

Portland Labor Press

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AT SALEM.

The Oregon legislators are deserving of commendation for getting together and organizing without unnecessary delay, although it was their duty to do as they have done. It is to be hoped that the Senatorial matter will be disposed of as expeditiously, so that the session may be taken up for the interests of the people of the state. It is also gratifying to know that no factional disorders have become fixed as a result of the contest for the organization of the House and the Senate. Neither was the inauguration of Governor Chamberlain held up as it was reported that a number of inferior politicians would attempt to do. It seems that on the whole good judgment has entered into the proceedings so far, and it is hoped there will be no cessation of this policy during the entire session. The people are not benefited by legislative hold-ups and irregularities.

The message of Governor Chamberlain, while exhaustive, covers nearly all of the important points of general interest to the taxpayers of the state, and if the Legislature adopts many of his recommendations it would certainly reduce the wanton expenditure of large sums of public money. To summarize in his message he believes that the steady growth of wealth and population in the state ought to decrease the general tax levy, and recommends that the executive be empowered to appoint a commission to prepare a general assessment law to be reported to the next Legislature; corporations, he believes, should be taxed reasonably but uniformly to that paid by the average citizen; he favors the passage of the "fellow servant" law similar to the one in force in the State of Virginia; the inheritance tax is recommended; he urges the flat salary pledge of both parties to state officers, but believes that the said officers should be allowed compensation commensurate with the duties performed and responsibilities assumed, and says that the Legislature has power to fix the compensation of an officer, and even abolish an office, in the absence of any constitutional inhibition; advocates lopping off unnecessary law in the state printing office as a means of reducing the extravagant appropriations heretofore made for this office; he says that the books of county and state officers should be examined regularly by experts, so as to eliminate defalcations, and provision should be made for the transporting of criminals and insane, he believes, should be placed in the hands of the officers of the Penitentiary and Asylum, instead of Sheriffs, and the expense thereof reduced to actual cost; he recommends the system of parole for youthful criminals between the ages of 16 and 21 years; the sailor boarding-house nuisance is attacked, and greater restrictions and penalties urged, and he recommends that cities wherein they exist should be invested with broader authority; he advocates the execution of criminals in the state to be made in the Penitentiary, away from all public notice; in the question of common schools he suggests more practicality, less book cramming, and suggests consolidation of rural schools as the amelioration of the hardships and short terms of the average country school; where there are now four normal schools in the state he recommends that they be reduced to two, and restricted to the primary object of the system; the Columbia River pilotage can, he thinks, be improved by the adoption of a uniform rate between the State of Washington and Oregon; the expense of maintaining a health officer at Astoria he would cut out, as the duties prescribed for such officer are now covered by the United States quarantine officer at that port—at Coos Bay, Gardiner, or Yaquina Bay the officers might still be retained, but the amount of service performed should be inquired into and a salary paid each commensurate therewith. The Governor devotes a large section of his message to "labor," which is published in full on the first page; he takes an opposite position to those who think that the initiative and referendum is self-operative, and that no legislation whatever is necessary, and suggests that some legislation ought to be had at this session to make it effective; he recommends that measures should be taken compelling near relatives of persons confined in State Asylum and Reform School to contribute to their support if they are financially able; he recommends that convict labor should be re-

moved from competition with free labor; he further recommends: State institutions owning their own light plant; that the Columbia River should be kept open, and that the locks at Willamette Falls should be owned by the Government; the support of the Boys' and Girls' Aid Society; greater development and irrigation of arid lands, but caution should be exercised in arrangement; a thorough investigation of the alleged public irregularities, and remedy thereof; good roads by convict labor, thereby affording the latter healthful employment and removing his products from the competitive market of free labor; a liberal appropriation for the Lewis and Clark Fair; aid to the Oregon Historical Society; restricting the state. And in conclusion Governor Chamberlain pledges himself to the best interests of the state, and asks the members of the Legislature to use in their deliberation the supreme wisdom and purest patriotism, so that the state may be glorified at home and abroad by her laws of government.

LABOR BILLS.

A number of labor union men left for Salem last Monday for the purpose of doing all that they could to secure the passage of the following bills:

Limiting the employment of females to 10 hours in 24.

Creating a bureau of labor statistics. Prevent overcrowding of public halls. Regulating child labor.

