

Portland Labor Press



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PORTLAND FEDERATED TRADES
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No wage-earner in this city should fail to vote as a voter before books close. This action brings several thousand more members into the fold of the American Federation of Labor and leaves but two of the large organizations without the pale of affiliation. It is expected that the bricklayers and masons will follow the example of the soft stone men within the year.

THOUGHTS ON LABOR.

The Toiler's Share Too Small, Says William J. Bryan.

Referring to the labor question in his speech at Madison Square Garden, New York, William J. Bryan said:

I have referred to arbitration of international disputes. Let me say that before that doctrine of investigation, without binding the parties to agree to the finding—before it was applied to international disputes—it was discussed in regard to disputes between labor and capital. It is as important that we should have peace with our neighboring nations, and no peace can be built except upon the foundation of justice. And I believe that one of the most important things we have to consider is this: Is it not time to establish a board of arbitration that will bring peace between labor and capital and bring justice between these two great elements?

If I had time to present an argument from three standpoints and tell you that the employer should consent to arbitration, that the employee should consent to arbitration and that the public should demand arbitration. You cannot turn the employee over to the employer to treat the employee as he will. Sometimes they ask, "Has a man not a right to conduct his business as he pleases?" and it is a plausible question. But when in conducting his business he attempts to fix the conditions under which hundreds and thousands of human beings shall live I deny that he has a right to deny to them the right of arbitration.

And, my friends, unless you have arbitration you will find that the employer in his combats with the employee will cultivate a bitterness of heart that cannot be defended from any standpoint. But, if you cannot turn the employer over to the employer, can you turn the employer over to the employee? I assert that it is no more reasonable to expect an employee to be unselfish than to expect an employer to be unselfish. If the employer can arbitrarily determine the condition under which capital shall exist, it may not only create an injustice but any attempt to secure a present advantage may really cause the suffering of a permanent loss. The only alternative to arbitration is to strike. The only protection that the laboring man has today is to strike, but the strike is a two edged sword and may harm the man who uses it as well as the man against whom it is used, and even when the strike is entirely successful it may leave a ranking in the breast of labor that ought never to be there. But there can be no great strike without great loss to the people of the country.

Those who suffer have the right to say that employer and employee shall not fight out their battles by force, but shall submit them to the arbitration of reason, and I believe that if we had a fair, honest, impartial investigation of every controversy between labor and capital public opinion would follow the decision and you would not be required to have compulsory acceptance of the findings. Another thought on the labor question. We have a thing called "government by injunction," and its only purpose is to deny to the laboring man the right of trial by jury, and as that is its purpose it is an attack upon the jury system that ought to

those resented by every lover of the jury system. As long as the meanness of chief can demand trial by jury it must not be denied to the laboring man. The struggle for the eight hour day is an international struggle, and there is no doubt how that struggle will end. It will end in the triumph of the laboring man who asks for his eight-hour day. My friends, I am convinced that many of those who oppose the eight-hour law do it out of ignorance of conditions rather than because of lack of sympathy with the laboring man. They forget that improved machinery has multiplied, sometimes a hundred times, the strength of a human arm, and they forget that so far the employer has received too large a part of the benefit of the machine and the laboring man too small a part of the benefit. They forget that with the growth of cities the laboring man's home is farther from his workshop. They forget that when labor is removed from the home to the shop the father is taken away from his wife and children. They forget that the demands of citizenship are more important and imperative on the laboring man than they ever were before. It is not fair to drive the laboring man like a slave from his couch to his work and from his work back to his couch again. To do that is to deprive his family of his companionship. You deprive society of his help, and you deprive politics of his influence. And when it is understood I believe that in this country, where the sense of justice is great, the people will insist that the laboring man shall have a shorter day and shall be invited to full participation in the responsibilities of citizenship and the work of human society.—Ex.

PERSONAL.

Brother Harry Gurr is looking quite recuperated since his visit to Southern Oregon. He tells us he had a most pleasant trip to Medford and succeeded nicely in the organization work he was commissioned to perform.

Brother H. W. Drew, of the Iron Moulders, left last Friday for Seattle, Wash., where he attends the conference of the Pacific Coast delegates from all the unions in this territory. The business to be transacted is the matter of the 8-hour day.

Brother Long, business agent of the Teamdrivers, tells us his organization initiated twenty candidates at their last meeting. This union has now about completed the organization of all the teamsters in the city, and the situation is entirely under control.

Brother C. D. Herr, president of the Waterfront Federation, informs us that the 'Front' is in the very best condition at the present time. The Federation consists of six localities—Ship Liners and Riggers, Longshoremen, No. 264 and 265, Grainhandlers No. 263, Freighthandlers, No. 334, and Teamdrivers. This is a pretty strong combination and will put up a fight for "keeps" should their rights be invaded at any time.

LA GRANDE HEARD FROM.

