

Portland Labor Press



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STATE SENATOR HAINES AND THE STATE FEDERATION.

We have been informed that State Senator Haines has a severe grievance against the Oregon State Federation of Labor on account of the bungled and garbled report appearing in the Oregon Journal of the 8th instant, a communication from Senator Haines, dated Forest Grove, Jan. 5, 1907, addressed to the President and Secretary of the State Federation, and read at the 4th Annual Convention of said organization.

Following is the communication referred to:

January 5, 1907.

C. H. Gram, President;
P. M. McDonald, Sec'y and Treas.;
Oregon State Federation of Labor,
Portland, Oregon.

Gentlemen: Yours of the 25th received and contents noted and in reply will say I have not had time to examine the enclosed bill sufficiently to be able to state whether I am for or against it as a whole. I realize the importance of keeping our convicts busy as it is a serious matter to allow them, in great numbers, to be idle. I believe the State should receive from their labor all that it can, reasonably, in order to make the Penitentiary as near self supporting as possible. In doing this I also believe that the same should be brought into competition with free labor, it at all, in the least possible degree. This, in short, is my position and you will realize it is a difficult problem we have to solve. I will carefully look into the matter and shall feel it my duty as well as pleasure to work along this line.

Yours very truly,
E. W. HAINES.

After reading the communication the clerk stated, by way of explanation, that Mr. Haines is a banker of Forest Grove, Oregon, as the letter head showed; the acting president, Vice President Parsons, explained that Mr. Haines is also a member of the State Senate. Neither the reading clerk nor the vice president's remarks were uttered "dryly" as the Journal reporter erroneously stated.

The record of proceedings shows that the letter was received and placed on file.

Following is a correct copy of the report appearing in the Oregon Journal:

"In substance Mr. Haines told the Federation that he was not in favor of the good roads bill. He did not believe the convicts should be employed upon the state highways. He thought the penitentiary should be a self-supporting institution, and the only way it could be made self-supporting was to allow the convicts to compete with free labor." And further,—"The letter was laid aside."

From a perusal of Mr. Haines's letter, and a reference to the records of the Convention proceedings, it will easily be seen that the Journal report is absolutely incorrect and that the convention viewed, with favor, the communication from Senator Haines.

We believe Mr. Haines will give the bill his hearty support in his place in the State Senate when he will have had an opportunity to give it his careful study.

AN EXPLANATION.

State Senator C. W. Hodson called on us recently for the purpose of placing himself "right" before the union men of Multnomah County particularly, and the public generally, in connection with the story which gained much currency during the past month and which was given prominence in the Portland Labor Press of December 24, 1906, under the caption "Attempt to Defeat Bourne."

Mr. Hodson informs us that Sena-

tor Malarkey and himself were not working hand-in-hand in the presidency game,—that he was a candidate for the honor as was also Senator Malarkey, but that he, Mr. Hodson, had not, on any occasion, permitted himself to become the accomplice of any party to boost the interests of another aspirant to the presidency of the State Senate.

We are impressed with the belief that the expose, as made through the columns of this paper, had a wholesome effect on the delegation from this county, and while we regret the fact that the rumor misinterpreted Senator Hodson's position in the case we realize the great necessity of keeping the closest watch on any movement threatening the security of the Direct Primary Law and Statement No. 1.

Mr. Hodson tells us that such a scheme was being hatched out in the attempt to bring charges before the Senate alleging high crimes in the career of Jonathan Bourne, the choice of the people for the high office of U. S. Senator.

We feel safe in asserting that had it not been for the article appearing in this paper on the 24th ult., the pernicious scheme might have gone through.

A BARBAROUS ULTIMATUM.

Two days previous to the evening of the monster parade in sympathy with the striking earthen, the railway company's agents at both the Southern Pacific and the O. R. & N. freight sheds announced to their employees the ultimatum: "We give you timely notice not to take part in that parade which is to take place Saturday night—if you do you must bear the consequences, and I suppose you understand what it means." One of the agents added, by way of admonition, "put that in your pipe and smoke it."

