

ORGANIZED LABOR WILL OPPOSE SCHEME

Resolved to smite the water main swindle as often as it is put forward by misrepresentatives in the city council, the Central Labor Council voted on Friday night to authorize its special committee to file argument against the proposed charter amendment and to mandamus the city auditor and if necessary, to insure printing and circulation of the argument to Portland voters.

Following is the resolution submitted by the special committee and adopted by the central body:

"We, your committee, have investigated the question concerning the proposed charter amendment, for which the city council has made the eighth day of November a special election date at which the Portland voters are to pass upon the same.

"We have, after some effort, been unable to procure a copy of this proposed amendment, and have been able to read the original copy for only a few minutes; however, we can state that this measure is, in disguise, the same vicious amendment put up by Mayor Simon January last, at the time the city council, upon his request, called a special election to consider the same, but which was called off after the Central Labor Council had shown up the conditions and the results that would be produced by this measure.

"This charter amendment is vicious in the extreme. It gives the water board, together with the city council, the absolute power, without restriction on the part of the people, to issue bonds up to the entire limit allowed by the charter for indebtedness, which is ever growing. These bonds, which are repaid out of the money raised by charges for water to the residents of Portland, it permits the water board and city council to fix any water rate desired by them. It in effect places all charges for water mains upon the backs of the water consumers.

"This measure refunds to speculators and other persons all payments for water mains authorized by the water board since 1907, same to be paid for by charges made to water consumers.

"This law, if passed next month by the Portland voters, will give the water board and city council the power to law mains to vacant tracts in the downtown districts to the extent of millions of dollars. These mains may be paid for temporarily by the issuance of bonds by the water board and city council. The entire repayment of these bonds to be made with money raised from the water consumers in the shape of monthly rates.

"We believe this water amendment unwise and unsafe, especially so in the hands of a water board

and city council, the members of which are more considerate of the interests of the speculators than of the interests of the home-builders and water consumers of the city. In fact, many members of these two bodies are large speculators themselves and would profit to the extent of \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 as was shown by the report to this council rendered last January.

"We have to some extent investigated the city and state laws relative to the application of the initiative and referendum laws to our city affairs, and have come to a conclusion therefrom that we have a legal right to file within the next 10 days an argument against this measure, the same to be mailed with the text of the law to all voters of the city. This conclusion has been reached notwithstanding the fact that our city auditor has stated that an initiative pamphlet would not be issued.

"We recommend that your committee be authorized to prepare an argument opposing this proposed city council water amendment, same to be filed with the city auditor in accordance with the initiative and referendum laws of our city and state.

"The provisions of the water main amendment place the sole power of extension of mains with the water board. If it has reason to believe that six per cent will be derived from an extension of the mains, it orders it. A speculator unable to convince the board can lay his own mains, and then when it is shown that six per cent can be collected from the residents on the tract, the city water consumers will be mulcted to pay for it.

"Thus: A speculator lays \$40,000 worth of mains on a tract having 1000 lots. As soon as water is taken by the residents, the city pays him back the \$40,000. The water board can raise rates so that it will only require 100 families at \$2 a month each to pay that six per cent. The tract by reason of the water mains sells for \$150 a lot more than it would otherwise. That is \$150,000 profit on a \$40,000 investment, and the speculator gets back the entire \$40,000, even if he has sold off every lot! He charges the home builder for the mains, and then collects the cost of the mains afterwards from the water board that votes it out of the water fund that comes from the charges made to working men with homes and families, widows taking in washing, home builders struggling to make payments, renting families unable to secure the necessities of life. Somebody will have to work and be deprived of their just earnings to get that \$40,000, if the proposed amendment passes. Vote it down.

R. R. MAIL CLERKS

(By Pan-American Press.)
New Orleans, Oct. 12.—The strike of the railway clerks following a refusal on the part of Northwest-ern Alabama and Vicksburg, the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific, and the Queen and Crescent lines in Louisiana, to give any consideration to the requests of the men that the companies establish just working rules and pay a fair increase in wages, is growing larger every day.

In addition, a sympathetic strike in this city of the 1500 members of local 53, 54 and 55 of the International Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, is also considered probable because the original railroads involved are utilizing other lines than their own over which to transport goods. The clerks on these lines are not willing to be indirectly used as strikebreakers and are ready to walk out at any moment.

The very ready injunction has been obtained by the railroads from Judge Foster, although it was shown that not the slightest disturbance, threat or intimidation could be fastened upon the union railway clerks.

Violence by strikebreakers, however, has already broken out and the shooting of Joseph Barber by Anthony Pelligrini, in the employ of the N. O. and N. E. railroad, was an outrage that could have been checked by the police, who were warned that Pelligrini was armed.

