

OPEN CO-OPERATIVE HAT SHOP.

Workers Celebrate Establishment of Their Own Productive Enterprise.

NEW YORK.—The opening of the first co-operative hat store in this country, a productive enterprise founded along co-operative lines, was celebrated recently by the Co-operative League at the factory, 44 East Houston street.

Through the co-operative movement is still in its infancy, the organization has already succeeded in opening a hat shop at 44 East Houston street, and a hat store, which is selling the product manufactured by the organization, is located at 159 Delancey street.

The league has already declared a dividend to the consumers, which amounted to \$626, and dividends will be declared every three months.

There are thirteen men employed in the hat factory, excepting the office force, and the machinery can turn out 150 dozen of hats a week.

STRIKING SHOP FEDERATION.

The Shop Federation men are putting up a bold front in Portland. Monday was pay day at the company shops of the transportation trust and thirty strikebreakers quit.

The imported thugs from Chicago skylark and do as they please. Their wages are 500 per cent too high. The oil-flinger is told to keep his scheme out of use.

Trains are coming into Portland 24 hours late with "fast" mail. They are coming into the city without steam, simply running down-hill as best they can when the exhausted and disabled engine gets to the point where the grade changes.

The officials of the road sent a delegation of workmen last Friday, headed by an attorney, to make a protest before the city executive board against a reduction in the number of special policemen on duty at the shops.

SENATOR GAYLORD COMING.

Winfield R. Gaylord, the Socialist Senator from Wisconsin, will make his initial appearance before the Portland public under the auspices of the Socialist Party, Branch Four, Thursday evening, December 28th, at 8 o'clock, when he will deliver an address at the Gypsy Smith Auditorium, Eighteenth and Taylor streets.

EXPERT ENDORSES SHORT CHARTER.

C. G. Hoag, of Philadelphia, is now traveling in Europe investigating forms of municipal and other improvements. He writes to C. E. S. Wood from Luasanne, Switzerland: "A copy of your 'short charter,' as published in THE PORTLAND LABOR PRESS recently, has been sent to me.

AMATEURS IMPOSED UPON.

The Moving Picture Operators, after several conferences, have failed to induce the proprietor of the Savoy Theatre to run a union house. This concern is a training school for amateurs, and many are induced to pay for the opportunity of learning the business.

Let Portland operate its own street car line on a three-cent fare. Why not?

DEFENDS ORGANIZED LABOR.

Los Angeles Preacher Utters Plain Truths on the McNamara Case.

Rev. C. M. Carter, pastor of the First Baptist Church, Los Angeles, had the following to say in the course of a sermon delivered last week:

"Sometimes men are condemned just because of the folly of their sympathizers. Organized labor is just as righteous as is organized capital, and capital is self-organized. Organized labor has had much to bear from the foolishness of its friends, but organized labor is right.

"The one who today loudly condemns organized labor because some organized workers have been wicked and foolish is unjust and wicked. The great mass of men who toil with their hands are as honest and as patriotic as the men who do not. In fact, in the day of judgment, when all men must answer to the law, six days shalt thou labor, they may stand far higher.

"Men must not be carried into the ranks of persecutors of the people who toil today by the clamor of organized selfishness. The great majority of the toilers today are no more responsible for the McNamaras than were the early disciples for a Judas Iscariot."

A MAN'S BURDEN.

(By the Rev. Charles Stelzle.)

Nearly every man believes that his task is the most difficult. He has been thinking it ever since he can remember. Even when he was a child, his problems—which now make him smile as he thinks of them—were just as real and just as important as those which trouble him today.

Sometimes, all this is only too true. Most of us have an unreasoning faculty for getting ourselves into all kinds of trouble because of our impatience, and principally because we haven't the nerve to stand up to the task which brings with it strain and stress.

Fortunate is it that we are not compelled to forever carry all the burdens of the past. New ones will come, but somehow they dislodge the old, or, they will drive away the mist and make them appear in their true light—stepping stones instead of stumbling blocks.

RAILROAD HOSPITAL GRAFT.

It is said that the kindly and generous Southern Pacific charges full fare for its injured, crippled and killed sent to the hospital, and it pays it out of the hospital fund graft that it will not permit its employees to have anything to say about, nor does it render any account of the funds to them, the public or anybody but itself.

STAY OUT OF MINE.

F. M. Gill, in the Grange Bulletin, says: "We farmers must stand together solidly against the so-called Good Roads Association of Portland. They are not our friends.

The members of People's Charter Committee have labored long and earnestly to present a good charter. Some of the ablest counsel in the state has served without pay, and given time and knowledge worth thousands of dollars, with no hope of credit or reward.

SIGN UP RESTAURANT.

Secretary Henderson, of the Waiters, has signed up the Puritan Restaurant, located at 490 1/2 Washington street.

Under a new arrangement, Henderson has been assigned to the work of business agent, in addition to the duties of secretary and treasurer. He certainly has his hands full.

The head of the telephone trust thinks one phone enough. It is, and two phones are an imposition on us all. The State of Oregon should own the phones, and then one phone would be in every residence, and office, and at one-fourth the present cost, too.

Local People and Incidents

The Plasterers' Union will be represented at the State Federation of Labor by R. A. Willison and Thomas Brink.

The River Steamboatmen's Union is running along smoothly. Business Agent "Jack" Hoffman says the union is making a slow, steady gain in membership. At this time of year some of the boats are tied up for various reasons.

Business Agent Grazier, of the Cement Finishers, has resigned and is succeeded by H. W. Hillibush. The latter is an energetic worker, who will undoubtedly make good.

