

WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN OREGON FACTORIES

(Continued from page 1)

you slip a piece of tin under a stamp—the faster you operate the lever with that one foot, the more pieces of tin you slip under the stamp, the more money you make. It is the insidious piece work system which keeps your nervous energy strained to its utmost. You stop to rest a moment that, you may do, but it is at your own expense. Your employer pays for no wasted time, and when you are worn out so that you cannot turn out enough pieces a day to make it pay to keep you, you are discharged, you are simply a worn-out bit of machinery. Or you are at a sewing machine run by electricity, and you are paid according to the number of bags that pass under your needle each day. If you stop to bind up the fingers pierced by the needle in your hurry to finish up an extra number so that your pay envelope will have a few extra cents, you pay for the time you lose. And you cannot lay off to ease the aching hand—another girl is waiting for your machine. Stand over the ironing board or in the starching room of the laundries for 10 hours a day, six days in the week, and will you not concede your \$- or \$1.25 a day well earned? And would you not pray that our U. S. Supreme Court will uphold our 10-hour law? Will you not agree with me that the women of the United States have one reason to be ashamed of being American women? Sounds pretty harsh, does it not? Ashamed of being an American woman! Last June, the highest court in the State of New York said it was "unconstitutional" to forbid women over the age of 16 to work more than 10 hours a day. Under the "freedom of contract" fallacy, women may be obliged to work 12, 18 or 20 hours a day. Quit, yes, she may quit, but that means that she loses her job and brings distress not only for herself but for those she is supporting. Our own 10-hour law is now before the U. S. Supreme Court, appealed by the laundry interests, who insist that Oregon women shall have the right to "freedom of contract" so that they may be employed for any length of time.

Much wiser and more far seeing are the 14 nations of Europe, who, in September last, met in Berne, Switzerland, and signed a treaty forbidding the employment of all women at night. Russia and the United States were conspicuous by their absence. And the Russian and American eagles are screaming a duet that is proclaiming to the world that Russian and American women are on the same basis. Are we proud of being American women? France has gone even a step farther and has declared that there shall be no work for any one, man, woman or child, on the seventh day of the week. But here in enlightened America, according to our sacred constitution, women must not have her "freedom of contract" taken away from her by any legislature. Our judges are traveling along the old rocky road that has been abandoned for the broad, smooth highway of the greatest good for the greatest number, by the 14 nations of Europe.

Our only remedy in this country that can save the women from going down into the depths of industrial degradation, lies in organization, legislation and education. The only rescue for child slavery in factories is organization, legislation and education.

We must learn that we, of the ranks of skilled labor, must organize to protect the unskilled, so that a fair wage and fair standard may be maintained. We must heed the "cry of the children" that "shortening the period of childhood marks the beginning of the degeneracy of the race." Legislation has so far been ineffective, because organized labor has not been able to control its own members.

Organized labor has been loyal to the ideal of restricting labor of women and children, but in dealing with the individual woman and child, organized labor has been lax. There must be renewed strength and vigilance all along the line. Education alone is unable to meet the situation. Legislation is ineffective. The burden rests on organization.

GOVERNMENT BY THE PEOPLE

By Horace Mann. Governor Joseph W. Folk, of Missouri, delivered an address at Nashville, Tenn., Tuesday night, some of which reads like a plagiarism from Progress. He said:

"The prospects for the success of Democratic ideas, those principles embraced in the expression, 'equal rights to all, special privileges to none,' were never brighter. A political revival is going on all over the land today on that point. Peo-

ple are beginning to realize that the government of the city, state and nation belongs to them and that they can take the government into their hands whenever they wish."

That statement implies that the governments of city, state and nation are now controlled by some power other than the people. This controlling power in government is a combination of predatory "interests" that have through the control of government granted themselves privileges by means of which they prey upon the industry of the people. This levying tribute upon the people is called "special privilege." Therefore Governor Folk continued with this declaration:

"The paramount issue of today is the elimination of the special privilege. With the passing of the privilege of lawlessness must come the passing of the privilege of law."

That is to say, piracy and highway robbery having been outlawed by legislation, we must also outlaw the means by which the privileged now obtain incomes from the industry of others without rendering an equivalent service in return. The late Samuel M. Jones, "Golden Rule" Mayor of Toledo, once wrote:

"When we shall for service render Service of an equal worth. Then will all mankind be brothers—Heaven will then have come to earth."

Service for service, or doing as much for others as others do for you is the application of the Golden Rule. And it is mainly by obtaining governmental privilege or privilege through governmental favoritism that the enormous inequalities of present-day economic conditions are possible. As soon as we get honest governments, and the privileges by which the few now levy tribute upon the many are withdrawn, enormous graft incomes will cease and the workingman's income will be enormously increased, and the freeing of industrial opportunity will still further enormously increase our annual industrial product. Want and the fear of want will be banished from the nation, and the reign of "peace on earth and good will among men" which was proclaimed two thousand years ago will be a reality instead of a "visionary" ideal of an "impractical dreamer."

