

INJURES OLDS, WORTMAN & KING

Rev. Luther R. Dyott, D. D., of 1st Congregational Church, Calls Labor's Representatives Agitators

Olds, Wortman & King, unfair to organized labor in their present building and unfair because their new half-million new home is being erected under open shop conditions, have found a defender in Rev. Luther K. Dyott, D. D., of the First Congregational Church.

A witty, but rather cynical Frenchman, once said: "Dear God, defend me from my friends. I'll take care of my enemies."

How true this saying is in many cases all can testify.

Olds, Wortman & King are now suffering from overzealous friends.

One of these is the Rev. Dyott.

In a recent sermon, with the text, "Let us go over unto the other side" (Mark iv:35), this reverend gentleman calls the representatives of organized labor of Oregon demagogues, agitators and anarchists.

The preliminaries to the real meaning of this sermon are best omitted. The full text can be found in the Spectator of January 29. The Spectator is the organ that panders to the vanities and weaknesses of Portland's plutocracy. Dr. Dyott evidently thought this paper would reach the right kind of people. Would bring back to him his reward "for the bread scattered upon the waters."

Omitting the preliminaries, the real sermon is quoted as follows:

"So, also does our text illustrate the capital and labor question. The capitalist ought to study the labor question from the workingman's side. The workingman ought to see the capitalist's side. Nothing can be settled by imperious demands, threats, strikes, boycotts and wicked agitation; that, is, nothing can be permanently settled. The working man, as such, is not as much to blame as the demagogue, the agitator and the anarchist who are trying to climb to some unholly ambition over the stooping shoulders of the workingman. Some anarchists ought to be in the penitentiary.

"Here is a building being erected for the occupancy of one of our business firms, which has always been honorable in its dealings and has helped to build up the business interests of our city. The firm, itself, does not own the building. Those owning it, or having it erected, have in some manner incurred the displeasure of some persons belonging to the ranks of labor. Now, the workingmen have been called upon to boycott this same firm, having no ownership of the building. The spite is to be visited upon this firm because those having given the offense cannot be reached by our local labor circles.

"If my information about this matter is incorrect, I should be glad to be corrected, because I have tried to ascertain the facts on both sides. But, if my information is correct, then I denounce the position of certain labor organizations in this matter as utterly reprehensible. It places such workingmen themselves, and not this firm, upon the 'unfair list.' Such courses pursued by workingmen will help the cause of the 'open shop,' and little or nothing more.

"On this question, as upon all others, where misunderstandings and unbrotherliness are involved, we need fair play for all concerned.

"In the court of truth, reason pleaded the cause of justice, not with a one-sided application, but with the facts from both sides. Nothing less will satisfy, nothing more is demanded."

Now what are the facts in this case? Let us have truth. Not verbiage and denunciation.

The truth is, and the Oregon State Federation of Labor, the Central Labor Council of Portland and Vicinity and the Portland Building Trades Council are prepared to substantiate it—that Olds, Wortman & King, when they needed larger quarters, did not require that their building should be put up by union labor.

The flimsy pretext that the Trustee Company of Portland is erecting this new building and that Olds, Wortman & King have no say as to labor conditions, is an insult to the intelligence of the smiling Olds, the shrewd Wortman and the active King. Also an insult to the intelligence of every trades union man and woman of Oregon.

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YEON FAVORS UNION MEN

TALLEST BUILDING IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST WILL BE ERECTED BY UNION MEN

The Thompson-Starrett Company has secured the contract for the construction of the tallest building in the Pacific Northwest. On the Pacific Coast only the Call building in San Francisco is higher.

This building will be fifteen stories high and 100x100 feet in ground floor dimensions, on the northeast corner of Fifth and Alder streets.

J. B. Yeon, one of our local capitalists, intends to have this building one of the finest and most modern monuments to art, use and durability. It will be the best equipped business office building in Portland. Pains will be taken to construct quarters specially adapted for the various professions.

Work to clear the ground will commence March 10. The structure is to be completed by March 15, 1911. It will cost \$650,000.

Six thousand cubic yards of dirt will be excavated and 9000 cubic yards of concrete and 2000 tons of structural steel used.

The best feature about this fine building, however, is that the work will be done by union men under closed shop conditions.

The Thompson-Starrett Company the largest construction company in the United States, has found that it can do the best and cheapest work by employing the most competent mechanics obtainable. And such mechanics can only be had among the unions, because as a rule a man who has brains enough to be a first-class mechanic always joins the union of his trade.

