

Portland Labor Press



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Help down the "trust" by asking for blue label cigars and tobacco.

Don't buy prison-made, scab-made or child-made goods; ask for the union label.

Patronize home industry; ask for Oregon-made goods and you'll be assisting yourself.

The "Grand Old Man" of Portland has received another honor; this time it came from the grand jury.

There are nearly twenty thousand union workingmen in this state. We haven't heard of any of them being indicted yet.

The efforts of the international peace guardians at the Marquam last Sunday reminds one of the famous three tailors of Tooley street.

"An epidemic of indictments in the Webfoot State" is the heading of an article in an exchange. It's worse than that; it's a regular plague.

One of the most prominent members of the local Citizens' Alliance is making strenuous efforts to get out of the grand jury drag net. There are others in the Paris House.

And so the gallant Chief of Police is also included in the select few. Now that's taking things too far; who's going to preside over the kangaroo court during his absence?

There is something rotten in the State of Denmark when a self-confessed criminal and perjurer like S. A. D. Puter can have the privilege of dragging into the mire the honored name of John H. Mitchell, Oregon's senior senator.

Prospective candidates for municipal offices are as thick as leaves in Vallambrosa's shade. What a walk-over there'll be for the few politicians who can manage to keep out of jail until after the June election.

That was a lovely affair which took place at the Marquam last Sunday afternoon. At an early stage of the "peace" meeting the dove flew out the front door and the assembled peace-makers turned the affair into a miniature Donnybrook fair.

The Portland Labor Press stands for the enforcement of law and honest administration, and the prosecution of violators thereof, but it does not endorse the persecution of men by implication or association where no intention to commit crime is shown.

The attention of the grand jury is called to the methods of Portland's branch of the Citizens' Alliance. This dark-lantern outfit has a system of petty blackmail which it is using on business men who have courage enough to ignore its so-called influence.

By all means let the guilty land thieves be brought to justice but there must be better evidences to convict men under suspicion than the testimony of a lot of convicted crooks who have perjured themselves time and time again to further their own crooked schemes.

Port Arthur may have fallen and grand juries may work overtime, but work still goes on at the Fair grounds and in the course of a few short

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months Oregon will be ready to welcome the hundreds of thousands of visitors who will flock to see the beauty and attractions at the Lewis and Clark Exposition.

The preachers and saloon keepers are a unit upon the closing of the Lewis and Clark Exposition on Sundays. The reason is ascribed that the people would be likely to visit the fair on Sundays rather than attend their respective places of business. The spirit of selfishness seems to be marked in no matter what business.

The Portland Labor Press, and we believe the wage-earners generally, are in favor of keeping the Lewis and Clark Exposition grounds open on Sundays. This is the only day that thousands of laboring men and women will be able to attend, unless given a half Saturday holiday, and the most of them cannot afford to lose a half day's wages.

The destruction of the Union Meat Co.'s plant at Fourth and Glisan streets last Tuesday night by fire was an unfortunate affair. Besides the total loss of a large amount of property, the company will sustain a considerable loss in business until the plant is rebuilt and in running order. The company entertains the greatest respect of the business men and working people, the employees often extolling the attitude of the management towards them.

The first biennial report of the Bureau of Labor statistics and inspector of factories and workshops of the State of Oregon, has been issued by Commissioner O. P. Hoff, which was released on January 2. The report is replete with valuable statistics of the state, including the labor laws; labor organizations; strikes, lockouts, etc.; number of Chinese and Japanese in the state, and their cost of living; population, and resources of counties, and the wages paid to those employed; occupation according to registration; nativity according to registration; industries; cost of living compared, 1903 and 1904; accidents; etc. Lack of time has prevented us from reading and digesting the report in full, but a mere glance is sufficient to prove that Mr. Hoff has done his work well, and has filled a long-felt want in the State of Oregon. The bureau should not only be continued, and given ample financial support by the coming legislature, but provision should be made to increase its scope and serviceability. Later we will take up the report at length.

The federal grand jury and the county grand jury have seemingly gone indictment mad. To what extent they are justified in the return of indictments against prominent men who have heretofore held the utmost respect of the people we are unable to say, and will hence withhold judgment until they come to trial. There is such a thing, however, that grand juries, like individuals, may go too far, which has brought the grand jury system into disrepute in other states, and their abolishment. It is hard to believe that men who have been entrusted in public positions of trust for the greater portion of their lives will all at once lose their sagacity and honor to the extent of mixing up with a lot of swindling rogues. It is difficult to believe that all of the virtue rests with the government prosecutors, who have been doing most of their convictions through the columns of the daily press. We are content to wait until the sensations promised are made good by a fair jury trial. Unless they are, condemnation proceedings should be made against those who have dragged the names of our heretofore good citizens through the mire.

TO EXPEDITE WORK.

A new system of expediting the labors of the Federated Trades Council has been put into operation that will save much time and trouble. H. G. Parsons, president of the council, has instructed the statistical secretary to prepare a list of all of the standing committees of the council, and the

addresses of the individual members, so that they can be called at a moment's notice. The plan is to have all grievances and other matter of importance left at the office of the Portland Labor Press, room 8, 232 1/2 Washington street, after which the proper committee to handle the matter will be called, and if it is of such a nature that they can use it, the committee will act at once, and report to the meeting of the council immediately following. This will keep the labors of the council well in hand, and can be acted upon at once, instead of waiting for the council to first meet and then refer the difficulty to the committee, which would not be able to report back until the next regular meeting a week off. It is thought this will so expedite the work of the council that it will give general satisfaction.

