

PROCEEDINGS OF COUNCIL

Portland, Ore., March 29, 1907.
Portland Federated Trades Council met this date in regular session; President McKenzie in the chair. Minutes of previous meeting read and adopted.

Credentials from Longshoremen, No. 264, were received and following delegates seated. S. Beeler, C. Baldwin and P. Peppin; also from Building Laborers, Hans, Nelson; Electrical Workers, No. 125, but delegates not present.

Communications.—A communication from the Street Carmen's Union, stating the striking carmen wished to withdraw the request for boycott on the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, and place, instead, a boycott against the Oaks Amusement resort. A motion was offered to grant the request of the carmen with the thanks of organized labor in Portland. This motion was amended to read that a committee of five be appointed to confer with the management of the Oaks Amusement Company, with a view to securing its prestige with the Portland Railway, Light & Power Company to secure some settlement of the dispute between the company and the Carmen's Union. This amendment was carried and the original motion as amended was then put and carried.

A communication from the National Arbitration and Peace Congress was placed on file.

Minutes of the Building Structural Alliance were read and ordered filed.

Communication from the Ministerial Association was received and filed.

Reports of Committees.—The committee appointed to handle the Carpet Mechanics' trouble reported that it would be advisable to admit the delegates from said union to seats in this body until such time as an opinion bearing upon the matter can be secured from the secretary of the A. F. of L. The report of the committee was accepted; on motion Carpet Mechanics were granted continuation of membership until further action may be taken. The committee handling the case of the Bartenders versus Luckey & Anderson, 131 Fourth street, reported having adjusted the matter placed in their hands at previous meeting of the Council.

The fraternal delegate to Ministerial Association reported the proceedings of the last meeting of that body. He stated that the matter of creating an investigating committee, composed of representative men in the different walks of life, was discussed at length. Brother Foster spoke strongly in favor of such a committee for the purpose of taking up disputes arising between employer and employee, examining into the merits of the case and prevailing upon the disputants to settle their differences on peaceful grounds.

The fraternal delegate from the Ministerial Association, Rev. Dr. Wilson, gave a splendid talk along those lines, saying labor could lose nothing by the proposed plan of adjustment of troubles, but had all to gain, as it is labor who always takes the initiative looking towards fair arbitration of their difficulties with the employer.

On motion the recommendation of Brother Foster was endorsed.

On motion the firms of Sheehy Bros. and Henry Berger (painters) were removed from the unfair list.

The following unfair list was read:

Bakers—United States Bakery.
Barbers—Portland Hotel Barber Shop, Portland Hotel, and all shops that do not display the union shop card.

Bartenders—All saloons that do not display the union bar card.

Cigarmakers—United Cigar Stores and all cigars that do not bear the union label.

Cooks and Waiters—Morris' Restaurant, 229 Washington street, and all houses that employ Mongolians.

Electrical Workers—Home Telephone Company.

Musicians—H. W. Toelle and Mr. Jouten.

Metall Workers—Larney & Sons, Vancouver, Wash.

Receipts.—Typographical Union, \$8, \$3; Musicians, \$3; Railway Freighthandlers, \$6; Grainhandlers, \$9; total, \$21.00.

There being no further business before the house the meeting adjourned for one week.

P. McDONALD, Secretary.

WOMAN'S LABEL LEAGUE.

The League will have no meeting the evening of April 11, on account of the Garment Workers' ball.

Two amendments were read, proposing changes in our by-laws, and it is hoped all members will be present.

A member of the Inside Electrical Workers was with us advertising their ball to be given April 8.

Our ex-president, Mrs. Wynn, presented Mrs. R. T. Brown with an elegant china set of cups and saucers, as premium for securing the greatest number of members while she held the chair. As we represent one common family, and as Mrs. Wynn had in other ways shown her interest in the League, we voted her our sincere thanks.

It was decided that the League should commence an active campaign in trying to secure a more satisfactory supply of union-made shoes for women and children, for the complaints are numerous as to choice of styles and material.

SECRETARY.

PARSONS A CANDIDATE.

Brother H. G. Parsons, of the Cigarmakers' Union, is a candidate for the vote of the members of organized labor on the referendum ballot for councilman-at-large. Need we point out to the good union men of Portland what their duty in this connection is? Who has been a more faithful worker in the great cause of the wage-worker, and who is more entitled to our united support than Brother H. G. Parsons?

Doubtless every member of organized labor will vote to make Brother Parsons a candidate on the Labor party ticket for councilman-at-large.

JUSTICE TO LABORERS.

Lewiston, Idaho, March 28.—The board of regents of the University of Idaho decided yesterday that the claims of the laborers engaged in the construction of the new agricultural building of the university were superior to the claims of those supplying material for the construction.

By this decision, the laboring men will receive the full amount due them from the contractors, while the suppliers of material will have to be content with a little over 42 per cent of their claims.

There is due to the contractors on this building over \$6,400, and the amounts outstanding against them for labor and material exceed \$14,000.

By the decision of the regents, the labor claims would be paid in preference to all others.

NOTICE.

The Railway Freighthandlers Local, No. 334, will hold special meeting in Drew hall, 162 Second street, on Sunday, the 7th of April, 1907, at 3 o'clock, P. M. for the purpose of voting on the referendum of the Labor party for candidates for municipal office at the coming election. Every member should be present to cast his vote for his choice of candidates.

