

Portland Labor Press

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STATUS OF THE COAL STRIKE.

For the past week the Anthracite Coal Commission have sat at Scranton, hearing the arguments of the contending factors. Nearly the whole of the time so far has been taken up by the corporation attorneys, with President Mitchell, of the United Mineworkers, on the stand. For over four days Mr. Mitchell was kept upon the stand exposed to the most rigid cross-examination from a corps of clever attorneys, with Wayne MacVeagh at the head. Every possible means was used to break down the invulnerable position taken by Mitchell, but all proved futile. MacVeagh resorted to bully-ragging and insidious insinuations, calculated to excite the witness to anger, but this, too, failed. Mr. Mitchell went through it all without a scratch and has won new laurels. He is certainly a remarkable man. Besides possessing wonderful intellect and judgment, he seems to have complete mastery over himself.

To sum the matter up, the sitting of the commission thus far has simply permitted a bunch of attorneys to endeavor to wear Mr. Mitchell out. The latter's endurance, mentally and physically, has been a great surprise to the attorneys, and the commissioners are wearying of the time lost and lack of progress. Judge Gray has already announced that further examination must be of a pertinent character, and it is to be hoped that the strain upon Mr. Mitchell will be lightened.

The "sweating" system pursued by the corporation attorneys has not added any to the justification of their contention. In fact, their position is evidently taken upon the advice of an old lawyer, who, in charging a young law student about to launch into the profession for himself, said: "In talking to a jury, if you have facts, stick closely to the facts; if you have the law on your side, stick closely to the law; and if you have neither facts nor law, proceed to raise hell." The disadvantage of the miners before the commission can readily be seen since the operators have taken a determined stand not to recognize the union, and Mr. Mitchell, under oath, agrees to accept the decision of the arbitrators, even if the opinion is in opposition to the laws of the union. Another dissimilarity is a corps of 30 of the brightest lawyers in the East for the operators against four or five for the miners—and Mitchell. So it is self-evident that the hope for the miners lies in the justice of their claim and the impartiality of the individual members of the board. The operators seek to intimidate the commission by giving out that they will not recognize the miners' union under any circumstances, but it is to be hoped and we believe the board will not be influenced by the threat. If a decision of recognition is rendered, the people will see it that the operators carry out the requirements of the arbitration commission.

THE MESSENGER EVIL.

Reformers continue to cry reform while the wheels of crime-keep on grinding. The police calendar is filled from day to day while the cause remains intact. And right here it can be truthfully said that the telegraph and messenger companies in our cities—Portland well to the front—are responsible for more criminals than anything else. There is a law in Oregon prohibiting the hiring of boys by these companies and sending them with messages to questionable places. Still this law is violated every day in Portland, and boys from 10 to 16 years of age are seen going in and from houses of ill fame and questionable lodging-houses and no notice is being taken of it by the police. The result is that the average messenger boy has become acquainted with nearly every character of crime known, and some of them are actually criminals. While on duty they go unbridled, and when off duty take advantage of the information gained through their occupation, and seek the society of immoral women, who hide them in their sin. The authorities are fully aware of this fact and are in possession of information that would make the blood of the average citizen boil with indignation if made public. Not a word is being said to save these little fellows, but the criminal courts keep grinding, filling our jails and penitentiaries.

This kind of thing should be stopped. There is a law against it. It is the duty of the officials to enforce it, and if they don't, the people should find out why.

Let these rich companies hire men for this purpose. They can afford it,

and men are more competent to guard against temptation. In Seattle, the companies even go so far as to employ little girls on the messenger service, and it has been shown that these little innocents have been sent to lewd houses with messages at various times. The trades unions of Seattle were the first to take the matter up, and will succeed in driving out this pernicious system. There is no more reason that little boys should be employed in this manner than little girls. It has a demoralizing effect and dwarfs the morals to such an extent that its influence is felt in society in years to come. The little girls are eventually the victims of a degraded social system, and yet the reformers wonder why crime stalks abroad in the land to such an enormous extent. If the cause is removed there is no room left for disaffection. Yet a system that promotes degeneracy is left to plow its furrows of crime unchecked.

A MUCH-NEEDED LESSON.