Providing for licensing of steam engineers.

Reorganizing the Port of Portland Commission, and providing for election of chairman by the Legislature.

Providing for fenders, pilots or aprons on all street cars.

Providing for a legal day's work, limiting hours of labor to eight on all public works.

Employes deception bill.

Providing for the union label on all state printing.

Fellow servant law, and placing the responsibility.

From reports Representative Bailey has launched the labor measures with the union label bill. He was followed later on by Representative Orton with the bureau of labor statistics bill, which will be referred to the committee on labor legislation. It is stated that the bill will be recommended for passage with some alterations from the original.

So far as is known here these are all the bills on labor that will be presented. Each one of them should become a law, and several are framed in the interest of the public at large.

SOLUTION OF THE LABOR PROBLEM.

A lady from St. Louis, Mo., writes to the Typographical Journal a letter signed "A Union Printer's Wife," upon the duties of the women who preside over the household of a man who is a member of organized labor. If there were more like her the labor question would be solved. She writes as follows:

"I have just received the Typographical Journal of December 1, and noticed in your St. Louis correspondence reference to the failure to unionize the McKinney and Well-Boettler bakeries in this city. It may not be out of place for a union printer's wife to make a suggestion. About two months ago I went to the grocery store to get a loaf of bread, and was informed that they did not intend to handle Heyd's bread any more, but could supply me with Well-Boettler or McKinney bread. I said, 'No, thanks, you can not sell me scab bread.' Since then we have been buying our bread elsewhere.

"A very dear friend of mine recently said: 'The idea of women bothering about labor unions. They don't belong to the union.' I say we do! My husband is a member of a labor union. Am I not his better half? The good husband brings his union wages to his wife. That is as it should be. But if the wife spends the union wages for non-union goods, she is undoing the work of the labor unions.

"Perhaps the grocer will say that the loss of my trade will not bankrupt him, but if we insisted that the many hundreds of loads of bread sold in St. Louis every day should bear the union label, what then? Husbands, talk union label goods to your wives. Wives, help the unions by demanding the label on your purchases. One can accomplish little, but a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether, and the victory is ours, or theirs, for every good wife will give her share of the credit to her husband."

Labor organizations and their leaders throughout the country will oppose the incorporation of the labor bureau under the proposed department of commerce, not only before Congress, where the bill is now pending, but will carry the fight before the President should the bill become a law with the Department of Labor included. Labor organizations oppose this transfer of the labor bureau to a new department because they feel that there should be a department of labor, and have come to the conclusion that their desires will not be gratified in many years in this direction if the present bureau of labor is placed under a regular department. The question is like, it is said, and it is the intention of the labor people, should the department of commerce bill pass as recommended to the House, to put the question before President Roosevelt, with a request that he veto the measure altogether.

After occupying eight days, during which time they presented about 150 witnesses, the non-union men closed

their case on January 9 before the Coal Strike Commission. The coal companies opened their case on the 10th, and, according to the plans of the operators, the companies will present their case, in order of the geographical location of their mines. The Delaware and Hudson Company, whose collieries are farthest south, will first present their witnesses and the Philadelphia Coal & Iron Company, who are in the southern part of the coal fields, will be heard last.

The Columbus Trades-Record says: If a convict must labor, and the product of this labor come in competition with free labor, the proceeds should go to keeping his mother, his sisters, his wife and his children, and he should be paid union wages in the craft in which he is engaged. No contractor should be allowed the immense profits on the convict's work, by which to club men who are fair to labor.

Sixty-one out of 72 legislators of the Montana lower house refused to accept passes from the Northern Pacific Railroad Company because they were limited to 60 days instead of one year, as has heretofore been customary. The solons of Montana don't believe in bartering their influence for so small a mess. The Montana legislator can never be accused of doing things by halves, as a rule.

In the death of Thomas H. Tongue Oregon has lost a valuable representative. While he was not socially as close to the people as Hermann was or Senator Mitchell is yet he was a man of brains, energy and legislative force. He never lost sight of the interests of his constituents and his excessive labors in their behalf undoubtedly hastened him to his death.

New York state has 13 active members of trades unions who will sit in the State Legislature at Albany this Winter. There are three printers, two carpenters, a plasterer, cigarmaker, bridgebuilder, quarry-worker, longshoreman, barber, painter and the secretary of the Lockport Central Labor Union, whose trade occupation is not given.

