

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.

FEDERATED TRADES COUNCIL.

Portland, Ore., June 22, 1906.

Meeting of Portland Federated Trades Council called to order at 8 o'clock by President Jones.

Credentials—Steam Engineers, W. McKensie and G. F. Puzey.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as read.

Communications and Bills—A communication was read from the American Federation of Labor asking that Congress be petitioned to enact the Eight Hour Bill; request ordered complied with.

A communication from the Federated Trades Council of Milwaukee relative to the political policy of the A. F. of L. was read and filed.

Bills amounting to \$14.75 for expenses incurred in arranging open meeting was allowed and warrants ordered drawn in payment of same.

The Relief Committee submitted a bill for meals furnished refugees amounting to \$2.50, which was approved and committee instructed to make payment.

Reports of Committees—The special committee on the establishment of a relief fund submitted plans which were on motion accepted and ordered sent out to affiliated unions with an explanatory letter.

The committee on open meeting reported that the meeting at which Dr. Hill spoke was successful and highly appreciated by all who attended.

New Business—Delegate Goldrainer introduced a resolution providing for a discussion on "Trades Unionism and Industrialism" at the July 20th meeting; adopted and copy of resolution ordered sent to all affiliated unions.

Notice having been received that the A. F. of L. was about to remove the General Organizer from this state, a motion was adopted that the Council and all affiliated unions petition the A. F. of L. to retain a General Organizer here if possible. A motion was adopted that a communication be sent the American Federation of Labor endorsing Organizer Gram and requesting that he be retained as General Organizer.

Brothers Schultz and Day were added to the legislative committee to fill vacancy. A delegate announced that Miss Shannon, a daughter of a member of the Carpenters' Union had entered the Journal Educational contest and requested that the young lady be given support by union men; a motion was adopted that the request be complied with and members be urged to render Miss Shannon all the assistance possible. A delegate announced that the Consumers' League was about to inaugurate a movement to close certain places of business on Saturday afternoon and that the Council was expected to join in the movement and be represented at a mass meeting to be held for the purpose of agitating this movement. A motion was adopted that the president, or in his disability the vice-president be authorized to represent the Council at the aforesaid mass meeting. A motion was adopted that the secretary be instructed to write R. A. Harris and secure a copy of the bill drafted by the Convict Labor Commission. A motion was adopted that the discussion of plans to hold a Labor Day celebration be made a special order for next meeting at 9 o'clock.

Receipts—Electrical Workers, \$15; Machinists, \$15; Beer Bottlers and Drivers, \$3; Barbers, \$3. Total, \$36. Expenditures, \$14.75.

Meeting adjourned.

W. H. FITZGERALD, Secretary.

This is a good time to put in a good word for Oregon-made goods.

WOMEN'S LABEL LEAGUE.

The league met at the Aliskv building Thursday evening, June 21, but by prearrangement adjourned to give a surprise to the Garment Workers, in the Drew block, and it was a complete surprise.

They found a strong membership of the Garment Workers. They were initiating them by the dozen, which proves the good work they are doing. The league was soon made to feel at home and gave a short programme.

Mrs. Beals, Miss Nancy Beals and Mrs. Price furnished the music, and each was heartily encored. Mrs. Bonham, gave a short talk, stating that the surprise was given in appreciation of the true charity they had given their co-workers from San Francisco; that what they learned singly or held separately was as naught compared with the success in their common efforts toward the unity in this great school of human life, etc., etc.

Dr. Johnson gave a talk in which she reviewed the purpose of the various unions since she shared in their efforts, encouraging them to continue in well doing. She stated that she expected soon to return to Chicago to make her home with her daughter, and that she would carry with her sacred ties of friendship she had gleaned in this chosen field of labor that would always recall pleasant relations. All those who have worked with her know there has been many a worthy entry credited in "labor's ledger account" that is to remain here to insure the ties are mutual.

While refreshments were being prepared, Mrs. Bonham recited the "Dutchman's Labeled Baby," so all would be ready "to eat, drink and be merry."

After refreshments, a general social time was indulged in, interspersed with dancing and music. At a late hour goodbyes were said with a feeling that they had been well paid for their efforts.

SECRETARIES, PLEASE MAKE A NOTE OF THIS.

We desire all unions in this city to appoint a correspondent for the Labor Press. All news relating to the different unions, their members or the members of their families will be duly appreciated. There is no reason why all the unions should not be represented in our columns every week. Send in your items by Wednesday night, as hereafter the paper will go to press promptly Thursday. Send all communications to the Labor Press, City.

PROMINENT WORKER HERE.

