

PROHIBITION TO THE FRONT

Anti-Saloon League Superintendent Explains About the Unfair Printing

Rev. Clarence True Wilson called at the office of the Labor Press to explain that the petitions for state-wide prohibition were being printed in a union printing office, that only through a mistake some of this printing went to the Independent Printing Company, the "unfair" printers of Portland.

Rev. Wilson was assured that as much prominence would be given to a communication from the Anti-Saloon League as was given this matter in the prior issue of the Labor Press. Hence the following letter from Mr. Knodell, superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League, is here given in full:

Editor Portland Labor Press:

"Dear Sir: I observed in your issue of April 14 an article entitled, 'Anti League and Labor,' in which you make some very unfair remarks about the Anti-Saloon League, concerning the printing of laws and petitions for our Prohibition campaign. Some things that you say are true; but they are only half truths, and, like many half truths, very damaging. In view of your friendly call made in our office, early in the winter, you might at least have used the 'plume' and asked an explanation of our action when the word came to you that we were dealing with labor.

"Please give the following statement of facts as large publicity, in your excellent paper, as your unkind criticisms received.

"When our Oregon Dry Campaign Committee had finished the writing of their Amendment and Law, they committed to me, as secretary, the work of getting them and the petitions printed.

"A number of printers were suggested to whom I should offer the chance of bidding on the work. Among these was the Independent Printing Company. When the bids were opened, this shop's bid was a little the lowest. Another shop, which I find out since was also non-union, was the highest. Without thinking of the question of union or non-union, we awarded the contract to the Independent office.

"Last Saturday another member of the Oregon Dry Campaign Committee reported to me that the Independent Company was a non-union concern. I went immediately to see them, and found that this was true. I stopped at the presses at once, and took the job to the Metropolitan office, where we have been doing in Portland. The great bulk of our printing is done in our own office in Salem, which is a union office. The error cost us \$66, but every stroke of non-union work was eliminated and replaced by union labor. Our Law Amendment and Petitions, as they are now ready for use, are the product of a union shop, and will have on them the union label.

"In making the transfer, a union printer was consulted and his directions followed—all non-union labor was discarded and only union work used.

"Please give this a place in your paper equally prominent as that in which you did us an unintentional wrong. You might even say that you were too hasty in calling the man who awarded the contract a 'common fool.'

"Yours sincerely, J. R. KNODELL, Superintendent Anti-Saloon Leagues."

The cause of the objectionable article was the following report which appeared in the minutes of the Central Labor Council of April 8:

"Anti-Saloon League gave its printing to Independent Printing Company, the only Portland printing company declared unfair by organized labor of Portland. This action was taken by League after protest from union men. This League evidently believes that to make for reform is to lower wages and lengthen hours of the workers."

The Labor Press took this statement as sufficient proof. And Mr. Knodell simply shows that a bad error was righted when the matter had been reported to the Labor Council and given prominence in the Labor Press of April 14th.

Only when on Saturday, April 16, a member of the Oregon Dry Campaign Committee, who evidently had read the article and seen the blunder, called on Mr. Knodell, was the unfair printing stopped.

The Labor Press feels somewhat elated that it has done good service to union labor by the publication of the article referred to. Henceforth Mr. Knodell and the Oregon Dry Campaign Committee will not award printing "without thinking of the question of union or non-union" printing shops. Henceforth these gentlemen will realize the great reform power of the labor unions.

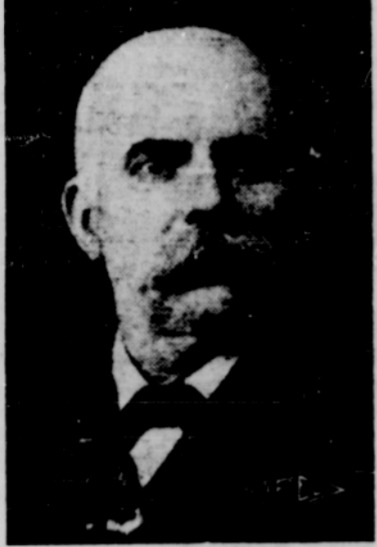
Mr. Knodell concludes, "You might even say that you were too hasty in calling the man who awarded the contract a 'common fool.'" The suggestion is accepted. Mr. Knodell is only a "common innocent" of that type of men who are so rapt up in the saving of men's souls and bodies from demon rum that they entirely forget that the greatest force against intemperance are the short hours and good food which trades unionism gives to the workers.