That ideal is perfectly practical if a majority want to practice it and will unite to vote for the advocates of justice instead of the advocates, and agents of graft for all public officers.

One of the bulwarks of graft in this country was attacked by Governor Folk in the following vigorous and pointed comment: "A tariff so arranged as to create monopoly and to give to a few people the privilege of preying on the rest of the people is legalized graft. As nations increase in power and population, commerce must broaden. We can not always sell abroad and never buy. Trade restrictions abroad breed trade retaliations at home. A monopoly tariff is not necessary to protect the American workingman nor has it ever had that result. Because he is a better educated man and can do things in a shorter time, the average American workman is worth more than the foreign workman. The law of supply and demand regulates wages. Protective tariff then can not be for the benefit of the workingman."

"If the protective tariff as now arranged is an injustice, it cannot be too speedily corrected and any postponement of the remedy is unfair to the people. Nor should it be revised by its friends. This request is in line with trying a highwayman by a jury composed of men of his own calling."

"Essentially a consumer's tax, in the guise of a protection to the American industries, dissembling as a friend to labor, the protective tariff operates as a cloak for embezzling a shield for monopoly, a fine upon labor and in its last analysis, a graft, conceived in greed and brought forth in avarice. Whatever restricts the demand for that which labor produces, tends to discourage production, and puts a premium on indolence. And the tariff schedules were never higher than they are now."

"The doctrine of equal rights means that instead of protecting

monopoly against the people, the people should be protected against monopoly."

The fact of the matter is this: Co-operation and the introduction of machinery have enormously increased industrial production, and these improvements have been introduced into industry in such a way that the opportunity to work has passed from the control of the workers to an "owner," and these owners, partly through greed and partly through ignorance of the law of economic justice, have taken an unfair advantage of the workingmen who have been forced to come to them for employment.

But when we get an honest government, the law of justice or the cessation of exploitation through special privilege will abolish both unearned incomes and involuntary poverty—and that means all poverty and all predatory wealth. Consequently, as Governor Folk says, "the paramount issue of today is the elimination of special privilege," or rather, it is the election of honest public servants. The election must come before the elimination can take place and of course nominations precede elections, so that the full sequence of the paramount issue is, the nomination and election of honest men to public office who can be depended upon to eliminate special privilege and secure equal opportunity for all. This will be the realization of Lincoln's ideal—"a government of the people, by the people and for the people."—Progress.

INTERESTING ITEMS GLEANED FROM EXCHANGES CONDENSED.

In the police court at New Haven, Conn., on September 26, Frank J. McGee, of Worcester, Mass., was fined \$400 and sentenced to two years in the county jail on a charge of intimidating strike-breakers at McClean & Co.'s foundry in that city.

The Canadian Deputy Minister of Labor has told the management of Spring Hill (Nova Scotia) mines where there is a strike, that unless they can supply coal for the Intercolonial Railway, the Dominion Government will be compelled to place an order for 60,000 tons with the United States firms, as this is needed for the Intercolonial, a Government-owned railway.

The annual convention of the National Association of Railway Commissioners has recommended Congressional legislation to compel railroads, both steam and electric, to protect their tracks by an automatic signal system, and urged the several state legislatures to enact laws along this line.

The San Pedro, Los Angeles & Salt Lake Railroad Company has announced a voluntary increase in pay of all telegraph operators and station agents on its road. The increase ranges from \$5 to \$25 a month, according to the importance of the positions. The increase will mean a total advance in salary of from \$1200 to \$1500 monthly.

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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. Bartenders' League, No. 339—Meets at 26 1/2 Alder street, the first four Sundays in the month. A. E. Schwartz, secretary. 26 1/2 Alder street. Photo-Engravers Union—Eleven o'clock first Sunday, Room 214, Goodnough Building. Geo. Bailey, Oregonian. Railway Freight Handlers—Second and fourth Sunday, 2 p. m., Drew Hall. P. Ewing, 127 1/2 Second. Shingleweavers No. 58—Meet first and third Sundays at 10:30 A. M., 209 Drew Hall, 122 Second St. E. H. Line, Secy, 146 Hamilton Ave. Phone 6824. Typographical, No. 58—First Sunday afternoon, A. O. U. W. Hall, Selling-Hirsch Building. Geo. AVth, Journal.

MONDAY. Building Trades—Meets every Monday night in Cooke and Waiters Hall. Building Laborers—Every Monday evening. Bartenders' Hall, 164 1/2 Alder street. M. J. Conroy, 24 1/2 Second. Carriage and Wagon Workers—First and third Tuesday evenings, Drew Hall. Robert Ewing, 127 1/2 Second. Cigar Makers—Second Monday, Drew Hall. W. H. Fitzgerald, 162 Second. Electricians, No. 123 (Line Men)—Every Monday night, Drew Hall. W. S. Jenkins, 248 E. Thirty-fourth. Pattern Makers—Second and fourth Monday. Drew Hall No. 206. R. Lovelidge, 325 Broadway. Plumbers—Every Monday evening, Arion Hall. Sailors—Every Monday night, 1:30, No. 40 Union avenue. L. W. Paul. Shipwrights and Caulkers—Every second and fourth Monday, Drew Hall. Structural Building Trades Alliance—Every Monday night at 12 1/2 Fifth street. Web Pressmen—First Monday, Room 214 Goodnough Building.

