

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.

Portland, Or., Nov. 6, 1903.
Meeting called to order in Bartenders' hall, 264 Alder street, at 8 o'clock by Vice-President Reed. Minutes of previous meeting read and approved.

Communications and Bills—Communication from Carpenters' Union, referred to Bros. Trummer and Warner. From Leather Workers' Union, stating that they have declared the McMonies shop open, and requesting that the name be removed from unfair list; request complied with. From J. K. Stanton, of Retail Clerks' Union, tendering his resignation as a member of the legislative committee; resignation accepted. The bill of Glass & Prudhomme Company for \$2.50 for 500 delegate notification blanks was ordered paid. Committee on Federated Trades Laundry hall report progress. Committee on hall report that arrangements have been made with the Bartenders' Union for the temporary use of their hall; also report that the hall on Second street, between Washington and Stark, can be leased by the Council for a period of three years at a monthly rental of \$65. Committee recommend that five additional members be added to committee and that a warrant for \$100 be drawn and that committee be given full power to act. Motion that report be laid on table; carried. Motion that committee rent the meeting hall in the Selling-Hirsch building, laid on table. Motion that committee continue search for centrally located hall, carried. The amendment to the by-laws, relative to the reduction of dues of the smaller unions, which was offered at the last meeting of Council, was read and adopted. Brother Jorgensen reported that he received 100 tickets for the lecture to be delivered by J. T. Morgan. Motion that tickets be distributed among the delegates; carried.

Brother R. B. Hesketh, general organizer for the Hotel and Restaurant and Bartenders' International Unions, was present and delivered a short address along the lines of organization, which was well received.

Receipts—Expressmen, \$12; Cooks and Waiters, \$3; Barbers, \$3; Sailors, \$3; Broom Makers, \$3; Bricklayers, \$3. Total, \$27.

Disbursements, \$2.50.
Meeting adjourned.
GRANT McDONALD, Sec.

BARBERS' UNION.

The meetings of the Barbers' Union have been well attended recently. They have changed their time and place of meeting to 49½ First street, every Monday evening. The headquarters of the union have also been changed to 167½ First street, rooms 1 and 2.

Five applications for membership were read and accepted. H. L. Crosby was initiated and four members were accepted by card.

The Barbers' Union is steadily marching onward. The secretary receives letters every day from barbers in outside towns, making inquiries how to get into the union. This is evidence that the union is favorably looked upon by all members of the craft, with but few exceptions, and they are principally among those who are behind the times and do nothing else but cheap work. The secretary says:

"We claim that today the barber business has a higher class of workmen than ever before in its history; that of late years we are subjected to a larger expense in carrying on the business, not only in rent, but in material to ensure our customers against the contagious skin diseases so prevalent. Most of the shops of this city, and elsewhere, are prepared not only to protect their customers against disease, but to successfully treat them.

"Not alone in this particular has our expense been increased. Compare other modes now in use to those of former days. Many things can be said in regard to the business, all of which would show a tendency to perfection. Regarding the relations of master to journeyman barber, very little difference exists. Any master barber is eligible to join the union, who does not employ any journeyman; any journeyman becomes a master barber when he becomes proprietor of a shop employing a journeyman. Therefore one can see how

much easier it is to settle differences through the union, than otherwise.
"Closing of shops at 7 p. m., with the exception of Saturday nights, which has proven very satisfactory, was brought about by the action of the union; if we ever expect uniform prices and a uniform scale of wages, it must be brought about by the action of the union.

COOKS AND WAITERS.

The new energy exercised by the officers and members of the Cooks' and Waiters' Union, assisted by Robert Hesketh, general organizer, has had the effect of getting larger attendance at the meetings and greater interest in the welfare of the organization. At the last meeting Monday evening there was a good turnout. Ten new members were initiated and five applications filed.

Since the initiation fee has been reduced to \$2 and a general campaign made for memberships, the fines and back dues of those in arrears have been remitted, and they can now come back into the union for the sum of the initiation fee of \$2.

