

UNIONS AND OPEN SHOP DISCUSSED BY DARROW

(Clarence Darrow.)

Employers have ever regarded labor unions as hostile to their rights; they have so regarded them, because it has been the business of organized workers to get shorter hours, better conditions, safer tools, and a larger share of production than the workman individually could obtain.

Capital has ever resented the interference of organized labor with what it calls its rights.

Capital can never understand that labor should have any voice in managing the industrial institutions of the land.

If employers and employes alike, from the earliest time, have agreed that labor unions benefited the workman by giving larger wages, shorter hours and better conditions, little further proof should be required.

The individual laborer is absolutely helpless in the presence of the great industrial institutions of today.

Trade unionism has grown so old and so strong and has been so much patronized by surface thinkers, as well as by that large class who always seek the easiest way, no matter how indirect, that the opposition is not now so much directed against the union as against everything it does.

So long and vociferously have the enemies of trade unions declared for the open shop that no doubt many of them really believe that they are fighting for some principle of liberty and justice and not to serve their selfish ends.

Trade unionists have for centuries believed that they are upholding the rights of men, the welfare of their class.

The non-union workman is unpopular with his fellow-laborer, but he is in good standing with his employers, for they know him to be their friend, and that he helps them against the common enemy, who would take a portion or all the profits they otherwise would get.

It is one of the fundamental principles of trade unionism that each member is responsible for his brother's condition.

The position of trade unionism as to the open shop, as well as to most other questions is generally misstated and never understood.

One of the chief objects of the trade union is to form such a complete and perfect organization of its craft that through their officers and agents they will be able to make a collective bargain with their employers.

The battle waged by trade unions to gain and keep some independence for the workmen has been long and costly, and the rules and regulations have grown from the hard and bitter experience they have passed through.

The demand for the closed shop is nothing but the means that experience has shown is essential to protect the liberty they have won and give some vantage ground for other triumphs yet to come.

The open shop means only an open door through which to turn the union man out and bring the non-union man in to take his place.

The very reason that keeps men from joining the unions of their craft makes them more servile and cringing to their employer; makes them ever subservient to his demands.

To prevent trade unionism from being conquered in detail; to save its members from being thrown out of the open door to make room for the servile and the weak; to maintain in shop and mill the best compositions that unionism has won and to look forward to others better still; to save the workman from his once long hours of toil and to provide a day shorter yet, needs every effort of every union man, and without the right to protect themselves by refusing to work with those whose weakness or stupidity makes them recreant or unfaithful to their class, trade unionism can neither hold that which it has won nor look forward to greater victories still.

AUSTRALIAN STATESMEN.

(James A. Sproule.)

The leaders of the Labor Party in Australia sprung from the people; most, if not all of them, learned some trade. Many of

the great names in history are of men skilled in some honest, useful occupation.

The Christ was, as it is well known, a carpenter. Mehmet was a camel-driver, who, by his honesty and courtesy, won the heart of his employer, whom he married.

Paul was a tent-maker, Luther was the son of a minister. Lincoln was a rail-splitter. Fisher, the present Premier of the commonwealth of Australia, was a miner.

Magowan, the present Premier of New South Wales, was a boilermaker, and, it is said, a good one. Hollman, the present attorney-general, started life as a cabinetmaker. His superior as a clear, logical speaker does not exist.

McDonald, the Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, was a wool shearer. Hughes started as a school teacher in the old country, but his first work in Australia is said to have been repairing umbrellas. Adden, the Minister of Mines, was a miner. All useful, honorable employments.

AFTER THE ASSESSOR.

In Lane County the Taxpayers' League is busy with a proposed recall of the county commissioners and the assessor. The charges against the latter mention among other things that he has failed in assessing land to take "into consideration the improvements on the land and in the surrounding country, the worth of soil, its convenience to transportation lines, public roads, and other local advantages of a similar or different kind, and taking into consideration its earning power. That in numerous instances properties similarly situated and of equal value have been assessed by him at different and unequal rates of value."

B. F. Keeney is likely to be the first assessor recalled in any state for these offenses against equity. That every assessor in Oregon has done the same thing, is no reason why he should not be recalled.