BOMBERGER IN CHARGE Old-Time Carpenter Caring for Business of Union

The Carpenters of Portland, through their district council, have just put Chris Bomberger, one of their oldest and staunchest members, at the head of their affairs as executive officer.

Permanent offices have been established for the new officer in Carpenters' Hall, East Pine and Grand avenue, the building owned by the Carpenters. Any one wishing to get in touch with the carpenters will always find Bro. Bomberger in his office.

Chris Bomberger is one of the best and most favorably known union men of Portland. He is



CHRIS BOMBERGER

now sixty-three years old. Bro. Bomberger's experience in trade union work began in August, 1887, when he joined the Carpenters' Union here in Portland. This was four years after his arrival in the city from the East. Since becoming a member, he has filled every office in the union, excepting business agent.

On three different occasions the mechanics have sought the services of Bro. Bomberger as their National representative. While serving in this capacity he was sent by the local union to the Atlanta, Milwaukee and Salt Lake City conventions.

One Union Label

The number of union labels exceeds the capacity for memory in the average man. The farmers who are asked to look for and demand the union label are bewildered with the number and variation. Each trade knows its own label, but each map knows but few other trade labels. Every attempt to secure a uniform label on union products has so far failed. Some trades have spent hundreds of thousands of dollars advertising their labels. They will not abandon them. They simply cannot.

It has been suggested that a label of uniform design accompany the special trade label. This uniform label to be varied in size to suit the label on which it rests, but in all cases to be issued by the A. F. of L. Some simple design or image, registered and easily remembered is what is wanted. Many farmers are willing to buy union labeled goods, and many people in the city would demand it on everything, but they simply must "forget it" when they are called upon to remember scores of different trade labels. We need to get closer together on the label matter, and to simplify our label guarantee.

Waiters and Waitresses

The Waiters and Waitresses Union at last meeting levied a 50-cent assessment in order to send Ben Paddock, an old member, to California in the hope of improving his health.

Business Agent C. T. Frederick was granted a three weeks' vacation.

The restaurant keepers have an association and have shown their good judgment by signing an agreement with the local union in a body. In order to old membership in the Restaurant Keepers Association a person must conduct a union house.

Laurel is the color of the button for April.

What the "Open" Shop Really Is

Ed Rosenberg, secretary of the Central Labor Council, has agreed to explain to the People's Forum next Sunday evening the true inwardness of the "open" shop. He will be the opening speaker on this question. After three-quarters of an hour, if he requires that long, brief questions from the audience will be answered for twenty minutes. Then there will follow five minute speeches for forty minutes, or thereabouts, from any person in the audience desiring to speak to the question. The meeting will be held at Alisky hall. No charge.

The Hazelwood Cream Company and the City Market Ice and Cold Storage Company, employing union engineers, are increasing their business. Union men and women these days are taking more and more notice of the friends and foes of union labor. Hence it is also reported that the Diamond Ice Company and the National Ice Company, declared unfair to union labor, are kicking about loss of trade.

In Wallowa County the deposits of marble are enormous. Recently attention has been again called to the fact that the best lime in all the west is made from it. With reasonable consideration from the transportation combine of Oregon this valuable asset will be developed, and lands now very nearly worthless except for the timber or pasturage will be of immense value.

The union Leatherworkers are still out for the eight-hour day. A few non-union men with weak feet, who wanted a few days' Spring vacation, and came out with the union men are the only ones who have gone back to the slavery of the non-union shop and the nine-hour day.

An association of honest farmers in Northern New York is contemplating renaming one of its hills Mount Hood, and thereby securing a legitimate label for its apple orchards for miles around. This beats moving to Oregon.

The Carpenters Unions have taken from the unfair list G. W. Gordon, J. W. Bailey and W. S. Buckner, and requested the Central Labor Council to do the same. Request was complied with.