Michael J. Sullivan, vice-president of the Electrical Workers' International, is in Portland for a few days in the interest of his organization. Mr. Sullivan has been making a tour of the cities of the Northwest for several months, and is on his way home to San Francisco. While here he will devote his time to adjusting some matters which affect the electrical workers of this city.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEES BUSY.

Legislative committees from the Oregon State Federation of Labor and the Portland Federated Trades Council have held several meetings during the past week for the purpose of drafting labor measures which will be presented at the next session of the State Legislature. Among the new measures which are being prepared by the labor committees is one governing the employment of convict labor on the public roads of Oregon. Amendments to other labor laws now on the statute books will be prepared by well-known labor lawyers, and submitted to both committees for their opinion before being presented.

"A WOMAN'S SACRIFICE."

For the week beginning July 2 the patrons of the Lyric theater will have the pleasure of witnessing a charming emotional melodrama of intense interest, sublime comedy, and thrilling climaxes. The story is simple. George Wilson, a workman and inventor, tiring of his position, and wishing to go to the new country, Australia, to better himself, asks his employer for a loan of money which is refused because they don't want to lose him. George's wife, unknown to him, goes to the shop and asks the employer for the loan. She is refused. Another workman named Levien, hearing the request from the Wilsons, steals the firm's cashbox. George Wilson is accused, but to save him, Mrs. Wilson says she stole it.

She is sentenced to five years. The husband goes to Australia, returns, and loses his pocketbook. A woman is charged with the theft. In the police court husband and wife meet. He says she is not the woman. She is discharged. She escapes before George can speak to her. He tracks her to the house she is living in and hears Levien, the workman, confess that he stole the cashbox. He is arrested. Mary returns and meets George. He explains and all ends as it should.

This is a very strong melodrama, and has been successful wherever played. The full strength of the company will be in the east.

STREET RAILWAY EMPLOYEES.

Short and Concise History by President Mahon.

The Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees of America was organized on September 15, 1892, in the city of Indianapolis. The convention was called together by a call that had been sent out by President Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, in pursuance to a resolution that had been passed in the Birmingham convention of the American Federation of Labor, instructing the President to call together and attempt to form an international union of street railway employees.

The first year's history of the organization, like that of many more, shows very little done, a mistake being made in the first convention due to the influence of Knights of Labor and independent unions which caused the convention to decide that we were strong enough to get along without any affiliation with the American Federation of Labor.

The second convention met in Cleveland in October, 1893, reversed this policy, decided to affiliate with the American Federation of Labor, and set about to build up the association, but by this time the great panic of 1893 was on, and the work was an up-hill proposition, but due to the tireless efforts of a few good spirits the organization was kept alive during those trying hours, and finally put upon a firm footing.

When we go to estimate what the organization has done in the way of improved conditions from a financial standpoint, this is impossible. The standard rate of wages received by the street railway employees at the time of the formation of the organization was scarcely above 14 cents an hour, with very few exceptions, and running down as low as 9 and 10 cents an hour. The hours of labor were in no case under 12, and in many places were 14 and 16 hours per day.

The work of the organization has entirely changed this condition of affairs. Today it is a rare thing to find street car men working as long as 12 hours, while the great bulk of them are working 9 and 10. The wage scale published with the year book will show the increased grade

of scale and we are safe to estimate that the increase on an average to the street and electric railway men of America has been over 6 cents an hour to the whole occupation, for not only have the organized cities received the benefit, but the effect has been carried to the unorganized cities as well.

The government statistics of 1903 estimate that there were about 80,000 motormen and 80,000 conductors in the country. The increase from that time would make it now near 90,000 of each, which would mean 180,000 street and electric railway men. Estimate this at 6 cents an hour, and you can realize the enormous increase that the efforts of organization has brought to the street railway workers of America, running into the millions every year. Along with this, the improved conditions by the reduction of hours, which will amount, from a financial standpoint, to millions of dollars, with the improvements in hours and wages, has come the general improvements that organization brings to any craft or calling.

At the time of the formation of the organization a vestibule on a street car was unknown and looked upon as a visionary proposition. The organization, immediately after the formation, took up the work and secured the passage of the first vestibule law in the state of Ohio in 1893 and 1894, and from there the work has spread from state to state until today it is universally recognized, and by all construction companies is being placed upon almost every car built. The law has been carried, as we say, from state to state, until it is now a state law in Louisiana and Texas, invading the extreme southern countries. Along this line of improvement we might enumerate the airbrake, the sandbox ordinances and laws, and many other regulations and improvements that organization brought to this division of labor, but space forbids.

