

Local People and Incidents

The Portland quorum of the Oregon State Federation Executive Board met Wednesday afternoon to consider legislative matters.

The printed proceedings of the Oregon State Federation of Labor have just been received by Secretary E. J. Stack, and are now being sent out to the delegates.

Godfrey Dawson, representing the Pattern Makers' League of North America, has spent some time in the city in the interest of local patternmakers, who are on strike.

Hoisting and Portable Engineers No. 372 now meets Saturday evenings at the Bartenders' hall, 205 1/2 First street. The next meeting will be this coming Saturday, March 23.

The Cement Finishers and Building Laborers held a joint social Saturday evening. The president of the latter organization was master of ceremonies. The program and the refreshments were first class.

A. M. Thompson, formerly president of the California State Federation of Labor, was a visitor in Portland this week. Mr. Thompson paid the Labor Press a visit and also met a number of workers in the movement here.

Frank J. Sholderer, recently a member of the Portland Meat Cutters' Union, has been elected business agent of the local at Spokane. Mr. Sholderer succeeded William Zimmer, who has come to Portland to accept a position.

John Spargo, noted author and lecturer, probable candidate for president on Socialist ticket, will speak at Women of Woodcraft hall, Tenth and Taylor streets, Wednesday evening, March 27. Tickets, 25 cents, on sale at 228 Second street.

A. J. Lyon, of the Printers, has left for Falls City, Oregon, where his parents are now located. His father was for years business agent of the Steam Engineers at Cincinnati, and only recently moved to Falls City. The son will spend several months at that place.

The organization committee of the Central Labor Council has succeeded recently in bringing into the fold six new unions; and because of the strong support given by the Central Labor Council will no doubt bring in several more within a few weeks. There is plenty to do for one man devoting all his time to this work.

At the regular meeting of the Building Trades Council Monday evening, N. Dunseth, of the Hoisting and Portable Engineers, was accepted as a delegate. Crandell, of the Hoisting Engineers, was elected conductor, to fill a vacancy, and Cox, of the Ironworkers, was selected to fill a vacancy on the board of trustees of the Labor Temple Association. Trial board meets Monday evening, March 25.

MEAT CUTTERS STILL COMING.

"Us' meat cutters are in the swim, don't you forget it," said a member of that union the other day.

"What do you mean by swimming? Meats, solids, is your line."

Back came the answer as quickly as the crack out of a whip:

"We want Frank L. Smith, the bogus trust buster, and when we get him—and we are sure getting him—we will get shorter hours and better pay."

Frank L. Smith is the tool of the Employers' Association. The policy of that association is the bogus "open" shop. The Employers' Association has made Frank L. Smith believe that he is some "pumpkins." In fact that he is one of the high priests of the "real" bunko game of fooling the workers.

But his bluff has been called by the Meat Cutters' Union, splendidly supported by a full hand—the purchasing power of the union men and women of Portland.

The State Market, First and Salmon streets, is the best trick the butchers have taken lately.

At Wednesday's meeting twelve applications for membership were approved.

Next Sunday, March 24, the meat cutters will assemble for the usual social time at 205 1/2 First street at 2 p. m. Members and friends are invited.

KEEP ON SMILING.

Pretty Marjorie Mahr, the famous chorus beauty, well known to the Portland public, and the girl who unfortunately lost both of her legs in a terrible train accident, is still smiling. Miss Mahr is noted for this smile which won't come off, as has been proven, when she met with this terrible accident she just kept smiling bravely; when the people were exceptionally kind, she smiled, with tears of gratitude behind, then when her apartment house, bought for her by the money raised by benefits, burned down, she only kept on smiling, showing that her pluck is the kind that lasts through the rainy days. Miss Mahr is singing at the People's theatre and is greeted every show by her many friends who welcome both her and her splendid singing. Keep on smiling, Marjorie!

Here, There and Everywhere

Cement workers have recently organized in Cincinnati, Detroit, Dallas and Worcester, Mass.

Carpenters at Leominster, Mass., have reduced hours from ten to eight and increased wages from \$2 to \$3.25 per day.

After a lockout of twenty months of the mill and lumbermen a settlement has been reached and the mills will hereafter operate with union men at San Mateo, Cal.

The Union Labor Forward Movement campaign at Minneapolis opens April 21 and closes May 4. Organizers and speakers will attend from various sections of the country.

Over 700 employes in the Kalamazoo (Mich.) Corset Company have struck over the summary discharge of a number of employes whom, it is claimed, were dismissed because of activity in union affairs.

Twenty-seven non-union lathers, who were brought to Chicago from St. Louis to act as strikebreakers by several plastering and lathing contractors, recently appealed to the United States government for funds with which to get back to St. Louis. They said they were dismissed after a few hours' work and were left penniless.