The peevish knocking of Senator Bourne by the Oregonian is making him friends all over the state.

Every union man should hurry and sign the initiative petition for the Employers' Liability law.

The Carpenters of Spokane, Washington, are receiving \$5 per day for an eight-hour day.

REACTION ON THE RUN

Olds, Wortman & King's Open Shop Tactics Fail--Fair Dealing and Reform Sweep Country

Olds, Wortman & King are the leading local exponents of the open shop policy. Their great new trade emporium has been built from foundation to roof under the open shop—that is, anti-trades union method.

Olds, Wortman & King, foolish opponents of progress, believing that workmen could be fooled or cajoled in giving their trade to a firm which is opposing union labor, are now realizing their error. The despised mudsills, as the workmen are often called by the higher ups, are unexpectedly developing self-assurance and brains. Tricks about the "open" shop being the paradise of the workers do not any longer work their magic charm. Likewise union labor of Portland, having been tricked and injured so far by Olds, Wortman & King and their Trustee Company, refuse to be tricked and injured any more. The one dollar union finish on forty-nine dollars of non-union work will never be put on with the approval of union labor of Portland.

The only chance Olds, Wortman & King and their millionaire backers have in making their enterprise pay through workmen's patronage is to pitch in with might and main and help in making Portland a good union city in the building, iron and other trades now needing and seeking fair labor conditions.

Humbag, hypocrisy, corruption and unfair dealing has been found out not only in Portland, but throughout the length and breadth of our country.

Taft, Aldrich and Cannon, the triumvir of our plutocracy, just a short year ago thought the United States was their own, just as did Olds, Wortman & King and the Employers' Association believed they could rule and fool Portland workers. But what a change, my countrymen. In Portland unions have more than doubled their membership. Hours are decreasing and wages increasing. The enemies of labor are scurrying to their holes.

Just so are treated the national triumvir, Taft is about down and out. His speeches against the trades unions, against strikes and boycotts, his fatuous eulogy of the rottenest tariff bill ever saddled upon a long-suffering people, his defense of Cannon and Aldrich and Ballinger, have opened the eyes of even the dullest and most devoted partisans.

And just as the workmen and women of Portland are against Olds, Wortman & King and the open shoppers, so the voters are turning against the Republican party and the bosses new controlling it. Senator Aldrich has announced his retirement. He sees the writing on the wall. Senator Hale, the Nestor of the senate, says he has served long enough. He knows he would be defeated as would have been Littlefield. In Massachusetts, in the blackest Republican district, the Democrats won. And the other day a 12,000 majority for a Republican congressman in the 32nd district in New York was turned into a 6000 majority for a Democrat.

Surely the forces of reaction are on the run. The same as they were when some ten years ago the British Tories and open shoppers denied the right to strike and boycott to the British workers.

And that is the meat of the question. The workers of the United States, having their cost of living increased and told by Taft and the courts they had no legal right to fight for higher wages to overcome the rise in the cost of living, are turning the Republicans out and electing men to office who will do as did the Liberals of England, give back to the workers the legal right to defend themselves against oppression and injustice.

FULLER'S UNION PROVES FAILURE

"Philanthropic" Portland Railway, Light & Power Co. Fails to Saddle Clubs on Men

The Portland Railway, Light & Power Company, B. S. Josselyn president and F. I. Fuller vice president, is out for reform these days. Of course with these philanthropic gentlemen reform spells "profit," just like Rockefeller when he donates to churches and universities raises the price of oil, reduces wages of miners and hardens the slave conditions in the south of the miserable wretches who produce turpentine.

Now Mr. Fuller especially looks after the comfort of the platform men of his company. Waiting rooms, euphonically called "club" rooms, have been provided for these men where they can rest and recuperate to

do the company work which is stretched out between 10 to 16 hours in 24. If the men to keep warm in winter had to loiter around saloons or shiver in the car barns, there would be less efficient service, even the much-driven and eak carmen have only so much resistance against overwork and exposure. So these "club" rooms were built by the company, to be used free of charge by its employes.

But the shrewd officers of the company saw a way out to burden the employes with the expense of these clubs, also to make a grandstand Christian play a la Rockefeller. So the scheme was evolved to have the Y. M. C. A. take charge of these club rooms, the carmen to pay \$1 a year.