It is in the unjust and illegal differentiation of land, always in favor of the speculator and always against the user, that is the trouble with our tax system. Not until the Taxpayers' League get onto the great fundamental truths of the Single Tax will they be able to straighten out the tax tangle.

WILL DO BETTER.

Last Saturday the Grange at Sandy had an interesting session in the afternoon considering the single tax. Alfred D. Cridge of THE LABOR PRESS presented the subject.

He was followed by S. H. Haines, a lawyer of this city, who was sent up there by Eugene Palmer, a well known Granger and real estate agent, to see that the Grangers were not misled.

Brother Haines had never looked into the question and received some very interesting information. Next time he will do better at knocking out the single tax, because he has promised to read up on the subject.

LAW IS ATTACKED.

The statute recently enacted by the Legislature requiring all convict-made goods exposed for sale in the State of Oregon to be plainly marked is to be tested in the courts. J. T. Abbott, an East Side shoe dealer, was indicted for violation of the statute and a hearing is to be had before Judge Gantenbein on August 4.

At Canondale, Pa., teamsters increased wages 25 per cent; machinists 10 per cent; blacksmiths 20 per cent; carpenters 10 per cent; bricklayers 10 per cent, all without strike.

At Springfield, Ill., the tool and die makers reduced their hours from ten to nine without reduction in wages; painters secured increase of 2 1/2 cents per hour after four weeks' strike.

Illinois has a new law regulating employers carrying on dangerous or disease-breeding industries. It compels him to provide proper safeguards, clothing, protectives, etc.

The International Steamfitters have taken steps to adjust disputes in the future with plumbers, heretofore a source of much friction.

A dyers' union is the next thing on the programme for Spokane.

FOREIGN NOTES SHOWING PROGRESS OF WORKERS

LONDON.—A report issued by the Steam Engine Makers' Society says that trade is now very brisk in the engineering line and that the unemployed percentage of members is much lower than a year ago. If it were not for the fact that the employers are evading an agreement which limits overtime to 32 hours per month, the unemployed members of the society would be abolished. The report also states that an increase has been secured of one shilling per week at several towns.

The Cotton Spinners' Association in Great Britain has decided to close down each Saturday for twelve weeks commencing with July 15. It appears that this is a world movement, as about 20 to 25 per cent of the spindles in the south of the United States are now on short time, and will be until the new crop comes in.

After a strike of one hour, the boiler-makers in the Crewe Locomotive Works of the London & North-western Company returned to work with an assurance that their claims would be fully considered. The boiler-makers are asking an all-around advance of 4 shillings per week; in other words, equal to that of the Manchester district.

At all of the Whitsun meetings of the Friendly Societies the National Insurance Bill was under discussion, and although the tone of these discussions was generally favorable, the details of the measure were systematically criticised.

Miners' representatives of Great Britain have waited on the Miners' Executive and entered a strong protest against the clause in the Coal Mines Bill which makes it compulsory for colliery winders to pass periodical medical examinations.

The membership of the Associated Blacksmiths and Iron Workers' Society continues to increase.

The June report of the Society of the Amalgamated Tool Makers notes an increase in membership of 1,021 during the past month, and a decrease in the unemployed list, bringing the total number of unemployed down to 56. The reserve funds of the society, with a membership of approximately 5,000, are \$110,000.

The annual demonstration of the Yorkshire miners was held recently at Barnsley. Mr. Keir Hardy declared that in about a month's time the whole coal fields of Great Britain would sound the alarm to "down tools" until living wage was granted to the men on strike in the South Wales coal fields.

Great progress is recorded in the annual report of the Municipal Employees' Association of London and the Provinces. The association has been in existence for seventeen years and has never had a strike, but has gained large increases in wages for its members. Last year the total amount gained without friction was approximately \$175,000. The membership last year was 12,141, with an increase this year of 1,500.

MANCHESTER.—The building tradesmen, over 200 in number, have gone out on a new building for the Calico Printers' Association. The difficulty arose through the action of a Liverpool firm employing glaziers to do the work of plumbers.