The Washington State Federation of Labor meets at Spokane on the same date the Oregon Federation convenes at The Dalles.

In his talk before the Central Labor Council last Friday, Mr. Neilan stated his investigation of working conditions among women in Portland showed that organized garment workers were receiving an average wage of \$1.85 for eight hours' work, while unorganized laundry workers were working nine and ten hours for \$1.15 per day.

Tobey Smith, who has been spending two months on his ranch near San Francisco, was in Portland for about a week, leaving again on last Monday. He spent the time here looking after property interests, and made it his mission to point out what he declared to be the dangers of woman suffrage.

The attention of those interested in co-operation is called to the Protzman-Campbell Shoe Co. An effort is now being made by union men active in the concern to increase the number of shareholders. The shares are \$5 each and the owner is entitled to valuable benefits in addition to whatever dividends may be declared on shares.

W. H. Addis has been contributing some valuable articles on horticulture and gardening to the Journal. He is far better informed on these subjects than the Agricultural College professors, and if he had a diploma from the institution could be drawing down a big salary.

J. W. Parling, a member of Plumbers' Union No. 51, was killed by a falling timber while working on the new Lipman, Wolfe & Co. building, (at a little after 1 o'clock Wednesday afternoon, December 20.

Archie Curran, of Multnomah Typographical Union, a recent arrival in the city from Minneapolis, whose death occurred last week, was buried on Friday last.

A bunch of political skates are thinking to turn Maguire from his recall enterprise by passing resolutions to recall him. Maguire has nothing to fear from the proposed recall. He has made good.

The turkeys given to the different members of the city council, if any, should be accepted with thanks and promptly turned over to the Salvation Army.

The Christmas number of the Lents Beaver State Herald is a credit to any paper in Oregon. Many of the homes of organized laboring men are in Lents.

The members of People's Charter Committee have labored long and earnestly to present a good charter. Some of the ablest counsel in the state has served without pay, and given time and knowledge worth thousands of dollars, with no hope of credit or reward.

Arizona votes so as to be admitted to the Union, and repeals the recall section obnoxious to Dictator Taft. Next spring that judicious recall, made as tight and strong as a whaler's barrel, will be made a part of the constitution again, and thereby demonstrate that Taft as a statesman does not rank as high as his reputation for a despot.

Protzman-Campbell has the best assortment of union-made shoes in the city. Always glad to make your feet glad.

Here, There and Everywhere

A local collector of customs has, within the last few days, arrested 25 captains of oyster-dredging boats in the Chesapeake Bay for violating the navigation laws and mistreating their crews. The charge against these captains was withholding sufficient food from their crews and not maintaining proper accommodations for them on board the vessels.

The Garment Workers of Galesburg, Ill., have received an increase in pay of 20 per cent. The organization was established only about a month ago.

A threatened strike on the M. & M. Railway at Indianapolis, Ind., had the effect of securing agreements for all crafts in the mechanical departments on the system.

It is reported that the Foresters' Courier, a monthly magazine published in Pittsburg, and devoted to the fraternal order mentioned, appeared this month with the Typographical Union label. The publication was inaugurated last May, and up to this month has not borne the union label.

The Retail Clerks' International Protective Association has paid out in sick and funeral benefits since organization a total of \$156,657.85.

MEDFORD SOCIALISTS.

The Socialists of Medford are out with a brave little paper, a stout little platform and a hot little ticket. They are demanding municipal ownership of public utilities, proportional representation, abolition of contract labor, free employment bureau, better sanitary condition of jail and abolition of street working of prisoners without pay, free public market, eight-hour day, referendum of public franchises, etc.

It is to be hoped that some of their demands are placed before the people in the form of initiative measures, as many do not see their way to support candidates who will support measures of a progressive nature. This lack of appreciation of the initiative is one of the peculiar traits of the Socialists in Oregon. They were the first to demand it, and apparently the last to make use of it.

The Supreme Court of Wisconsin has now knocked out legislation by the Social Democrats of Milwaukee and has practically vetoed many different progressive features sought to be placed in operation for the benefit of the people. The constitution of Wisconsin prevents the people ruling themselves, and it takes two successive Legislatures to submit an amendment. It would be 1918 before the people could yank such judges as afflict and ride and spur the people of Wisconsin from their seats.

In Milwaukee the raise in taxation has not been as great under the Socialists as it was under the Democratic and Republican administrations. The old party managers issued bonds to pay running expenses, and the new party stopped that. Population and property values have increased, but the average expenses have decreased. If given power to assess the big tax-dodgers the decrease would be still greater. This is withheld and a great outcry of misrepresentation made.

SIMPLIFY THE LAW.

The only way to get rid of technicalities and hair-splitting by courts is to sweep them out by amending the organic law so as to provide for the simplest and most direct form of court procedure. No judge should be allowed to decide any law as to its constitutionality. Juries should be drawn by absolute chance from the entire body of citizens. The state and the defense should be entitled to drop out two or three each, and a three-fourths jury should decide the matter, with no appeals unless corruption was shown on the part of some of the court participants. This would put lawyers to pling cordwood and reduce expenses of government.

John S. Walker, candidate for the presidency of the United Mine Workers, supported Mr. Mitchell's charge that the last convention was packed. He said \$10,000 had been put up by coal operators to bring into the convention delegates with fraudulent credentials, for the purpose of driving Mr. Mitchell out of the union.

If you need a man to do work of any kind, send word to the Shop Federation, Room 500 Labor Temple, fifth floor, 270 1/2 Alder street.

J. A. Dunn J. L. Walton

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Under New Management First-Class Sanitary Shop Conducted Under Fair Conditions

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