The Labor Press should appeal to advertisers as a medium for getting business because it bears a distinction not had by other papers, in that it is the journal of a class in an organized capacity—the wage-earners—without whose expenditures there would be a marked decrease in all business. Merchants, when fixing appropriations for advertising, should remember the Labor Press.

Oregon Labor Press

Formerly The Portland Labor Press.

Owned and Controlled by Organized Labor.

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Nothing contributes more to the upbuilding of a prosperous community than the patronage of Home Industries and Home Merchants. Money sent to out-of-town mail-order houses never comes back.

The Labor Press urges its readers to patronize home merchants, and especially our advertisers.

Secretary Of Labor Speaks For Wilson

Before a crowd that filled the Baker Theatre 'from cellar to garret" Secretary of Labor W. B. Wilson delivered a masterly address in support of President Wilson Thursday evening.

Every available inch of space was occupied and hundreds were turned away.

The meeting was under the auspices of the State Federation of Labor and was presided over by President O. R. Hartwig, who introduced the speaker.

Secretary Wilson, who is an active member of the United Mine Workers' Union, gave first-hand information as to facts leading up to the adoption of the Adamson eight-hour law and showed conclusively that President Wilson met one of the gravest situations ever faced by any President in a manner that should command the respect of every citizen of the United States.

He spoke feelingly of the passage of the child labor law and referred to his experiences as a boy of nine years of age in the coal mines of Pennsylvania. His voice trembled with emotion as he said that he had vowed to himself, when burning the midnight oil, to fit himself for the battle of life, that if he ever had the opportunity he would deal a death blow to the curse of child labor. He said that he was present when the president signed the child labor bill and that it was one of the proudest moments of his life.

He reviewed some of the other labor legislation enacted by the Wilson administration and expressed the opinion that the working people of this country, organized and unorganized, would show their approval of the President's efforts by casting their votes for him November 7th.

His explanation of the injunction with reference to labor disputes was one of the best ever heard in this city.

Organized Labor may justly be proud of the development of a man of his character and ability and also of the fact that we had a President who realized the necessity of placing such a man in his cabinet.

You'll Have To Hurry

As a result of the coupon which appeared in last weeks issue of The Labor Press, about half of the car load of apples have been sold.

Secretary Stack and the office force of The Labor Press have been busy most of the week answering phone calls and taking orders.

The carpenters of Bend wrote to inquire whether it would be possible for them to get in on the proposition to the extent of 50 boxes. On account of the fact that this would necessitate a reshipment from this point, it is not thought it would be any advantage to the boys over there to buy the apples, but the spirit of co-operation, which they show, is duly appreciated.

If you didn't happen to read about it last week, we'll tell you again that the secretary of the Farmers' Union, at Junction City, has offered to furnish a car load of apples, f. o. b. Portland, at 66 cents per box. To this will be added the actual cost of delivering them which will make the apples cost the consumer about 75 cents per box.

By this plan the farmers will get more per box for the apples than they would if they sold them through commission merchants, and the consumer will pay less than if he purchased them from the dealer, who has been compelled to purchase them from the commission man.

They are Winter Baldwins. Splendid keepers and well worth the money asked, and if you want to get in on the proposition you will have to hurry, as they are going fast.

This is a splendid chance for organized labor in the city to cooperate with organized labor in the country and demonstrate the uselessness of the commission merchant.

Fill out the coupon today and send it in, or call up Main 2638 and you will help a good cause along.

Portland, Oregon,.....1916.

E. J. STACK,
Secretary Central Labor Council,
302 Oregonian Building.

You may deliver to me.....boxes of apples on the plan proposed by Secretary Jensen, of the Farmers' Union.

Name .....

Address .....

Phone .....

Union Card And Label League Is Organized

The Portland Union Card and Label League is now an established fact.

Last Sunday the big hall in the Labor Temple was comfortably filled with men and women who are interested in the object of directing the purchasing power of organized labor in Portland in the direction that will benefit organization. The amount of money spent by union labor in this city runs into millions of dollars each year and we are determined that the institutions that are opposed to the principles for which we stand shall not use our own money to fight us with if we can help it, and we believe we can.

Organization was effected by the election of temporary officers as follows: Henry Robinson, president; Mrs. E. J. Stack, secretary; O. E. Hibbs, treasurer.

R. A. Willison, G. D. Biggs, O. E. Hibbs, Mrs. H. G. Surles, Mrs. W. H. Cayo, Mrs. O. E. Hibbs, Mrs. E. H. Pickard, Mrs. E. J. Stack, Oscar Horne, Henry Harder, Otto Hartwig and E. J. Stack were named as a committee to draft a constitution and by-laws, and to suggest the best plan for developing the league.

This committee met in the business office of the Labor Temple Tuesday and agreed upon a tentative draft of constitution and by-laws which will be submitted at the next meeting of the league, and also decided to recommend a plan of cooperation with the different locals, which will call for the appointment of a committee of three from each local for the purpose of assisting in building up the membership of the league.

It is hoped to increase the membership to include every woman in the city, who is, or should be interested in the objects of the league.