The new vice-president, Fred Smith, elected in place of Miss Birdie Goertz, resigned, was installed Monday evening. Miss Goertz has changed her occupation and is now a member of the Garment Workers. As she holds the position of statistical secretary in the Federated Trades Council, it is said that she will be elected as a delegate to the Council from the Garment Workers. The cooks and waiters regret to lose her from their organization, as she has been an indefatigable and effective worker for the union.

Organizer Hesketh was present and reported the progress he has made favorable to the union since his arrival in Portland. Two candidates from Cape Nome, Alaska, were amongst those initiated. An effort is being made to induce all union cooks and waiters from other cities to deposit their working cards with the secretary as soon as they arrive in Portland.

TEAMDRIVERS' UNION.

Local No. 162, at its meeting last Tuesday evening, took formal notice of the new name adopted by the international. It is known by well informed teamsters that heretofore there has been two international bodies, i. e., the Teamsters' International Union, to which No. 162 belonged, and the Brotherhood of Teamsters. At the convention of the former a short time ago, an arrangement was made by which the two consolidated under the name of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. The amalgamation placed the teamsters amongst the strongest unions in the country, that of 122,000 members. Besides it does away with all possible craft interferences.

At the meeting Tuesday evening there was a large attendance in spite of the cold rain and disagreeable weather. Vice-President Eagle presided until President Gram arrived.

There was some important business transacted during the evening, and the secretary-treasurer was kept busy giving new working cards to the members.

Brother Bird made a good talk on the Labor Press, the great assistance it proved to be to the movement, and insisted that every member subscribe for the same.

PRESSMEN'S UNION.

The pressmen disposed of considerable business at the regular meeting last Tuesday evening, mostly routine in character.

C. Stoughton was reported sick and was allowed three weeks' benefit of \$7 per week. The third assessment—\$25—to the Lewis and Clark corporation was ordered paid.

Peasley Bros., Sherlock building, Third and Oak streets, were declared unfair, and the delegates to the Federated Trades Council were instructed to report the fact to the Council at its regular meeting Friday evening. The contention seems to be the employment of a non-union pressman.

The special assessment of 25 cents for the defense fund was elected to continue another six months. This assessment has now been running a year, and the fund has swelled to handsome proportions. The conditions of this fund is exemptive from any use whatsoever excepting in case of strike or lockout. The union is now about to place the money where it will earn interest.

GRAINHANDLERS' UNION.

The Grainhandlers' Union met in regular session last Tuesday evening, at which time G. Olson and Commodore Perry were reported on the sick list. Thereupon a sick committee of five was appointed to look after the brothers in physical distress.

W. S. Kennedy, a charter member of No. 289, Tacoma, and treasurer of that organization for three successive terms, was announced as a visiting member. He was received with the best evidence of brotherhood.

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The grainhandlers report fully 100 men idle, due to the shortage in wheat shipments. All at once there occurs a lapse in delivery, which seems to be occasioned by the farmers refusing to sell in the inland empire. Considerable wheat has already been exported, but it seems to have come from nearby points. It is expected that active work will occur by the holidays.

LONGSHOREMEN, No. 264.

The regular semi-monthly meeting of No. 264 was held last Saturday evening, at which time two new members were initiated, increasing the numerical strength of the union to 159.

The initiation fee was raised to \$25.

At the next meeting, November 21, nominations for the ensuing term of six months will be made. The election of officers will occur at the first meeting in December. George Hornby, a stalwart member of No. 264, and recently elected a member of the Pacific Coast Branch Executive Committee while in convention at Tacoma a few days ago, made a report as to his stewardship at the convention as a delegate. His talk, as usual, was interesting and profitable.

NEW UNION AT HEPPNER.

G. Y. Harry, General Organizer of the American Federation of Labor, gives to the Labor Press the following very flattering report of the unionizing of Heppner:

"I think I am not over-reaching the mark when I claim that we have added to the other staunch union towns of Oregon the thriving little City of Heppner. At the first meeting under their charter of the Federal Labor Union, No. 11,488, last week they had a paid-up membership of 45, which is a splendid start. Inside of two months I predict a membership of three times that number.

