

Portland Labor Press

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Facts for Advertisers.

Printers' Ink, the recognized authority on advertising, after a thorough investigation on this subject, says: "A labor paper is a far better advertising medium than an ordinary newspaper in comparison to circulation. A labor paper, for example, having 2000 subscribers is of more value to the business man who advertises in it than an ordinary paper with 12,000 subscribers."

HAS NO VALID CLAIM IN DRYDOCK.

The merchants of Vancouver have registered a protest against the attempt to have the drydock erected where it belongs, and where it was intended to be built, within the boundaries of the Port of Portland. It is not hard to understand why they do so, as it simply means the removal of \$70,000 or \$80,000 that would nearly all find circulation in their city during the next 14 months. They charge the Portland unions with attempting to destroy their prosperity, and discriminating against their labor, and threaten to withdraw their patronage from Portland, which amounts, they say, to \$1,000,000 annually.

It is indeed disappointing to see so rich a prize almost within their grasp removed, but they cannot help but know that they are no more entitled to the profits arising from the construction of the drydock than is Tacoma or Seattle. Oregon City has a much better claim for the dock than has Vancouver. The former place is at least in Oregon, is on the Willamette River, and more in the vicinity of Portland. The people of Oregon City did not expect it; neither did Vancouver, until Mr. Wakefield had hatched up his scheme of getting away from organized labor, where he could swell his margins in the contract by getting common labor to do the work of skilled mechanics at a considerably less pay. Then he could run a cheap boarding-house, store, etc., and "get 'em comin' and goin'."

Of course Vancouver merchants care nothing about the law that created the Port of Portland; that defines its boundaries, and specifies that the dock be built within them. They have laws of their own and we are as oblivious to them as they are to ours.

It is true that Portland derives a large commercial benefit from Vancouver, but not nearly the sum stated. At the same time, the Vancouver merchants do not buy in Portland simply to accommodate us. If they could get their goods cheaper elsewhere we would soon lose their trade. And it would be business for them to purchase where they could get their goods the cheapest. It is not Vancouver that enters into this controversy. It is the irregularity of the whole business of the commission, and the contractor in taking a public enterprise wholly unto themselves, impugning the law, and making the taxpayers of the city appear generally ridiculous.

GOMPERS' ADDRESS FOR MINERS.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, has issued an address to the workingmen of the United States, in which he asserts that notwithstanding all rumors to the contrary, the striking miners are standing firm. Mr. Gompers appeals for help for the miners. The address in part is as follows:

"The strike of 150,000 miners in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania is now in its 21st week. Personal investigation upon the ground demonstrates beyond doubt that the determination of the men to stand fast and faithful to each other in this great contest is even stronger than in the early stages of the contest. The miners, as do all others in a position to know, feel confident that at least some measure of victory will be attained, and that the organization will be upheld at all hazards. Large expenditures are involved in their maintaining the miners, their wives and children, even in the commonest necessities of life. Let no false rumors or

reports of the weakening of the men deceive our fellow workers and friends. The men are standing firm. All unions should raise funds at once and forward them promptly and continually until the end of the contest. Donations from individual union members should be urged and assessments voluntarily levied. Forward all contributions to W. B. Wilson, secretary of the United Mineworkers of America, Stevenson Building, Indianapolis, Ind."

The whole of Kansas is stirred up over a speech delivered a few days ago by Congressman W. A. Calderhead, of the Fifth District, in which he characterized trusts as a blessing, and labor unions an evil. "The trusts," says Calderhead, "have been the handmaids of progress in every channel of business and in every avenue of life. They have reduced the cost of living. They have furnished employment to labor. They have developed the country. They have promoted science and encouraged invention. Instead of attempting to remedy or suppress, control or disturb that which has been a blessing, why not turn our attention to that which has been an evil and take a hand at suppressing organized labor? I regard organized labor as the greatest menace this country has today. It not only robs its own members of liberty, but is a constant menace to the lives, liberty and property of the people of the whole country. It has frequently been the cause of bloodshed and crime. It has caused famines in the necessities of life. It refuses to recognize brains and it holds the capable, brainy member down with the dullard. It is a barrier to progress, it destroys energy and encourages worthlessness, and is a dangerous thing which should be suppressed."

