

Minutes of Central Council

The session of the Council was called to order by President Trullinger at 8 p. m. The officers absent were Liddy and Bourne.

The following credentials were read and delegates obligated and seated: Hoisting Engineers, E. H. Crandall; Painters, Wm. Schwanneke.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The following communications were disposed of: From California Federation of Labor, to Labor Press for publication; State Executive Board, secretary instructed to invite the Governor to meet with the Council next Friday evening; resolutions from Shop Federation, filed; World's Work, referred to new business; Tobacco Workers' International, referred to Labor Press for publication; resolutions commendatory of the city administration and condemning the Realty Board of this city, introduced by Brother Maguire, were adopted and ordered sent to the press for publication; resolution asking for the appointment of a committee to devise ways and means for advising working people to

patronize advertisers who used columns of friendly papers, defeated.

Brother Ledwidge reported on the progress of the affairs of the city free employment bureau. On motion a committee consisting of Rector, Jordan and Madsen was appointed to interview the Mayor in regard to the conduct of the free employment bureau.

Bills were audited and warrants ordered drawn for the following: Pacific Stationery & Printing Co., \$2.25; Oliver Agency, \$2; Schwab Printing Co., \$1.50.

Building trades reported work improving in their line. Waterfront locals reported everything quiet with them. Printing trades reported business good. Label trades met on Tuesday evening and reported progress on matters referred to them.

No reports were received from the executive and legislative committees. Organization committee announced a meeting called for next Friday evening at 7:30 in the Labor Press office.

Special committee on resolution denouncing Boy Scout movement reported a short resolution which was adopted as read.

Whereas, Recent exploitation of the Boy Scout Movement has brought forth much discussion as to the principles underlying the establishment of such organizations throughout the country, and

Whereas, The principal motive is to teach young men and boys the arts of warfare, military obedience and suggest to them lives of submission to the capitalists, therefore be it

Resolved, By the Central Labor Council of Portland and vicinity that we heartily condemn the establishment of so-called military organizations which have for their purpose the training of the young for the militia or the regular army, having in view the recruiting to defend the property rights of the landed interests, big business and the government-created monopolies.

Whereas, The Portland Realty Board has, by resolution, condemned the present city administration for its stand on the rights of free speech and assemblage in public places and further threatened the recall of the said city administration unless it uses force to suppress the hungry, unemployed men and women who are struggling to change the conditions which force on them low wages, long hours and lives of poverty and degradation, therefore be it

Resolved, By the Central Labor Council of Portland and vicinity that we commend the city administration for its action in protecting the common people in their rights of free speech and public assemblage, and be it further

Resolved, That we most forcibly condemn the members of the realty board who are guilty of fraudulently advertising cheap lands to Eastern suckers to sell them land at \$2,000 an acre which they had purchased for \$250 per acre.

Under unfinished business the Council took up the motion to appropriate \$100 for organization purposes. Motion to postpone indefinitely was defeated. The motion to appropriate was carried.

On motion the executive committee was instructed to prepare data and information in reply to the communication from the World's Work.

Motion was offered that the secretary correspond with Governor West requesting information relative to the next meeting of the state executive board. Amendment offered that a committee of two be appointed to confer with the state executive board relative to the incorporating of an eight-hour clause in contracts for state work. Amendment and motion were duly carried. Maguire and Pollock were appointed as the committee.

Following are the receipts for the week: Hoisting Engineers, \$1.50; Steamfitters, 70 cents; Tailors, \$4.95; Plumbers, \$4.05; Typographical, \$9; Sheet Metal Workers, \$3.95; Longshoremen No. 5, \$3; Longshoremen No. 6, \$6; Electricians No. 125, \$7.53.

Council adjourned for one week. ARTHUR W. LAWRENCE, Secretary.

STARVES THE INVENTORS.

Thomas A. Edison: "The worst thing about 1912 is the number of hogish men it will have to tolerate—men, I mean, who are so greedy that they'll starve an inventor so hard he can't work. That's just what we suffer from now. The inventor's can't produce. Why, there is no end—absolutely no end—to the things that 1912 could produce to make life easier and better and happier. But the inventors can't produce. They're starved down. The men that handle their inventions starve them. That's why the greedy men are the year's worst light. That's why 1912 won't do anything near what it might be able to do in producing things for the world's good.