For decency's and appearance's sake the question was submitted to the carmen. And what do you think was the result? Fuller's Union, as the unorganized carmen of Portland are nicknamed, turned the scheme down good and hard. Too bad, too bad, for the philanthropists who manage our rotten service cars. Too bad, also, for the open shop Y. M. C. A., which insists on employing only non-union engineers.

A Visitor from San Francisco

Marcel Wille, general organizer for the Bakery and Confectionery Workers International Union, dropped into town for a few hours this week, on his way to Montana, where he takes up active work.

Brother Wille reports that all branches of the bakery business are well organized in the Bay City, and a baker coming to Frisco secures a union card, then employment. The latest acquisition to the ranks of the union are the men employed in the French bakeries.

The Master Bakers Association of San Francisco comprises but fourteen shops, but these are the largest and employ three-fourths of the workmen engaged in the business. The association at one time was hostile to the union, but its members have learned that the best way to make competition equal is to employ only union men, which warrants paying the same scale of wages and working the same number of hours.

Brother Wille, in speaking of general labor conditions, said the most encouraging move made in San Francisco recently has been the completion of a sectional central body. For some time the Building Trades Council has held aloof from the Labor Council, and the relations between the two were not always harmonious. But the department method of conducting a central body appealed to the building trades men, which has resulted in the Building Trades Council as a body joining the San Francisco Labor Council, which completes the chain of departments and strengthens the movement generally.

Costs the Company Dear

The Portland Sheet Metal Workers is paying a high price to maintain what they dearly love to call the "open shop."

Last week the experienced union man, who operated the power brake guill, an unskilled non-union man was put in his place. On Friday this man lost one hand, same being cut off at the wrist.

This is the second non-union man to lose a hand at this machine. It is reported that the first unfortunate man settled for \$1,500, to be paid at the rate of \$62.50 per month.

This firm has another claim to settle also. This one for the death of Archie Hansen, who met his death by falling from a defective scaffolding at Seventh and Jefferson some four months ago.

Cigarmakers

The Cigarmakers, at their last regular meeting, elected Thos. P. McAndrews delegate to the Central Labor Council to fill vacancy caused by resignation of Harney Vermeire.

An appeal for financial assistance was received from the Cigarmakers of Philadelphia, who were called out in support of the striking street-car men. Ten dollars was appropriated.

An appropriation of \$10 was also made in support of the Meat Cutters, and the same amount to the Leatherworkers.

Vote on candidates for seventh vice-president of the International Union, to fill vacancy, resulted in E. G. Hall, of Minneapolis, receiving 46, and Wm. Strauss, of Brooklyn, 13.

Many enterprising merchants in Portland are contributing time and money to gain the glorious goal of half a million population by 1915. As the city grows, so do its slums, and its charity organizations have more to do. Large cities make land values that are enormous, slums that are terrible, and breed armies of criminals, diseased and depraved. Why? That is the problem of civilization, which must be solved, or it perishes.

McMinville Telephone-Register calls on its property-owners not to be too hogish and drive away the Oregon Electric with high figures for rights of way. This is good advice. Many a town has side-tracked itself by trying to beat a railroad at being hogish. The Oregon Electric injures its business by its own foolish hogishness in charging three cents a mile fare when one cent would give it more dividends.

The Telephone-Register of McMinville estimates that a county assembly ticket will be turned down to the extent of three-fourths of its nominees. Some wise men from the East—and several other directions—have sized up things that way, too, and the congealing of the atmosphere around the once roaring assembly furnace is sufficient to produce teleles upon its chief engineer and stoker in the Portland brick tower.

The Portland union Bakers don't take the Royal Bakery any more serious. The unfairness of that concern, instead of being announced by sturdy banners, is proclaimed to the public by two tiny mules patiently trudging along dragging a sign for all to read. All union bakers in Portland are at work.

The Frank L. Smith Meat Company is still "fighting the beef trust" with a wink in the left eye. There is, however, no doubt that this company is fighting the shorter workday of the union Meatcutters.

The Vancouver, B. C., Building Trades Council is carrying on an advertising campaign, boosting the virtues of their home city.

