

# TO CONSIDER SCALE

## Carpenters' Demands to Be Settled This Week.

### WAGES OF 1200 MEN AFFECTED

Contractors Are Divided as to Granting \$3.50 a Day—All Are Awaiting Result of Association and Union Conference.

Carpenters and contractors alike are anxiously awaiting the arrival of April 1, the fateful day on which the higher scale of the Carpenters' Union is to go into effect. Only a few days now remain in which to settle, and both parties have apparently put off the decision as long as possible.

The union men have all along declared that there was no doubt but that the scale would be granted without much opposition. The contractors said, when the scale was submitted, that it would be impossible to pay the 50 cents additional a day as a minimum. The carpenters are now receiving \$2 a day or more, but want that stipulated that \$3.50 is hereafter to be the least amount per day's work.

This applies to all members of the Carpenters' Union, and it is upon this point that the contractors base their objections. First-class mechanics they say, are worth that amount a day, but they believe that many men now working as carpenters are a long way from being first-class mechanics.

The question of allowing the scale must be decided this week. Wednesday is the first of April, and when the union presented the scale early in January it stated that April 1 was the date upon which the higher wage was to be granted.

None of the contractors, however, will make a positive statement until after this meeting tomorrow evening and the regular weekly meeting of the Carpenters' Union will take place on the following evening. Some of the contractors, however, make a positive statement until after this meeting, while the union men say as before that the matter is practically settled.

Every contractor interviewed yesterday said that he had no objection to the union's proposition to pay \$3.50 to carpenters who were better than ordinary laborers. Several declared most firmly that a number of the members of the Carpenters' Union were little better than laborers whom they could hire at \$2 a day, and that they did not feel like paying such men the wage demanded as a minimum for all carpenters.

All the contractors were equally firm in the belief that there would be no general tie-up of building. Even should a clash occur, they think that the men in the union would not be so numerous as to persuade their brethren to come to terms, rather than declare a general building strike. Whether this class is in the majority in the union they do not know, but seem confident that the conservative element will prevail.

"We will keep those men now getting \$3.50 a day that are worth it and if the others decline a wage of \$2.50 in their own business. We are not looking for trouble, and I think that the sensible part of the men will carry the day in the union," said one contractor whom the union men have always looked upon as decidedly favorable to their cause. "There is very little danger of a general tie-up, I feel certain."

The Master Builders' Association represents over half of the building contractors of the city. Its members are reticent as to expressing themselves until after the meeting tomorrow evening. The contractors outside the association are apparently awaiting the action of the association before taking any move themselves.

"If the association grants the scale, all the contractors outside will have to do the same thing," said W. E. Latimer, an independent contractor yesterday. "Again if the members of the association refuse to allow the higher scale all the others would follow suit. When the scale was first talked of I did not think there would be much opposition to it. Carpenters are receiving less than any other members of the building trades, and I thought that the association would do what they could to prevent it. It is pretty hard, however, to pay all men working as carpenters the \$3.50 they ask for, and I do not expect to pay any man that amount if he is not worth it."

It is apparent from a number of conversations yesterday that the association is divided as to allowing the scale. While two of the three men who were interviewed thought it impossible the scale could be granted, others standing high in the organization said privately that they would make an effort at the meeting tomorrow to induce the members to accede to the requests of the union. Whether this may be done is something which the union men would like very much to know, for they are anxious for a strike or walk-out of any kind, and they do what they can to prevent it, if the association shows the slightest indication of coming around to their terms. There is an element in the union, however, who believe the owners of property will not erect buildings if the price of construction is raised too high, and, therefore, that the scale cannot be granted. Another party, however, considers that if property owners wish to put up buildings they will pay whatever is necessary and get the money back through the rental of the buildings.

This is virtually the opinion held by many members of the Carpenters' Union and is given by them as the reason why the trouble may be settled without difficulty.

"Several of my men are satisfied with \$3 a day," said a prominent contractor yesterday, "and I do not think that they will quit unless ordered by the union. They are reasonable and know that some men are worth more than others. There are about 20 carpenters coming into Portland every day now and many of these are not union men. They represent all grades of mechanics, both skilled and otherwise."

If the carpenters get a scale of higher wages there is little doubt but that the painters, who have submitted a scale to take effect April 6, will be granted their demands. Therefore, the wages of more than 1200 men depend upon the result of the two meetings this week.

