

Portland Labor Press



PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.
by the
PORTLAND FEDERATED TRADES
COUNCIL.

Office: Room 304, 152 Second street.
Telephone: Pacific 2414.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
One year, in advance\$1.00
Six months, in advance50

ADVERTISING RATES
Will be made known on application.

Entered at the Postoffice at Portland as
second class matter.

HONOR ROLL.

The Committee on Subscription has decided to extend the time to January 21 for enrolling upon the Honor Roll. All unions having placed their subscriptions for the union as a whole, with the Labor Press, by the 20th inst., will be placed upon the Honor Roll, which is being prepared for issue of the 21st inst.

A DEFINITION.

Why not, "Free Water"? Do we not properly say, "Free Schools"? And in those states where the system obtains, is it not correct phraseology to use the term "Free text books"? Yet, the editor of the Morning Oregonian in Saturday's issue says, "The title of the Free Water Association is a misnomer."

When we say "Free text books" we do not wish it to be understood that, like the Ancile of Ancient Rome, they have showered down upon us from the heavens above. No, it is clearly understood that we get nothing for nothing in this world while we preserve our baptismal honesty, but we do assert that when we own an asset in common, we have the simple right to distribute that blessing by the fairest and most convenient means.

We had always regarded the editor of the Morning Oregonian as the brightest in his profession west of the Rocky Mountains, but his conclusions in the closing lines of last Saturday's editorial on this subject have shaken to the very foundations our faith in his wisdom, logical and sincerity.

Now, if Portland were the proud possessor of a great power plant wherein were generated electricity at the expense of the whole people of the city, then it would be quite as reasonable to ask for free light as it now is to ask for free water—the city truly owning that utility. So, with fuel, meat, milk, eggs, butter, groceries and all the other nonsense quoted by the Oregonian.

The weakness of this kind of argument on the part of the able exponent—the Oregonian—is prima facie evidence that there exists no logical reasoning in opposition to free water,—that is, free water in the sense that public school education is free, that police protection is free, that free delivery of mail matter is free and that school text books are free.

Fellow-citizens, do not be fooled by the sophistry of the Oregonian on this question. It has been shown through the columns of this paper in an array of official figures that the present water rate is and has been the biggest steal ever perpetrated upon a free and enlightened people, that the system taxes to death the humble consumer while it lets go scott free the valuable holdings of the plutocrat.

The question will be submitted to the electorate, under the referendum, next June, and justice demands that every elector does his duty on that occasion.

Previous to the launching of this agitation for free water, we had no intimation from the Water Board of any intentions to reduce the rate, but on perceiving the awakening activity on the part of the citizens for equal taxation in support of our water system, that noble body condescends to cut the rate one-third. There is but one interpretation of this reduction: which is that the consumer has hitherto been flagrantly fleeced for the benefit of the large property owner. It is only a month or two since the agitation took on formidable appearances;

no noticeable changes have been made in the department that would guarantee such reduction were the old rate justifiable, hence, we conclude the reduction is a piece of strategy intended to mislead the citizen and detract the voter's attention from the issue.

Should their little game succeed, and the proposed charter amendment and ordinance fail at the June election, it would not be twenty-four hours before the old rate, and possibly a higher one, would be again placed in force.

Therefore, let every voter be alert to the true situation, and be on hand to add his ballot to the enormous majority which will be heaped up in favor of free water.

THE POLICE RAMPANT.

What can be the matter with the police force of Portland?

Saturday, the 12th inst., about 10 o'clock P. M., while a few striking Car boys were on the street near Second and Yamhill, doing a little peaceable picketing—along the lines proposed by Mayor Lane—a burley blue-coat rushed upon the scene, giving vent to language which would put to shame Beelzebub, calling ex-President Fisher a liar, with adjectives prefixed that we dare not write and afterwards appear in decent society, swinging clubs in ominous fashion and threatening all kinds of destruction to the boys if they did not immediately get off the earth.

Hearing the fierce maledictions hurled in stentorian tones at the humble carmen, a certain law-abiding citizen who pays his taxes in the city ventured near the scene of disturbance, curious to know the cause of so terrible and boisterous blasphemy. On reaching the corner the citizen referred to was set upon by one of the peace (?) officers and battered and jostled and smote on the face by the fists of this booster until he was almost smothered in gore!

The citizen's name, at his request, is withheld, but should anyone entertain doubts as to the truth of the above statements he need only call at this office and we shall gladly supply all names concerned.

Fellow-citizens, is it not high time we move towards ending this flagrant abuse of authority under the cover of a star?