This company constructed the Meter & Frank building. It now, among many other great structures which it is raising, is building the \$6,000,000 city hall in New York.

The success of this great company always paying union wages and employing only union men, is the best answer to our cheap and unfair "open" shop companies who of late are putting up some buildings in this city with cheap and poor mechanics. These companies in the near future will either have to pay fair wages or shift to other scenes. The great capitalists of Portland who of course have lots of business since, are realizing that it does not pay to have their buildings poorly constructed. These property owners, who are also engaged in various kinds of business, realize that cheap labor hurts business, while well-paid labor is good for business.

The really big men in business are realizing that "good principle is also good business." It certainly is good principle to pay workmen good wages, work them reasonable hours and treat them fair.

The committees of the Building Trades Council fully went over the ground with Mr. Yeon. That gentleman certainly showed good business sense in giving this contract to the Thompson-Starrett Company. The committees are entitled to considerable credit for their good work in connection with this great contract.

HONOR DEAD

BARTENDERS PAY TRIBUTE TO DEAD COMRADE

A. W. Carter, member of the Bartenders Union, was run over by a taxicab on Sunday morning in front of his home. He died a few hours later.

Carter joined the union in 1905, and while he had been in business for himself for the last two years, continued an active member of the local. "He stuck to the old flag," feelingly said Charles Grassman, secretary of the union.

The members on Wednesday afternoon turned out in full force to pay tribute to good old Carter's remains. He was buried in Riverview cemetery.

FURTHER INFORMATION.

Solomon and Moses, while walking by the canal, saw a notice-board, which stated that five dollars would be paid to whoever rescued another man from drowning. It didn't take them more than a minute to arrange that one should fall in and be rescued by the other, and the "stakes" divided. In went Sol, and found it rather deeper than he expected. However, he splashed about, crying: "Come on, Moses! Save me!"

"Sol," he said, "I've been reading that notice-board again, and it says, 'Ten dollars for a dead body.' Now, do be reasonable."

IMPOSSIBLE.

The electrical study craze is now bearing fruit. "Are you a conductor?" asked a lad of an omnibus guard. "I am," replied the courteous official.

"What is your name?" "My name is Wood."

"Oh, that can't be," said the boy. "for wood is a non-conductor!"

BOARD MEMBERS CHARGED WITH GRAFTING

Ex-Superintendent of Construction Makes Affidavit Private Work is Done at School District Expense

Ex-Superintendent of Construction McLeod of the Portland School district, in the following affidavit charges his superiors, Architect Jones and some members of the school board with graft. Mr. McLeod points out details specifically. The charges are serious.

The affidavit is printed, as Mr. McLeod has impressed the Labor Press with the honesty of his intentions.

The Labor-Press opens its columns to Mr. Jones and School Directors Beach and Fleischner for their defense, if they so desire.—Editor.

I, Alex McLeod, being duly sworn, depose and say:

That I was employed by the School Board of School District No. 1, Multnomah County, Oregon, for about four years, and just prior to about three months ago. That I was originally engaged as superintendent of construction of the new school buildings, and was transferred from this position to supervise the manufacturing of the equipment for the East Side High School and later to supervise the repair department.

That in these various departments I found that there was graft being done by members of the School Board, in conjunction with others; that this graft was widespread.

The following are some instances of this graft:

A. I was instructed by Architect T. J. Jones, who was employed by the School Board, to supervise the School Board's repair department, to perform certain work in the office of Director J. V. Beach, in the Board of Trade building. Such work was performed and paid for by School District No. 1.

In addition to this work certain materials for Mr. Beach's office were prepared at the East Side High School. The cost of labor and the material for this work was also paid for by School District No. 1.

That under direction of Architect Jones a massage table was manufactured at the East Side High School for Mr. Beach. This table was transferred to a doctor's office on the west side of Mr. Beach's family. The cost of material and labor for this table was paid for by School District No. 1.

While working for School District No. 1 I was ordered by Architect T. J. Jones to make the entire details for the Sunnyside, Twenty-eighth, Creston and Holman school buildings. These I prepared, and also prepared a part of the details and blue prints for the Arleta, Portsmouth, Terwilliger, Vernon, Albina Homestead, Richmond and other school buildings. This work consumed fully one-fourth of my time for a period of about four years.

