

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.

IN NEW QUARTERS.

The office of the Portland Labor Press has removed from Room 21, McKay Building, to Room 8, 232 1/2 Washington street, corner of Second.

FEDERATED TRADES COUNCIL.

Portland, June 6, 1902. Meeting called to order at 8 P. M., President Gurr in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved. Credentials—Brick, Tile and Terra Cotta Workers' Alliance, No. 94; Frank Kuhle, O. M. Johnson, Ernest Forbes. Communications—From Indianapolis, Ind., declaring Kingan & Co.'s packing-house products unfair; secretary instructed to write the firm and refer the communication to Butchers' Union. From United Garment Workers; referred to Retail Clerks. From New York Stereotypers; referred to Allied Printing Trades Council. From Building Trades Council; Sam Yarwood removed from blackboard. From Butchers' Union; Otto Miescki removed from blackboard.

Reports of committees—Organization, progress. Grievance, recommended that Nelson's barber shop, 269 Burnside street, be declared unfair and name posted on blackboard; complied with. Legislative, reported progress. Excursion committee, reported progress.

The following amendment was read a second time and adopted, and is now section 13 of article vii: "All committees shall receive from this Council the sum of 50 cents per hour for all time actually lost while on committee work." Street Railway Employees reported that the P. C. & O. Co. is not acting fair toward their employees, and that the company has in its employ men whose incompetence has caused some injury to members and much trouble to the union. On motion a committee was appointed to confer with and advise the union in the matter—Harry, Duke, Goldrainer, Mickley and Lawton. Mr. J. V. Beach's communication of April 18 was taken from the table. After some discussion it was carried that the name be removed from the blackboard and secretary instructed to write Mr. Beach and apprise him of the action taken. It was moved and carried that the secretary prepare a circular letter regarding the boycott on planing mills' products and send same to all central bodies, that the union men of the whole country might know of the position these employers have taken and refuse to handle their products. Bro. Harry volunteered to assist secretary in the matter. The following resolution was unanimously endorsed:

"Whereas, Certain sawmill and planing-mill owners, in company with a small coterie of building carpenters styling themselves the 'Portland Master Builders' Association,' have promulgated dire and serious threats (in shape of boycott resolutions published in the daily papers) against all labor unions in general, and the Building and Federated Trades Councils in particular, menacing and, if such purposes are carried out, seriously crippling the building industry and general prosperity of our fair city at a most prosperous period in its history; and

"Whereas, The general business public and responsible citizens, the great innocent parties to this controversy, who will feel the brunt of this disaster, and whose business will suffer while this condition exists, are appealed to by these, the representatives of all the labor organizations of Portland, to use the power of their might in compelling the planing-mill owners to submit to a fair board of arbitration whether it be just and right that they should permit their men to work nine hours hereafter for a day's work instead of 10 as heretofore at the same price. This will remove the boycott and business will resume its course.

"We most respectfully suggest that the business people assemble in mass meeting and devise ways and means to bring this about, to the end that the prosperity of our city be not interrupted. Organized labor has come to stay, and our unions will not be disrupted. And we all and each of us pledge the full strength of our unions and our sacred word and honor to the Building Trades Council in their struggle for their rights, with the further assurance that we and our unions are ready to stand or fall with the banner of organized labor in one solid phalanx. Now, therefore, be it

"Resolved, That the delegates to this Council be instructed to inform their several unions that they must hold themselves in readiness to assemble in special meeting at any hour to consider the exigencies of this onslaught against the right of the working people to organize."

President Gurr stated that of late the newspapers had published various statements purporting to have been made by him, and that several street rumors had been attributed to him which were not true. Bro. Gurr assured the Council that he had made none of the idle statements, had always been conservative in his remarks, and had endeavored at all times to serve the Council to the best of his ability. It was moved and unanimously carried that the Council still retained implicit trust and confidence in its president, and did not for a moment consider him to have been the source of the remarks and rumors which were current not long since.

Reports of unions—Several unions reported business dull at this season of the year. Street-car men are making rapid gains. Fuel and Sand Teamsters request union men to recognize their union button; Churchley Bros. were the first dealers in cordwood to sign their contract. Receipts for Planing-Mill Men—From Printers, \$50; Musicians, \$25; Bridge and Structural Iron Workers, \$25; Machinists, \$25; Stablemen, \$15. Total, \$140. Many of the delegates reported that their unions were making their donations direct to the union. It was the sense of the Council that all money donated be handed to the secretary of the Council, that a complete record may be kept.

TAILORS' UNION.

At the last meeting of the Tailors' Union, one new member was initiated, and considerable routine business transacted. The union voted an assessment upon each member for the assistance of the Woodworkers, which will amount to about \$50 per week. A committee has been appointed and is already devising means to secure a prize banner for Labor Day. The banner will cost something in the neighborhood of \$100.

NEW QUARTERS.

The Building Trades Council is now established in its new quarters on Morrison street, over the Baron Shoe Store. The hall is large and comfortable, and altogether suitable for the building trades section. An office for the business agents has been secured a little back and over the main hall. The Painters' Union, Expressmen and the Blacksmiths have also moved with the Council, and will use the hall on their respective meeting nights. The number of the hall is 234 1/2, Morrison.