We are in receipt of a kind and encouraging letter from our old friend, Brother J. H. Blumenstein, secretary of Bricklayers and Masons, No. 3. Brother Blumenstein says organized labor in his section of the country is reviving and lively hopes for a good year's work are entertained by the boys who have so faithfully stood by the cause. It is regrettable that we have not a permanent organizer in Oregon now, for the conditions were never so favorable for spreading the good work.

"NOW YOU SEE IT," ETC.

Recently newspapers have congratulated congress upon making decrease in the amount to be paid the railroads for carrying the mails, such decrease being in the sum of \$12,000,000. But it seems that this is a case of "now you see it and now you don't see it." The Washington correspondent for the New York World says that Chairman Overstreet of the postoffice committee offered a resolution which practically donates \$10,000,000 to the railroads.

Referring to this resolution this correspondent says: "It was accomplished without a record vote, thus preventing any alignment which might prove embarrassing to members during a campaign. For more than thirty years efforts have been made in Congress to reduce the exorbitant prices paid the railroads for transporting the mails, and for the first time a majority of the committee on postoffices and post roads showed a disposition to make the reductions. The lobby labored with members of the committee and others to convince them that the pay is not too large but they failed, and the bill was finally reported which cuts aggregating \$12,000,000. Because of

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the Overstreet resolution, which expects certain named items from points of order, the reductions will not amount to \$2,000,000.

What is there about a republican Congress that it cannot be depended upon to protect the public interests? What is there about a republican Congress that makes it so willing to do the bidding of special interests whenever the people are not looking?—Commoner.

TRADES UNIONISM SOUND.

In the course of an address on "The Labor Problem" Professor Jacob N. Hollander of Johns Hopkins university, said:

"Trades unionism is a natural and proper institution in modern industry. But let it be clearly and explicitly understood that it is trades unionism and not necessarily trades unionists that are thus vindicated. Trades unionism is, in short, what trades unionism does. As an economic institution it is to be appraised by its possibilities and its tendencies, not by its occasional manifestations. Trades unionism may be wise and sound, and yet trades unionists may do wrong or foolish things. The same is true of religion and of democracy. In every case we cherish the system and blame those who violate its principles.

"Now and then, flushed with success or drunk with power, industrial liberty degenerates into industrial license, and the trades union becomes in the hands of corrupt or self-seeking leaders an instrument of brutal coercion that carries with it the seed of its own speedy destruction. More often foolish rather than vicious tendencies prevail. In short, as long as the trades union attempts to do those things for which alone it exists—the protection, education and improvement of industrial classes—and to do them by methods in consonance with social order and economic reason, it should be appreciated and supported as a wise and beneficent institution, even though its actual achievement falls far short of its programme and be even marred by unfortunate and unwise incidents."

The eight hour workday must be universal. Aim for that goal.

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Trade Union Directory

Following will be found a directory of Portland unions, giving the name, time and place of meeting, and wherever possible for the Labor Press to ascertain the name and address of the secretary. Secretaries will confer a favor upon the Labor Press by notifying the management of errors or changes in this list:

- SUNDAY.**
Shingle Weavers' Union No. 55—Every Sunday, 11 a. m., Fulton.
Photo-Engravers Union—Eleven o'clock first Sunday, Room 214, Goodnough Building. Geo. Handley, Oregonian.
Railway Freight Handlers—second and fourth Sunday, 2 p. m., D. W. Hall. P. McDonald, 162 Second.
Typographical, No. 58—First Sunday afternoon, A. O. U. W. Hall, Sealing-Hirsch Building, Geo. W. Journal.
- MONDAY.**
Building Trades Council—Every Monday evening at 8 o'clock in Cooks and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street.
Building Laborers—Every Monday evening, Bartenders' Hall, 164 1/2 Alder street. M. J. Conroy, 264 1/2 Alder.
Carriage and Wagon Workers—First and third Tuesday evenings, Drew Hall, Robert Ewing, 237 Morris St.
Cigar Makers—Second Monday, Drew hall, W. H. Fitzgerald, 162 Second.
Electricians, No. 112 (Line Men)—Every Monday night, Drew Hall, W. S. Jenkins, 248 E. Thirty-fourth.
Pattern Makers—First and third Monday, Drew Hall.
Plumbers—Every Monday evening, Arion Hall.
Sailors—Every Monday night, 7:30, No. 40 Union Avenue, L. W. Paul.
Shiprights and Caulkers—Every second and fourth Monday, Drew Hall.
Structural Building Trades Alliance—Every Monday night at 128 1/2 Fifth street.
Web Pressmen—First Monday, Room 214 Goodnough Building.

