

LABOR COUNCIL COMMITTEE URGES SUPPORT OF TEMPLE

Following is the text of a letter being sent to all labor unions of the city by a joint committee of the Central Labor Council and the Labor Temple Association:

The Central Labor Council of Portland and Vicinity takes this method of bringing to the attention of your body a matter of grave import to the trades unions of this city.

Nineteen months ago a few progressive members of different unions, appreciating the crying need of a Labor Temple in Portland, took the initiative and secured a leasehold on the building at 270 1/2 Alder street, to serve as a home for the organization. This required considerable courage and great confidence in the labor movement. One floor was refitted and furnished and in a few months became a demonstrated financial success. But the object was far from realized—that of massing all the unions in a common home.

Two other floors were then secured and the Building Trades Council was interested in the enterprise. This additional space required considerable expense in furnishing and remodeling the building, but the obligation was heroically assumed with full confidence that the trades unions of the city would respond with their support. The Building Trades Council is now earnestly co-operating with this committee in an effort to broaden the scope of the association to take in every organization in Portland.

The Labor Temple Association has now placed the whole enterprise on a self-supporting basis, the receipts from rentals being in excess of expenses, but the indebtedness for refitting building and for furniture has become a great burden on the association.

It is now proposed to issue stock in the Labor Temple Association at par value of \$100 each on payment of \$10 down and \$5 a month; each share of stock being entitled to a member of the Board of Directors of the Association and have a full voice in the affairs of the association. This proposition is open to any individual union member or organization.

The object of this letter is to prevail upon your organization to take a share of stock in the Labor Temple Association.

The Labor Temple is an absolute necessity if the trades unions of this city are to progress as they should. It is hoped to embrace in the association as shareholders every organization in the city. The many benefits of a central home for our unions will be apparent upon little reflection. It is imperatively necessary that we should be concentrated in order to more readily communicate one organization with the others. The work of our committees in visiting sister unions in times of trouble will be rendered less arduous and far more effective.

But the greatest incentive by far for the support of the Labor Temple Association plans is the certainty that in the near future we will be able to provide a home for our organizations, owned absolutely by the unions. But for the present we must mass the unions in one building in order to render our organizations more effective.

Now, brothers, it is up to us to get in and put our shoulders to the wheel and pull the Labor Temple Association band wagon out of this financial rut. Let's all get together and make it the tremendous success it deserves. There is no such service we can do the labor movement than by each organization taking a share in the Labor Temple and making of it a mutual enterprise which will redound to the glory of unionism.

Let us again urge your union to act quickly and be one of the first to rally to the relief of these brothers who have assumed this obligation for the sake of trade unionism.

Remember, the personal property now owned by the association is sufficient to offset the value of stock, but this indebtedness is a serious burden, so let's get in and boost, and DO IT NOW.

JAMES MAGUIRE,
E. PATINO,
O. R. HARTWIG,
M. E. NOLAN,
GEO. H. FARRAR,
WILL DALY,
JOS. HOWELL.

Joint Committee of Central Labor Council and Labor Temple Association.

THE RIGHT KIND.

Congressman A. W. Lafferty is not afraid of the Single Tax nor ashamed of Oregon. Recently he was questioned by a people-hating M. C. as to the tax amendment.

Lafferty, in answer, said that the object of the amendment was to open the way for the single tax, on which he commented as follows: "I believe the single tax as applied to Multnomah County, will be a good thing. That county contains the most populous city in the state, and I believe it will be a good thing there."

Further on in the discussion, he again referred to the measure and said: "In that way men cannot hold 20 to 40 acres in the heart of the cities in Multnomah County where we have people in tenement houses living in cramped conditions. They will have to improve the property if we put the taxes on the land."

Some space is being devoted by the Oregon press to the "Made in Oregon" movement. It is all right, but the workers of Oregon should remember that unless "made in Oregon" means fair conditions, sanitary surroundings, decent pay and a square deal for the employes, the increasing demand for the Union label, which guarantees these essentials, will seriously cripple the laudable efforts of our manufacturers.

WHY SAN FRANCISCO HAS A LULL.

A little over five years ago San Francisco was destroyed by earthquake and fire. It rallied, and for about two years the men employed to rebuild it, and the material imported to construct a new city, made it out of all comparison to Portland. The landlords boosted prices until building was checked. The tribute demanded by land speculators and land hogs in San Francisco has been a thousand times more than the increase of pay secured by the political and industrial organization of labor.

