vice-president of the State Federation of Labor at the convention held the 7th day of this month. Mr. Hornby is very popular with his co-workers and they will honor him with a social evening. Several good speakers will deliver short addresses, good music will be furnished, and refreshments served. Many invitations have been issued to friends and the jollification promises to be a good one.

Frank Curtis looks a little like Thomas Reed, the celebrated ex-Speaker of the House, at Washington, D. C., with his new suit, tan shoes, and a bouquet. If the ladies had a vote, there would be no question as to Frank's election to Oregon's lower house.

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