TEAMDRIVERS HIGH JINKS.

The Teamdrivers Union, No. 162, have removed their headquarters to the Carpenters' hall at No. 66, North Sixth street, and hereafter will hold their meetings at that place. They have also changed their evening for meeting from Tuesday to Saturday evening of each week. Next Saturday evening the teamsters will elect and install their officers for the ensuing term, after which a stag social will be pulled off. Besides the members, a number of officers and friends from other organizations will be present. There will be plenty of smoking, German cologne, songs, etc. A good time is assured for all who attend.

BEER DRIVERS AND BOTTLERS

Editor Labor Press: Kindly take notice and please publish in the Labor Press the following list of officers elected at our last regular meeting, for the ensuing term: President, T. Kendig; vice-president, G. Lechmeier; financial secretary, A. Hyronimus; corresponding and recording secretary, C. A. Legrand; treasurer, F. Kuenzli; sergeant at arms, J. Freah; delegates to the "Local Executive," A. Hyronimus, Charles Gregg, F. Grischow and A. Schar; Federated Trades Council, T. Kendig, C. Stearns and V. Ritter; director Labor Press, A. Hyronimus. Wishing you a happy new year, I remain, Fraternally yours, C. A. LEGRAND, Sec.

ICE WORKERS' UNION, LOCAL 316.

The Ice Workers' Union met last Wednesday evening and elected the following officers: President, Jack Bayes; vice-president, John Taggart; recording secretary, C. W. Husbands; financial secretary, Dave Bayes; sergeant at arms, L. Mervin; conductor, William Kilduff; trustees, "Dutch" Noffke, John Taggart, L. Mervin; delegates to Federated Trades Council, John Taggart, L. Mervin, William Donohue. The officers were installed by the general organizer, C. H. Gram. The union has decided to give a dance in Parson's Hall on the evening of January 21. Tickets will be ready in a few days.

Child labor committees of various organizations appeared before Governor-elect Higgins, of New York, recently, and protested against the reappointment of State Labor Commissioner John McMakin. The delegation contended that his administration was so ineffective as to render virtually useless the present laws for the protection of working children.

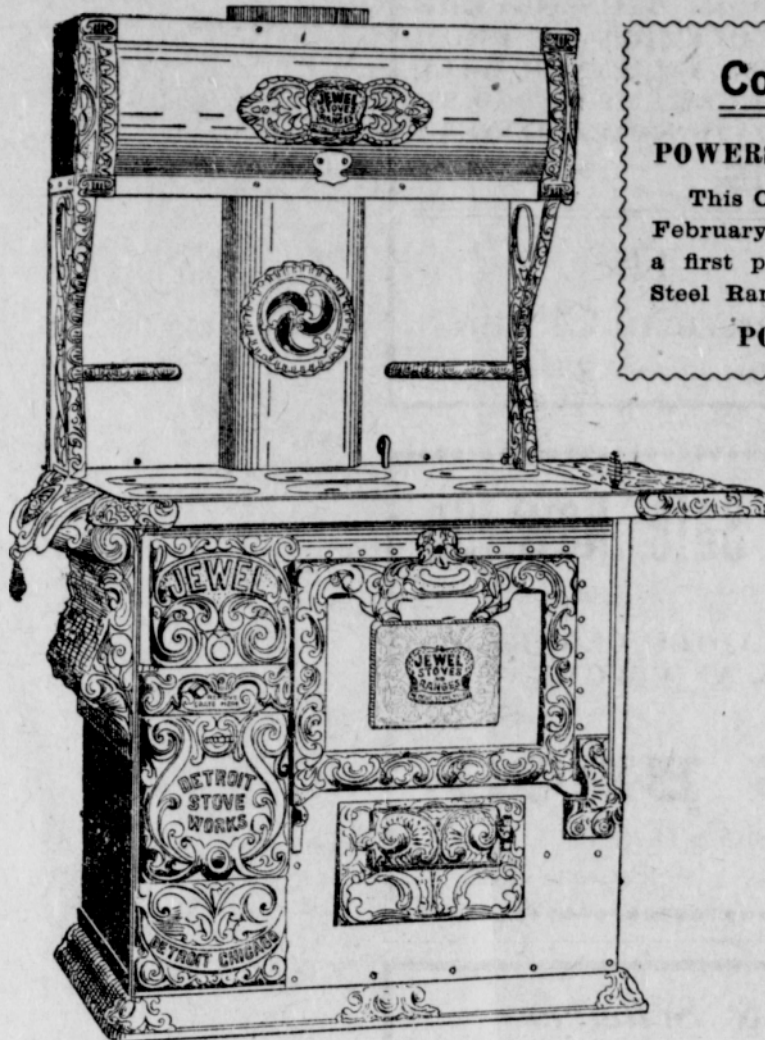
Superintendents and foremen of all the large machinery plants in the city of Chicago have formed a club, and will endeavor to extend the organization to all cities in the country and then form a national body. The objects of the organization are: To exchange ideas on how to handle employees; how to increase the output; the best way to discipline employees, and the methods to be followed in carrying out the plans of the manufacturers to abolish union contract shops and run them on an open shop basis. The question of increasing the output by introducing pacemakers into the shops will be considered. Some plan of treating non-union employees so that they will not care to leave their employment to join a union is another of the important questions to be taken up.

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