The Employers' Association, in its weekly news letter, uses the reduction in building enterprises in San Francisco in comparison with Portland, and blames the decline in the Bay City to the trades unions. It shuts its eyes to the conflagration that destroyed the city. It shuts its eyes to the real estate owners who demanded prices and rents for bare ground that far exceeded the value of both land and buildings before the disaster. It shuts its eyes to the choking off of capital and labor by this hold-up game, and complacently refers to San Francisco as a union labor town.

San Francisco is all right. It would not be so prosperous as it is if its men worked longer hours, got less wages and had to report to an open shop employment office.

"In the closed shop town," says the weekly letter of the Employers' Association, "capital is timid, and in the open shop town capital keeps its money invested and working."

In fact, capital is timid everywhere. In a closed shop town the men secure more leisure and more pay; in an open shop town it is worked long hours for little pay. When a workingman works but few hours he has time to think, and this is what the big interests dread. In an open shop town women and children are soon driven to work while the men are idle, for the Employers' Association, where it has its way, always believes in keeping its capital busy grinding the flesh and blood of little children into coin. The Employers' Association of Portland is now contributing through the National Association to fight laws in other states regulating or forbidding child labor and woman labor under the glorious "open shop" conditions its paid advocates laud so highly.

NEED ALL THEY GET.

The Seamen's strike was amply justified. The ship owners of the world have long combined against the sailor and robbed him of everything from air to money. Whatever mitigation of slave conditions the men can secure will be none too great. The awful man-killing stokeholes and forecastles, the wretched fare and pay, the abominable treatment at every turn, the indifference of the employers to the common instincts of humanity—all go to help the wish that the workers on the ships will win out. Only a hater of freedom and of mankind could wish differently.

One hundred and twenty-nine postal savings depositories have been established since the inauguration by the Postoffice Department of this system authorized by Congress. Reports to the department justify the assertion that the new departure is an unqualified success. This is also progress and is the entering wedge for Uncle Sam to do the entire banking of the country.

In proportion to the capital invested the paper trust beats any other for dividends for the stock holders, long hours for its employes and light weight in the pay envelopes. Of course, being able to pay good wages and being well protected by a tariff, it simply hates organized labor and keeps "open shop" signs in all of its man and woman killing establishments.

W. G. Eggleston has been writing a series of articles on taxation for the Klamath Chronicle, and this has provoked a number of replies and communications along the same line. The local papers of Oregon are remiss in not devoting more space to the consideration of the questions of taxation, as this question is rapidly becoming uppermost in the minds of the people.

We are told that the reason certain banks are increasing their capital stock in Portland is that Portland has the "open shop." This silly rot is put out by the Employers' Association in all seriousness, as if banks never increased their capital stock anywhere else. Portland is not an open shop town, and the last election proves it. Also the fact that there are thousands of union men in Portland, able and willing to join hands with their fellows, and securing as their strength justifies better wages, better hours, better conditions than prevail in towns dominated by the Employers' Association.

The Chicago Daily Socialist suspended publication for one issue on June 7th. The typos of the other dailies subscribed \$50 to the sustaining fund, and many other workingmen contributed. It is one of the few papers west of New York that even attempts to tell the truth about local industrial conditions.

One acre of land in Portland is worth \$2,000,000. There are several such acres. It would take 20,000 acres of farming land at \$100 an acre to equal this value. A tax on land values would fall heavily on the speculator and release the farmer in every part of Oregon.

The man who works for his money and give a fair day's work for a fair day's pay, should remember that that is what a union does in a restaurant stands for, and steer clear of the sweatshop hash foundries.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The Congressional Commission appointed to investigate the subject of workmen's compensation has reopened its hearings. At the last session previous to the one mentioned adjournment was taken upon the suggestion of the Commission to await the decision of the United States Supreme Court in the Standard Oil, Tobacco Trust and other cases, for the reason that in these cases there were points involved which, when decisions were handed down, might shed light upon the enactment of the measure under consideration.

The first session of the reopened hearings was devoted to a discussion of the constitutional phases in the enactment of a compensation law. There were present representatives of the railway brotherhoods and attorneys for numerous railroads. Attorney Miles M. Dawson, an expert actuary, also appeared in advocacy of such a law.

There is apparently an unanimity of opinion among all those appearing before the Commission relative to the need of such a law. There is a difference, however, as to the manner in which it shall be applied. The discussion on the constitutional phase of the question which attracted the most attention was that by Miles M. Dawson, of New York.

Mr. Dawson has made a special study of this particular feature, having visited various countries where workmen's compensation laws are in actual operation. His contention was, that the constitution gave the right of the Federal government to enact a law covering this feature and putting it into actual operation by an excise tax, and he based his contention on the opening section of the constitution of the United States, which says: "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare," etc.