TUESDAY. Blacksmiths and Helpers Union—Every second and fourth Tuesday, Drew Hall. Bindery Workers Union, No. 113—First Tuesday evening, 162 Second street. Bookbinders No. 52—Third Tuesday, Room 100 Drew Building. E. J. Souther, box 3 Woodlawn. Carpenters—Every Tuesday night, corner Grand avenue and East Pine street. H. J. Griffith, Secretary, 1592 E. 17th street. Cooks and Waiters—1st, 3rd and 4th Tuesdays at 8:30 P. M., and 2d Tuesday at 2:30 P. M., in Cooke 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. 12 Second. Board meets every Tuesday afternoon at same place. Room 104, at 1 o'clock p. m. E. L. Rice. Sheet Metal Workers—First and third Tuesdays, Drew Hall. Ira S. Hill, 1189 E. Main. Stationary Firemen Local No. 118—Meet every second and fourth Tuesday in the month. Drew Hall 300, Sec. Otto Leiser, 212 Twenty-first St. N.

WEDNESDAY. Allied Printing Trades Council—Second Wednesday evening, 214 Goodnough Building. Bricklayers Union—Every Wednesday evening, Arion Hall, 228 1/2 Yamhill. E. Steinback, secretary. Carmen—Meet second and fourth Wednesdays at Room 200, Drew Building. H. L. Burdett, 1789 Dwight street, University Park. Labor Party—Every Wednesday at 8 P. M., in Cooke and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street. Lathers—Meet every Wednesday evening at Cooke and Waiters Hall. Leatherworkers—Every Wednesday evening, 162 Second, third floor. Manley Davis, 214 Union avenue. Messenger Boys Protective Union—Every Wednesday night Drew Hall. Cecil E. Messenger, 844 E. Seventh, N. Painters—Every Wednesday night at 8 o'clock, hall 201 Drew Bldg., 162 Second. Plasterers Union, 821—Every Wednesday evening, Plasterers' Hall, 127 1/2 First. Riggers and Shipbuilders, No. 828—First Wednesday evening in month, Hall 300, Alliance Building. Henry Arndt, 248 Burnside. Stereotypers and Electrotypers—First Wednesday evening, Room 214, Goodnough Building. Frank Land, Journal. Journeymen Tailors' Union No. 74—Second and fourth Wednesday, Union Hall, Second and Stark. J. M. Bendroth, Box 122.

THURSDAY. Barbers—Second and fourth Thursday evening, 122 Second. T. T. Leabo, secretary, 167 1/2 First; phone, Pacific 1501. 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 evening, Bartenders' Hall, 26 1/2 Alder. Garment Workers—First and third Thursday evening, 162 Second. Grain Handlers—First and third Thursdays each month, Russell street and Albina avenue. W. McClark, secretary, 74 Russell street. Longshoremen's Association, 265—First and third Thursday evening, Union Hall, Second and Stark, third floor. Pressmen Local No. 45—First Thursday evening in the month, Mulkey Bldg., Second and Morrison. W. H. Gerdes, secretary, care A. T. F. Co. Retail Clerks—Second and fourth Thursdays, Drew Hall No. 20. Teamdrivers' Union, Local 162—Every Thursday night, 128 1/2 Fifth St. S. H. Delemeter, Secretary, 1041 E. Lincoln St. Theatrical Employees, Local 28—Second and fourth Thursday, 128 1/2 Yamhill. C. M. Campbell, Star Theatre. Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers Union—Thursday evening, Laters' Hall, 218 1/2 First.

FRIDAY. Carpet Workers, Local 5—Friday evening, 250 1/2 Yamhill. H. C. Brown, 463 Florsheim. Electrical Workers, No. 317—Friday, Drew Hall. J. L. Crookwell, box 444. Federated Trades Council—Every Friday night at 8 o'clock, hall 302 Drew Bldg., 162 Second. Inside Electrical Workers—Every Friday evening at 8 o'clock in Cooke and Waiters' hall, 128 1/2 Fifth street. Machinists, Willamette Lodge, No. 63—Friday evening, 162 Second. W. A. Daltiel, 1004 E. Yamhill. Steam Fitters—Every Fridays, Drew Hall No. 200.

SATURDAY. Bakery and Confectionery Workers, Local 114—First and third Saturdays, 8 o'clock P. M., 228 1/2 Yamhill. A. Dupois, 293 Burnside. Beer Drivers and Bottlers—First and third Saturday, Drew Hall. G. C. Goldenberg, 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, 220 1/2 Yamhill. Longshoremen, Local 264—At call of president, Elberns, Second and Stark. Hutch Petch, 37 N. Front. Steam Engineers—Meet every Saturday evening at Cooke and Waiters Hall.

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