The Crown Princess of Saxony, in renouncing the throne for the love of a man, has done something that many American society belles yearn for, and so far as the love element is concerned are barren of. To those indifferent to titles it seems the credit of morality can be ascribed on the right hand side of the ledger.

The striking tanners of California feel assured of winning the battle. The tanneries of Benicia have almost been dismantled by incompetent workmen and cannot last much longer.

The labor unions in Western Canada are uniting in a vigorous campaign against the Laurier government Pro-Chinese policy in the coming election.

The Senatorial atmosphere is hardly as clear at Salem at this time as the weather in Portland has been for the past few days.

E. C. JORGENSEN & CO.
A name which is well-known throughout this section of the country and one which stands for excellence in the quality of its output, is E. C. Jorgensen & Co., located at No. 210 Third street. This company has never shown toward a friendly attitude toward labor and we offer our support and encouragement in furthering the interests of their ever-increasing business.

FOREMAN among the prominent establishments which go to give this city its metropolitan character we desire to place the name of Eilers Piano House, located at Nos. 351-353-355 Washington street.

This company is well known both on account of the superior grade of goods handled and also because of the uniformly fair and reasonable treatment it at all times accords its employees. Everywhere the name of this company stands for excellence in quality and honorable business dealings.

We cheerfully recommend this company to our readers as being worthy in every respect of our unlimited support and encouragement.

PACIFIC STATES TELEPHONE & TELEGRAPH CO.
It is almost impossible to over-estimate the importance of a great concern such as that of the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph Company, located at southeast corner West Park and Alder streets.

In the transaction of its great volume of business this institution gives employment to a large force of people, and it is held in the highest esteem, not only by its large force of employees, to whom is accorded the fairest and most courteous of treatment, but also by conservative organized labor throughout the city. It is a pleasure to know that this concern takes such an interest in its employees, and we take pleasure in placing the name of this company foremost among the prominent institutions which are staunch friends of labor.

THE PACIFIC REGALIA CO.
In this number we wish to call special attention to the Pacific Regalia Company, just removed to their larger quarters, 205-207 First street, dealers in lodge emblems, buttons and banners. This company is a well-established one and well-known for the superior quality of the goods handled.

We are pleased to note that they have always shown a friendly spirit toward labor and the labor movement, and the thousands of workmen of this city should not overlook the fact that this company has been ready at all times to co-operate with the union men to further the cause of labor.

The officers are: Paul Pierdner, president; J. L. Mitchell, vice-president; W. W. Terry, secretary; all of whom are well known in business circles as men of ability and integrity.

Upon careful investigation we find that the company bears an excellent reputation for the manner in which it treats its employees and has made a host of friends among the organized workmen of this city.

CALIFORNIA VIGORIT POWDER CO.

In calling the attention of the citizens of Portland, and especially the organized workmen, to those concerns which have shown a friendly attitude toward labor, we desire to give particular mention to the Vigorit Powder Company, located at No. 182 Madison street.

In transaction of their business this company has numerous dealings with the workmen of this city and state, and they have made a host of friends among the organized workmen.

In this edition we wish to urge the union men of this city and state to give their hearty support to those institutions that are friendly to our cause.

HEXTER, MAY & CO.
A concern which adds most materially to the prestige and welfare of Portland is the firm of Hexter, May & Co., located at No. 124 Front street.

This company is very popular in this city, not only because of the reliability of its output, but also because of the fair and honorable manner in which they have always conducted their dealings with both labor and the public.

Union men both locally and throughout the state will make no mistake in giving this deserving enterprise their encouragement and support in every way possible, as it may be depended upon to be a staunch and substantial friend of the labor movement.

THE BAKER THEATER.
One of the exceptionally good and popular theaters of this city is The Baker, located on Third street, and is deserving of most creditable mention and unlimited patronage.

The Baker Theater is modernly equipped for the convenience and comfort of its patrons, and is considered one of the finest theaters in the Northwest, the most first-class theater in our city which should receive more liberal support from union men.

The affairs are in the hands of the most efficient manager, Mr. George L. Baker. His painstaking efforts and courteous treatment to patrons has won him a host of friends.