Herbert Myrick, of Springfield, Mass., organizer of the League of Domestic Producers three years ago, has launched another organization to be known as the People's Coal League. The latter emanates from the scarcity of coal in the East, due to the labor difficulties in the Pennsylvania coal fields. At a meeting of the League last Monday a resolution was passed demanding that "the Federal Government own the coal mines and administer them in the interest of the whole people." Mr. Myrick declares that the adoption of his plan will permanently solve the coal question by sending to Congress men who have pledged to favor Government ownership of the coal mines. The plan includes soft and hard coal mines. The scheme is said to be nonpartisan and nonpolitical, and to be designed to effect such a reform in the coal industry that a recurrence of existing conditions shall be impossible. The league will have headquarters in Chicago, New York and Springfield. A branch of the league is to be organized in every Congressional district in the country, with committees in every township and precinct.

The Common Council of Detroit, Mich., has taken the initiative in a movement for a national conference on the coal strike. The conference is to be composed of Governors of the Eastern, Middle and Northwestern States, and the Mayors of the principal cities, and is to be held in Detroit October 9. The Governors of Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri, Kentucky, Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, Iowa, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Hampshire, Vermont, Maine, Connecticut and New Jersey have already been notified. The purpose of the convention is to consider ways and means to force a resumption of the coal production, either by pressure of public opinion or by Government intervention, which will be demanded if other measures fail.

Dan Buchner, proprietor of the Metropolitan barber shop on Third street, died Monday morning at 5 o'clock of paralysis. He was buried Wednesday morning. The sudden death of this excellent gentleman is to be regretted by all union men. He was a firm believer in organized labor and ran his shop union in every detail. He was the barbers' friend, and stood upon the basis that the union would not make a demand that was not for the best of all parties concerned. If the community had more business men like Dan Buchner the world and its people would be better off by their having lived. The Labor Press joins the relatives, friends and the Barbers' Union in mourning his untimely passing.

The scheme presented by Councilman Merrill is an insult to the decency of the citizens of Portland, and will be resented in vigorous terms by the Mayor and men of character. It is indeed a sad commentary when an implication is set forth by the lawmakers of the city that our municipal government is to be run by "blood money" from the vicious element. "It is all bosh" to say that crime cannot be subdued by law. Merrill's scheme for recalling gambling and prostitution in open form is a misnomer. It doesn't mean what it says. It is simply a wedge that is intended to give the lawless element right of way.

The international tobacco trust will find considerable opposition in the retailers. Five hundred cigar dealers and

tobaccoists, among whom were many manufacturers, showed their interest in the fight against the alleged tobacco trust by attending the first meeting of the Cigar Dealers' Association of America last Friday night. Some of the speakers counseled legislation, some advised an appeal to organized labor, some declared for recourse to the courts, and others, less radical, made fervid arguments in behalf of thorough organization.

The combination of the great packing-houses of the country, which has been under consideration and in process of actual formation for the past six months, has been abandoned. The decision not to complete the combination is due in a large degree to the attitude of the National Administration toward trusts, as outlined by President Roosevelt in his recent speeches, and to the possibility that, in the event of a consolidation, Congress might remove the tariff on cattle.

Jim Hill does not merge with President Roosevelt upon the trust question. Jim thinks that "we should hold every man responsible for himself and his own acts." We believe so too, but if we have nothing to measure with, how and where are we enabled to place the responsibility? We need a law enforced that will make a man responsible to his fellow-men, instead of making his fellow-men responsible to him.

McKay, the reformed reformer, ex-convict and polygamist, is attempting to obtain an abundance of cheap notoriety by attacking responsible business houses, such as Woodard, Clarke & Co., and others. From the exposure given him by the district attorney, his motives were evidently of a malicious character.