The power of ballot wielded by the labor organizations in San Francisco, where it seems that the unions have gained the wisdom of acting as a unit, is made clear by the following editorial in the Examiner immediately after the count was made:

"The defeat of Kahn and Loud will teach public officials in California a much-needed lesson. Loud and Kahn knew the sentiment of California in the matter of Chinese exclusion, the eight-hour law and the treatment of letter-carriers just as well as any one in the state. But neither Kahn nor Loud properly represented public sentiment on one or more of these questions. For that reason both Loud and Kahn are retired to private life, having shown themselves indisposed to use public station for the public welfare.

"Both of them represented districts in which the vote was overwhelmingly in favor of the Republican candidate. Both had unlimited means at their disposal for campaign purposes. Both were assisted by men reputed to be the ablest campaigners on the Coast. Both had every advantage that combination, money, shrewdness and energy can give a political campaign. Yet Loud was overwhelmingly defeated and Kahn was beaten, even in spite of a combination of Lane and Kahn. This combination with Lane in Kahn's district was believed to be so powerful that those in the secret bet thousands of dollars at ridiculous odds in favor of Kahn, despite the fact that Livernash had the largest and most enthusiastic meeting of voters ever held in San Francisco, and despite the fact that every Labor Union man in the City of San Francisco was pledged to vote for Livernash.

"We trust that every politician in the state will take this lesson to heart and remember that as all political power springs from the people, it must be exercised wisely in the interest of the people, or the people will eventually dishonor the unfaithful stewards.

"It is pleasant to feel that California will gain much credit in the halls of Congress by having as a Representative the most brilliant young man in the state."

THE LABOR COMMISSIONER.

The Portland Labor Press is interested and will do all in its power to induce the passage of a law at the coming session of our State Legislature creating a Bureau of Labor Statistics; but the Labor Press is taking no part in selecting the man fit to have his name recorded in the bill. We believe that it is a little premature for men to become candidates for an office yet to be created. It would be far better to let the office seek the man or select one without contention in case the Legislature passed such a measure.

There are plenty of good men in the ranks of organized labor in the state, amply fitted to fill such a position with credit. We believe the labor unions of the state should be consulted when a man is selected for such place. The duties of the office are particularly pertinent to the interests of the organized producer, and the man who earns his existence by day's labor demands a man for the position who is to a certain degree a mechanic, of good judgment, executive ability, and, above all else, honest.

Any good union man the Labor Press will endorse, but it does not countenance underhanded methods used to further any one man's interest amongst the unions against that of another. Let a manly effort be made to select a man who will be acceptable to organized labor. The first we should endeavor to obtain is the Bureau of Labor Statistics. There are plenty of good men. Let things take their course. There is too much personal interest entering into the campaign for Commissioner, and if allowed to continue, may seriously hamper the passage of the bill, as it did two years ago.

deeds, committed by thoughtless and reckless men.

All the churches and reform societies in the city will not have weight enough to stop gambling in the city without the co-operation of the Police Commissioners and the chief of the department.

The irrigation convention has been hampered somewhat by a closed town. The deliberations must be finished by 1 o'clock A. M.

The Weather Bureau report read "More rain." And immediately irrigation delegates began to pour in upon the town.

There has been an equinox of delegates in the city lately that seems quite dampening.

The drydock case will be heard before the full bench on the 26th of this month.

King Leopold's merry life was nearly blown out last Saturday by an anarchist bullet.

What Western Oregon needs about now is an arid congress.

LABOR NOTES.

It is estimated that there are 6,000,000 trade unionists in Europe.

The Seattle Electrical Workers have won their strike for eight hours and \$3.25 per day.

The printing establishment of H. S. Crocker & Co., of San Francisco, has at last been unionized.

The Belgian window glass workers have been granted a 15 per cent raise in wages without a strike.

A strike of Chicago school children occurred on November 7, owing to the transfer of popular teachers.

The Delivery Drivers' Union, of San Francisco, are asking for a reduction to ten hours for a day at the same pay.

The machinists at the National Steel Company's mill at Mingo Junction, O., are on a strike for a raise in wages.

The Los Angeles linemen, Local No. 64, after a two days' strike, were conceded the shorter workday and better wages.

In New York a recent law places an employer in jail for fifteen days for refusing to pay a female employee wages when work is done.

Tacoma Typographical Union has inaugurated the eight-hour day in their job office. The job scale has also been increased \$1.50 a week.