It is useless to protest through the columns of the press; let us act on election day next June, and by our votes, relegate to the cool shades of political oblivion these imbeciles who fawn upon us for our votes but lack the moral courage and the physical stamina to see that justice is done between the man and the master.

CONVENING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The State Legislature meets today, and from the unusual activity shown by the many members who have been sufficiently fortunate to capture the much coveted privilege of a seat in that honorable body, together with the many delegations of lobbyists wending their way towards Salem, we judge a lively session will be the result.

Two senators will be elected this year, but we anticipate no trouble or delay over this matter. The people of Oregon have spoken through their ballots; the mandate of the sovereign will has been issued, and there remains nothing for the legislators to do but to carry into effect the fiat of the electorate by ratifying the election, to United States Senate, of the choice of the people in both cases. So, we may reasonably presume that very little time will be wasted over that portion of the legislative business.

The important work to come before the session is that of passing into law the numerous bills which aim at promoting the welfare of the commonwealth. Many of these bills emanate from labor organizations, and it is our opinion that every bill bearing upon the conditions of the laboring class should be earnestly and unprejudicially considered by the honorable legislators.

All that labor unions ask is a square deal, and when the government oversteps—if that were possible—the bounds of reason-

ableness in their demands the Labor Press will not attempt to bolster their erroneous position.

In the present case we know pretty well the nature of the measures proposed by the labor unions and we believe no fair-minded legislator can offer serious opposition to the enactment into law of any of them.

The Oregon State Federation of Labor has selected President C. H. Gram to lobby in labor's interests during the session. He is fully qualified for the work, and we know our interests will be efficiently guarded by this old-time veteran.

Notice.

The Labor Party will meet in regular session, on Wednesday, the 16th inst., in Cooks and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street at 8 o'clock P. M. All delegates should be present on that occasion, as the adoption of the platform of the party will be effected at that meeting.

Notice.

A monster parade, in behalf of the striking Carmen, will take place on Saturday evening, the 19th inst.

The parade will start from Second and Stark streets, marching to Washington; thence up Washington to Seventh street; thence to Morrison, down Morrison to Fifth, north on Fifth to Stark, down Stark to Third, south on Third to Morrison, down Morrison to Labor Headquarters.

Every working man in the city is expected to be in the parade—no disturbance of the peace; no violence will be tolerated.

By order of Committee.

LABOR NOTES

Leadville, Colo., newsboys will form a union.

Salem, Mass., has formed a union of engineers.

Allenstown, Pa., street car employees are organizing.

Los Angeles, Cal., trades unionists contemplate starting a bank.

Richmond, Va., unions are planning to erect a \$100,000 labor temple.

Sterling, Ill., labor congress has started a fund for a city hospital.

Goldfield (Nevada) miners are on strike. Many business houses are closing their doors.

St. Louis, Mo., policemen are framing a bill for a three-shift system and the eight-hour day.

New York employers are complaining of the new child labor law. They threaten to have it repealed.

Two thousand machinists employed in Denver shops received an advance in wages on January 1, ranging from 5 to 15 per cent.

The Utah State Federation of Labor has resolved to circulate a petition to Congress asking the creation of postal savings banks.

Because their pay checks did not arrive on time 400 men quit work at the car shops of the Northern Pacific in South Tacoma, Wash., recently.

The German Miners' Unions are urging the organized miners in Great Britain to assist them during their probable strike for a 15 per cent increase in wages.

The Eighteenth Annual Convention of the United Mine Workers of America will be held in Tomlinson Hall, Indianapolis, Ind., commencing at 10:00 A. M., Tuesday, January 15, 1907.

The Amoskeag Manufacturing Company, of Manchester, N. H., announced an increase of 5 per cent in wages, which went into effect on January 1. About 18,000 employes will be benefitted.

The painters have just cause for feeling elated over their record in the United States during the year 1906. Here is the record: Charters issued, 176; surrendered, 106; gain in membership, 5,416; number of strikes, 100; won, 90; compromised, 5; lost, 5. Advantages gained without strike: Increased wages and shorter hours in 100 localities; no reduction in wages in the past year; wages advanced one-third, and hours reduced 15 per cent are among the improvements accom-

Get your
Drugs and Medicines
of
ALBERT BERNI
THE DRUGGIST
333 WASHINGTON STREET
Near Second

plished in the past ten years. Death benefits, \$54,447.50, death benefits, members wives, \$11,500. Donations other unions, \$57,000.