President Roosevelt has taken a hand in the coal strike in Pennsylvania. He has called a meeting for October 3 at 11 A. M., of the presidents of the coal companies, and President Mitchell, and will seek to arrange for a settlement. The failure of the coal supply is implied to be the cause of calling the conference.

The young women of the Clerks' Union at St. Paul have completed arrangements for the organization of a Girls' League, in which every member will pledge herself to marry none but a union man, and to refuse absolutely to receive attentions from any but men with "cards."

The dispatches say that "genuine black diamond stick pins" have been placed on sale in Chicago at 15 cents each. The "black diamonds" are lumps of anthracite coal, fastened to gold-washed pins, and they find a ready sale on the streets and in some of the stores.

The railroad companies of Washington have concluded a whole state Senate is worth more to them than one United States Senator. Governor McBride and his railway commission scheme is causing them more unrest than anything else just now.

Peary says that persistency and \$200,000 will locate the North Pole. We would recommend instead that some transportation company create a mining excitement in that vicinity.

The validity of the occupation tax is upheld by the courts. Now let the ordinance be enforced without fear or favor—serve every one embraced in the law alike.

Congressman Calderhead is not the only calamity that has visited Kansas. That state has given birth to many surprises, and liars, too.

This idea of licensing crime is all wrong. The gamblers and prostitutes are nonproducers, excepting that of sin.

LABOR NEWS.

The ropeworkers of San Francisco have organized.

The Elevator Men's Union of San from Trades Council.)

Dan Connors, a railway brakeman, is Mayor of Wallace, Idaho.

Clinton, Ia., has a Mayor who is a member of the Typographical Union.

The strike of the electrical workers, of Vancouver, B. C., has been settled satisfactorily to the men.

The baggagemen of San Francisco have organized a union with a charter membership of 50.

The boot and shoe cutters of San Francisco have formed themselves into a union, and will soon adopt a label.

The labor party of New South Wales has succeeded in inducing the Legislature to grant the franchise to women.

A contemporary states that there are at present 217 strictly trade union papers published in the United States.

A straw vote recently taken on a passenger train in Pennsylvania to test the feeling of the public toward the mine workers' strike showed just 99 per cent for the strikers and 1 per cent for the owners.

The electrical linemen in New Orleans have gone on a sympathetic strike with the carmen, and all cars are tied up.

The San Francisco waist makers have organized into a union, and will energetically promote the use of the label.

The motormen's strike on the Hudson Valley Railway is assuming a serious phase on account of the acts of lawless gangs.

The Fishermen's Protective Union of the Pacific Coast and Alaska, organized in San Francisco a few days ago with a membership of 1000 to start with.

The Reuter brewery, of Boston, has announced that all its nonunion men were paid off last week and that union men only will be put to work hereafter.

A general plumbers' strike went into effect at Pueblo, Colo., Monday, the union demanding \$5 for an eight-hour day, an increase of 50 cents. About 150 men are out.

The Native Daughters' cigar factory, of San Francisco, has a strike on hand growing out of the discharge of two girls who persisted in getting off Labor Day to see the parade.

The threatened strike of the Minneapolis flour mills employees has been averted by the operators conceding an eight-hour schedule on a wage basis satisfactory to the men.

Two of the largest schools in Pawtucket, R. I., have been closed on account of the scarcity of coal. It is said that a majority of the schools there may have to be shut up.

Francisco have petitioned the Board of Supervisors to adopt an ordinance regulating the operation of elevators, so that no person under 21 years of age, and only experienced men may be employed.

The boycott by the San Francisco Labor Council of the Morton Special Delivery has resulted in the closing of the package department—one of the most important and lucrative departments of the company's business.

A Soap, Soda and Candleworkers' Union has been organized in San Francisco with a membership of 34. The new organization will affiliate with the American Federation of Labor and the San Francisco Labor Council.

A committee of citizens, headed by the publishers of a Boston newspaper, sought relief in the courts from the present coal shortage and high prices by asking for a receiver for the coal companies and coal-carrying roads.