After a five months' strike, five Frankford damask manufacturers at Philadelphia, Pa., have granted their men a 10 per cent increase of wages.

The engineers of gasoline launches in the San Francisco harbor have organized a union which will be called the Marine Gasoline Engineers' Association.

In Kobe, Japan, two linotypes are operated by Japanese on a daily native paper, the Japanese language being printed phonetically in English characters.

The Union Labor party, of San Francisco, is making arrangements for a big ratification, at which all of the labor leaders and successful candidates will be present.

Electrical Workers, No. 77, of Seattle, have won out in their difficulty. They get an eight-hour day and an advance of 25 cents a day with recognition of the union.

Fourteen Philadelphia firms employing metal polishers, buffers and brass workers, have reduced the working hours from ten to nine, at the same wages as before.

The Astoria City Council has raised the wages of the men in the street cleaning department to \$2.50 per day. The drivers and engineers of the fire department also had their wages raised.

The Chicago Federation of Labor, on November 2, rescinded its act of expulsion against Typographical Union, No. 16, and offered to reinstate the delegates when they shall apply for admission.

At a conference Monday between President Donnelly, of the Butchers' Union, and officials of the Hammond Company, Chicago, the demands of the men were accepted to and the strike was declared off.

The Morgan & Wright factory in Chicago will be closed down for an indefinite period. The rubber trust, it is announced, will transfer operations to other cities rather than submit to the demands of the striking employees.

An extension of the strike in the silversmith factories of New York City has been decided upon by the finishers, who, to the number of 250, will quit. They demand a workday of nine hours. Nearly 100 workmen are now out.

The Master Builders' Exchange, of Philadelphia, is fathering a plan by which all labor disputes will be settled without entailing strikes. The plan includes the organization of bosses and a standing committee on arbitration.

The Union Labor Party, of Alameda County, Cal., elected John N. Bishop, Sheriff; G. W. Bacon, Auditor; A. K. Grim, Recorder; T. G. Gifford, Superintendent of Schools; and Fred S. Cone, Justice of Peace in Alameda.

The Printing Pressmen have formed unions in San Diego and San Jose, Cal. No. 24, of San Francisco, took in 35 new members at its last meeting. The result of unionizing the largest printing house in that city, a short time ago.

The San Francisco newsworkers have organized a union under charter from the International Typographical Union. Recently similar unions have been organized in Chicago, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Troy, N. Y., and El Paso, Tex.

The Laundry Workers, of San Francisco, have started an agitation against the Chinese and Japanese laundries. The committee intends to direct the attention of the Board of Health to the sanitary condition of these laundries, and will also endeavor to interest the general public through the press.

Longshore Lumbermen's Union, No. 224, of San Francisco, has adopted a new wage schedule to take effect on December 1. It calls for 55 cents an hour for journeymen, and 60-2-3 cents an hour for foremen, with pay for overtime at the rate of \$1 an hour. The present pay is 40 cents an hour for journeymen and 60 cents for foremen.

Thomas L. Wilson, of the Union Pacific strikers, reports numerous recent losses of the company's scabs at all the fighting points along the Union Pacific system, 130 getting work at Cheyenne in two days. He reports the train service to be getting worse, and says that the strikers, who are all in good spirits, feel certain that the victory will be theirs.

MEAT MARKETS UNION MEN CAN PATRONIZE.

All is peace and harmony now between the Butchers' Retail Association and the Butchers' Union. The following markets are recommended to the patronage of organized labor, lacking a few more that will appear in this list in next week's issue:

CITY MARKET.
First and Columbia Streets.

J. BADURA.
Grand avenue and Burnside St.

H. C. BEHRENS.
411 Union avenue.

H. BOYER.
Williams avenue and Knott St.

BLUM BROS.
Seventeenth and Savier.

COWEN & HACKER.
Grand avenue and Washington.

ED. DEERY.
Thirteenth and Jefferson.

A. DE FRANCO.
Multnomah Addition.

DUKE & CAFFEY.
Hawthorne and Grand avenue.

THOS. DUFFY.
First and Madison Sts.

DRUSCHELL BROS.
Third and Clay Sts.

J. F. CLINE.
Mississippi avenue and Russell St.

FRANKLIN MEAT MARKET.
No. 165 Third Street.