- TUESDAY.**
Bartenders' League, No. 339, in Bartenders' hall, 24 1/2 Alder street, every 1st and 3rd Tuesday night, and every 2d and 4th Tuesday afternoon.
Blacksmiths and Helpers Union—Every second and fourth Tuesday, Drew Hall.
Bindery Women's Union, No. 113—First Tuesday evening, 162 Second street.
Bookbinders No. 60—Third Tuesday, Room 209 Drew Building. E. J. Sonnenberg, 400 Woodland.
Carpenters' Union, No. 56—Every Tuesday evening, 86 Tenth. R. F. Robson, 86 N. Main.
Cooks and Waiters—1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays at 8:30 P. M., and 2d Tuesday at 1:30 P. M., in Cooks and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street.
Locomotive Engineers—First and third Tuesday at 11 a. m., Drew Hall.
Musicians—First Tuesday afternoon at No. 162 Second street. Board meets every Tuesday afternoon at same place, Room 106, at 1 o'clock P. M. F. E. Newburger.
Painters—Every Tuesday evening, Drew Hall, M. J. Conroy.
Sheet Metal Workers—First and third Tuesdays, Drew Hall, Ira S. Hill, 1149 E. Main.
Teandriver's Union, Local 162—Every Tuesday night, Union Hall, Second and Stark W. J. Rogers, 1708 Northrup.

- WEDNESDAY.**
Allied Printing Trades Council—Second Wednesday evening, 214 Goodnough Building.
Bricklayers' Union—Every Wednesday evening, Arion Hall, 228 1/2 Yamhill, Chas. Hicks, 228 1/2.
Grainhandlers, Local 263—Every Wednesday evening at Davis Hall, corner Russell street and Alder Avenue, L. L. Ray, 120 Sellwood.
Labor Party—Every Wednesday at 8 P. M. in Cooks and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street.
Leatherworkers—Every Wednesday evening, 182 Second street. Stanley Davis, 214 Union Avenue.
Messenger Boys' Protective Union—Every Wednesday night, Drew Hall, Cecil E. Messinger, 844 E. Seventh, N.
Plumbers' Union, 821—Every Wednesday evening, Plumbers' Hall, 127 1/2 Alder.
Riggers and Shipliners, No. 329—First Wednesday evening in month, Hall 200, Alley Building, Henry Smith, 248 Burnside.
Stereotypers and Electrotypers, 48—First Wednesday evening, Room 214, Goodnough Building, Frank Land, Journal.
Street Railway Employees—Every Wednesday, Drew Hall.

- THURSDAY.**
Barbers—Second and Fourth Thursday evening, 162 Second, T. M. Leabo, secretary, 162 1/2 First, phone, Pacific 1591.
Women's Union Label League—Every Thursday night in Hall 302, Drew Building, 162 Second street.
Boiler Makers' Union—Second and fourth Thursday evening, Arion Hall, 228 1/2 Yamhill.
Coopers' Union—First and third Thursday evenings, Bartenders' Hall, 24 1/2 Alder.
Garment Workers—First and third Thursday evening, 162 Second.
Longshoremen's Association, 265—First and third Thursday evening, Union Hall, Second and Stark, third floor.
Lathers Union—Every Thursday at 8 P. M. in Cooks and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street.
Printing Pressmen, Local 48—First Thursday, 127 1/2 First, W. H. Gerdes, American Type Foundry Co.
Retail Clerks Union—First and third Thursday evening, Drew Hall, Geo. Rodner, Lion Clothing Co.
Theatrical Employees, Local 28—8, 2nd and 4th Thursday evening, 214 Yamhill, C. M. Campbell, Star Theatre.
Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers Union—Thursday evening, Lathers' Hall, 215 1/2 First.

- FRIDAY.**
Building Trades Alliance—Friday night, 86 Tenth.
Carpenters' Local 8—Friday evening, 228 1/2 Yamhill, H. C. Brown, 453 Florence.
Electrical Workers, No. 317—Friday, Drew Hall, J. L. Crookwell, box 644.
Federated Trades Council—Friday evening, Union Building, Second and Stark.
Inside Electrical Workers—Every Friday evening at 8 o'clock in Cooks and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street.
Machinists, Williamette Lodge, No. 63—Friday evening, 162 Second, W. A. Dalzell, 1044 E. Yamhill.

- SATURDAY.**
Bakery and Confectionery Workers, Local 114—First and third Saturday, 1 o'clock P. M., 228 1/2 Yamhill, A. D. Poole, 233 Burnside.
Beer Drivers and Bottlers—First and third Saturday, Drew Hall, G. C. Goldberger, 811 Kelley.
Brewers' Union—Second and fourth Saturday evening, 228 1/2 Yamhill, Arion Hall, Otto Kulka, box 171.
Bridge and Structural Iron Workers—Saturday evening, 214 Yamhill.
Stationary Firemen—First and third Saturday evening, Musicians' Hall, 227 Commerce, James Roberts, 1544 Pettygrove.
Longshoremen, Local 54—At call of president, Ribberlan Hall, Second and Stark, Hugh Pich, 27 N. Front.
Stationary Engineers—Every Saturday evening at 8 o'clock in Cooks and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street.

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Fellow Workers:
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