We take pleasure in giving this theater special mention in this edition.

PACIFIC LADDER WORKS.
An institution deserving of particular note among the staunch and substantial friends of labor is the Pacific Ladder Works, located at Nos. 85-87 East Eighth street.

The factory is under the direction of men of unquestioned ability and sterling integrity. Labor representatives have invariably been given a most courteous hearing at their hands, and numerous occasions they have done much for the furtherance of the cause.

Workingmen and all sympathizers of the cause of labor will make no mistake in supporting the above-named concern.

THE PORTLAND FLOURING MILLS CO.
An enterprise which especially merits the support and encouragement of all citizens who have the welfare of labor and capital at heart is the Portland Flouring Mills Company, located at No. 224 Stark street.

The operation of this enterprise involves the investment of considerable capital and gives employment to a large number of persons.

The fair and considerate manner in which its employees are treated is deserving of honorable mention, and it is a well-understood fact among the members of our ranks that their attitude towards labor is neither antagonistic nor uncertain.

KING LABOR'S RESCUE.
C. F. Sutton.
(All Rights Reserved.)
From the land of plenty
Came "King Labor," bound in chains,
Stripped of fruits of noble effort,
And of all his honest gains.
Wondering, I watched him stagger
Wealth he craved, but he could not gain.
Bent that form once fair and stalwart,
Ceased were those once cheering songs.
Never grumbling and turmoil,
Limping, stumbling,
Through his slavery and turmoil,
Onward plodding,
Over the briars of toil.

That faithful arm, once strong and supple,
Now seemed withering away;
Those liquid eyes, once bright and cheerful,
Were dimmed with gloom and pain.
Had grown so dim in slavery's day;
Hope that once thrived in his bosom
Now seemed turning to despair.
And yet his thoughts were e'en recalling
Memories of past freedom's air,
Longing, yearning,
Working, earning,
By the sweat of honest brow,
Life's sweet pleasure
In full measure.

For his captors' gaping maw,
Just behind this noble workman
Sat a monster, gray and grim,
Who devoured with greedy hunger
All the fruits produced by him.
On his horrid, horny forehead
Was a crown that glittered bright,
But the feeling that it fostered
Was contempt for cruel might.
Brazen letters,
Lurking fetters,
Let the story of his told
That this monster
E'en his spouse
Had a name—that name was—gold.

Rhythmic strains of ceaseless thunder
Smote the air with might and main,
Hurling defiance to this plunderer
Of "King Labor's" honest gain.
Looking, I beheld approaching
From the eastern horizon
A myriad host: like the encroaching
Of a great millennial dawn,
Glittering, shimmering,
Rings of justice and of right,
"Queen Education,"
With jubilation,
Came to succor her might.

Straight to where "King Labor," awe-struck,
Stood aghast as she approached,
Came this queen, "Queen Education,"
By her host of angels coached.
"I have a quest for your assistance,
Come! 'King Labor,' take my hand;
When we're united, no resistance
Can detract us from the land.
Peace and pleasure
Must repay our honest toil,
No golden beast
Has bought or leased
The right a human life to spoil."

When the beast heard this appeal,
Belched fire and spouted blood,
"You," he roared, "will surely feel
The torments of my hatred's flood."
But she stood, as stands an angel,
Guarding Heaven's portals stern,
Nothing daunted, spake she quickly,
"You can nevermore
I will guard him,
Guide and teach him,
And our servant God shall be.
Right will weigh
And you must pay
All your debts on land and sea."

Time brought forth a smiling urchin,
Crowning happiness with bliss;
"King Labor" and "Queen Education,"
Were united now in bliss.
"Let us christen this child 'Union,'
Now that both in voice of song
"For the beast" shall feel his power
In a battle fierce and long."

In time there's length,
And they shall both go hand in hand;
The "beast" subdued,
Good-will renew,
Throughout this free and glorious land.

Years ago, I looked again
Upon this field all battle scarred.
The "beast of Gold" was there subdued.
The urchin "Union" was not marred.
"King Labor's" chains were rent asunder,
"Queen Education" loved and blessed,
Poured forth from the horn of plenty
Peace, prosperity and rest.

The "beast" was vanquished,
Maimed he languished,
Serving "Union's" righteous cause;
Union ever,
Slavery never,
Justice sings midst great applause.

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