"What should we do this year? Jack up the man who produces—the man who works. That is, support the man and make his job easier. I tell you there is something wrong—deeply, sadly, fundamentally wrong—with our social system when so many greedy men ride the backs of the men who are producers. The men whose opinions of 1911 I thought best of were the men who can produce."

We are laying foundations for lords of the same inhuman kind as exist in England, but we give them different titles. Mandarin, lord, or trust—all sit on the backs of the workers.

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Pap's Restaurant J. W. WANNER, Proprietor Open Day and Night Phone Main 1668 187 Morrison Street Morrison Street Bridge Approach

New Grand Central RESTAURANT John Gamble Proprietor 90 North Third Street

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Phone Main 8493 Meals 25 Cents Union Oyster House and Restaurant JOHN SEICHEN & FRITZ ROTHMACHER, Proprietors 128 Second Street Portland, Oregon

POPULAR Restaurant P. A. PETERSON, Proprietor Quick Service and Reasonable Prices 186 Morrison Street

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Unfair List of Central Council

Bakeries—Royal Bakery & Confectionery Co.

Bartenders—All saloons that do not display the Union Bar Card.

Building Trades—Stone & Webster, National Ice Co., T. B. Wilcox and all his products, Foster & Kleiser, Watrin & Martien, Woodard, Clarke & Co., druggists, Fourth and Washington, Considine Market.

Carpenters—Rothechild Bros. Cigarmakers—United Cigar Stores and all cigars that do not bear the Union Label. Electrical Workers—Morrison Electrical Co., J. C. English Co.

Metal Trades—Portland Artificial Ice Co., Bell, Wildman & Co., Portland Sheet Metal Works, Enterprise B. & W. Agency, Willamette Iron & Steel Works, all machine shops not working an 8-hour day.

Meat Cutters—Frank L. Smith Meat Co., and all markets not displaying union card.

Molders—Pacific Stove & Range Co., stoves handled by Calef Bros.

Musicians—Yorke band, Yorke Musical Repair House and J. Neubauer, grocer; Geo. H. Parsons and orchestra.

Painters—Williams & Blied, Sheehy Bros., John Blied and all shops that employ non-union men.

Printing Trades—Saturday Evening Post, Independent Printing Co.

Plumbers—J. F. Shea and all firms not employing union mechanics.

Stationary Engineers—Portland, Crystal Ice Co., Liberty Coal & Ice Co., Independent Ice & Coal Co.

Tailors—All custom tailor firms that cannot supply the label.

Teamsters—Clay S. Morse, Allen & Lewis. Brewery Trades Section—Spring Valley Wine Co.

STEADY! STEADY!

By the Rev. Charles Stelzel. The enemies of organized labor feel that they've pulled off a big stunt which will cripple the movement for a long time to come. But nothing ever permanently injured a cause that was just, nor a movement that truly expressed it: The labor movement cannot be retarded because it is based upon righteousness and justice.

To the trades unionists I would frankly say—don't lose heart at a temporary check. The church has often passed through similar periods, but each time it came out purer and stronger. In the main, the labor movement is on the right track—don't allow any one to persuade you to the contrary. If leaders occasionally prove untrue, and if enemies malign and slander, taking advantage of the downfall of a few, remember the men in the ranks who have sacrificed and suffered for the cause which has meant so much to them. For after all, this is a people's movement—it is made up of the mass of humble toilers who have come to their present position because of a bitter experience.

Stand by the guns. The battle for the people and by the people has just begun. Do not allow anybody to beguile you, nor to make cloudy the real issue. Organized labor is rooted and grounded in a great principle—the principle of democracy and justice for all.

It must be judged not by its worst members nor by its greatest mistakes. It has a right to demand that its real significance must be judged by its highest hopes and aspirations, and by its strongest characters.

Equal suffrage is coming at us with two clubs. It may be enacted by Congress, and it may come by state votes of the people.

REQUEST IS REFUSED.

Desiring to have as complete a report of the trial of Bert Hicks appear in the papers as possible the Machinists' Union of Seattle sent out the following letter, which is here printed and the reply of one of the editors:

February 27, 1912.