It is not intended that the league shall usurp the functions of any of the locals, but that the efforts of all shall be co-ordinated in order that they may become more effective.

The next meeting of the league will be held in the large hall of the Labor Temple tomorrow, Sunday, October 22, at 2 P. M.

Make it a point to be there.

Carpenters Hold Big Open Meeting

All the carpenters that could pack into the large hall of the Labor Temple last Tuesday evening, listened to the report of B. W. Sleeman as delegate to the International Convention of Carpenters, which was held recently in Fort Worth, Texas.

It was an open meeting and members from all the carpenters' locals and the District Council of Carpenters participated.

Delegate Sleeman made a most interesting and instructive report covering actions of the convention and recommendations for the further upbuilding of what is already one of the most militant organizations in the country.

J. A. Johannsen, general organizer, who has been in this locality for several weeks past, gave what he termed his farewell address, he having been directed by the International to go to other fields. Bro. Johannsen reviewed the organization campaign, which has been carried on by the carpenters and pointed to the increase in membership, and the increased interest being shown by members in the affairs of the organization as indications of an awakening in the minds of the workers.

O. E. Hibbs reported on the matter of the formation of a Card and Label League, and the carpenters pledged their support to the league.

Refreshments consisting of bananas, apples and cigars were served.

Vote for Wilson and Willison.

OREGONIAN'S CURE FOR UNEMPLOYMENT.

In the Winter of 1913, when thousands of workingmen in Oregon were out of employment, and when the Governor (Oswald West) and many other public officials and private citizens were endeavoring to do something to relieve the suffering the Morning Oregonian offered the following suggestion editorially as a remedy for the unemployment situation:

"WE SUGGEST THAT THE GOVERNOR TAKE THE STATE MILITIA AND ROUND UP THE UNEMPLOYED AND SET THEM TO WORK SQUEEZING THE WATER OUT OF THE MUD."

Judging from its attitude toward the Land and Loan law, the management of the paper must be of the same opinion as when the above suggestion was made.

MORE PAY; LESS HOURS.

Agreements have been entered into between the representatives of four of the largest mattress making firms in Newark, N. J., and a committee from Mattress Makers' Union covering one year that greatly improve working conditions. Under the terms of the agreements the mattress makers will benefit by an average increase of 25 per cent in pay and a reduction in hours from 57 to 51 a week.

Tonight at 8 o'clock at the Baker Theatre, Hon. Bainbridge Colby, Progressive leader, will speak on the issues of the present Presidential campaign, under the auspices of the Democratic State Committee.

Electrical Workers 48 To Front Again

Electrical Workers' Union, No. 48, was a few years ago, one of the most militant labor organizations in the city, but the dissension in the international organization led to bitter factional fights and the period of business depression of the past two years put the local almost down and out.

However a few of the faithful kept the local alive and with the advent of increased business activity the faithful few set about to effect a rejuvenation.

Recently a meeting was held to which non-union electrical workers who were eligible to membership were invited and the result was entirely satisfactory from the standpoint of the union men.

Speakers presented the cause of organization with such telling effect that the membership of local No. 48 was at once put on a footing, numerically, something like it used to be in the good old days.

The boys say they intend to profit by the experiences that almost ruined their local and that they will make their influence felt for good in the local labor movement.

All through their period of depression the organization kept up its affiliation with the Central Council, the Building Trades Section and the State Federation, and subscribed for The Labor Press for its membership.

Fred L. Bourne, an old-timer and a persistent and effective fighter is president, Wm. H. Brust, recording secretary; V. H. Haybarker, treasurer.

Here's hoping that the spirit that has dominated their efforts in the past will enable them to effect a 100 per cent organization in this jurisdiction.

THAT CARTOON

I wish to beg for a little space in The Labor Press this week to analyze a cartoon which appeared in the revered Oregonian on October 12. I shall try, like Mr. Pecksniff, to conduct my analysis in a spirit of love. But I shall not feel obliged to conceal my conviction that the Oregonian in printing this cartoon has indulged a regrettable propensity to substitute fancy for fact. I shall give an example or two for this in a minute.

But first let me remind the reader what the cartoon is about. It is an effort to exhibit the inner, or esoteric, significance of the Land and Loan bill, which the Portland Labor Council urges us all to vote for. The perpetrator of the bill is, in the cartoon, a fleeing figure who wears a mask to conceal as much as he can of his hideous countenance, but happily the mask has slipped partly off and it is not difficult to recognize the horrid aspect of Mr. U'Ren in this criminal fugitive. If we had any doubt about it, all would be cleared up by an illuminating label attached to his tall hat which serves as a kind of anti-halo. An anti-halo, as the reader will understand, indicates devilishness just as a genuine tinplate halo indicates sainthood. The anti halo is really superfluous since no sign is needed to tell us that Mr. U'Ren is the devil and all his imps in the eyes of the Oregonian.

The label attached to the fleeing figure is "U'Renism" a word which, beginning as a term of scorn, seems likely to follow the example of Methodism, Benthamism, Christianity and many more originally despised epithets which have now become symbols of victorious faith and proud achievement.

