

LABOR NOTES.

Chicago bell boys have organized themselves into a union.

The Broom Makers of Spokane have recently been organized.

The barbers of Kingston, Pa., refuse to shave union workmen.

All the local breweries in Seattle have signed their new scale of prices.

The carpenters' strike at Lancaster, Pa., is gradually being won by the men.

The commercial telegraphers of Chicago organized June 15, more than 400 strong.

Forty-five hours constitutes a week's work for women and boys in New Zealand factories.

A co-operative bakery is to be started in Winnipeg, Man., as a result of the bakers' strike.

By a referendum vote of 233 unions, the Chicago Federation of Labor is going into politics.

A. F. of L. officials urge that Fourth of July and Labor Day union orators denounce injunctions.

The per capita tax for April shows that the American Federation of Labor has 1,100,000 members.

The team drivers at Providence, R. I., have received an increase in wages of \$2 to \$3 a week without a strike.

The largest Barbers' Union in the United States is in San Francisco, having more than a thousand members.

The Typographical Union of Muncie, Ind., has imposed a \$20 fine upon any member who patronizes a non-union barber.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., painters have arbitrated their strike after being out 10 days. They secured 12 1/2 cents per day increase.

Nearly 30,000 men are employed in the steel and iron industries of Pittsburgh, with wages that average \$255 each year.

The iron molders' strike at Toledo, O., has been settled by the foundry owners agreeing to 25 cents a day advance in wages.

Chinamen have gone into the milk business at Vancouver, B. C., and the unions of that district are talking of placing a boycott upon same.

The violence created by the anarchist element in the Paterson, N. J., mills strike has necessitated placing the city in the hands of the military.

The planing mills of Reading, Pa., which have been closed since May 1 on account of wage differences have reopened with the old men.

Eugene V. Debs is making a tour on the Coast, lecturing upon the labor problem and socialism. He spoke in Spokane last Wednesday evening.

Out of 150 movements this year for better wages and shorter hours, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners have not lost a single one.

Since the organization of a Building Trades Council in Petaluma, Cal., February 15, an eight-hour day has been secured, besides a raise in wages for those employed in the building trades.

Philadelphia carpenters' unions have been suspended from the Building Trades Council of that city for eliminating the "sympathetic strike" clause from their agreement with the contractors.

A general to per cent advance in wages has been announced at the Joliet mills of the Illinois Steel Company. An increase will also be made in all departments of the Illinois Steel Works at Chicago.

D. R. Caldwell, of New Zealand, who has been traveling in this country for some time, expresses the belief that the unrest caused by the various trusts will result in the formation of a working-man's party.

More than 900 men on the street-car lines went out on a strike June 21 for recognition of the union, 25 cents an hour, and a nine-hour day. On the 23d an agreement was reached satisfactory to the union men.

Building trades of Philadelphia have issued a circular stating that they were going to take political action independent of the old parties because labor laws are declared unconstitutional or are not enforced by the office holders.

Cigarmakers at Toledo, O., have struck for an increase in wages. The demand is for an increase of \$1 per 1000 on clear and mold work and the same amount of advance on clear Havana work. They are winning.

At their meeting June 7, the Clerks' Union of Astoria, re-elected Mr. Kline president and Ludwig Carlson secretary. The Herald says that the union is in a flourishing condition and its efforts are more appreciated the more they are understood.

The hoisting and portable engineers and the sheet and metal workers of Pittsburgh, Pa., have settled their strikes. The former have received an increase of 14 cents per hour and the sheet and metal workers an advance from \$2.68 to \$3.20 a day.

The \$2.10 to \$2.30 a day hold good in Minneapolis. The boss barbers have refused to grant the demand of the journeymen barbers that the price of shaves in 10-cent shops be raised to 15 cents. Now the journeymen threaten to strike for a minimum of \$14 per week.

