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"THERE IS A BOYCOTT," A WORLD-WIDE UNREST

The union workers of Portland naturally believe that their strikes and boycotts for better conditions are of supreme importance. And so they are—for the workers of Portland. The boycott against the T. B. Wilcox building, against the flours and cereals of the Portland Flouring Mills and against Woodard, Clarke & Co. is carried on against the "open" shop; against industrial slavery. If won, as it will be, it means union labor of Portland has held its own against its enemies and also has advanced labor's conditions.

And that is a great and glorious endeavor. In their struggle the workers of Portland are doing on their ground what the workers are doing in Lawrence, Mass.; what the miners of Great Britain are doing; what the German miners are standing out for; what the French miners demonstrated; what the miners of America are ready to do.

Why all this unrest throughout the civilized world? The answer is, the men and women who do the hard work of society have gained intelligence and independence through their unions. They have found their strength and are using it.

Within the last twenty years in Europe and the United States, industry has undergone a tremendous change. It has been more and more centralized. More and more power is now in the hands of our so-called captains of industry. They use that power to gain more and more wealth by overworking and underpaying labor.

Also the great trusts control prices of commodities wherever possible, so as to gain more wealth from labor and the general public.

Organized labor is the only effective force in modern society that is feared by our industrial and trust barons.

Let us look at England. Nearly one million coal miners laid down their tools. Another million toilers will stop work if coal is not mined within one week. Another week's suspension of coal mining will add another million. The longer the strike lasts the more millions of workers will become idle. That means, of course, suffering and starvation. Also it means a revolution. Men, women and children, when they are several millions strong, don't starve when they know that unjust political and industrial conditions cause suffering to the many and bring plenty to the few.

The statesmen of England know this great strike has to be settled in favor of the miners. Hence they are all hustling like busy bees. Great reforms, both industrially and politically, will come from this demonstration of labor's power. Never fear.

The miners of Germany, some 300,000, are also on strike.

The same cause, the same lesson in the Fatherland, as in old England.

The French unions called 60 per cent of the miners on a 24-hour strike. They demonstrated their power of union. Then made their demands.

Unless by April first the anthracite mine owners grant shorter hours and better pay to the union miners of America, all indications point to a half million American miners laying down their tools this spring.

Is it any wonder that we union workers of Portland boycott men like T. B. Wilcox, the flours of the Portland Flouring Mills and Woodard, Clarke & Co., druggists?

These men are of the same kind that are causing these great strikes throughout the world. These men, through their greed and lust for power, will cause the most terrible revolution the world has ever seen. Unless they are curbed day by day by the intelligence and unity of the workers.

Strikes and boycotts cause suffering and loss. However, unless the people right their grievances through strikes and boycotts, the terrible cataclysms of revolution follow.

Had King George the Third and his parliament been forced to listen to the petitions of the American colonists, had the wrongs been righted, there had been no revolutionary war. Reforms had come gradually and the English-speaking people had remained united.

There would have been no war of secession if the slave owners of the South had been willing to restrict slave territory and agree to gradual abolition of slavery. All suffered in that terrible war.

Our duty in Portland is to prove now to T. B. Wilcox, the Portland Flouring Mills and to Woodard, Clarke & Co. that through our boycott we can hurt them. That will teach these barons a lesson. Also to others of their kind. Thereby we can escape general strikes, more boycotts. Also prevent the calamity of revolutionary and secession wars.

Plumbers of Forth Worth, Texas, secured an advance of 50 cents per day this year and will have another 50 cents increase the two years following, this including every shop in the city.

WARNING FROM MEDFORD

The warning recently sent to workingmen of the East by the Portland Central Labor Council naturally brought forth numerous vicious attacks. The letter was declared to be inaccurate in many respects, and the truth of some of its statements questioned.

The declaration that a large number of men at Medford were without work and dependent on charity was declared untrue by Portland newspapers, and the press of Medford was quoted in this connection.