As to the benefits from a financial standpoint, the records of the general office show that there has been paid in sick benefits by the local divisions to their members up to the 31st day of December, 1905, \$110,868.34. In death benefits there has been paid \$66,211, making a grand total paid in sick and death benefits of \$177,079.34, while during this entire time there has been paid out in strike benefits \$75,371.56, which shows that we have paid during the history of our organization \$101,707.78 more money in caring for our sick and burying our dead than we have expended for strike purposes.

The last convention of the organization, realizing the necessity of protecting its old and aged members, especially in an occupation of this kind, decided and outlined a pension system for the pensioning and caring for the old and worn-out members of our occupation when they become unable to follow the vocation any longer.

In addition to the benefits here enumerated, the result of the organization has been to raise the stand-

ard of manhood of the men following this occupation, and has given them a standing in the community in which they live and work that they did not have prior to the organization. In addition to this, the shortening of the hours of labor and improving their conditions has carried the benefits not only into their daily life, for the cause of temperance has greatly increased among this class of workmen, and the improvement to their home and home surroundings, to those who are familiar with the occupation throughout its entire history, are very apparent and noticeable, and not alone have these benefits been enjoyed by the street railway men exclusively, but many of them have been of benefit to the great riding public, and in the end to the companies and corporations for which they work. The result in shortening the hours of labor has been a decided benefit to the great riding public. The statistics of the government, showing the accidents that have occurred upon the street railways from year to year, show a decidedly smaller number of accidents in the cities where short hours of labor prevail over those cities where long hours of labor prevail.

This has not alone been beneficial to the riding public, but has been a great saving to the companies in damage suits. The air brake has again brought its benefits to both the

company and the riding public, as well as to the employees. As to the future, that can only be predicted by the past, but these benefits show to the street railway men the necessity of a closer and more perfect organization to protect what they have obtained and to meet the future.

The Chicago Federation of Labor is to organize a union for women in the stock yards. The work will begin immediately after General Organizer Pierce returns from the meeting of the executive council of the American Federation of Labor at Washington, where he is now completing the plans. Secretary Noekels has outlined the idea along which the women are to be unionized. He said that the definite aim would be to fix a minimum wage rate close to \$10 per week, hours of labor not to exceed nine, and a list of working rules, governing sanitary conditions.

Governor Albert A. Cummins, of Iowa, is a member of the Carpenters' Union.

NOTICE OF FINAL SETTLEMENT.

Notice is hereby given that the undersigned, administratrix of the Estate of Lawrence E. Wise, deceased, has filed in the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Multnomah, her final account as such administratrix of said Estate, and that Monday the 6th day of August, 1906, at 9:30 A. M., has been fixed by said Court, as the time for hearing of objections to said report, and the settlement thereof. MRS. MARY A. WISE, Administratrix of the Estate of Lawrence E. Wise, deceased. Dated June 25, 1906. THOS. F. RYAN, Attorney for Administratrix.

THE GAS RANGE

DID IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU HOW PLEASANT AND COMFORTABLE IT IS TO COOK ON A GAS RANGE AND TO USE IN CONNECTION WITH SAME A GAS WATER HEATER? THINK—NO WOOD OR COAL TO BRING IN, NO FIRES TO BUILD AND THUS NO ASHES TO TAKE OUT; ABSOLUTELY NO DANGER AND CHEAPER THAN WOOD OR COAL. DAY OR NIGHT YOUR GAS RANGE IS ALWAYS READY. YOU NEED ONLY A MATCH TO COOK A DINNER.

ALL GAS RANGES AND GAS WATER HEATERS PURCHASED OF US DELIVERED AND CONNECTED FREE OF CHARGE.

Portland Gas Company

Tel. Pri. Ex. 26

Portland, Oregon

Lyric Theatre

SEVENTH AND ALDER STREETS

Week Beginning July 2

The Emotional Melo-Drama

"A Woman's Sacrifice" IN FOUR ACTS

Something New
Something Good

"The Robros Hat"

A Hat of Style \$2.50 A Hat of Quality

Roberts Bros., 3d & Morrison
SOLE AGENTS

All the Latest Shapes and Shades

Self-Rising Pancake Flour

TWO MEDALS AWARDED

ALLEN'S B. B. B. FLOUR

At the World's Fair, Portland. It is self-rising and already prepared for Griddle Cakes, Muffins, Fruit Puddings and the famous Boston Brown Bread. There is Economy, Simplicity and Assurance in using this famous Flour. Be sure and put it on your short list for your next order.

ALLEN'S B. B. B. FLOUR CO.
SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA