

All Delegates to the New Labor Temple Association are notified to attend a meeting at 2:00 p. m., Sunday, January 23 (tomorrow) in Hall 201 Labor Temple. Something doing

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Big Business Attacks Able Seamen's Act

(From Committee on Industrial Relations, Southern Bldg., Wash. D. C., by Dante Barton.)

Within a few months of the East-land horror in the Chicago River, with the Titanic, the Volturno, and Empress of Ireland tragedies of greed still fresh in the minds of the world, the shipping trust is already battering at Andrew Furuseth's Able Seamen's Act for safety at sea and fairness to American seamen.

Two bills in Congress to nullify the Seamen's Act have been introduced. One is in the Senate by Senator Gallinger, of New Hampshire, the other is in the House by Representative Humphrey, of Washington.

The whole labor movement is directly interested in protecting the Seamen's Act. Andrew Furuseth's success, with the special help of Senator LaFollette, after twenty-two years of fighting, will, if left alone, restore another great employment to American workingmen, restore American ships to the seas, relieve the seamen's occupation from Oriental domination, and lessen the competition in land work in American coast cities.

The two bills in Congress are dangerous, but the worst danger that threatens the Seamen's Act is the danger from what has been called "limiting and softening" the enforcement of the law under the rule of the Department of Commerce.

The pressure for the repeal of the Seamen's Act, or for its defeat by non-enforcement, is enormous. The concentrated wealth of the shipping interests of the world is back of the efforts to keep American seamen underpaid slaves, to drive them from the seas, and to recruit the sailors of all vessels of all nationalities from cheap Oriental labor and from the helpless, hopeless outcasts of the capitals of Europe and America.

American shipping interests have from 300 to 400 million dollars invested in vessels flying foreign flags. Their interests are tied up with the federated shipping interests of all the world on all the seven seas.

These shipping interests fight the Seamen's Act because: (1) it makes the seaman a free man, free to quit his vessel in a port of call, as any other worker can quit his job; (2) it gives the seaman a right to receive half his wages if he quits, so that his individual liberty of action becomes real economic liberty; (3) it raises the standard of efficiency, provides that from 40 to 65 per cent of all crews must have had three years' experience as sailors, and requires 75 per cent of the deck crews to understand the language of the ship's officers; (4) it abolishes the present real crime by which the police power of the United States is now employed in every American port to hunt down the seamen of foreign vessels and force them back into involuntary servitude; (5) it increases the equipment for safety to passengers on all boats, and (6) because all these provisions, applying to all vessels, American or foreign, that touch an American port, will eventually raise the wages of all

seamen, not only on American vessels, but throughout the shipping trade of the world.

Most powerful interests, the combined wealth throughout the world, are now assailing and trying to undermine the Seamen's Act. Will the people of the United States stand for it? Will labor in the United States stand for it?



T. H. BURCHARD
President Oregon State Federation of Labor.

CARPENTERS IN BEND ORGANIZE LOCAL.

O. J. Wright, formerly a member of Carpenters Local 808 of this city is now located in Bend, Oregon.

Brother Wright was always an active union man and when he found there was no organization of his craft in Bend he immediately got busy. And he got results.

A letter to a friend here says that there was recently organized in Bend a carpenters' local with a good list of charter members.

The letter further states that at the meeting held just before the letter was written eleven new members were initiated.

The officers of the organization are as follows: President, O. J. Wright; Vice-President, W. S. Kirby; Recording Secretary and Organizer, Robt. Cunningham; Financial Secretary, Laurence Nieuwenzahn; Treasurer, W. L. Goodall.

The Labor Press wishes the new organization a long and prosperous life.

HIGHER WAGES NEXT YEAR.

The Plumbers' union, of Beaver, Pa., has renewed its contract for \$4.50 per day with employers. It is agreed that next year's rate shall be \$5.

THANKS, TOM

We are firm believers in advertising, and since we doubt very much whether the genial and obliging Walking Delegate of the Employers' Association would accept our check for the assistance he has rendered us in getting out this special edition, we wish to take this occasion to publicly thank him.

The following letter which he sent out aided us very materially in our work:

My Dear Sir:

I am informed that solicitors for the Oregon Labor Press are again calling on members of this Association for advertising.

Some advertising was secured for the Labor Press last August from some of our members, which, if secured under the same circumstances by any one else, would come very close to bearing the label—"SECURING MONEY UNDER FALSE PRETENSES."

Many of our members were on the "unfair" list of the Labor Press at that time, some being boycotted—and OUR ASSOCIATION was at that time, and is now, THE TARGET FOR CALUMNIOUS, VICIOUS AND FALSE ATTACKS BY THAT PAPER.

The issue of January 8th is particularly vicious and libelous, even though the article was not originated here, seeming to have been made over to fit the occasion.

In addition to this, the LETTER OF SECRETARY STACK of the Central Labor Council to Senator Chamberlain against his military Bill certainly does not commend itself to loyal Americans, as it seems to me that it breathes the poisonous fumes of TREASON.

Read the following quotation from the letter:

"The workers of Oregon, and we believe of the entire country will NEVER SUBMIT TO CONSCRIPTION without a fight, and by this WE DO NOT MEAN A BATTLE OF WORDS OR WIT, BUT SUCH A FIGHT AS WILL SURFEIT EVEN OUR MOST BLOODTHIRSTY MILITARISTS, either of the offensive or defensive type."

It does not follow from this that the laborers of this country sanction such foul utterances, as no one questions the loyalty of our good citizens, and the majority of the wage earners of this city are fair-minded, honest and loyal citizens.

It is to be regretted that they permit themselves to be represented by the men who claim to be their Leaders and who are responsible for the utterances of the Labor Press, but so long as that condition exists, IN JUSTICE TO YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS, who are being unjustly and falsely persecuted through this paper, I CAN SCARCELY BELIEVE IT IS ENTITLED TO MUCH CONSIDERATION AT YOUR HANDS.

Very truly yours,

THOS. McCUSKER.

Secretary.

TMCC—EG

PRAYER OF SLAVER TOMMY

(BY LENNA PITTMAN STAHL)

Oh, thou great and mighty despoiler of the lives of the human race, I bow before thee in supplication and prayer. Long have I toiled in thy interest. May I not receive some small recompense besides my salary as secretary of the Employers' Association?

Day after day and night after night have I schemed and devised plans to promote greater suffering and misery for the slaves to duty and humanity.

I know thou dost glory and revel in the midst of starving, pain-racked human souls, and I have

striven faithfully to furnish victims for your glory.

Thou knowest, Oh, great and fallen master of my efforts to do thy work. Grant me more power that I may devise means whereby I can summon hordes of hunger's wolves to invade the homes of working men and women. Help me to so oppress the despised laborer that gaunt poverty may stalk through the city, blighting hearts, homes and very souls of men.

May thy cloven hoofs sink deep into the flesh of those fallen from privation and want as thou goest abroad in the land; the cries of pain; teeth chattering from cold; curses of penniless, jobless men with dependent families suffering from every want; aching bodies and limbs from long hours of underpaid toil; sickness, disease, want and strife caused by awful labor conditions being food for enjoyment for your eyes and ears.

Help me, Oh, my Satanic Majesty in my work to fill the jails, almshouses, penitentiaries and potter's fields. Help me in the work of pauperizing and enslaving the working class.

Grant me power over those men and women who are striving for uplift and betterment of conditions for mankind, for knowest thou, that prosperity, contentment, equality and happiness would spell ruin, my Majesty, for such as you and I.

Only thou, who rebelled in Heaven, was cast out, fell for many days and sank deep into the boiling, burning depths of hell, can fully appreciate my efforts and ambitions and it is to thee I come in my hour of supplication and prayer.

Help me insofar that, my work completed, hell will leave no terrors for dying earthly toilers.

Members of Metal Polishers' union, No. 44, Newark, N. J., have been locked out by the Acetylene Company because they demanded shorter hours and \$3.75 per day.

Stage All Set For State Federation

Arrangements are all completed for the 13th Annual Convention of the Oregon State Federation of Labor, which will convene in the main auditorium of the Central Library next Tuesday morning.

Judging from the number of credentials that have been received to

ent unions in the state which are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

Its work is almost wholly legislative and since its organization in May, 1902, the Federation has been instrumental in securing the enactment of a great many laws for the benefit of the workers, both organized and unorganized. Prominent among the laws sponsored by the Federation are the law creating the State Labor Commissioner, the Employers' Liability Law, and various other laws and amendments to laws. The Federation also endorsed and assisted in the enactment of the Initiative, Referendum and Recall, the direct election of United States Senators and in fact all the progressive laws that have helped to make this state the leader of all other states in this respect.

The Workmen's Compensation Law was opposed by the Federation, not because organized labor does not believe in this form of dealing with personal injury cases, but because of certain objectionable features in the law, the main objection being that the law tended to make the employer careless as to the installation of safety devices which might otherwise be installed under the Liability Act.

The first convention was held in Oregon City in May, 1902. A convention has been held each year since that time. In years when the Legislature is in session the convention always meets in Salem. It will meet there next year. Other cities where conventions have been held are: Astoria, La Grande, The Dalles and Portland.

The sessions of the convention are open to the public and all interested are urged to attend. There is nothing secret about the work.

date it will be one of the largest ever held. It is certain that it will have a vast amount of important work.