We have been authentically informed that this imperial edict came from the officials high in authority, with the further instructions to the agents to have men (oh, no, dogged slaves!) upon the streets, during the parade, for the purpose of checking up any employee who might have the hardihood to venture the assertion of their heaven-born right to enter that memorable parade.

Free born sons of the home of the brave, what do you say to such a tyrannic order issued by men of our own blood, living under the sacred inspiration and equal protection of the beloved Star Spangled banner? Can there be any other interpretation of this intolerant order than that the man commanding such is non compos mentis? Surely no American citizen of sound mind could so far forget himself as to insult every principle of the Declaration of Independence in so flagrant a manner!

Well, the freight handlers, appreciating the fact that they are far removed from the conditions of Egyptian bondage, did parade; and we can only await results. We refuse to believe, however, that this railway company, enjoying so many privileges as the gifts of this State and City, would have the effrontery to carry into effect so foul a purpose.

THE LABEL.

If you are union men—and union men you are—why not then use the power. In unionism there is strength. You have showed your emblem of its strength by your parade last Saturday evening. By having your banners of your respective organizations floating in the breeze of the land of Liberty and Freedom.

Then why not stand by those that stand by you.

Doubtless you have noticed that we have in this city a live and energetic union store, that adheres strictly to the union makes of merchandise.

By observing union interests. By buying its makes of merchandise from our brothers affiliated in the work of our own interest, known as the Garment Workers of America.

Then why not, as union men, go out of your way a little further and buy from this union house instead of a non-union store. The Outlet Clothing Co. has stood by us since its doors were opened, and in its cry through

the journals of advertisements made known to you that you can not only buy union make of first class merchandise in garments; he it cloth, hats, shoes, etc., but at a lower price than the non-union make of same. Next time you are seeking for what pertaining to what this union has carries, call on them, and be convinced, and aid yourself by aid those that aid you.

For the best that's made in men's apparel, The Outlet Clothing Co., N. E. corner Morrison and First streets, is always ready to serve you.

A Runaway Slave.

By the Rev. Chas. Stolze.

The great working man-preacher had been imprisoned. Coming to him one day was a runaway slave. He had robbed his master, drifted to Rome, was converted to Christianity through Paul's influence, and now was about to be sent back to Philemon, who owned him, but who also was one of Paul's converts.

In a day when slavery was endorsed by some of the greatest philosophers of history, who declared that a purchased slave was better than a hired man, it is interesting to read Paul's very tactful letter, which he sent by the hand of Onesimus. The Twentieth Century New Testament tells the story in modern language, in part, as follows:

"I plead with you for this child of mine, Onesimus, to whom, in my prison, I have become a Father. Once he was of little service to you, but now he has become of great service, not only to you, but to me as well; and I am sending him back to you with this letter—though it is like tearing out my very heart. For my sake I should like to keep him with me, so that while I am in prison for the Good News, he might attend to my wants on your behalf. But I do not wish to do anything without your consent, because I want your generosity to be voluntary and not, as it were, compulsory. It may be that he was separated from you for an hour, for this very reason, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave, but as something better—a dearly loved Brother, especially dear to me, and how much more so to you, not only as your fellow man, but as your fellow Christian. If, then, you count me your friend, receive him as you would me. If he has caused you any loss, or owes you anything, charge it to me. I, Paul, put my own hand to it—I will repay you my self. I say nothing about your owing me your self self. Yes, Brother, let be gain something from your Christianlike spirit.

Even as I write, I write such confidence in your compliance with my wishes, that I am sure that you will do even more than I am asking."

Water Consumers.

To the Editor Labor Press:—

Those who are opposed to the up-to-date plan of the Free Water Association are using the same argument that was used against the free school proposition when it was up for discussion.