The Atlanta convention of the American Federation of Labor adopted a resolution recommending to all the workers of America the more general observance of Labor's Memorial Day. The date upon which Labor's Memorial Day is hereafter to be observed was changed to the fourth Sunday of May of each year. This year it is to be observed Sunday, May 26.

Two local unions of chainmakers at Columbus, Ohio, have affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Blacksmiths and Helpers. There are a number of chainmakers' locals throughout the country that are not yet in affiliation with the blacksmiths. It is expected that these chainmakers' locals will in a very short time all be listed with the blacksmiths.

Seattle union labor has good reason to be proud of its Labor Temple. It is the real thing. Owned by labor and commodious it is a great binder of the forces of unionism together in the metropolis of the Sound. Modern accommodations and plenty of committee rooms, well lighted, a free reading room, adjacent to but a little out of the business district, the Seattle Labor Temple is a credit to the city and to the entire movement.

The San Francisco branch of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific has received a cablegram from J. Havelock Wilson, president of the Seamen's Union of Europe, stating he would leave Australia for San Francisco the last week in April and would arrive in May. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson are now in New Zealand. The main purpose of the tour, a search for health, has so far proved unsuccessful, but it is hoped the California climate may bring the desired results. Preparations are being made for their reception.

TO VOTE ON AFFILIATION.

Washington—At the last convention of the Bricklayers and Masons favorable action was again taken to submit the question of affiliation with the American Federation of Labor to a referendum vote of the membership. The entire Western section of the country is practically unanimous in favor of affiliation and is using every influence to secure favorable action when the vote is taken. The national officers of the Bricklayers and Masons have for years expressed themselves as favorable to affiliation, but the membership has thus far refused to become a part of the general movement by affiliation. The prospects at this time are brighter for favorable action than at any period heretofore.

"THE MODERN SCHOOL" PROGRAM.

"General Baden-Powell, K. C. B., and Free Speech in Portland," will be the subject of lecture by William Thurston Brown, principal of "The Modern School," Sunday evening, March 24, at 8 o'clock, in Christensen's Hall, 11th and Yamhill Streets. Free admission. Free. Lecture (free), Friday evening, March 22d, at 8, in Behnke-Walker Building—"The Social and Economic Ideas of John Ruskin," by W. T. B. Discussion (free), Sunday morning at 11 o'clock in Behnke-Walker Building—"What is Socialist Politics?" Lecture (free), Tuesday evening, March 26th, at 8, in Behnke-Walker Building—"Single Tax," by some prominent Single Taxer.

NEW PICTURE THEATRE.

The opening of the Montavilla Theatre, East Stark and Eighty-first Streets, was held on Saturday evening, March 9th. This new moving picture house will seat nearly 400 people, is fitted out with the very latest equipment and presents first-class films. S. T. Deering and T. S. Alexander are the proprietors. Amateur night every Wednesday evening. Look for the Moving Picture Operator's card.

ENGLISH COAL STRIKE

London, March 19.—The coal miners' minimum wage bill, designed to put an end to the coal strike, passed its first reading in the House of Commons tonight. The bill is backed by Premier Asquith, Foreign Secretary Grey, Chancellor Lloyd-George and Sydney Buxton, president of the Board of Trade. It consists of six clauses and a schedule defining 21 districts, the country being divided for the purpose of the bill.

As outlined by the prime minister, the bill provides a "reasonable minimum wage" for the miners and safeguards for the owners, these to be arranged by district boards. The minimum will be paid from the date of resumption of work. The enactment is for three years.

An important clause provides that, if within a fortnight any district lacks a recognized district board, the Board of Trade may appoint any person to act in place of the local body. There is nothing in the bill to prevent a recurrence of the strike should the miners be dissatisfied with a district board's decision.

District boards will frame regulations and conditions for assuring the regularity and efficiency of the work in the mines, and workmen failing to comply with those conditions and regulations are not entitled to the fixed minimum wage.

The bill does not contain any penal provisions for either side and does not compel an owner to open his mine nor the workmen to descend into the pit. Workmen who are paid less than the minimum wage will be able to recover in the courts.

Premier Asquith said that he introduced the bill with great reluctance, but that it was absolutely imperative in the interests of the country. The government only resorted to legislation when all hope of a settlement by agreement between the employers and the miners had disappeared. He believed that after the passage of the bill and the establishment of the principle of a minimum wage law, there would be no difficulty in settling the trouble.

Andrew Bonar Law, leader of the opposition in the House, said he would await the publication of the text of the bill before committing the opposition for or against it. He said his mistrust of the policy of the bill, however, was strong and the remedy proposed by the government was conceivably far more serious than the disease.

The government's bill invited every other trade to ask for similar treatment. The bill does not give promise of easy passage through Parliament. The opposition is dissatisfied by the absence of penal clauses or measures for compulsory arbitration and will move amendments with a view to remedy this.