The Progressive Union is seeking to bring about a conference between the clerks and the railroads which will lead to arbitration, many merchants being desirous of a quick settlement of the strike.

Vice President James J. Foster of the International Brotherhood of Railway Clerks is in charge of the local situation.

Although the railroads obtained a number of strikebreakers, their utter lack of training in railroad work simply caused more confusion to the already demoralized traffic in merchandise, their many mistakes in sending goods to wrong points adding the double burden of tracing innumerable lost articles.

LOCAL NOTES

The Cement Finishers and Helpers, local 119, have voted to take stock in the Labor Temple.

E. D. Sharp is acting as Building Trades Council delegate for the Electrical Workers, local 217, while F. Loth is out of the city.

W. C. Lant, a well-known member of the Linemen, has moved to Denver, where he will follow the poles, as he did here for about 12 months.

Carpenters' Local No. 808 of Portland, at its regular meeting Wednesday night, subscribed \$39 for circulation of liability literature.

Capital Typographical Union No. 219 of Salem is one of the prompt ones to come forward with its assessment to boost the liability bill.

The Woodlawn Grange last Saturday adopted resolutions against the water main charter amendment, and after a discussion lead by A. M. Himes.

Joe Clark of the Bricklayers' Union comes forward with an offer to reach his old-time friends of Linn county in the interests of the employees' liability law, ballot title No. 339 Yes.

George H. Farrar, acting for the Building Trades Council, has reported excellent progress toward enlarging the Labor Temple. A number of unions have volunteered to take a membership in the enlarged association.

Some time next month the Grand theater will place on its boards the play, "The Hand That Rules." It will have many lines in it appealing to organized labor, and should be looked for. Further announcements will be made.

F. E. Coulter, the well-known economist and advocate of better things, has been called to speak for the "Oregon way" in Minnesota until the close of the campaign. He will tour the state under the auspices of the Democratic State Central Committee.

The new postoffice site sells to Uncle Sam for \$340,000 and is assessed at \$125,000. Either tax dodgers or an overvaluation is concealed somewhere in this woodpile. Probably both methods of beating the public are evidenced.

The Baptist church at Eleventh and Taylor has opened its basement every Monday evening for the consideration of living secular issues. Last Monday the tax amendments were considered, W. S. U'ren of Oregon City explaining them.

Monday evening the Civic Council adopted resolutions condemning the granting of any more 25-year franchises. The immediate cause of it was the application for the indorsement of the garbage franchise Commission. Annand is trying to get through. The Civic Council resolutions should be made unanimous.

The Lathers, Plasterers and Painters employed on the Hellic theater were not able to collect their salaries last Saturday to the extent of almost \$2,000. It was reported to the Building Trades Council on Monday night that the trouble was caused by Sub-contractor Hahn overdraining his contract. The union requires that their men be paid weekly. As a result the Plasterers were taken off the building.

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CENTRAL COUNCIL

The Central Labor Council met last Friday, October 7, Vice President Mackenzie in the chair.

Minutes of previous meeting approved as read.

Ship Carpenters, L. Stoneberg, Robert Morrison; Machinists, John Robb.

Communications from the Metal Trades and the Brewery Workers asking that the Mt. Hood brewery and the Spring Valley Wine Company were on the unfair list were received.

The United Hatters called attention in a special letter to some good work that might be done for the label in Portland.

The developments leading up to the difficulties with the Mt. Hood brewery and the Spring Valley Wine Company were explained and considered.

The executive committee reported good work done for the Retail Clerks. The proposal of R. C. Clyde to put on a play for the benefit of strikers still under consideration.

The legislation committee reported its findings on the water front amendment, and was given

MUSICIANS' UNION

The regular monthly meeting of this association, held on Tuesday, October 5, approved of the business transacted during the past two months by the directors, also the reports of the different officers and committees. The initiation fee of this local for the next thirty days will be \$15. The following amendments to the price list: On beats having a regular run, any four and one-half hours per day, \$25 per week, leader 10 per cent extra, including meals (section 22, first part price list).

Paragraphs 3 and 4, section 22 (second part) price lists are eliminated.

Ways and means committee appointed to devise some means looking towards the securing of permanent headquarters for this local, are as follows: Harold Bayley, A. L. Britton, Carl Stoll.

Chair named as nominating committee to name officers for the ensuing year: H. Bayley, A. G. Parrott, F. Martyn, A. F. Webster and W. E. Thomas.

This local officially allied itself with the Liberal League.

Admitted as transfer members, W. L. Ferris, local No. 19; Miss G. Graves, No. 537; Miss F. Leaf-fier, No. 117; R. Browne, No. 77.