The fugitive in the cartoon has been caught by an indignant farmer who by lifting his wicked coat-tails exposes the weapons which he has hoped to conceal from a righteously wrathful public. The first concealed gun is labeled "Single Tax." The other, for this depraved disciple of the great Teddy carries two guns in his pants, is labeled "Confiscation." Naturally the bold farmer is as proud as he is mad to have been the blessed agent of his exposure. In his right hand the fleeing criminal carries a hand bag which bears the damnatory label "Socialism."

This brings me to the point where I can indicate the charming play of fancy in the Oregonian's cartoon. It represents the single tax as a concealed weapon. Now the single tax may be everything that is horrid but nobody has ever dreamed of denying that it is the very soul and spirit of the Land and Loan bill. I have heard Mr. U'Ren stand before the Chamber of Commerce in all his horror and call the Land and Loan bill a single tax measure. I have heard Mr. Eugene Smith time and again say the same thing. In my own feeble arguments for the bill I have always called it a single tax measure. So when the Oregonian tells the public that the single tax part of it is a concealed weapon that altogether stately but somewhat imaginative daily becomes for the moment what the Psalmist said in his haste, all men were permanently. The single tax feature of the bill may be a weapon. Heaven grant that it may prove a deadly weapon against tax dodgers and land hogs, but it certainly is not concealed and it needs no angry farmer detective nor any cartoonist to reveal it.

The gun labeled "Confiscation" is fanciful in an entirely different way. There is single tax in the bill and nobody wants to deny it. But there is no confiscation whatever. This weapon is not only concealed but it is a pure myth. The land and loan bill reduces the farmer's tax to the rental value of the raw land he tills. This, in the main, would reduce his tax by a full half. At the same time it would exempt all his improvements from taxation and sale for unpaid taxes. If that is confiscation the working farmer may well pray for it to come speedily. Mr. Spence, the master of the State Grange, joins in the parrot cry of confiscation against the Land and Loan bill in a published address. Mr. Spence thinks it confiscates the farmer's land because it speaks of rental value instead of tax. Mr. Spence appears to be innocent enough to believe that when you call a tax rent you make it confiscatory. But when you call rent a tax, no matter how extortionate it may be, you make everything safe and secure. It is odd that men will allow themselves to be so deluded by were words.

The plain fact is that every farmer is now a tenant of the state, paying annual rent under the silly and deceptive name of "land tax" and liable to lose everything he has on earth if the rent is defaulted. Not only does he pay rent now, but he pays a great deal more rent than he would under the land and loan measure, if it should be adopted. The only advantage he now enjoys is that his rent, which often amounts to rack-rent, is called by the soothing name of "tax."

Mr. Spence, and also of course the Oregonian, questions the statement that the new law would lower the farmers' tax. They contend that the money for public expenses must be raised in some way, and the only possible way to do it is to increase rural valuations until the required rental is produced.

But that is not the way the law would work out. It is a fact of common knowledge that the big land values are not found in the rural districts, but in the business quarters of the cities. And it is upon these quarters that the burden of taxation would fall under any scheme of single tax. The farmers would be largely exempt. Their improvements would be wholly exempt. The ground rent of business property in the cities would be expropriated, or "confiscated," by the state and in that way the expenses of government would be met. Raw, unimproved land has but little, if any, rental value in rural situations and yet it is the rental value of such raw, unimproved land which fixes the limit of taxation for the farmers.

The word "confiscation" is ingeniously made to play a sinister part in the opposition to the land and loan bill. It is flared in the faces of the farmers to stampede them in the hope that they will forget the perfectly obvious truth that every tax is a species of confiscation. The Land and Loan bill confiscates property in a sense entirely different from any ordinary tax, and this is a grave error. It does nothing of the kind. So I say again that the label "Confiscation" attached to the gun in the fleeing figure's right hip pocket is a piece of deception. Of course I do not say that the deception was intended, for I am nothing if not charitable. But this I do say, that no honest reasoner could call it confiscation to shift the burden of taxation from the farmer's land which pays little or no return and lay it upon city property which pays heavy returns. And this is precisely what the Land and Loan bill will do if it passes.

It should be reiterated patiently that the provision for taxing land up to the full unimproved rental value is a limitation on taxes. It fixes a limit beyond which the tax on farm land can not rise. And this limit is in the main far below the present level of rural taxation.

I confine this analysis to rural values for the most part because it is for the poor, suffering farmer that the Oregonian feels most solicitude. Of course that philanthropic paper cares nothing for the welfare of rich city landholders who are naturally able to look out for themselves. Its soul is wrung for the farmer and for him only. In this connection I am tempted to remind the farmer of an old piece of wisdom he used to read in his college days. It refers to the wiles of certain persons who sometimes conceal their real purposes under a treacherous aspect of kindly generousity. "Mistrust the Greeks," says the old saw, "et dona ferentes." Mistrust them, that is to say, even when they come bringing what seem to be gifts. The word gift in German means poison.

CHARLES HIRAM CHAPMAN.