He laid stress upon the fact that the words "promote the general welfare" gave the law-making power of the Federal government ample authority to establish a system of workmen's compensation. It was also stated that the collection of this excise tax would be direct from the employer, and he, in turn, adding it to the cost of production, would be distributed and eventually paid by the consuming public. This feature apparently met the views of those who were present and actively interested.

Mr. Dawson's narrative of the operation of the law in Germany, which he stated in his opinion and that of those who have made a thorough investigation, was the very best plan extant, was exceedingly interesting. Under the operation of the laws in Germany, poverty has been almost wiped out of existence and employers and employees are in accord with the general plan in force. True, some minor details need alteration, but as a general proposition it has worked very successfully.

In an interview with Mr. Dawson after the hearing closed, he stated that the compensation law of Germany had not had the effect of retarding the growth and efficiency of the labor organizations of that country; on the other hand, the organizations of labor had made their most prodigious growth since the law had been put in general operation.

Mr. Dawson later appeared before the Executive Committee of the American Federation of Labor and delivered a masterful exposition of a workmen's compensation law. The Council was very much impressed with his intimate knowledge and deeply interested in the facts which he had gathered from all sections of the world. As a result of Mr. Dawson's appearance before the Council, a committee was selected from members of the Executive Council to make a thorough investigation of the scheme outlined by Mr. Dawson.

FOR FREEDOM.

Mrs. Margaret Dreier Robins, in her address at the National Conference of Charities, told a remarkable incident of the great strike among the Garment Workers in Chicago. The strike lasted for months and caused great suffering. During the course of it, 1250 babies were born to the strikers. The Women's Trade Union League and other sympathizers tried to supply all these little non-combatants with milk.

A visitor, going into one of the homes, found a mother in bed with a new-born baby, and surrounded by three other children of three, four and five years old. There was neither food nor fuel, and it was a bitter winter's day. On the mother's bed were three letters from her husband's employer, offering to raise his wages from \$15 to \$30 per week if he would come back and help to break the strike. He had refused, and the wife rejoiced in the refusal. The visitor asked her how she could bear such suffering, not for herself, but for her children. With a steady, quiet look in her patient eyes, the mother answered, "It is not only bread we give the children. We live not by bread alone; we live by freedom; and I will fight for it till I die, to give it to my children."

NEW YORK STRIKE WON.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The Fancy Leather Goods Workers' Union has just won a victory in securing an agreement with one of the large manufacturing firms in New York. This firm had prepared for a long fight and had installed cots in the shop, where they intended to house the strike-breakers. As a result of the agreement, the strikers have all been reinstated and granted a 52-hour week.

Some people want all they can get for their hard-earned money; but to buy unfair bread, meat and clothing with union wages is a form of "seabbing" that does as much harm as joining a crew of strikebreakers and deserting your union.

CONVICTS PREFERRED.

From all over the country convicts are being taken to Los Angeles to help break the strike of the Machinists. As soon as a convict is released after parole or expiration of his sentence, if he has the slightest knowledge of machinery, or is a desperate and brutal bully, he is taken to Los Angeles. The result is that crimes of violence are increasing in number all around and in the city. This is part of the program of the Employers' Association everywhere it operates. Criminals, gun men, chasers of women, ex-convicts, firebugs, are preferred by this body of union fighters to home-owning, law-abiding and industrious citizens. The dues of the members of the Portland union-fighting union help pay for bringing criminals to this Coast.

LET THE PEOPLE RULE THE SCHOOLS.

The people of Portland will ultimately have to take hold of the school board question. Our system of elections would be had enough in Scio or Pilot Rock, but for a quarter of a million people to have a village school elected at odd times and utterly indifferent to their obligations and incapable when not antiquated or worse, is something that cannot last forever. We must so amend our charter or the state law, or both, as to have the schools managed by a genuinely representative body, and thereby endowed with some recognition of the rights of the people and the children.

SHOWS UP LABOR'S ENEMIES.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., June 19.—Charging that secret agents of the United States Steel Corporation once offered him money to betray the National Erectors' Association, John McNamara, now in jail in Los Angeles, charged with murder in connection with the alleged dynamiting of the Los Angeles Times, reiterates his innocence in a letter appearing in the current issue of the Bridgemen's Magazine. The letters connect the steel trust with the fight against the unions.