SAND AND FUEL TEAMSTERS.

The Sand and Fuel Teamsters are rapidly growing into a strong union. At each meeting, from five to fifteen new members are initiated. The membership has grown to 105 and enough applications are now in to swell this to 180. All the drivers are now receiving \$2.25 per day, and all the fuel companies are paying weekly. One or two employers are threatening to break the agreement for weekly payments to their men, but if they go back on the contract they have already signed, there is liable to be trouble.

TROUTDALE TO BE ORGANIZED.

A mass meeting will be held in Troutdale next Saturday evening at 8 P. M. in Fox's Hall for the purpose of organizing a Federal Union. Brother G. Y. Harry, president of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, will be there and explain the reason why all the laboring people and wage earners must organize. Frank Westphal was out there Sunday distributing a lot of hand bills announcing the mass meeting. Some of the people are very enthusiastic about a union in Troutdale. The meeting is sure to be a success, as Brother

Harry is a good talker and can explain things so that anybody can understand.

BUTCHERS' UNION.

We had quite an interesting meeting last Thursday, one new member being initiated and several applications on the table to be investigated. Two markets that violated our agreement by selling meat on Decoration Day have paid a fine and thereby are again in good standing with our union. One that was on the unfair list has also signed our agreement and is now a union market. Otto Meiske is the proprietor, and the market is located on Fifth near Washington, south.

Brother James Weston, who was vice-president, resigned, and Brother Frank Kinser was elected to fill the vacancy. Brother Weston is going to work for the Government in Alaska.

Jas. Welch is confined to his home with illness.

FRANK WESTPHAL.

PRESSMEN'S UNION.

Tuesday evening the Pressmen held their regular monthly meeting, with President McHugh in the chair. There was a large attendance and considerable business done. Besides the general routine work, a graded per capita tax was levied upon the members for the striking Woodworkers, which will amount to more than \$100 per month.

The excursion committee reported, turned over \$170 to the union and, their work being finished, were discharged.

The executive committee was instructed to secure a hall by next meeting night.

B. J. DePenning was elected financial secretary in place of M. H. Knox, resigned. A small salary was attached to the office, as there is an increase in the volume of business which demands considerable time to transact.

WATER FRONT SECTION.

The semi-monthly meeting of the Water Front Federation was called to order last Monday evening by President Madsen. As work on the beach is usually light at this time of the year, there was not the usual large amount of business to be transacted.

J. Learmouth, newly elected delegate from I. L. A. No. 263, was given the obligation and seated.

The Riggers and Liners is the latest union without an international to be given a charter under the International Longshoremen's Union.

A. Madsen, general organizer for I. L. A., announced that he would leave for La Center, Wash., next Saturday, to organize the millmen in that section. He says there are between 500 and 600 men in nine mills, who are ready to be organized. The lowest wages for men in these mills is \$2.50 per day. La Center is situated on Lewis River a few miles back of Vancouver, and about 20

miles from Portland. The sawmill men will be organized under charter from the I. L. A.

BARBERS' UNION.

With President Hutchinson presiding, the meeting was called to order with a large attendance present.

Two applications were accepted, one member admitted by retiring card, and one initiation. A weekly assessment was levied upon the members for the benefit of the Woodworkers, which will amount to \$30 or \$40 per week.

Secretary Leabo visited Salem last week and installed the officers and members of Local No. 24. All the barber shops in that city now display the union shop card. The following are the officers of the new local: President, W. E. Bathe; vice-president, James Ferrell; secretary, William Esch; treasurer, E. G. Ristine; recorder, H. L. Sumner; guide, R. M. Hogan; guardian, Frank Hahn.

The Financial Secretary and M. Rogaway were sent to Oregon City last Tuesday by Local No. 75 to see what could be done towards bringing the barbers in that city into the union. Their mission was crowned with success, as every barber eligible was taken into the union, and every barber shop in that city is now displaying the union shop card of the International Union. The Oregon City boys will affiliate with the Portland Union.

BARTENDERS' UNION.

Monday afternoon the Bartenders' Union held a meeting in the G. A. R. Hall. Besides initiating about 30 new members, they levied an assessment which will provide about \$300 per month to the Woodworkers. The Bartenders received their charter on the first of May, with 157 charter members. Since then they have increased their membership to over 300, and have placed about 300 union cards above the bars in as many saloons in the City of Portland. President Geo. Schultz and serve its patrons and visitors hereafter Secretary L. Bayler are entitled to great credit for the efficient work they have accomplished in behalf of the union.

Since the Bartenders have so generously contributed to the support of the Woodworkers, a movement has been started amongst the mill owners and their sympathizers to boycott the saloons displaying union cards. This movement is to go by the name of the Employers' Protective Association. They have been endeavoring to get saloon-keepers to take down the union card, but have succeeded in getting only one man to comply with their request. These are the men who have said that the boycott adopted by the working men is a damnable system, and un-American.

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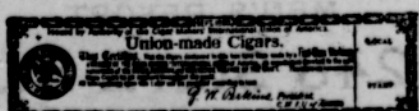
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