BRADFORD.—There are at the present time over 12,000 woolcombers on strike in order to force an advance in wages and to fix a minimum standard. Likewise, about 2,500 people have been affected as a result of the strike. There seems to be no prospect of an immediate settlement.

NEWCASTLE.—The tramway men of Newcastle have many grievances, and unless a satisfactory adjustment is soon reached, a strike will take place. The principal difficulty is the long hours required of the men, in some instances they being compelled to work for 30 consecutive hours.

GLASGOW.—The organized men on the North-British Railway, employed at Coatbridge and vicinity, have gone on strike for shorter hours and higher wages.

BERLIN.—The Workmen's Insurance Consolidation and Amendment Bill has passed the Reichstag. The final vote on the bill was 232 for to 58 against, the minority being composed of Socialists.

NORWAY.—The Society of Norwegian Tramway Servants has just been successful in securing a six-year agreement which carries substantial increases, with free uniforms after a stipulated time and ten holidays during the present year, and with a two weeks' holiday in the following years.

DENMARK.—The Danish Parliament has passed a bill whereby absent seamen may participate in the elections for Parliament by power of attorney, or by sending in their votes. This raises the Danish seamen to the level of a full and franchised state citizen.

ANTWERP.—The strike of the boiler cleaners, which has now been on a month, is showing a decided change in favor of the strikers. The small vessel owners, fearing that they are going to be put entirely out of business by the larger firm if they continue hostile toward the men, have recognized the wage tariff of the organization, and a large proportion of the men have returned to work.

ROME.—A general strike has been inaugurated by the organized railroad employees of Italy. The men are demanding higher wages, and assert that every railroad in the country will immediately be affected if a settlement is not arrived at.

A law instituting a national system of insurance is about to go into effect in Italy. All private life insurance companies, whether Italian or foreign, have been compelled to present their registers to appointed officials and the registers then closed. Existing contracts will be recognized, but no further insurance can be made hereafter, as all new business will go to the state.

Printers of San Juan, Porto Rico, have secured increase of 50 per cent.

The merchant who pays good money over his counter to break up unions and lower wages is no more of a fool than the man who works for lower wages longer hours in order to keep out of paying a dollar a month to a union of his craft.

The man who works afield sells his product in an open shop unless he organizes and demands union wages.

State Trades Union Directory

OREGON FEDERATION OF LABOR—Meets at call of president. Headquarters, Labor Temple, 2704 street. Wm. Daily, president, 775 Missouri avenue. Wm. Norfolk, 302 Sixteenth street, secretary. Main 1419.

ASTORIA.

- ALASKA FISHERMEN—Friday (except December), 7:30 P. M., Fishermen's Hall, H. M. Loutzen, agent, Fishermen's Hall.
BREWERY WORKERS—Branch III, Clarence Larsen, secretary, 1281 Franklin avenue, Astoria, Oregon.
CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL—Second and fourth Tuesdays, 8 P. M., Labor Union Hall, C. M. Christensen, president; Sam Leventhal, secretary, 525 Exchange street.
BARTENDERS, NO. 142—Alternate Sundays, 3 P. M., Labor Union Hall, Chas. Martin, secretary, 349 Bond street.
CARPENTERS, NO. 917—Saturdays, 8 P. M., Labor Union Hall, S. P. M., president; William Bell, secretary, 475 Fifteenth street.
CIGARMAKERS, NO. 425—First Friday, 8 P. M., Labor Union Hall, C. W. DeYoung, president; Joe Moore, secretary, 474 Commercial street.
BARBERS, NO. 107—Last Monday, 8 P. M., Labor Union Hall, Geo. Langford, president; Jas. Lindley, 634 Commercial street.
ELECTRICAL WORKERS' UNION—First and third Wednesdays, 7:30 P. M., N. Brunold, president; George W. Walters, financial secretary, 215 Thirtieth street, Astoria.
FISHERMEN'S UNION—Meets at Fishermen's Hall, first Saturdays, 7:30 P. M., H. M. Loutzen, Fishermen's Hall.
LONGSHOREMEN'S UNION—Second and fourth Wednesdays, 8 P. M., Longshoremen's Hall, 571 Bond street. Secretary, J. Johnson, president; C. H. Thompson, secretary and business agent, 577 Bond street.
MACHINISTS, NO. 26—First and third Thursdays, 8 P. M., Marine Engineers' Hall, 577 Bond street, H. Nyquist, president; A. W. Bryant, secretary, Box 750.
PAINTERS' UNION—Second and fourth Thursdays, 8 P. M., Longshoremen's Hall, C. A. Lawton, president, care Avior House, Arthur Bostrom, 250 Alameda avenue, recording secretary.
TEAM DRIVERS, NO. 182—First and third Tuesdays, 8 P. M., Labor Union Hall, Chris Christensen, president; Len Lowrey, secretary, 274 Bond street.

