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R. B. BENNETT, Editor
 L. S. BENNETT, Business Manager

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Man's Inhumanity to Man

As a rule a labor strike is a poor method by which to settle the differences that exist between employer and employee, and while there is usually a reason for dissatisfaction there is also a reason for not granting the demands made by labor. While there may be abuse on one side there may be unreasonable demands on the other.

The Lawrence strike has attracted the attention of the entire country and in view of the report made by the House committee after an examination of conditions, one must be fully persuaded that the strike was wholly justifiable on the ground of the inhumane measures employed by the Lawrence mills toward their employees.

The report shows that the highest wage paid the ordinary operatives when the mills run at full time seldom goes over \$12 a week, while one family of a father, mother and three children were forced to live on the father's earnings alone, which were \$5.10 a week. The average wages are given for a week late in 1911, when the mills were running full time as, \$8.76 per family. The figures given by Commissioner Neill are based on a study of the payrolls for 21,022 operatives.

Commissioner Neill and his associates found that one-half the population of Lawrence, 14 years old and over, were employed in the mills or dependent on them. Lawrence has a population of 85,892 and there are 60,000 persons dependent upon the mills. The allied crafts among the English speaking operatives had a total of only 2,500 members when the strike broke out, while the Industrial Workers of the World had a paid up list of 300 members. Thus there were less than 3,000 union operatives in Lawrence.

Continuing the report says: "The actual economic condition of the families of the workers of the textile mills of Lawrence cannot be easily pictured by a mere statement of over earnings. It is obvious from the figures that the full earnings of a large number of adult employees are entirely inadequate to maintain a family.

"Thus the full time earnings of 7,725 employees, or about one-third of the total covered in this investigation, are less than \$7 a week.

"Of the 7,725 earning less than \$7 a week, 5,294 were over 18 years old and 36 per cent of the 5,294 were males. The plain fact is that the textile industry, so far as earnings are concerned, is in large part a 'family industry.' It gives employment to men, women and children. The normal family of five, unless the father is employed in one of the comparatively few better paying occupations, is compelled by necessity to supply two wage earners in order to secure the necessities of life."

Man and Beast

Are interested. Every man, woman, child and horse—yes, even automobiles—are interested in the kind of pavement that is to be laid upon the streets of Hood River.

The question of street pavement is the most live subject before the citizens of the city and valley, because every one who is to travel the streets is interested and this includes every man and beast in Hood River county.

At a recent meeting of the city council the local humane society presented a request that oil bound macadam be laid on

the city streets. It, no doubt, was the thought of the society to champion the cause of the dumb brute that must haul the heavy loads over the thoroughfares of the city. This act upon the part of the society is truly laudible. It is too often the case that the interest of the dumb brute is never considered in a proposition of this kind. But why pave the streets with oil bound macadam?

It occurs to us that if the city goes into the paving business that the streets should by all means be paved with material that could be flushed once a week and thoroughly cleansed of the accumulated debris.

An oil covered street would not permit of this, and in wet weather it would be a loblolly, filthy and unsanitary.

It has been suggested that the cross streets having the heavier grade be paved with vitrified brick or grooved concrete. No doubt, State, Oak and Cascade ave. could be paved with a rough surfaced concrete which is so extensively used in the larger cities on the grades and which appears to be the cheapest hard surface that can be laid.

It appears that the majority of the property owners to be effected by the paving are against the oil bound macadam pavement, and as they are the men who are to put up the cash, the city council would be justified in taking them into close council and confidence.

The Hood River Apple

This year must be an apple strictly true to grade if it finds a profitable market with the consumer. The Hood River apple must be an out and out honest piece of goods if it is to successfully compete with the 150,000,000 boxes of apples that will be thrown on the fruit markets of the country to bid for the favor of the consumer this year.

The Extra Fancy apple must be perfect in color and form and free from all defects that would suffer them to rejection by the most exacting consumer.

The Fancy apple must be free from stings and other defections that render the fruit objectionable and unwholesome and should be perfect in form. The only difference between the Extra Fancy and the Fancy should be the element of color. To brand a box of apples as Fancy and have them contain ill-shaped and stung fruit is to tell a plain lie. No apple is Fancy that has a sting on it and is marred by fungus or other disease.

The Choice apple should have no place in the grading with Extra Fancy and Fancy in the field. The word "Choice" is misleading according to the manner in which several districts apply the term to the apple. Many of the apples in the "Choice" grade should go to the cider factory and the other should be branded "C" grade or cooking apples.

The district that places the largest number of honest apples on the market this season will be the district that will get the money and create future demand. The honest apple will be at a premium.

Complicity in Crime

Both press and prosecution have, without reservation, charged the New York police with complicity in the Rosenthal murder case. These agencies are at the very scene where the blood was shed and although the officers of the law are charged with planning and committing the crime, not a single word of denial has come from them in defense of their professional character. Officers of the law sworn, pledged, armed and protected by the law to safeguard human life, become the most dangerous foes of society when inspired to get their man. There are, perhaps, many who are sleeping the sleep of death because they were taken advantage of and shot down in cold blood by an officer who

has the law to vindicate him upon his statement of the circumstances that caused the tragedy.

"Swat the Fly!"

This command can be seen in print a thousand times each day as one reads newspapers, magazines, almanacs and patent medicine wrappers. However, the fly is not to blame for all of the cases of trespass that might be filed against this typhoid germ distributor.

It would be a mighty good thing if there were an ordinance in every city that prohibited the display of fruits and other ready eating commodities in uncovered receptacles.

Have you ever noticed a box of cherries or berries standing in the open without a cover except a covering of flies, and the merchant come out and "shoo" the flies away while he sells a nickle's worth of the filthy fruit to the innocent child? This is horrible.

"Swat the fly" and if necessary take a legal "swat" at the careless vender.

Congressman Lafferty has been busy wiring Portland commercial bodies urging them to action in behalf of establishing a brigade army post at Vancouver, Wash., inspiring them to the belief that their action will win, while Senator Chamberlain tells the Portlanders that it is "hot air." Well there you are.

G.O.P. HEADQUARTERS ARE ESTABLISHED

The Republican National Committee will divide the country into four parts, for the forthcoming campaign. The Pacific Coast headquarters will be in Portland, Ralph E. Williams having charge. He is a well known Oregon organizer. Considerable of the rancor that followed the close of the Chicago convention, is wearing out and during the next few months, it is believed that the campaign will settle down to a straight out issue as between the Republican and Democratic candidates. Should a third candidate enter the field, it is not believed that he will cut much of a figure and the support that he gets will be drawn about evenly from each state. Charles D. Hilles, until recently secretary to President Taft, has been chosen national chairman. At this time, Republicans believe they have a chance to carry four Southern states, namely Maryland, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri.

WOMEN ECONOMIZE IN POLITICS

The Senate inquiry has brought out the fact that the votes which elected U. S. Senator Stephenson of Wisconsin cost \$3.48 apiece. In the recent New York primaries, according to the filed accounts, the votes for Roosevelt came to \$8.50 each. In Los Angeles the party managers have always figured on \$2.38 a vote. At its last city election the Women's Campaign Committee succeeded in polling the votes of over 80,000 women at a cost of 15 cents apiece. These figures prove that the extension of the franchise to women does not "double election expenses."

A plano for a nickle, if you get the lucky number at Jack Morrison's shooting gallery on Second street. A chance with every bullet. 25H



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