BRICKMAKERS' SETTLEMENT.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The strike of the Chicago brickmakers, involving 2,500 men, has been settled. The cause of the conflict was an attempt on the part of the employers to reduce the wages to the 1907 scale. This was resisted by the organization, and after a six weeks' strike an agreement has been entered into whereby the present scale and working conditions are to be maintained. Approximately 20,000 laborers and mechanics were thrown out of employment on account of this strike, who will now be returned to work.

TO FIGHT THE LAW.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—The Legislature of the state of Nebraska passed a law forbidding the employment of women between the hours of 10 p. m. and 6 a. m. This law affects chiefly girls between the ages of 16 and 25, as women at these ages constitute the great majority of female employees. The employers are now pursuing the usual tactics, allowing themselves to be fined and then appealing the case to a higher court. It is hoped that the law will stand the test. Massachusetts and Indiana have a similar law.

LET THE PEOPLE RULE.

The Roseburg News, in considering the proposed recall of Judge Coke, says: "It will bring office-holders in general to a realization of the duty they owe the people, and that the people will hold them strictly accountable for their official acts. The people are fully competent to judge in the matter, nor will insinuations and innuendo, sarcasm or derision have any intimidating effect."

The expenses of running the national government are enormous and three-fourths wasted. It is not possible to stop it under a system which fills the halls of Congress with place-hunters and politicians and does not allow the people to have any direct say in the making of laws. Some distant day when the initiative is a fixed American institution, the limit of expenses will be made by the people, and a great mass of barnacles scraped off the ship of state.

Ex-Councilman Ellis is determined to have the waterfront street ends, and other street property of the city, vacated by those occupying them. He is right in so demanding, for if it is necessary that public property be occupied for private purposes, then rent should be paid into the public funds. If ex-Councilman Ellis had paid more attention to this graft and less to his banner ordinance and rag ordinance there would be no ex before his name.

The Woman's Trade Union League of Baltimore has been organized to promote the interests of woman's trade unions, to forward labor legislation and to aid in the formation of new unions in all trades. These unions are to be affiliated with the American Federation of Labor and with their national and international organization. Their platform includes equal pay for equal work, the eight-hour day, and woman suffrage.

A few weeks ago an inexperienced man was sent to do line work on the Rogue River electric power lines. He was given an inexperienced helper. Result, the lineman was electrocuted. Body sent to his parents in Texas. The employers' liability law, no doubt, would give big damages if his dependents in Texas knew of it.

The walkout for lack of a union label on your purchase costs nothing and beats any other kind.

TRUSTS, WIDOWS AND DIVIDENDS.

The big special privileged corporations are telling us in advertisements, only some of which are marked paid, that if they are not allowed to issue unlimited amounts in bonds, stocks and securities of all sorts that fearful things will come to pass. If made to pay taxes on the actual value of their franchises before they pay dividends; if made to charge reasonable rates on the service rendered, made to take their stand in the line with common citizens before the courts, then they will pull off a panic and tumble the republic in ruins about our ears.

To all this the reply should be made simply if robbery is prosperity for the robber, if robbery is prosperity for the robbed, if the public service corporations must serve the public first, and if they will not give fair value for value received, then the public will take over the operation of all public utilities, one by one, and eliminate the trust and the stock gambler, and the political rottenness, flowing therefrom.

The special privileges need not seek to hide behind the skirts of the widow and the orphan, for special privilege and treasonable conspiracies it fosters make more widows and orphans than its dividends feed or clothe. The slave power sought to hide in the folds of the dress of the widow, but it was driven from that shelter.

We can drive the modern trust and corporation with a graft and cinch from behind the widow and into the open fray. The widows of the workingmen are as dear to us as are the widows of plutocracy dear to the trusts; and we have many more of them.

AS TO U'REN.

The following estimate of a man who has fame and honor everywhere but in Oregon, where the enmity of the leading Republican newspaper has hounded him shamefully, is from the pen of Mr. Flagg, editor of the Egan Recorder, an old wheelhorse in Republican newspaper ranks:

"We have seen a great deal in the Oregonian about W. S. U'Ren, of Oregon City. All of it was derogatory of Mr. U'Ren's intelligence and honesty, and the state of Oregon was lampooned as the fool of the family because its voters saw fit to adopt Mr. U'Ren's suggestions as to the initiative and referendum, the direct primary, the recall and Statement No. 1. Yet they became laws, and the Legislatures of other states have been impressed with their wisdom, and their adoption is being considered seriously. The Oregonian, since the death of Harvey Scott, has modified its utterances very materially as to these popular measures, but it does not seem to have abated any of its dislike for W. S. U'Ren. Yet it must be admitted that no man in the history of the state has had so great an influence upon legislation. So far as "constructive statesmanship" is concerned, U'Ren has the great Woodrow Wilson beaten to a frazzle. Whatever he has told the people to do they have, as a rule, done, and the influence of his work has been felt throughout the United States. There seems to be general satisfaction with the results he has achieved, and we see no reason why U'Ren is not entitled to be considered one of the great statesmen of the United States. To deny his claim to the title is to repudiate the Oregon system, and no politician in Oregon will dare to do that."