School District No. 1 paid for the work I performed for Architect Jones. At the same time Mr. Jones received full pay from School District No. 1 for such work.

C. I was ordered by Architect Jones to pack the furniture and other household goods in certain houses for the Director of Beach. This I did. This furniture was shipped to Mr. Beach's country residence near Turner, Or. The cost of this furniture was charged against the Couch Street school and paid for by School District No. 1.

D. While engaged in the construction of two portable houses at the Albina Homestead school,

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The Vampire (Labor's Version.)

By William Rex. (With Apologies to Kipling.)

A fool there was, and he toiled away (Even as you and I),

For a cage and crumb, with nothing to say— (Some call it worse than death grim and gray)— But the fool he called it his full day's pay— (Even as you and I).

Oh, the life we waste and the strife we taste— And the work of our head and hand Belong to this world, which does not know— (And now we know that it never can know)— And does not understand.

A fool there was, and he lived a slave— (Even as you and I),

To a master who drove him remorseless to grave— (And the master did not heed the wounds he gave)— But the fool never dreamt that his life he could save (Even as you and I).

Oh, the miseries he lived for the crumbs he received— And the kicks which a dog would abhor; He took from the man who cared not to know why— (And now we know he never cared why) And did not understand.

The fool was stripped of his blood-sucked hide— (Even as you and I),

Which he might have saved if he only had tried— (But a fool is a fool, though wise men he may chide) So some of him lived, but the best of him died (Even as you and I).

And it isn't the blow, or the red-blood flow, That stings like a white-hot brand— It's coming to know that he never did try To conquer his lord and make him know why— And force him to understand.

CARPENTERS' DANCE

FRIDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 25

Christensen's Hall, Eleventh and Yamhill Streets

Extra large orchestra Special features

Will be greatest ball of the season

Admission, Gentlemen cents, Ladies. cents

Mrs. Butts (evenly)—John, dear, if you should give me \$25 for a new hat, don't you know it would be a blessing?

Mr. Butts—H'm! Maria, I should say it would be a miracle.

CARPENTERS ALIVE

LARGE ATTENDANCE AND A STRONG SPIRIT OF PROGRESS EXISTS — NO DELINQUENTS

The prospects for establishing the eight-hour day in Portland are bright.

At the meeting of the carpenters unions last Tuesday night great progress was shown by the two locals. Number 50 initiated five new members. Her sister local did its full share in taking in new members.

Local 808 held another of its usually interesting meetings. In fact, the boys say last Tuesday's meeting was the best on record.

Delegates O. E. Hibbs and S. P. Reareck made excellent reports of progress by the Central Labor Council. Business Agent and Delegate to the Building Trades B. W. Slesman rendered a detailed report of the good work done by the Building Trades Council. This successful organizer further made a general review of the good work done by the Carpenters since last August in doubling their membership and increasing the strength of the general movement.

The speaker urged each member to do his full part in stopping nine and ten-hour work at small pay by talking to the non-union man on the job and getting his application for membership in the union.

The report rendered by the suspended members committee was most gratifying. Some weeks ago Local 808 found it was having a great loss of members by non-payment of dues. A committee, composed of E. Zahler, J. W. Weatherly, Wm. Tager and O. Bellis, was elected to check this loss.

The committee has made good, as shown by the good work done by them. As soon as a member is near suspension his name is reported to the committee. To date they have called on every man so reported and retained their membership.

W. A. Butcher reported some interesting things from the District Council.

W. A. Butcher, J. W. Weatherly and E. Zahler reported all arrangements made for the grand ball at Christensen's hall, Eleventh and Yamhill streets, for Friday, February 25. These boys are working overtime to make the affair the best ever given by the wood butchers. Local 808 has put all funds necessary in his hands to employ a large orchestra and to secure other things necessary for an occasion of the kind.

Secretary W. J. Shelley was requested to write a protest to Washington against an increase in second class postal rates.

The business of the evening was completed before 10 p. m., and the Lyric theater ticket drawing made. S. P. Reareck, E. Zahler, Ralph Ricca, G. Granquist and W. Tager were the five lucky ones, each receiving two tickets to the Lyric theater free. The next drawing will be next Tuesday evening at or before 10 p. m.

The Carpenters are doing things and they know it, as shown by the full attendance in the large hall.

LAW ENFORCED

LABOR COMMISSIONER COMPELS OBEDIENCE

On February 9 Deputy Labor Commissioner Gram had J. Wickstrom and son, owners of a planing mill at Scappoose, arrested for failing and refusing to provide safeguards for their machinery, as provided in the factory inspection law.