Chancellor Lloyd-George said the government was confronted by the necessity

of speedily terminating the strike, but that recourse to drastic methods would create a perilous situation. The bill was far from revolutionary. It had been accepted by many owners and to prevent a national calamity, which would result from prolongation of the strike, it was worth experimenting with. Even though the remedy provided was only temporary, it gave the nation time to devise a more permanent solution of the problem.

J. Ramsey McDonald, on behalf of the Labor party, regretted the necessity for the bill, but said the Labor members would give it all their support if it were amended in regard to safeguards.

"The inclusion of a workmen's schedule will be one of the amendments," he said. "There must be security that the district boards should have no power to reduce the existing rates of pay."

At a meeting of the Miners' Federation tonight, much discontent was expressed at the indefiniteness of the minimum wage provisions. The government, however, is anxious to have the miners return to work Monday. Therefore every effort will be made to get the bill through. The House of Lords will hold a special sitting Saturday to carry the measure through the necessary stages. Charles Fenwick, Liberal member for Northumberland, who is a working collier, thinks it will be necessary to take a ballot of the men on the bill before work is resumed. If so, it will be impossible to reopen the mines Monday.

It is announced that the North British Locomotive Works will be shut down tomorrow, throwing 5,000 men out of work.

The success of Sir George Askwith as a mediator and conciliator in labor controversies has inspired the London & Northwestern Railway Company to appoint an official whose duties will be analogous, but of course, confined exclusively to the affairs of the company. The duties devolving upon this official will be to receive and attempt to remedy all grievances before they become aggravated. The company now assumes to meet the complaints of the men that minor officials have been in the habit of aggravating instead of remedying. Other departments of the railway welcome this innovation, for the new position created will carry with it considerable authority to order changes wherever necessary, and thus relieve the other departments of dealing with these matters. The men employed by the railway are also pleased with this change, as they welcome any opportunity which promises a fair and reasonable consideration of their grievances without interference from petty officialdom. The new method will also guarantee to the men a more speedy consideration than was possible under former methods. It is also announced that other railroad companies are considering the establishment of a similar department.

A ten acre tract at Columbia Acres will make you independent



"The Call of the Country"—the movement back to the soil—to more freedom and independence—to the ideal way of living—is being responded to by thousands everywhere.

And this great and judicious movement is the result of the conditions that have arisen and are arising every day in our crowded cities—the increased cost of living, the great wave of immigration, etc.

Today thousands—yes, millions—are reverting to the soil for a livelihood—are taking up small farm and orchard tracts of ten acres or more of land that will produce the necessities of life, and a little more—a home that assures independence and comfort for life. We say that a

Ten-Acre Tract of COLUMBIA ACRES

Will Make You Independent

And we believe that we have just the best kind of a proposition for the homeseeker—for the man of the city who realizes the impossibility of saving for that "rainy day" and at the same time giving his family the comforts and pleasures that they should enjoy.

"Independence"—that's what you seek, and you can be independent by owning a ten-acre tract at Columbia Acres—less than forty miles from Portland, with transportation facilities and freight rates that few such communities enjoy—an ideal proposition, indeed, for the homeseeker—the man who wants to "do things" for himself rather than for others.

So easy have we made it for you to become an owner of one of these fertile tracts that it commands at least your investigation. The short time and little expense of going down to Columbia Acres will be well spent. Here are three examples of how low the prices are and how easy the terms are:

- Ten-Acre Tract for \$400 On the Terms \$40 Down and \$10 Monthly, Balance at 6 Per Cent.
- Ten-Acre Tract for \$500 On the Terms \$50 Down and \$12 Monthly, Balance at 6 Per Cent.
- Ten-Acre Tract for \$600 On the Terms \$60 Down and \$15 Monthly, Balance at 6 Per Cent.

F. B. HOLBROOK CO.

Lumber Exchange Building Second and Stark

MANUFACTURERS IN STRAITS.

Davenport, Ia.—The Hawkeye Button Company at Muscatine is endeavoring to start a plant in this city, and is advertising for employes. This is one of the non-union outfits that has endeavored to destroy the Button Workers' Union in Muscatine. The fact that the company is endeavoring to establish a plant outside of Muscatine is evidence that the button workers' strike is effective. Previously numerous efforts have been made to start button cutting plants outside of Muscatine, but all attempts have thus far resulted in failure.

Washington—It has been the custom of the government to award to outside printing firms contracts for certain classes of work. The public printer has contended that all government printing should be done in its own printing establishment. As a result of this contention the millions of money order forms which have previously been printed outside the big establishment will for the next four years be done by the government itself. The printing of these forms amount to about \$150,000 per year.



W. L. TRULLINGER

Is the treasurer of the Cain-Ledwidge Shoe Co., the strictly union shoe store which succeeds Protzman-Campbell Shoe Co. Brother Trullinger says this is the store union men have been looking for and that it being strictly a co-operative one and strictly union that union men should and will buy the stock and patronize the store. We all know that Brother Trullinger will protect the interests of this worthy project.