### NO ONE WOULD DEBATE.

T. E. Latimer Champions Cause of American Labor Union.

No representative of the American Federation of Labor disputed the glowing arguments in favor of the American Labor Union delivered by T. E. Latimer, a Socialist meeting last evening in Engler's Hall. He had issued a challenge to any member of the former organization to debate with him on the difference between the two organizations, but no one picked up the gauntlet, and Mr. Latimer's statements were not contradicted. He was especially desirous of debating with H. G. Kinnard, editor of the Portland Labor Press, who, in an editorial a few days ago, roasted the representative of the American Labor Union to a delicate brown.

Mr. Latimer told his audience how the workmen should have a hand in political affairs, and that through the organization which he represents the voter would have much more power than under any other federation. He explained the scope of the American Labor Union to the numerous members of the rival organization present, and said that the strike

here last year in the building trades would have been won had the unions been together under one head. After the meeting the audience broke up into small groups, which discussed the rival organizations at considerable length.

### THEY CANNOT ALL AGREE

Politicians Talk of Candidates for Congressmen.

"Yes, I'm for Hermann," said E. F. Jones, Representative from Lincoln County. Mr. Jones at the last Legislative session voted from first to last for Hermann as United States Senator. "And I think," resumed Mr. Jones, "that Hermann will be nominated and elected."

"Could the opposition beat him by combining against him?" was asked. "Yes, it could, but I don't think it can combine."

"Has he the lead now?" "Yes, but the field is against him. There are four other candidates. "Does Lincoln County want Hermann?" was asked.

"Every mother's son out my way is for Hermann. Why, you can't find a man there against him. Out of 1200 voters, Hermann will get 1000," added Mr. Jones, enthusiastically.

"How many counties will Hermann carry in the election?" was asked. "He'll have Lincoln, Coos, Benton, Polk, Lane, Lane, Douglas, Klamath, Lake and others," was the reply.

Mr. Jones put Josephine in the doubtful column. "Will you be at the Eugene convention?" "To be sure I shall. It's too interesting a place to stay away from."

"Hermann is in the lead," declared S. L. Moorhead yesterday. Mr. Moorhead hails from Junction City, in Lane County. At the last session of the Legislature he was Chief Clerk of the Senate. After the above declaration had saturated his auditors, Mr. Moorhead resumed:

"Yes, Hermann is in the lead. There's no question about it."

"Will Lane County support him?" "Yes, indeed; he will get the county. Lane usually works as a unit, you know."

"Would Lane cross the deadline for him?" "Well, no; I don't think it would do for him."

"Do you wish him nominated?" "Yes, I do. He is well known at Washington, and his experience there is what Oregon needs. No, he's not out with the Administration. Hitchcock isn't the President."

Mr. Moorhead put in the Hermann counties, Lane, Douglas, Coos, Lincoln, Klamath, and Tillamook. He also mentioned Benton, Polk and Josephine he regarded as doubtful.

"By grab!" exclaimed D. M. C. Gault, of Hillsboro, "don't you print what I tell you. The promise was given, but not by the scribe, who took notes of this interview. Mr. Gault is a member of the Legislature."

"How does Washington County line up as to the Republican nomination for Congress?" was asked. "Against Hermann," replied Mr. Gault, decisively. "Against Hermann."

"Who is Washington County's candidate?" "Well, Davey has some strength in the county, but I don't think it amounts to very much."

"Who would your county like to see go to Congress?" "You see it's this way," responded Mr. Gault, taking on the wise look which he wore when he fought the Lewis and Clark appropriation and the portage road at the last session of the Legislature, "you see the county is divided into three camps, gentlemen. Hermann, of course, is exempted from these gentlemen."

"Would your people scratch Vawter?" "No, I don't think we would. But I am personally acquainted with Mr. Vawter, and really know little about him."

"Maybe that's the reason you wouldn't scratch him," suggested somebody, who is familiar enough with Washington to understand that most of the other candidates are so well known there that many people criticize their faults more than they praise their virtues."

Mr. Gault intimated that this argument ad hominem had some weight. "Would you scratch Gatch?" "I don't know that we'd scratch anybody, but of course, we have the people there. There's Judge Hewitt, of Linn. I like him very much."

"How about Eddy?" "I like him too. He's a bright, smart fellow, but I don't think he's the man to lead. He won't break his heart if he gets up a referendum on his corporation tax law."

"By grab," resumed Mr. Gault, after a pause and by grab, that initiative and referendum is a grab."

"Haven't you any confidence in it?" "Not a bit. And I don't see how it got in the Republican platform. It may work all right in Switzerland, but Oregon is too big, of course, to have the people know the rich corporations will be using the initiative to enact laws of their own."

Mr. Gault paid his respects to the Council of Portland for falling to let into the city the bill of exchange, but he didn't believe in retaliating by invoking the referendum on the Fair bill.