Now come resolutions from the Central Labor Council of Medford and Vicinity describing conditions as they exist in the Rogue River Valley. Our readers can judge for themselves. The resolutions follow:

We, the Central Labor Council of Medford and Vicinity, deem it necessary that some steps should be taken to inform the workingman who is thinking of changing his location to benefit his condition, of the true conditions as they exist in the Rogue River Valley. A bunch of organized promoters, "boosters" and real estate men are advertising this country in glowing colors. They do not hesitate at any statement to catch the unsuspecting, prospective settler.

All of the really good land, which comprises about two-fifths of the Rogue River Valley, has been bought up by millionaires and speculators, who have boosted the price out of the reach of the man of moderate means, and who are at present advertising desert land, with hardpan only a few inches under the surface, in which they must needs blast holes for fruit trees that cannot survive more than a few years, at from three to five hundred dollars an acre.

This entire country is overrun with an unemployed and disappointed army of men who have responded to this unscrupulous advertising. The churches, lodges and municipality of Medford have made many contributions to charity in order to tide their unemployed through the winter—and still men, willing and anxious to work, are begging for bread in Medford. And these deplorable conditions are not confined to Medford alone, but exist quite generally over the State of Oregon.

Skilled mechanics are in the same boat with the common laborer and are having a hard struggle under these adverse conditions. Very few are at work.

This letter is not put out, as some of the "boosters" claim, "to get a corner on labor," but to protect the workingman. Any sane man knows that a "corner on labor," in these times of depression and unemployment, is an impossibility. The day of the homesteader is passed in this vicinity, and unless you are prepared to support yourself by other means than day labor our advice to you is, do not come to Oregon, until such time when matters have been so adjusted that you can at least find employment and not be compelled to walk the streets looking for work while your savings, accumulated by hard work and sacrifice, dwindle and disappear.

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OF MEDFORD AND VICINITY.

DOES NOT CARE FOR UNION PATRONAGE.

An attempt recently to induce the manager of the State Laundry, corner of Broadway and Grand Avenue, to employ a union man as engineer, met with no success. It was suggested to Mr. Van Zant, the manager, that such a course might result in mutual advantage, his firm thus securing the services of a competent workman and the co-operation of union men as patrons.

He is said to have replied that he did not care for union assistance, and, as for workmanship, he believed the best workmen could be secured outside the ranks of the labor unions.

Asked if he would object to the man in his employ joining the union, he replied he would be very foolish to intimate that he would discharge him.

Union men will no doubt take notice of the attitude of the members of this firm.

BOOKS OPEN EVENINGS.

Starting next Monday the registration books will be open at the court house from 9 o'clock in the morning till the same hour in the evening. At present the books are open only during business hours, making it impossible for many workingmen to register without losing an entire day from their work. The books will be closed on the night of April 9.

PATTERNMAKERS INTRODUCE REFERENDUM.

Washington — The Patternmakers' League of North America will hold its annual election of officers on March 28. This is the initial election by the referendum, which was adopted by the organization at its last convention. General President James Wilson is unopposed for re-election.

BAKERS GIVE MORE FACTS IN ROYAL BAKERY FIGHT

In the last two issues of the Press we told you part of the history of John Huesner, president of the Royal; his ousting of the original owners; his associating himself with slave-driver Chas. Guise; the false advertising of the sanitary conditions of the Royal, and of Friedlander, the confectioner, suffering from eczema on his arms and body, who was the bone of contention between Huesner and his unsanitary bakery and the Bakers' Union.

During the year 1909 conditions in the Royal became unbearable to the men working there. They were compelled to work from 12 to 17 hours per day under the supervision of slave-driver Chas. Guise. They realized that something must be done, for no human could stand this and live to tell of it. So they concluded to organize, as it was well known that if one of their number complained of the hard work and long hours his check were no longer needed.

In short, he was fired for trying to get a chance to be with his wife and family occasionally, so, as stated above, they proceeded to organize and joined the union.

They were succeeding very well until they came to the cake shop, the cellar shop the Royal claims to be so sanitary.