MEDFORD.

- CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL—Smith's Hall, Monday, A. H. Gray, secretary, Box 512.
BARBERS' LOCAL—Meets in shops, first and third Thursdays, W. E. Johnson, secretary.
CEMENT WORKERS, NO. 118—Smith's Hall, Fridays, T. W. Davis, secretary.
COOKS, WAITERS AND WAITRESSES, IO, 548—Smith's Hall Thursdays, A. H. Gray, secretary, Box 512.
CARPENTERS, NO. 1840—Old Fellows Hall, Wednesdays, E. J. Walters, secretary.
BRICKLAYERS, NO. 342—Second and fourth Tuesdays, J. Obelen, Sec.
LATHERS, NO. 342—Second and fourth Tuesdays, Smith's Hall, H. R. Straight, secretary, 108 Geneva.
PAINTERS, NO. 643—Smith's Hall, Thursdays, A. Hutchinson, secretary, Box 34.
PLUMBERS, NO. 368—Smith's Hall, Friday, P. W. Cottrill, secretary, Box 124.
POSTOFFICE CLERKS, NO. 62—Jno. P. Murphy, secretary. In session all the time.
MUSICIANS, NO. 478—D. L. Colvig, secretary, Thursdays, "Max."
TEAMSTERS, NO. 175—Chas. Helm, secretary, Tuesdays, Smith's Hall, Box 88.
TYPOGRAPHICAL, NO. 559—First Tuesday, 5 P. M., Smith's Hall, A. P. Stennett, secretary, Box 61.
SHEET METAL WORKERS, LOCAL NO. 353—First and third Tuesdays, Diamond House, Carl Armstrong, Sec'y.
OPERATIVE PLASTERERS, LOCAL NO. 124—First and third Tuesdays, Smith's Hall, Chester Brown, Sec'y, Box 411.

BAKER CITY.

- BAKER TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION NO. 683—John A. Andrews, president; M. D. Pilkenton, secretary-treasurer, 1024 Clifford street.
BROTHERHOOD OF LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS—O. W. Moon Division 700, Baker, Or.—T. A. Courtney, chief engineer; James Hunt, secretary-treasurer, and recording secretary, 3035 Colo street, Baker, Or.
CIGARMAKERS, NO. 487—Meets first Tuesday in each month, J. F. Penrod, secretary.
CARPENTERS, NO. 498—Meets Tuesday evenings, C. E. Forstling, secretary.
LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS, C. W. MOON LODGE, NO. 489 BAKER CITY, OR.—Frank M. Shurtliff, secretary, Baker City, Oregon.
PAINTERS, PAPER HANGERS AND DECORATORS OF AMERICA, NO. 1008—Meets Thursday evenings, Lyndale building, Room 17, Ed. G. Phillips, secretary, 2202 Church street.
PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS, NO. 348—Regular meeting second and fourth Fridays, 2214 Resort street, Baker City, Or. C. W. Bishop, secretary, 2108 Front street.

EUGENE.

- TYPOGRAPHICAL, NO. 496—Last Sunday in each month, 2:00 P. M., Claude Sylvester, secretary, 206 Madison street.
CARPENTERS, NO. 1488—Thursday evening 7:30, Eighth and Willamette streets, O. C. Reynolds, secretary, Eighteenth and Alder streets.
PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS, NO. 481—Monday evenings, 8 o'clock, Eighth and Willamette streets, W. G. Harbinson, secretary, Box 522.