Probably the most important thing which will be up for consideration is the "People's Land and Loan Measure" which is being proposed by the Central Labor Council of Portland as a cure for involuntary unemployment.

The State Federation is composed of the representatives of the differ-

Industrial Relations Night Great Success

An audience of six hundred persons listened attentively and with interest and appreciation for a period of two and one-half hours Wednesday evening at the Central Library to the speakers provided by the Central Labor Council for the purpose of reviewing the report of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations.

It was an open meeting and those present represented all walks of life and every real and alleged movement for human uplift.

After a brief introductory by the president of the Council, Dr. C. H. Chapman reviewed the report in general, calling the attention of his hearers to the appeal to Labor to organize by the majority report of the Commission.

Mrs. Millie Trumbull spoke on the Report and Child Labor and Woman's Work, and was followed by Col. C. E. S. Wood, whose speech was concluded by a ringing appeal for solidarity of the workers.

The Hon. W. S. U'Ren closed the speaking program as arranged and devoted his time to the land question as mentioned in the report and described briefly the Oregon Land and Loan Measure as being legislation in line with the commission's report, stating in part:

"The commission recommends, or rather the majority of five, that the taxation system be revised to exempt from taxation all improvements and tax unused land at its full rental value. This would abolish land speculation and land monopoly, and is what the Oregon State Federation and the Central Labor Council of Portland and vicinity are proposing to do by the initiative people's land and loan law.

Briefly, this proposed law provides for taxing into the public treasury all of the fair rental value of the land, separate from the value of any improvements. It provides for restoring public ownership of land rent, instead of allowing that great revenue to be absorbed by pri-

vate owners. It exempts personal property and all land improvements from all taxes, except special taxes that may be levied by a vote of the people proposed by initiative petition.

"The proposed law provides for a state loan fund, from which loans are to be made to citizens building homes or developing farms, up to \$1500 each on the improvements as they progress, without interest for the first five years and at a rate not exceeding 6 per cent per annum after that time; allowing 20 years from the time the loan is made for repayment. It is designed and intended to abolish land monopoly and land speculation in Oregon. It is intended that every citizen under this law shall have his rightful opportunity to make and own his job on the land, if he would rather do that than work for a boss. Of this proposed law Chairman Walsh wrote to Eugene E. Smith, president of the Central Labor Council, under date of

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Profitless Preparedness And Homes For The Homeless

By Grant Eugene Kellogg.

In the heated discussions for and against military "PREPAREDNESS," the first and most important essen-

STATE EXCHANGE PLAN.

The State Exchange Educational Campaign Committee would be pleased to have the name and address of every voter who approves of the idea and will vote for such a law if submitted. Also if you can offer a suggestion for improving the plan we will be glad to hear from you. Send in your name anyhow. It will only cost a penny for a postal card and a knowledge of your endorsement will help us. Address, Box 574, Lents, Ore.

the HOME OWNER—is being entirely overlooked.

Machine guns, artillery and munitions are useless without men—PATRIOTS—to use them.

Hired men may carry guns, perform military evolutions and obey

orders, but it requires the dynamic force of PATRIOTISM—LOVE OF HOME AND COUNTRY—to make men loyal and inspire them to fight.

Mighty England, aided by the hired Hessians, could not overcome the American patriots, BUT—the American patriots were fighting for their homes and liberty and the same incentive, backed by the development and unlimited resources of the United States, would insure an unconquerable nation.

Tenants and hirelings care little for the interests of the men who receive the land rentals or hand out the pay checks.

Cheering or waving a flag does not make patriotism. A flag must represent home and economic independence—homes for the homeless and jobs for the jobless—there is no alternative.

Congress has expended millions of dollars of the people's money in the construction of battleships and other material for "military preparedness," that soon became obsolete and eventually went to the junk heap—a total loss to the taxpayer—and each succeeding session has been called upon to make still greater

appropriations—ALL for material but NOTHING FOR PATRIOTS.

In the last fifteen years our naval appropriations alone have been more than \$1,629,000,000—ALL for material but NOTHING FOR PATRIOTS.

This policy is radically wrong, as will be plainly seen when we consider that every penny appropriated for the making of PATRIOTS would come back to the treasury—ready for re-appropriation and to make MORE PATRIOTS.

HOW?

Let congress authorize an issue of non-interest-bearing bonds—equal to double whatever sum the patriotic organizers and members of the Naval League and their friends may deem necessary to establish a satisfactory degree of "preparedness."

Let the first half of the bonds be issued as series A, and the second half as series B, and let the preparations begin as soon as the series A bond issue is subscribed.

Let congress establish a PATRIOT ROLL upon which will be inscribed the name of every PATRIOT who will subscribe and pay par value for a block of the PATRIOT BONDS

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