The men in this shop all joined the union but one—this man, the notorious Friedlander. As every one knows, it is compulsory for a baker before becoming a member of the Bakers' Union, to pass a most rigid physical examination before a physician designated by the union. This in turn entitles him to a sick benefit of \$7 per week and a death benefit for his wife or beneficiary.

No serious objections were made by Huesner to the organizing up till this time, but when he found that the man Friedlander (who Huesner knew was suffering from the worst stage of eczema, every minute of the day jeopardizing the health of the people who ate the cakes they sold in their cafe) could not under any circumstances pass this examination, he was in a quandary.

This man was the fancy confectioner, who Huesner thought could not be replaced. So regardless of the health of the people, he decided to keep Friedlander.

Matters went along in an uncertain way for some time, in fact, one by one the men were being discharged, because they joined the union. Complaints came in to the officers of the union that were hardly believable, and only on minute investigation were they taken seriously.

Complaints came from the men in the cake shop that they were compelled to have their own towels to dry themselves on and their own drinking cups to drink out of on account of Friedlander's disease getting worse and beyond his control.

One of the men contracted the disease himself from (as he swore in an affidavit) Friedlander carelessly wiping on the same towel. The limit was reached when one of the men took a drink of water from his own individual drinking cup to find that Friedlander had mixed the lotion (with which he was doctoring his body) in the cup, and he had tasted and swallowed it.

Oh, where, oh, where, was our ever-zealous market inspector and board of health that they should let the health of the public be jeopardized? The very thought is appalling, but regardless of their complaints Friedlander still worked at his cakes, but what did he or Huesner care for the health of the people. But as we have more of this than we have space at this time we will reserve the rest till next week.

MAY STRIKE APRIL 1.

Cleveland, Ohio—Whether there will be war or peace in the bituminous fields at the expiration of the present contracts on March 31 will be known by the end of the first session of the conference of operators and miners of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois here Thursday.

Three hundred and six thousand bituminous miners in the United States and Canada will abide by the result of the conference. If a strike is called nearly 500,000 men will quit work on April 1, when it is predicted the anthracite miners also will walk out.

Briefly, the situation is this: The operators demand a wage decrease. The miners demand a wage increase. The best either party hopes for is a compromise.

Representatives of the operators, eight from each of the four states, met here today in preliminary conference.

If the agreement is not renewed, work will stop automatically April 1, but any action of the miners' representatives must be favored in a referendum vote by the miners before it becomes legal.



ED. J. STACK,
Secretary Oregon State Federation of Labor.

MISS HURLEY MARRIED.

Many Portland trades unionists will remember the two Garment Workers who visited this city last fall soliciting aid for the members of their union who were on strike. The announcement of the marriage of one of them will come as a surprise.

Miss Katherine Hurley, the younger of the two ladies, is the lucky one, and it is understood she followed her union principles in the matter of choosing a husband, as she married M. C. Leake, of Salt Lake City, Utah, district organizer for the Western Federation of Miners.

The marriage took place in Salt Lake City February 14th, and the couple intended to make their home in that city.

GAIN BIG VICTORY.

Milwaukee, Wis.—Granting practically the full demands of their 3,200 allied union workmen for an increased wage scale, local breweries in this city have signed a three-year agreement with the unions which in effect gives to every worker an increase of \$2 weekly.

The settlement followed a series of conferences for three weeks, which came to a crisis when the international officers instructed the breweries that the men would all walk out unless the conditions were granted.

The wage increases will amount to nearly \$1,000,000 during the contract period.

GAMBRINUS AGAIN.

Portland, Ore., March 18, 1912.
Portland Labor Press: Attempts have been made to make it appear that the products of the Gambrinus Brewing Company were unfair to organized labor.

I was instructed to inform your readers that the products of this firm are not on the unfair list of this Council, and they cannot be classed as unfair to organized labor until action to this effect has been taken by the Central Labor Council. And further, the Central Labor Council recently refused to take such action.

W. B. CHASE,
Secretary Metal Trades Council.

FEBRUARY ACCIDENTS.