CHICAGO MARKET.
No. 144 Fifth Street.

H. FASSBENDER.
Fourteenth and Glisan Streets.

THEO. GODEL.
Sixteenth and Pettygrove Sts.

U. HAUGG.
Union avenue and Russell St.

HOMESTEAD MARKET.
No. 823 Williams avenue.

M. J. JONES.
No. 151 Fourth Street.

B. F. JONES.
Third and Yamhill Street.

KINDORF BROS.
No. 130 Grand avenue.

ALBERT KLEIN.
No. 432 East Burnside Street.

ALBINA MEAT MARKET.
Russell and Vancouver Streets.

PACIFIC MEAT MARKET.
No. 364 Washington Street.

MULTNOMAH MEAT MARKET.
No. 512 Washington Street.

J. A. KELLER.
Fulton, Oregon.

STATE MEAT MARKET.
No. 221 First St., corner Salmon.

FIRST ST. BRIDGE MARKET.
W. L. Maher, proprietor.

CANYON MEAT MARKET.
No. 500 Jefferson Street.

G. C. PENDEGRASS.
Twelfth and Johnson Streets.

YAKIMA MEAT MARKET.
No. 149 First Street.

WESTERN MEAT MARKET.
No. 340 First Street.

PALACE MARKET.
Third and Yamhill Streets.

ENTERPRISE MARKET.
First and Meade Streets.

MRS. M. KETCHUM.
Front and Gibbs Streets.

SIXTH STREET MEAT MARKET.
Sixth and College Streets.

U. S. MARKET.
Eleventh and Montgomery Sts.

NOB HILL MARKET.
Twenty-first and Irving Sts.

SMITH BROS' MARKET.
Park and Morrison Streets.

EXCELSIOR MARKET.
Grand avenue and Morrison St.

HIGHLAND MEAT MARKET.
UNION MEAT MARKET,
H. E. WOOD,
No. 413 Everett St.
SAVIER STREET MARKET,
No. 753 Savier Street.
COLUMBIA MARKET,
No. 502 Fourth Street.
LORANE MARKET,
No. 189 Williams avenue.
CHRIST MEYER,
East Eighth and Stevens Sts.

Wm. Devony Estelle Devony
The Devony's the only
Scientific Chiropodrats in the City...
Parlors in the Alisky Building,
Third and Morrison Sts., Rooms 301-303.
Or. Phone Grant 16 Portland, Ore.

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THE BEST MADE

Sam'l Rosenblatt & Co.
Cor. Third and Morrison Sts.

NEW YORK HAT COMPANY
Exclusive Hatters

Manufacturing and Renovating
Hats Cleaned, Blocked, Dyed and Trimmed.

305 Alder St., bet. Fifth and Sixth
Phone Black 1987

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Bet. Third and Fourth

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ROWE & MARTIN, Owners

Prescription Druggists and Perfumers
251 Washington Street
Corner Sixth Portland, Oregon

The John Barrett
Company...

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Electric Fixtures, Fire Places,
Tile Floors, Bell Repairs,
Electric Wiring

The John Barrett Company
134 Sixth Street
311 Alder Street

Why Smoke Seab Tobacco When
You Can Get the Following
UNION MADE GOODS

Sun Cured, Plug Cut, - - - 10c
Lime Kiln, Plug Cut, - - - 10c
Buckingham and Compass,
Plug Cut, - - - 5c

Turkish Patrol, Long Tom and
Prime Mess Granulated, 5c
Elephant Scrap, - - - 5c
Peach and Honey, fine cut - 5c
Fast Mail, fine cut - - - 10c

167 Third St., bet. Yamhill and Morrison
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your home by applying your rent on the
purchase price? We can make you a most
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are built at St. Johns, a locality better
suited for laboring men than any other
suburb, because industries are constantly
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and Game
295 N. SIXTEENTH ST.
Oregon Phone Clay 51 Columbia Phone 180

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Funeral Directors and Embalmers,
cor. Third and Jefferson Sts. Com-
petent lady asst. Both phones No. 9.
Phones: Oregon Main 899
Columbia 19

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PORTLAND, OREGON
Office and Factory: Foot Harrison St.

PHONE COLUMBIA 259
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Oregon Telephone Front 1213

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