Before the case could come to trial the Wickstroms fully complied with the law and were let off with payment of costs.

Commissioner Hoff and Deputy Gram gave special attention to this case and were prepared to make a test if necessary. However, the policy of the commissioner is to see the law enforced, and the time of the deputies given around the factories rather than in court trials. So when the Wickstroms gave proper protection to their workmen, the case was closed.

Under the provisions of the factory inspection law the labor commissioner or his deputies visit manufacturing plants and after careful examination notify the owners what safety devices to use. Thirty days are given to comply with these instructions. Then if changes are not made during this period, a letter is sent by the labor commissioner specifically stating all safety requirements and informing the 'obstrepous party' that it has another thirty days to comply with the law. Otherwise, arrest will follow.

Such a letter had to be sent to the Wickstroms. Neglecting to comply, Deputy Gram caused the arrest. Wickstrom today is wiser than he was a little while ago, and the planing mill owners have been given full warning that the law must be obeyed.

Mrs. Butts (evenly)—John, dear, if you should give me \$25 for a new hat, don't you know it would be a blessing?

Mr. Butts—H'm! Maria, I should say it would be a miracle.

OUR MISGUIDED FRIENDS DO US HURT

Employer's Liability Law Will Not Be Sidetracked Even Though the Catholic Sentinel Thus Advises

The Portland Catholic Sentinel of January 27 writes about the employers' liability law and proposes its remedy for the solution of this great industrial question.

As marked copies have been sent to the secretaries of the labor unions, with request to make comment, the understanding and discussion of this matter will be aided by first reproducing the article of the Sentinel and then commenting upon it from the trades union standpoint.

The Sentinel writes: "The Oregon Federation of Labor will prepare an employers' liability law to be voted on in the November elections of this year.

"The proposed law is not sufficiently revolutionary. Insofar as it seeks to surround the workman with safeguards against accident, it is to be commended, and likewise in making it a criminal offence to neglect these safeguards. But in the matter of remuneration for loss of life or limb the proposed law would retain the costly and uncertain system of litigation now in use.

"When a workman meets with an accident, he generally needs money, and he needs it at once. So with his family is he killed. But he has to go into court to get damages, or in case of his death his family must do so. Court proceedings are costly and uncertain. Moreover, they are slow, and it often happens that damages are awarded only after years of litigation when the sufferers may have passed beyond the reach of financial aid.

"What is needed is a system which will return to the injured man or his family a reasonable compensation for his loss of earning power. This compensation should be certain in amount, not dependent on the feelings of a jury or the oratorical talents of lawyers; and it should be available at once.

"This points immediately to a system of obligatory accident insurance, the cost of which is to be a fixed charge on industry and not to come out of the wages of employes. We in America have lagged far behind the best thought of Europe in these matters.

"Many of our readers, as workingmen engaged in more or less dangerous occupations, must be directly concerned with the outcome of the proposed employers' liability law. We should be pleased to have them discuss in The Sentinel the practicability of including an insurance feature in the proposed law."

The Sentinel is wrong in its opening sentence, where it says, "the Oregon Federation of Labor will prepare an employers' liability law to be voted on in the November elections of this year."

The law already has been prepared. Has received the endorsement of the State Federation of Labor in annual convention. The petitions to entitle this law to submission of the direct vote of the people are now being circulated throughout the State.

No body of men, except a specially called convention of the Federation, could change one word in this law.

While the friendly attitude to labor, usually shown by the Sentinel, is understood and appreciated by the active union men, it is entirely out of the question at the present time to expect labor to reverse itself on this law. Our proposed employers' liability law is the best expression of this type of law tried throughout the United States. A similar law was defeated at the last session of the Legislature through the worst kind of jobbery and trading ever witnessed even in the discounted Legislative Halls of Salem. The Oregonian, which always can be depended upon to oppose any measure for the relief and safety of the workers, is writing thunderous editorials against the proposed law. And, lastly, and mainly—to show the drift of the current—the Oregon Employers' Association is opposed to the law.

The workers know that if this law is passed, the maiming and killing of men and women will stop, because it will be too expensive. Our great corporations have no souls to damn or bodies to kick, as every one knows. The paid manager, say, of the Josselyn type, cares only to pile up great profits on watered stock. Then his salary is increased. This

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