Mr. C. B. Blethen, Editor-in-Chief, The Times, Seattle, Washington:

Dear Sir—Within the next few days the murder trial of Bert Hicks, a manufacturer at Portland, against Wortman, machinist, the man who was killed, will come up for final settlement. I have been requested by this lodge to ask you to give a full detailed account of this trial. Let the public see—on the front page of your paper, when a capitalist is convicted. At the time of the McNamara trial, which case is not cleared up yet by any means, the columns of the daily papers were full of these accounts, but when the capitalists commit their crimes, such as the breaking down of the mines and fires like that of the Triangle Shop at New York, the reports were very meager and the blame is never definitely settled on any one. But let Labor commit an act a hundred times smaller and Labor is convicted by the papers the next day. We hope to see a little less partiality and less one-sidedness.

Hoping that you will give this matter a thought, I am

Yours for the truth,

R. LOEWE.

Recording Secretary Hope Lodge, No. 79, I. A. of M.

TIMES PRINTING COMPANY,

Seattle, Wash., Feb. 28, 1912.

Mr. R. Loewe, Rec. Sec. Hope Lodge, No. 79, I. A. of M.

Sir—Your letter of February 27th, regarding the Hicks-Wortman murder case has been received and placed on file.

We regret that we do not agree with your statements of fact contained in the remainder of your communication.

We further regret that our news policy does not permit us to follow the various suggestions you advance.

C. B. BLETHEN, Managing Editor.

OREGON LOANS MONEY ON FARMS.

By Edward P. E. Troy.

Oregon, under the leadership of W. S. U'Ren, was before all of the states in restoring to the people the control of their government by the initiative, referendum and recall. Now that the shadow of the money power is being cast over the country, again may the nation look to Oregon for a way to become free from that dangerous and corrupt force.

From the beginning of organized government in Oregon, the state has been a source from which farmers could obtain money. The act of Congress creating the territory became effective in 1849. The territorial statutes of January, 1856, provide that the treasurer should loan school and other funds on mortgages. The journal of the Senate of 1864 shows the total sum in the funds was \$23,986; by 1910 it had increased to \$6,351,349, all of which was invested in farm mortgages at 6 per cent interest, school bonds and land certificates, except \$55,965 cash on hand.

For the same year, the total paid-up capital of the 155 banks reporting to the state was but \$7,751,025. State Bank Examiner Will Wright says that the county banks encourage the state loans, as very few loans are made by banks on farm lands. They regard them as a help, by reason of the new capital put in circulation in their neighborhoods, and that the borrowers are substantial members of their communities, whose industry in the development of the country is thus aided.

He says the investment of these funds is in first class loans.

Applications for loans are referred by the state land board to its attorney in the county where the land may be located. If his report as to the value and title of the land, and character of the applicant, is satisfactory, the loan is granted. All expenses must be paid by the borrower. The prosperity of the farmers of Oregon, and the care exercised in making loans, is evidenced by the fact that not one farm is now under foreclosure, although the law requires any loan over two years due to be foreclosed.

No loans are made for less than \$250 or more than \$5,000. The total number of the school fund loans is 3,623, the average of each being \$1,400. A very large number are of \$500 and less. When making loans, the state board selects all of the applications of \$1,000 and less to be passed on first. The preference is given to the smallest applications, and the loans are made so as to distribute them equitably throughout the state. When money is in demand, the board sells its school bonds, and loans the money on farms.

The law provides that these funds shall be loaned on mortgages on grazing land in Eastern Oregon and farm lands for not exceeding one-third their value. Such securities do not depreciate, and can always produce enough to pay the interest. No loans are made on timber lands, city lots or other speculative property.

The proceeds of the sales of school and other lands, forfeitures and gifts to the state, and certain fines, are the sources from which these funds obtain their revenue. The principal is made irrevocable, the interest only being used. The report of the state school superintendent shows that during the past thirty-eight years the total interest received from this fund by the common schools exceeds \$5,000,000, the sum last year being \$320,272. Under the law, the interest on hand August 1st of each year is divided among the counties in proportion to the number of children of school age. Eighty-five per cent of it must be used to pay teachers' salaries.

Labor wants good roads, but not gigantic public race tracks paid for by the farmers.

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