"I was very materially aided in getting so encouraging a start by the work of the enthusiastic believers in organized labor who comprise a large part of the charter members. At the election of officers the greatest enthusiasm prevailed, each being elected unanimously and a finer set of men were never placed in control of a new union.

"With the advent of the building season next spring it will be possible to organize several separate trade unions as well as a local of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Retail Clerks."

Mr. Fred Warnock, an old time union printer, was elected president, and Lewis Kinney, a former locomotive fireman, secretary. This means that the organization rests in safe hands, as all the officers chosen are conscientious trades unionists, and highly respected in the community in which they live.

TROUBLE ON COAL BARGE.

A little rattle has appeared upon the peaceful waters of the Port of Portland during the week, caused by Dan Kern, of the contracting firm of Hale & Kern, who dislikes organized labor in every form and manner. Last week there arrived in port a barge loaded with 1500 tons of coal from Lady-smith, B. C. Last Thursday Kern picked up a miscellaneous crew of men, saying he would not employ union men if he could help it, and put them to work at 25 cents per hour. The scale of the Longshoremen's Union for this kind of work is 50 cents. Gradually the men dropped off until Kern raised the price to 40 cents per hour. The business agent of No. 265 visited Mr. Kern for the purpose of straightening out the tangle, and the latter ordered the union representative from the office.

Kern finally succeeded in getting about 20 inexperienced men to do the work. The twenty men averaged less than 50 tons per day, and one day they unloaded less than 10 tons. Six or eight good, experienced longshoremen are capable of unloading 150 tons per day.

It was shown to Kern that he would make a saving by hiring union men, but he remained obstinate.

Last Tuesday morning a number of members of No. 265 went down to the dock, explained to the men on the barge that they were cutting prices, and the men quit. An effort was then made by the company to secure another crew. About a dozen Italians were secured, but they also refused to work when the affair was explained to them. The barge has now been relieved of about 400 tons of coal, and from present indications the other 1100 tons are liable to remain aboard for a long time unless Kern compromises.

TAILORS' SOCIAL.

The members of the Tailors' Union, ladies and gentlemen, united their labors for a social and dance, given last Monday evening in Union Hall, corner of Second and Stark streets, which proved a decided success in every way. A musical and literary programme had been arranged, and each number was well rendered and enthusiastically received.

After the last number had been performed the ladies waited upon the guests, serving coffee and cake. There was a large number of persons in attendance, who thoroughly enjoyed the good things offered.

At the conclusion of the lunch the hall was cleared of seats and dancing was the entertainment, that concluded at a late hour. Much care had been exercised in the preparation for the event and the committee is entitled to deserved mention. Mr. M. A. Trummer acted as chairman of the evening. The programme as rendered was as follows:

Piano solo, "Fairy Echoes on the Lake".....Miss Handahl
Soprano solo, "The Message of the Violet".....Miss Minnie Uhlman
Recitation, "Leadville Jim".....
.....Mr. Albert Johnson
Violin solo, selected.....Mr. Olaf Lind
Vocal duet, "Larboard Watch".....
.....Messrs. Tomte and Larsen
Piano solo, "Laughing Waters".....
.....Miss Handahl
Soprano solo, "Lullaby," from Erminie.....Miss Minnie Uhlman
Vocal solo, "O, Promise Me".....
.....H. G. Kundret
Piano solo, selected.....Mrs. Barde

QUESTION—Why is it Staples the Jeweler, is doing a good business?

ANSWER—Because he sells goods at a reasonable profit and his work is well done.

FOR RENT.

Engineers' Hall, No. 49½ First Street, for rent on Tuesday, Friday and Sunday evenings. Inquire of D. E. Smock, engineer at City Hall, between the hours of 7 a. m. and 5 p. m.

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