The old freebooters and their satellites on the Water Board, who have been robbing the householders for the past fifteen years are trying to make us think that they have something to give in this water question. The water belongs to the people of Portland, and it is their own to do with as they (the people) think best. We have drawn an Amendment to the Charter which will give every family free water for kitchen, bath and closet. All the operating expenses can be paid by water for irrigating and commercial use, so all we will have to tax for is the interest on the bonded debt and the sinking fund, and that will amount to about 12 cents on the \$100 of taxable property in Portland. So if you pay taxes on \$500 your water will cost you 60c. per year and if you pay on \$1,000 it will cost you \$1.20 per year; \$3,000, \$3.60 per year; \$5,000, \$6 per year. You have all been paying \$18 per year until we got busy on free water, when the incompetent old Water Board was forced to lower the rates for political reasons. And if the Free Water

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amendment should be defeated at the election you would be paying the old rate again inside of 30 days after the election. Are you going to vote money out of your own pocket into the pockets of the landlords? Or will you, like true men, say to the plunderbund that their game is up; that you will have no more of it on the water question.

Yours truly,

H. D. WAGNON.

A Scramble For a Nickel.

Some body wants a nickel,
Guess, my friends, who it is,
It can't be Mr. Fuller;
It can't be he, but it is.
Now how do you guess he'll get it?
For get it he surely will.
While the kind hearted Portland public
Will have to pay the bill.

I will tell you how he will get it,
For he will have that nickel big.
He'll pinch the union car men,
As they used to do the Nigg.
He'll make their little children
Go hungry at night to bed,
If he only can get that nickel,
Even by working the Seab.

Once I heard folks say in plain English,
Of the smallness of thirty cents,
With a hole in the middle and rusty,
Like the buttons on old pants.
I think that is the how of Fuller;
He's smaller than that, you bet,
And the Seabs are a trifle smaller.
But my nickel they'll never get.

I'll wade in the mud till dooms day,
And go muddy to the gate;
And when good Saint Peter asks me
Whot has kept me back so late,
I'll show him the mud on my rubbers
And ask him to let me in.
For Seabs have been running the cars
While Fuller has tried to win.

So give them a hand, you fellows,
And help them to gain this deal;
And see that all the family
Walks for work or for meal.
No matter how bad the streets are
Your life is safe at least;
And the ear men must have a living
As well as the lower beast.
MRS. MABEL A. BELL.

HONOR RETIRING PRESIDENT.

Garment Workers Install New Officers of Their Prosperous Union.

Garment Workers Local No. 228 did honor to their retiring president, Mrs. F. Ross, on the evening of the 17th inst.

A new set of officers having been elected, the past president was presented with a beautiful and costly maniere set as a token of the esteem in which Mrs. Ross is held by her brothers and sisters of Local 228.

A splendid programme was ably carried out to the delight of all present.

The first number on the programme was instrumental music by Miss Florence Jones. Then followed a vocal solo by Miss Lena Harwas.

Recitation by Mr. Quimby Mathew. Solo by Mr. Wm. Kattleman. Patriotic Poems, "Our National Aims," by Mrs. Gee and Chorus. Address by Mrs. Gee.

Brother Ledwidge, president of the Federated Trades Council, performed the installation ceremonies, the new officers assuming their respective stations that evening.

At the opening of the meeting a delegation from the Car-men's Union was received and given the floor.

The visitors announced that on Saturday evening, the 19th inst., a grand parade of union men and friends would take place, starting from Second and Stark streets. The purpose of the demonstration is to prove to the citizens of Portland that the carmen are not alone in the struggle for justice. The Garment Workers may be relied upon for any manner of support in behalf of the striking Carmen.

Following is the list of officers installed for the ensuing term: President, Mrs. L. Gee; vice president, Lucy White; recording secretary, Chas. Wiseman; financial secretary, Mrs. F. Ross; treasurer, Wm. H. Kattelmann; guide, Mary Keegan; sergeant-at-arms, Wallace Jones; board of trustees, Julius Woods, Julius Anderson, Mrs. Trainor; financial committee, Sam McFarland, Lucy White, Dorothy Zanders; executive board, Lucy White, Mrs. Spooner, Julius Woods, Mary Keegan, J. McCarron, Mrs. Ross, Mrs. Rogers.

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