Sign up. Sign up! Sign up!! Sign up!!! You, friend. Sign up that Employers' Liability Initiative petition.

SEAMEN AND INSURANCE

Lake Strike Against Steel Trust Open Shop Humbag Affects Insurance

As a result of the strike on the Lakes, a remarkable situation has developed in vessel insurance rates. For the first time in history wooden ships on the Lakes are given a lower insurance rate than is accorded to steel vessels.

At a conference between the vessel insurers and representatives of lumber carrying vessels at Cleveland, Ohio, on April 12, rates for wooden vessels were made slightly lower than last year. Just previous to this meeting the insurance rate for steel tonnage was increased one per cent above the 1909 rate.

The significant feature of this is that normally the greatest risk is attached to wooden tonnage, especially to those in the lumber trade, but nearly all of that class of vessels employ competent seamen, union men, and were not involved in the strike, hence they made a good showing last season and have now secured a reduction of rates.

On the other hand, the big majority of steel vessels are in the Lake Carriers Association, and were manned by strike breakers. Accidents were numerous and insurance risks greater because of employment of incompetent seamen.

Since the union men have now announced their determination to continue the strike this season, the insurance companies evidently expect the many disasters of last season due to inexperienced crews to be again repeated, and have accordingly raised the insurance rates on such vessels.

The Lake Carriers are again recruiting non-English speaking laborers and young boys, placing them aboard the ships to serve as strike breakers. They have failed utterly to secure sufficient competent seamen.

Labor Council Per Capita

At last Friday night's meeting of the Central Labor Council was submitted to the referendum vote of affiliated unions the question of reducing the per capita tax to the Council from 3 cents per month to 1 1/2 cents.

The argument favoring the change is, that this will permit affiliated unions and sectional councils to expend themselves the 1 1/2-cent per capita saved.

The argument opposing this change is, that the Central Council, if the present per capita of 3 cents is continued, will be enabled to put on from time to time organizers to organize the unorganized; also to assist through organizers weak unions unable to put on business agents or organizers themselves. The executive committee of the Council was given this power. At the present time, when, especially the unskilled and semi-skilled workers are in great need of organization, a reduction in the per capita would prevent the carrying on of such organizing. While indications point to industrial peace in most of the trades in Portland, still in others the sailing is not so smooth. Hence need of more and stronger unions.

Tuberculosis Sunday

On Sunday, April 24, the ministers throughout the United States are supposed to preach on tuberculosis. They will tell many interesting things, but very few of them will tell their congregations that union labor demands the conditions that prevent tuberculosis, and employers associations take the stand that it is a good thing for everybody to have conditions and environments that make for the propagation of these little worms that require an army of 10,000 to make a column an inch long. Tuberculosis is commonly called consumption. Weakened physical condition, bad living, poor food and unsanitary working conditions are the foundation of nearly all consumption cases. Long hours of labor, poor pay, women and child labor, all of which employers associations demand, cause more tuberculosis than all other causes combined. Union labor demands conditions, and secures conditions that make for shorter hours, better pay, abolition of woman and child labor. How many ministers in Portland will tell their congregations this?

Steam Engineers Strengthen Union

Saturday night Hoisting and Portable Engineers' Union, No. 372, and Steam Engineers' Union No. 87, after transacting their routine business, met in joint session to listen to the report of International Organizer J. Kingston, who had done organizing work locally during the past week. A general discussion about organization of engineers was then carried on, addresses being made by members of the locals and visitors representing the Central Labor Council. The following resolutions carried: "Portland engineers, in joint meeting assembled, hereby invite all engineers to attend mass meeting of engineers, to be held April 30, at 205 1/2 First street. Question for discussion to be organization and better conditions for engineers."

Special Notice to Unions

At Friday night's meeting of the Central Labor Council the following request was made on affiliated unions:

Efforts by the Central Labor Council and the directly interested unions to secure union conditions for the stationary engineers in the Y. M. C. A. having failed, request is hereby made that affiliated unions discipline members who support this anti-union establishment.

Like action is hereby requested on union men and women patronizing the Royal Bakery and the Frank L. Smith Meat Co.