The Union Labor Party in convention in San Francisco September 23, nominated E. J. Livernash for Congress in Fourth District, and W. J. Wynn in the Fifth. Superior Judges and other officers were also named.

Samuel Woods and E. Edwards, of the English Miners' Federation, and M. Arrandale, of the British Mineworkers' Union, are to be in attendance at the New Orleans convention of the American Federation of Labor in November.

On account of the scarcity of coal in New York City, Health Commissioner Ledule says that the death rate from pneumonia is increasing rapidly, due to insufficient heating of buildings; also that soft coal smoke is injurious to the eyes.

Seventy-five hod carriers working for a contractor on the Stanford University buildings struck last Friday for an increase in wages from \$2.50 to \$3 per day. The demand was denied, the strike ensued, and construction work has been stopped.

The National Congress of French Miners, in session at Commeny, France, adopted a resolution by a vote of 80 to 18 in favor of an eight-hour day, including the time occupied in descending and ascending to and from the mines, and at meals.

The Woodworkers' Union, of San Francisco, has issued a statement denying the published reports that cabinet-makers are needed in that city. The article was inspired, it is believed, by employers who wished to take advantage of a surplus of labor.

The furnaces of the Martin Iron & Steel Company and the Union Iron & Steel Company at Ironton, Mich., have been shut down for a lack of coal, owing to the continuance of the strike in the Kanawha and New River coal fields. Five hundred men are thrown out of work.

District President Nicholas accuses Michael Grimes, an ex-mine foreman, of being "at the head of a movement inaugurated by the coal companies to bribe a number of mineworkers' locals for \$2500 apiece to vote to return to work." Mr. Nicholas declares at the close of his statement that his "informants stand ready to prove their assertions in court."

Peat, cut from the swamps near South Chicago and dried until fit for fuel, may be placed on the market as a rival of high-priced coal, if experiments now being made are successful. For years residents of that district have noticed the beds of burning peat, which were ignited in the summer, often burned long after winter began and have been known to continue through the year.

A Pressmen's Union has recently been organized at San Jose, Cal., with a membership of 20.

Three thousand ship carpenters have struck at Hong Kong for an increase in wages. These include practically all the carpenters employed by European and Chinese firms. The strike originated three weeks ago at the Hong Kong docks of the Whampoa Dock Company. They demand an increase to 65 cents per day from 50 cents, now paid by European firms, and 40 cents, paid by Chinese. Immense ship-building operations are entirely suspended while the strike lasts.

Employees of the American Iron & Steel Company demanded that the negroes be withdrawn; the puddlers be paid \$4.50 per ton; an increase of 3 per cent to be given to the men in the finishing department; no discrimination to be made against any former employees. A final conference between the men and owners was fixed for last Monday, but no satisfactory agreement was reached, and a strike is the consequence.

Eighteen men left the American steamer Tremont in San Francisco Harbor last Friday on account of brutal treatment. Captain Garlieh, of the steamer, wants to proceed to Seattle, but so far has been unable to get firemen. The union will not furnish any men, as it is claimed that a Chinese crew is waiting at Seattle to take the places of the white men upon the arrival of the steamer at that port. Most of the 18 men are of Spanish nationality. They have no affiliation with any labor union.

Frank P. Sargent, Commissioner-General of Immigration of the United States, has made arrangements with the Canadian Pacific Railroad to restrict the influx of Chinese into the United States, delivering the Chinese only to designated points hereafter to be selected. Those who attempt unlawful entrance, or do not present evidence of right to enter, will be put on board the steamers which brought them over, and sent back to Hong Kong at the expense of those who brought them.

Oil as a fuel has proved such a success on all the lines of the Southern Pacific that general orders have been issued for the conversion of all the engines into oil burners as soon as possible. Coal will be abandoned absolutely. Within a year the Southern Pacific will be on an oil basis solely, thus saving upwards of \$100,000 per month.

Fifteen hundred employees of the New Orleans Street Railway Company went on strike Sunday morning on account of the refusal of the company to grant their demands for higher wages and shorter hours, and as a result not a street car was operated in this city on that day.

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