This meeting becomes necessary as the regular meeting would be too late for the purpose.

Consul R. W. Austin, of Glasgow, has furnished a report on the boiler-makers' strike on the Clyde which recently terminated. The strike began about October 1, upon refusal of the application of workmen for increase of five per cent on piece work rates and 130 cents per week on time rates.

It is estimated that during the strike there were about 40,000 men unemployed, including boiler-makers, riveters, laborers, etc., and that the loss to workmen in wages was \$1,800,000. During the continuance of the strike the funds of the Boiler-makers' Society were drawn on to the extent of \$160,000. The men resumed work on an agreement that the question would be taken up for settlement.—Coast Seamen's Journal.

NEWS CULLED BY THE WAY

AN INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION COMMITTEE PROPOSED—ONE BROTHER SICK.

Brother C. A. Foster, delegate from the Typographical Union, and fraternal delegate to the Ministerial Association, delivered a splendid speech on the necessity for the creation of a representative committee of citizens of twenty-five or more members whose duty it would be to investigate all disputes arising between capital and labor, learn the details of the case from joint conferences with the disputants and after having carefully and thoroughly examined into the cause of the trouble, to make known their findings through the public press, calling upon the interests in every avenue of life to join in forcing a just settlement of the trouble by the power of public sentiment.

Brother Harry Gurr spoke strongly in favor of such a move. He said his ideas of arbitration were well known; "indeed I go further, probably, in the arbitration scheme than most of my brother working men would care to go, but I feel we have nothing to lose in the plan proposed by Brother Foster."

The committee as proposed by Brother Foster, would consist of business men, tradesmen, ministers of the gospel, teachers, lawyers—in short representation from every calling. It would have no official power to force any settlement, but on account of its high standing in the community and its unexclusive make-up, its findings would carry such undeniable weight that the parties in controversy would be morally obliged to abide by such decision.

Compulsory arbitration has no place in American political economy, but investigation of the questions disturbing industrial peace, we believe, would be hailed with satisfaction by all reasonable men in either labor or capitalistic rank.

At the last meeting of the Federated Trades Council there seemed to be a thorough awakening of the delegates to the momentous fact that the time has fully arrived when the responsibilities of this wonderful organization—the American Federation of Labor—can no longer be lightly dealt with. The magnitude of the movement, it was shown, has become so great that minds of the keenest perceptions, interests of singular power are devoting time and attention to the grand achievements of organized labor in different parts of the world.

Brother H. W. Drew, of the Iron Moulders, who has been attending the Pacific Coast Conference of his organization, held in Seattle recently, returned to Portland last Friday and is looking splendid after the trip. He says the conference was a decided success from which the organization hopes to realize satisfactory results.

Brother Long, business agent of the Teamdrivers' Union, has been confined to his bed during the past two weeks suffering from a severe attack of tonsillitis. It is hoped his recovery may be speedy and that he may be about his business within a few days.

Brother R. Ewing, secretary of the Carriage and Wagon Workers, tells us his union is doing a good work in the organization field. At the last meeting of the union a number of candidates was initiated, making the organization of that trade in this city almost complete.

The Oregon State Federation of Labor is growing more prosperous every day. Brother Pitschke, the secretary-treasurer, says he hopes soon to have every local in the State of Oregon affiliated with that body. The Executive Board of the State Federation meets 1st Monday in each month at room 304, Drew building.

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Fellow Workers:

Remember the registration of voters begins on the 16th day of March, '07, and unless you get your name on the registration books, you will not be permitted to cast your ballot at the city election next June, therefore

REGISTER!

SUNDAY CLOSING RIDICULOUS.

Sunday-closing laws for saloons are ridiculous. A Sunday-closing law merely represents the moral yearnings of rural communities. It is in no sense the expression of the people's will. The idea may suit these ruralites, but it does not fit in cities. I am of the opinion that there should be two statute books. In one could be incorporated these moral yearnings of the rural communities, while in the other could be placed laws for human beings. The latter would represent the best thought of people in the cities and adapted to their uses.—Wm. Travers Jerome, District Attorney of New York.

The wealthiest labor union in the world is the Amalgamated Engineer's Society of Great Britain. Statements just published show that this organization possesses funds amounting to over \$3,500,000. Most of this is locked up in secure investments, which bring in steady returns. On January 1, 1907, the membership of the union was 105,188. The union pays sick, death and superannuation benefits. The organization has just presented a demand for an increase in wages of two shillings a week, and announces that it may ask for an additional increase at the end of another six months.

F. W. Cotterill, of Seattle, has been declared president of the Washington State Federation of Labor as the result of the referendum vote which has been taken since the convention at Bellingham last January. He received 3619 votes. Cotterill has been closely identified with the labor movement almost since its inception in Washington. The other officers are: J. E. Campbell, of Everett, 1st vice president; Thomas Ivey, of Spokane, 2d vice president; T. V. Copeland, of Tacoma, 3d vice president; W. C. Lloyd, Aberdeen, 4th vice president; M. E. Cutting, Walla Walla, fifth vice president; P. W. Dowler, of Tacoma, secretary-treasurer.

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