Officers of the Lowell Textile Council have been informed in a communication from the Lowell Manufacturers' Association that the request for an increase of 5 per cent beyond that already granted could not be given.

The officers of the United Mine Workers of Indiana are asking members-elect of the Legislature to pledge themselves to vote for a bill creating a commission before which all applicants for work as a minor must take an examination.

Following the recent sailors strike on the Pacific coast comes a disagreement between the officers of the vessels which promises to result in one of the greatest labor troubles in connection with Pacific Coast shipping of recent years. This is a strike of all ship officers except the masters. The trouble hinges on the demand of the officers for overtime and an increase in salary of \$10 a month.

FAIR AND UNFAIR PUBLICATIONS.
Fair List.

- Leslie's.
- Harper's.
- Gunther's Magazine.
- Appleton's Magazine.
- Southern Breeze.
- Ainslee's.
- Cosmopolitan.
- The Popular Magazine.
- Scientific American.
- Recreation.
- The Billboard.
- Broadway Magazine.
- The Scrap Book.
- The World Today.
- Collier's.
- Success.
- Reader Magazine.
- Four Track News.
- The Pilgrim.
- Metropolitan.
- All Munsey's Publications.
- Puck Publications.
- Bob Taylor's Magazine.
- The People's.
- The Clipper.
- Sis Hopkins' Own Book.
- All Story Magazine.
- Review of Reviews.
- Life.
- Arena.
- Argosy Magazine.
- Arkansas Magazine.
- Everybody's.
- Pearson's.
- Smith's Magazine.
- Judge Publications.
- North American Review.
- Public Opinion.
- Standard.
- Etude.
- Wide World.
- The Commoner.
- Ridgway.
- Pacific Monthly.
- Railroad Magazine.
- Women's Magazine.
- The Home Magazine.
- Ladies' World.
- National.
- The Public.
- The Outcry.

Unfair List of the I. T. U.

- Saturday Evening Post.
- Delineator.
- Literary Digest.
- St. Nicholas.
- Town Topics.
- Burr-McIntosh.
- American Inventor.
- Automobile Topics.
- McClure's.
- Town and Country.
- Lippincott's Magazine.
- Farmer's Wife.
- John Hancock Ins. Co.
- Ladies' Home Journal.
- Designer.
- Smart Set.
- The Black Cat, Short Story Pub Co.
- Tales.
- Brookman.
- American Machinist.
- Christian Advocate (New York.)
- Vogue.
- Catholic Standard and Times.
- Lessons for Little Ones.
- Farmer's Advocate.
- The Musician and all Publications of the Oliver Ditson Co.
- Century, The.
- Forum.
- New Idea.
- Modern Women.
- Modern Priscilla.
- Tom Watson's Magazine.
- World's Work.
- Spare Moments.
- The Farmer, Webb Publishing Co.

Lyric Theatre

SEVENTH AND ALDER STREETS

Week Beginning January 14

A Dramatization of
Dandet's Novel

SAPHO

IN FOUR ACTS

Do You Use
A Labor-Saving Fuel?

If not, why not? Probably you have not considered the matter at all. Have you ever considered how much work wood or coal makes for you? If you will but take a minute to think about it, you will at once come to the conclusion that you are doing a great deal of unnecessary labor, when you spend so much time in cleaning up after wood or coal; and think of the work, time and money spent in getting it in proper condition for use.....

GAS IS THE BSET

There is no work, time or money spent in getting gas in the proper condition for use. It is delivered right in the stove; it never gets wet; it never smokes; it burns without odor; it is always ready for use. Try it—have it installed in your house at once.....

AT YOUR SERVICE

THE GAS COMPANY

Tel. Pri. Ex. 26 Fifth and Yamhill Sts.

START 1907 RIGHT

BEGIN WITH ELECTRIC LIGHT

IT IS CHEAPER

Make 1907 an ELECTRIC YEAR in your HOUSEHOLD as well as in your STORE, and enjoy the convenience, the labor-saving, the healthfulness, the safety, the economy and the prosperity that attends the use of ELECTRICITY.

FREE LAMP RENEWALS: The Company will henceforth furnish, free of charge, to all meter customers, new Edison base lamps of 4, 8, 16, 32 and 50 candle power, in exchange for old lamps heretofore furnished by the Company. Lamp renewals will be made at Nos. 147-149 SEVENTH STREET ONLY.

FREE LAMP RENEWALS mean better light, and is EQUAL TO A SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION IN THE COST OF LIGHTING.

For Information Call MAIN 6688

Portland Railway Light & Power Co.

First and Alder Streets