The stablemen of Chicago organized a union June 15, including hostlers, wagon and carriage cleaners and all other employees about the stables of department stores, express companies and other large concerns, as well as livery stable hands. Organizers say that the new union will soon have one of the largest memberships in the city.

Unskilled laborers are said to be in greater demand in Chicago than men with a trade or specialty. It is a physical impossibility to secure a sufficient number of ordinary laborers to supply the demand for them existing in Chicago at the present time. Tradesmen and specialists are scarce, too, for that matter, but the scarcity in these lines is not to be compared to that existing in the field of common labor.

From one of the best workmen's towns in Canada, Rossland has grown to be the worst. Wages are low and unionism is at a low ebb. The companies are using the blacklist openly. A man applying for a job is required to first fill out a blank giving his age, nationality and previous position of service; whether a member of a union or not, and when; what strike, if in any, engaged, and where.

The C. P. R. blacksmiths of Winnipeg have secured a minimum wage of 28 cents per hour, a recognition of the union, and the C. P. R. have granted other concessions to the men.

Unions of Chicago are said to be preparing for the next municipal election, and that James Bowman, of the Pressmen, or George Perkins, of the Cigar-makers, will be Mayoralty candidate.

District Organizer Welch reported that he had four new unions in process of organization and that the delegates would be ready by the next meeting. Reports from the various unions showed an increase in membership and all in a flourishing condition.

An effort to organize a union among the street-car men of St. Paul resulted in the discharge of many men. Spies were employed by the company to get the information. This action on the part of the company, however, has not hindered the purpose of the movement.

Chinamen have purchased so many restaurants of late in Minneapolis that a boycott, endorsed by every labor union in the state, has been declared against them. Business men are aiding the movement by refusing to sell the Chinamen the necessary goods to do business with.

"Willie," said his father, as he proceeded with the laying on of hands, "I am sorry to have to do this; it hurts me more than it does you." "Well," returned the precocious youngster, resignedly, "I never did believe in these here sympathetic strikes anyhow. They always do more harm than good."

Absolutely the newest thing in organized labor is "Greater New York Shoe Polishers' Union No. 1," which has been formed with a membership of 800. Resolutions were passed calling on the City Council to have all stands closed at 2 P. M. on Sunday, and recommending the establishment of a training school for rising bootblacks.

The Astoria Labor Council elected officers June 16, as follows: President, J. H. Hansen; vice-president, A. J. Klaffki; recording secretary, D. T. Gerdes; financial secretary, H. M. Lorensten; guide, J. F. Welch; guardian, Mr. Kinkella. The installation will take place on Monday, July 7, at which time a banquet will be served.

Seventy telephone girls walked out of two local exchanges in Des Moines, June 21, tying up the Iowa and Mutual lines. They have organized a union, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, and will attempt to make the strike general over the state. They demand an increase of wages to \$30 a month and a nine-hour day.

Three hundred men employed as Pullman car cleaners have gone on a strike for better wages and pay for overtime. The car cleaners now receive \$45 a month, and demand \$50. If a train is late they say they wait around the yards to clean the cars when they come in, no matter what the hour may be, and they receive no extra pay for it.

Sheriff Zimmerman, of Everett, Wash., advertises a reward of \$25 for the arrest and detention of Allan Mack, who has appropriated \$200 of the Building Laborers' Council of that city. Mack was holding the position of treasurer of the Council at the time. He is about 35 years of age, about 6 feet tall, over 200 pounds in weight; round, full face; heavy red mustache; hair cut close; low forehead; round scar on side of face; black coat, check pants; usually goes without a vest. His trade is that of a mason's tender.

The Supreme Court of Porto Rico has acquitted Santiago Iglesias and reversed the decision of the lower court, rendered last December, committing him to a term of imprisonment on the charge of conspiring to raise the price of labor in Porto Rico. A day of rejoicing was held. Fifteen hundred members of the Federation of Workmen paraded the streets of San Juan. Iglesias is now at Ponce, where he has organized several unions of the American Federation of Labor. There was a similar parade at Ponce when the news of Iglesias' acquittal reached there.

Jones & Laughlin, iron and steel manufacturers of Pittsburgh, have voluntarily advanced the wages of all their employees excepting the tonnage men. The increase will average 10 per cent and affects over 8000 men. The furnace employees of the Carnegie Steel Company have been advanced during the present week, and it is understood that all of the day laborers in the mills of this company will be treated in a similar manner to those employed by Jones & Laughlin. The advances have been made wholly on account of the general prosperous condition of the steel trade.

Judge Rufus B. Smith, of Cincinnati, O., made a ruling on June 9 which is of importance to workmen. A number of employees of the Cincinnati Safe & Lock Company, which failed a short time ago, owned stock in the concern. After the failure they made an effort to collect their wages, but were refused payment on the ground that their stock liability was in excess of their claims. Judge Smith, though stating that he was unable to find any authority on the subject, ordered the men to be paid in full, sustaining the right of the laborer to his hire over the protest of the general creditor, and affirming his right as a preferred creditor.

The Cost of Living.

The average increase in the rate of wages in the United States does not keep pace with the average increase in the cost of living. This is where the shoe pinches. Save as the laboring man may, he finds that his larger wages do not enable him as the years go by to lay up more money against the day of necessity. Since the trusts insist on increasing the cost of food, clothing and all the products of manufacture which enter into common use, they are bound in good conscience, as well as in sound business considerations, not to oppress "the ox that treadeth out the corn." Whatever the employers of labor may do or fail to do, however, the Congress which is responsible for laws that put it in the power of the employers of labor to exact an unjust proportion of the product of labor, must set about the immediate repair of the intricacies and irregularities that have resulted from the operation of such laws.

To increase the cost of living for the mass in order to pile up unearned wealth in the hands of a few is a wrong that may not be safely persisted in.—Philadelphia Record.

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Lehen Bros.—209 Third street.
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Portland Federated Trades Assembly—Meets every Friday in A. O. U. W. Hall, sixth floor, Third and Taylor streets.
Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees of America, Division 18—Meets first and third Monday evenings at 8:45, in Union Hall, Union block.
Amalgamated Meatcutters and Butchers' Workmen, Local 143—Meets every Thursday at 8 P. M. in Eagles' Hall, corner Second and Yamhill.
Amalgamated Sheet Metal Workers' International Association, No. 16—Meets every second and fourth Tuesday at 22 1/2 Yamhill street.
Amalgamated Woodworkers' Union, No. 66—Meets every second and fourth Thursday at 230 1/2 Yamhill street.
Beer Drivers' Union, Local No. 201, National Union of United Brewery Workmen, U. S. A.—Meets every first and third Saturday, corner Eleventh and Morrison streets.
Blacksmiths' Union—Meets every Wednesday night at 204 1/2 Morrison street.
Bricklayers' International Union, No. 1—Meets every Wednesday at 228 1/2 Yamhill street.
Brotherhood of Painters, Decorators and Paperhangers of America, Local No. 10—Meets every Thursday, 224 1/2 Morrison street.
Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, Sunset Lodge, No. 130—Meets every first and third Sunday, at 2 P. M., in Auditorium Hall.
Building Trades Council—Meets every Monday evening at 234 1/2 Morrison street.
Bartenders' League—Meets every Monday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock, at G. A. R. Hall.
Cigarmakers' International Union of America, Local No. 202—Meets every first and third Tuesday evening at 224 1/2 Yamhill street.
COOKS' ALLIANCE, LOCAL NO. 189—Meets every Monday evening in G. A. R. Hall, First and Taylor streets, G. A. R. Rollman, secretary, No. 33 North Sixth street.
Expressmen's Union—Meets every Tuesday evening at 234 1/2 Morrison street.
General Longshoremen's Union, No. 266—Meets every Thursday evening at Union Hall, Union block.
Grain Handlers' Union, No. 283—Meets at Schrantz's Hall in 143-2nd street, and delay streets, every Tuesday evening.
I. L. A., No. 264—Meets every first and third Saturday at Union Hall, Second and Stark streets.
International Association of Machinists, Local No. 63—Meets every first and third Friday in Allisy building.
International Brotherhood of Bookbinders, Local No. 72—Meets every second and fourth evening of each month at 300 Allisy Bldg., Third and Morrison streets.
Iron Molders' Union, No. 139—Meets every first and third Thursday at 229 1/2 Yamhill street.
Journemen Barbers' Union, No. 76—Meets every Monday evening in Eagles' Hall, corner Second and Yamhill streets.
Journemen Horseshoers' Union, No. 41—Meets every first and third Thursday in room 21, McKay building.
Journemen Plumbers and Gasfitters' Association, Local No. 61—Meets every Monday evening at 228 1/2 Yamhill street.
Journemen Tailors, Local No. 74—Meets every second and fourth Monday in Union Hall, Second and Stark streets.
Lumbermill Workers' Union of the Northwest, No. 15—Meets every first and third Sunday, at 2 P. M., in Upchurch Hall, corner Seventeenth and Marshall streets.
Mount Hood Lodge of the Brotherhood of Boilermakers and Iron Ship-Builders, Local No. 72—Meets every second and fourth Thursday in Allisy Hall.
Multnomah Typographical Union, No. 53—Meets every first Sunday of the month at 2 P. M., in Auditorium Hall.
Musicians' Mutual Association, Local 90—Meets every first Tuesday at 2 P. M. in room 214, Chamber of Commerce.
National Association of Letter-Carriers, Branch No. 63—Meets every second Wednesday of the month in the Post-office building.
National Union of the United Brewery Workmen of America, Local No. 10—Meets every second and fourth Saturday at 228 1/2 Yamhill street.
Portland's Bundry Workers' Local, No. 113, I. B. of B.—Meets every first Tuesday evening in the month in Hall No. 300, Allisy building.
Plasterers' Union, No. 1—Meets every Friday evening at 12 1/2 First street.
Portland Laborers' Union—Meets every second and fourth Sunday, at 2 P. M., at 228 1/2 Yamhill street.
Portland Printing Pressmen's Union, No. 63—Meets every second Tuesday of the month in McKay building, room 21.
Portland Bakers and Confectioners' Union—Meets every first and third Saturday, at 6 P. M., at 228 1/2 Yamhill street.
Portland Theatrical Stage Employees' Union—Meets every second Thursday of the month at Cordray's Theater.
Retail Clerks' Protective Association, Local No. 240—Meets every Wednesday evening, at Allisy Hall, corner Third and Morrison.
Shipwrights', Caulkers' and Shipjoiners' Association of the Port of Portland—Meets every first and third Saturday at 230 1/2 Yamhill street.
Stablemen's Union, No. 919—Meets every Monday evening in room 226, Allisy building, corner Third and Morrison.
Team Drivers' International Union, Local No. 102—Meets every Tuesday evening in Union Hall, Stark street, between First and Second.
The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, No. 125—Meets in Caledonia Hall, Second and Yamhill, every Wednesday evening.
United Brotherhood of Leatherworkers on Horse Goods, Branch No. 56—Meets every Wednesday evening in Union Hall, Union block.
United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Branch No. 69—Meets every Wednesday night in Eagles' Hall, corner Second and Yamhill streets.
United Brotherhood of Railway Employees, Division No. 4—Meets every second and fourth Saturday evenings at Allisy Building, corner Third and Morrison.
Walters' Alliance, Local No. 33—Meets every Monday evening at 8:30 at 234 Third street.
Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers International Union, Local 54—Meets every Thursday evening in room 214, Chamber of Commerce Building.
Woodworkers' Local Union, No. 65—Meets every Wednesday night at Trades Union Hall, Second and Yamhill.