HOOD RIVER.

- PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS, NO. 611—O. J. Kober, secretary, 418 Oak street, Hood River, Or.

KLAMATH FALLS.

- PLUMBERS, NO. 513—C. R. Hastings, recording secretary, Box 573, Klamath Falls, Or.

LA GRANDE.

- LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEERS, BLUE MOUNTAIN LODGE, NO. 848, LA GRANDE, OR.—E. C. Fields, secretary, La Grande, Or.
BROTHERHOOD OF RAILROAD TRAINMEN, LOCAL 818—Meets first and third Tuesdays of each month at 8 P. M., K. of P. Hall, La Grande, Or. C. E. Happersett, secretary, 1301 O avenue, La Grande, Or.
LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS, GRAND BONDE LODGE, NO. 262—J. H. Brown, secretary, 1701 Washington avenue, La Grande, Or.

MARSHFIELD.

- LONGSHOREMEN, LOCAL 88, SERIES 16—Guy Lattin, secretary, Box 108.

PENDELTON.

- PENDELTON TYPOGRAPHICAL—Meets 2 P. M. first Sunday of month, Eagle-Woodmen Hall, Elmer Baer, secretary.

ROSEBURG.

- LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS, NO. 476—V. C. Bartlett, secretary, Roseburg, Or.
CENTRAL LABOR UNION—Corner Cass and Ferguson, R. C.
LOCOMOTIVE FIREMEN AND ENGINEERS, ROSEBURG LODGE, NO. 548, ROSEBURG, OR.—J. W. Robertson, secretary, P. O. Box 382, Roseburg, Or.
CARPENTERS, NO. 415—Friday evening, Labor Hall, 320 N. Jackson, C. L. Sun, secretary.
PLUMBERS AND STEAMFITTERS, NO. 488—Corner Cass and Stevens streets, Thursday night, E. J. Wash, R. C.
PAINTERS, NO. 887—Corner Cass and Stevens streets, Friday night, J. L. Smith, R. C.
TEAMSTERS, NO. 189—Wednesday night, Labor Hall, 320 N. Jackson, John H. Ferguson, R. C.

SALEM.

- BREWERY WORKERS, NO. 386—Branch I, Fred Bernkopf, secretary, P. O. Box 504, Salem, Oregon.
CARPENTERS, 1085—Meets Union hall every Saturday at 7:30 P. M., J. P. Wisner, secretary, 1768 Ferry street.
ELECTRICAL WORKERS, NO. 512—Union hall, 420 State street, second and fourth Mondays at 8 P. M., Geo. L. France, secretary, R. F. D. 2, Box 64.
PAINTERS, NO. 788—Dorrance Sign Shop, S. Liberty street, first and third Thursdays at 8 P. M., Ernest G. Borrell, secretary, R. F. D. 2, Box 64.
TYPOGRAPHICAL, NO. 210—Meets first Sunday in each month, 420 State street, Harry H. Hill, secretary, 328 North Front street.

THE DALLES.

- BREWERY WORKERS—Otto Birkmaier, Box No. 459.
BARTENDERS—John Foreman, 809 Union street.
WAITERS—Otis E. Davis, care of New York Restaurant.
CARPENTERS—A. R. Barnett, 801 Fulton street.
SHEET METAL WORKERS—Arthur Spickermann, The Dalles, Or., general delivery.

VANCOUVER, WASH.

- BARTENDERS, NO. 488—Second and fourth Sundays, Union Hall at 3:00 P. M., E. R. Brown, secretary.
CARPENTERS' LOCAL, NO. 978—Meets every Monday night in the Bartenders' Hall, Main street, S. Astell, president; C. H. Anderson, financial secretary, 218 Eighteenth street, W. P. Wittgen, recording secretary, Twenty-fifth and Harney streets.
PAINTERS—Monday night, Painters' Hall, Wall block, Chas. Christ, secretary, care E. M. Meach.
MACHINISTS, NORTH WASTE, NO. 227—First and third Thursdays, Union Hall, 106 1/2 Main street, Frank M. Cole, financial secretary, 202 E. Ninth street, Vancouver, Wash.

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