The man who can see an ignorant and degraded fellow man go to the polls and yet wish to keep his sister or mother or wife from going to the polls to counteract that ignorant and degraded vote,—well, there are some intelligent men opposed to equal suffrage, so perhaps it is just as well to stop.

If God made the sea for men, did he not make the land for them also?

Complete List of Union Meat Markets.

George L. Parker's Market, 149 First.
People's Market, First and Taylor.
Bay City Market, Fourth and Yamhill.
Terminal Market, 148 Second.
Kinross Bros. Central Market, 130 Grand Ave.
Knox Bros. Market, 412 East Morrison.
Allen Cash Market, 200 Russell.
Eureka Market, 115 North Sixteenth.
Empire Market, 201 First.
Columbia Market, Fourth and Carruthers.
Popular Market, Union Avenue and Russell.
Denver Market, 259 Larabee.
Palace Market, 299 Yamhill.
Sixth Street Market, 441 Sixth.
Dewey's Market, 402 Jefferson.
Pavilion Market, 252 Third.
Fisher's Market, Twenty-fourth and Nicolai.
John's Market, 43 1/2 Sixth.
Metropolitan Market, 520 W. Williams Ave.
Eagle Market, 847 Mississippi Ave.
Portland Market, 380 Morrison.
Evans' Market, Tenth and Everett.
City View Market, Sellwood.
S. P. Market, 711 Powell.
Umatilla Market, Umatilla Ave.
Canyon Market, 500 Jefferson.
Dunbrook Market, 752 Savier.
Falling Street Market, Union Avenue and Falling.
White House Market, Eleventh and East Jefferson.
A. Grove, 415 East Eighth.
Lone Market, 905 East Riverside and Union.
Mt. Labor Market, Base Line and West Ave.
Model Market, 988 Milwaukee.
O. K. Market, 47 East Monroe Ave.
Adam Tree, 425 Falling.
Thompson's Market, 1214 Belmont.
Stagland Bros., 47 East Clinton.
Besslie's Market, 925 Mississippi.
Emanuel's Market, 1090 Belmont.
Waverly Market, 809 East Clinton.
Belmont Market, 1012 Belmont.
Ray Fairbanks, 209 Washington.
Independent Market, Stalls 6, 7, 8 and 9 Public Market.
E. F. Jones, Public Market, 218 Savier.
Archer Place Cash Market, Archer Place, Mt. Scott.
Laurwood Market, Arleta.
Sanitary Market, Arleta.
Union Cash Market, Arleta.
Korn Park Market, Kern Park.
Gus Schmidt, 820 East Riverside and Union.
City Meat Market, Lents.
Mortimer Market, Lents.
St. Louis Market, 1034 Hawthorne.
Kosel & Frey, 640 First.
Murphy Bros., Forty-third and Hawthorne.
North Portland Market, 428 Savier.
Mountain Market, 907 Corbett.
Rose City Market, 202 Morris.
Cottage Market, East Riverside and Union.
Whooler & Fay Quality Market, 654 Alberta.
Vernon Cash Market, Fifteenth and Alberta.
National Market, East Burnside and Grand.
Multnomah, Sixteenth and Washington.
Norton & Heyses, Union Avenue and Broadway.
Berzins & Son, 1102 Gilliam.
Villa Market, 71 East Eightieth.
Miller's Market, 4 1/2 Twenty-eighth.
Arthur Lodge, 625 Arthur Lodge.
John Kelly, 121 Nevada.
Sixteenth Street Market, North Sixteenth.
M. & M. Market, Twenty-eighth and Alberta.
Westtown Market, Arleta, North.
Schell & Lehl, 716 Union.
Andrew's Market, Seventeenth and Savier.
Albert Klein Market, Albert and Kentworth.
Burg's Market, Sixty-eighth and East Gilliam.
White Rose Market, Kenton.
Michigan Market, Albany and Kentworth.
Gill & Co., 512 Mississippi.
Wetli's Market, Sellwood.
Highland Market, Union Avenue and Highland.
E. E. Lee, Russell Street.
Managhan Market, Twelfth and East Stark.