Applications pending, Harry Robinson, J. H. W. Carap.

Not being able to devote the necessary time to the duties of the office, President Salinger submitted his resignation, which was accepted. Vice President assumed the office and Director J. W. Oberender was elected to the position of vice president.

NEW PRISON PLAN

(By Pan-American Press.)
Washington, D. C., Oct. 12.—The International Prison Congress has adopted resolutions which demand that every prisoner in penal institutions should be placed at useful employment under experienced officials especially trained to direct such industries.

The sole objection to these resolutions came from an Italian delegate, Senator Auguste Pieroni, of Rome, who called attention to the fact that the enormous commercial product of such a plan would infringe on the product of free labor and would certainly meet the active opposition of the trades unions.

The Italian senator's protests, however, fell on cold ground for as it happened he was the only delegate having the slightest connection or interest in the labor movement, his district in the city of Rome having a heavy labor vote, electing a number of working class representatives to municipal and state offices.

It has been shown that here in the United States 75 per cent of the entire annual output of working shirts, numbering \$500,000, was the product of convict labor, that one prison trust alone controls the output of 11 penitentiaries and reformatories, and that in New Jersey the convicts receive from the prison trust 26 cents a day, 9 hours being a day's work.

In the penitentiaries at Trenton, N. J., convicts turn out corduroy trousers at 50 cents a dozen, for the making.

The American Federation of Labor has already indorsed a convict labor bill, H. R. 12,000, which would empower the Interstate Commerce Commission to stop the transportation of prison made goods from one state to another, thereby, practically, shut-

MANY UNIONS OPPOSE

(Continued From Page One.)
at their chosen occupation, to the advantage of the bootlegger and other unlawful dispensers; and
"Whereas, Organized labor has been a great boon to true temperance, by raising wages, reducing the hours of labor and creating sanitary conditions, thereby enabling the wage-earner to acquire a mental and physical condition that permits of moral improvement; therefore be it
"Resolved, By the Oregon State Federation of Labor, in convention assembled, that state-wide prohibition be disapproved."

On this question President Samuel Gompers says: "You know my stand in favor of personal freedom, and my objection to the attempt to regulate personal habits."

"Besides this, the fact is that prohibition, whether general or local, simply means the creation of deceit, the breaking of the law, the impossibility of its enforcement, and the substitution of the worst form of poisonous drinks for ordinary drinking.

"The liquor traffic ought to be regulated according to experience and common sense, and those, with the constructive work of the organized labor movement, will make the workers and the masses more temperate in drinking, as well as more temperate in their conduct."



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Buy where you can select from the largest stock and get the newest shapes and shades.

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ARE YOU A UNION MAN?

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Then see that this label is on your custom-made clothing. DEMAND IT and Patronize a Union Tailor.

The only reason why there are so many non-union tailor shops in Portland is that they are not patronized by organized labor, as they should be. Unless patronized by union men, more tailors will be open shops.

Werner Petterson Company
STAND FOR UNION LABEL
142-1-2 Second St., Between Morrison and Alder.

SON GETS TIPS

By Fred C. Denton.
Yes, my son, that man you see there is a leading citizen; he is worth a million or more, and he has champagne to throw to the birds and benzine to burn up the roads. He is rich!

How did he get rich? Oh, that was easy. He got next to a scheme to put a million-dollar water main past several miles of cow pastures. He got an option on one of the cow pastures and let in a brother-in-law of one of the water board on a ground deal. The mains did not cost him anything and the water board placed water from Hill Run opposite every lot. That made each lot worth \$150 each more than it would have been otherwise.

Did that make him rich, son? Well, the dose repeated a few times made him rich. Of course he had to divide up with the water board and give a few suppers and help out a few orphans and widows, but that is what made him rich. You see, son, it don't take many 100-acre cow pastures covered with velvet like that to get a man in the champagne and

PROHIBITION.

By Abraham Lincoln.
Prohibition will work a great injury to the cause of temperance. It is a species of intemperance within itself, for it goes beyond the bounds of reason in that it attempts to control a man's appetites by legislation, and in so doing, it strikes a blow at the very principles on which our government is founded. I have always been found laboring to protect the weaker classes from the stronger, and I never can give my consent to such a law as you propose to enact. Until my tongue shall be silenced by death, I will continue to fight for the rights of men.

In using alcoholics, never take one drink at a time. When you fall under the table you have enough.

Do not use steins—they are heavy and represent manual labor. Mop up your malt out of a thin shell glass.

The only way some people can be happy is to make themselves believe they are getting more than they are paying for.

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