Following is a summary of Labor Commissioner Hoff's report of accidents during the month of February:

Construction, 15; electrical, 3; logging, 13; machine, etc., 32; paper mills, 32; railroad construction, 15; railroad train, 20; railroad section, 18; railroad yard, 25; sawmills, etc., 30; sawmills, yard, 12; miscellaneous, 52; total, 272; of these fatal, 1.

STATE MAKES PROGRESS IN HICKS MURDER TRIAL

The state has made good progress in putting in testimony in the Hicks case and will apparently finish its part of the proof this week.

Clashes between opposing counsel are becoming more numerous and warm as the real issues in the case are being reached. Mr. Malarkey, on the part of the defense, is especially irascible and abusive. He has been called down by Judge Gatens several times on this account. Any testimony which would injure his client is sufficient to bring him to his feet at any time with many-worded objections and arguments, many of which are apparently addressed to the gallery, and many are intended to bias the jury in favor of the defendant. Counsel for the state are also sometimes called down by the judge, who is holding the delicate situation well in hand.

This case is perhaps the most trying upon the presiding judge of any heard in the local courts for years, owing to the persistent attempts of the defense to try it upon the pretended injustice of the strike.

A large number of the family, friends and business associates of the defendant are on hand daily and show their approval of every incident which appears to them to be in his favor. We noted among these the familiar face of Hon. Richard Williams, a retired attorney of this court, who has not attended a trial before in years.

The testimony as we go to press has only covered the immediate facts surrounding the killing of Wortman.

The correspondents for the big dailies are in constant attendance and have their table near that of defendant's counsel, with whom they hold frequent consultations. These men make the most of each incident of the trial which seems to favor the defense.

Malarkey, for the defense, attempted to arouse prejudice against the state's case because all the witnesses were not called before the coroner's jury and the grand jury, but Davis, for the state, rejoined that Malarkey was simply making a howl because he could not get a chance to tamper with the union witnesses before the trial and that all of them are now present. The court called both men to order and the trial went on.

MUSICIANS' UNION.

The regular monthly meeting of this Association, on March 5, granted permission to members to donate their services for a concert to be given in behalf of the Italian Free School, also for a dance to be given in behalf of the striking Harri-man shopmen in the near future.

The following amendments to the by-laws and price list were adopted and are in full force and effect:

Par. 4, Sec. 10, by-laws. Misdemeanors.—To refund any part of the pay for an engagement, furnishing piano or organ free, furnishing band wagon free, furnishing program free, furnishing display cards free, undertaking to sell tickets or taking tickets in part payment, to supply refreshments of any nature at any time, or in any way to offer inducements of any nature (to secure business) that is at variance with the principles of fair dealing.

Sec. 31. Out of Jurisdiction Price List.—All classes of work under this part of section except dancing may be played for \$7.00 per day (time limit of 7 hours between 9 a. m. and midnight). If engagement is contracted for 12 consecutive days or more for series of engagements in different localities, provided they are consecutive, \$6.00 per day. Contractors taking engagements of this nature must file copy of contracts with the secretary.

At the next general meeting, Tuesday, April 2d, the following proposed amendments will be acted on:

1. To prohibit the use of any uniform at cafe engagements excepting A. F. of M. uniform.

2. Requiring an extra payment of 25 per cent of the present cafe price on all engagements where uniform is worn, other than A. F. of M. uniform or Tuxedo.

The following members were elected as trustees to serve for the present year: N. A. Norris, E. L. Rice and J. W. Oberender.

The meeting decided that no delegate would be sent to the A. F. of M. convention. It is proposed, however, to adopt a policy for future action which provide for the sending of a delegate every year and having the delegate elected at the annual election.

Admitted as member on application, Mrs. Maude L. Landis.

On transfer card from Local No. 105, O. E. Larkins.

Carleton Cafe is placed in the Cafeteria class for a short period until its status can be definitely fixed.

A System Federation of the employes in the operative department of the Denver & Rio Grande railroad, numbering approximately 3,000, has just been effected.