"But if they want a referendum out my way," said Mr. Gault, "they can use my name and I'll be the pet." "How about Harris for Congress?" "He could get our county and could be nominated and elected, but I suppose he's going to stay out."

"And how about Brownell?" "I guess Brownell will take his own delegation to the convention."

"For himself?" "Of course; that's what I meant. But he'd be better off if he was nominated."

J. S. Cooper, of Independence, said yesterday that Polk County did not want Hermann for Representative to Congress. Mr. Cooper denied that things were stacked up for Hermann in Polk. He declared that the Democratic primaries expressed its favor for Hermann first and then for Gatch second, but that the expression of independence was for Mulkey first and Gatch second. "In the eastern part of Polk," said Mr. Cooper, "Gatch is the favorite candidate."

### PERSONAL MENTION.

Mr. and Mrs. Jefferson Myers have gone to San Francisco. Mr. Myers will return before the Democratic convention at Albany next week.

Thomas J. Davoren, a veteran mail carrier and a member of Oregon Lodge, No. 1, Knights of Pythias; Orpha Temple, Katharine Sisters; Portland Camp, No. 36, Woodmen of the World; Portland Camp, No. 4, Fraternal Order of Eagles; Portland Union Degree Camp, Woodmen of the World, live in a precarious condition at St. Vincent's Hospital. He is suffering from consumption.

NEW YORK, March 29.—(Special.)—The following Northwestern members registered at New York hotels: From Seattle—R. M. Hemmingsen, at the Imperial; A. B. Ernst, at the Astor; F. H. Holme, N. L. Blake, at the Commodore. From Spokane—F. E. Baldwin, at the Holland; R. C. Ribbick, at the Cadillac; R. O. Porak, at the Sturtevant.

Taking Desperate Chances. It is true that many contract colds and influenza are cured by rest, but any precaution or treatment, and a knowledge of this fact leads others to take their chances. The danger of catching a cold is not to be despised. It should be borne in mind that every cold weakens the lungs, lowers the vitality, makes the system less able to withstand such diseases, and paves the way for more serious diseases. Can you afford to take such chances? Cough Remedy, famous for its cures of colds, can be had for a trifle. For sale by all druggists.

# ENGLAND AND THE IRISH

## LOCAL SONS OF ERIN INTERESTED IN LAND BILL.

### Think British Government's Plan to Lend Millions of Dollars to Tenants a Good One.

The Irish citizens and friends of Ireland in Oregon are watching with interest the progress of the bill introduced in the English House of Commons March 26 providing for the loan of many millions of dollars to tenants in Ireland that they may purchase their farms from the landlords.

"That bill, if passed, will be productive of much good in Ireland they all agree, and they are all eager to see it go through. There is a disposition, however, to question England's motives in the matter, the opinion is generally expressed that Ireland will view the move with more or less suspicion."

The bill which is now pending in the House of Commons makes a direct grant of \$60,000,000 to the tenants of the property owned by Irish landlords. It further contemplates a pledge of the credit of the British Empire to the amount of \$750,000,000, secured by Irish lands.

"The bill if passed will be productive of good results," said Father Carroll, of Columbia University, who has spent a great part of his life in Ireland, and is well informed as to the conditions existing there.

"You may say it as you will, but the condition of the Irish tenants at the present time is nothing but a sort of serfdom. We read of the Irish cabin and of the poverty of the Irish homes. The conditions are as they are described, but not on account of the Irish people. The Irish love comfort and good homes as well as any people. They have as delicate feelings in the matter as any people. The conditions are due to landlordism. The landlords own the land and the tenants must not only pay the rent, but must also pay the taxes. If any improvements are made on the property they must be made by the tenants. After the improvements are made they belong to the landlord, and he thinks that his property is then worth more rent. He can raise the rent, and if the tenants do not want to pay it they can move out. If the people know that they were wrong for their own improvement and that they would be allowed finally to own the property, they would struggle to better their conditions. It is a great wrong, a great Irish problem, and the Irish people can never have any real property until they own their own lands."

"Is the present bill one that will bring about the progress of Ireland in the best way?" he was asked. "I have not enough information on the bill to comment as to its merits," he answered, "but I think it would be better if the English government could buy the land outright and give it to the tenants. However, this bill is a great step forward on the part of the English government, and it shows the report are coming to recognize Ireland's rights."

"It is no act of benevolence or charity on the part of the English government," he continued, "it is merely giving Ireland her own land. England is a country that she will not lose anything by the transaction. She knows that her money will be secured by the Irish land. England will really reap a benefit from the movement. The land will become more productive, and will yield the government a greater revenue."

"Another advantage that will be wrought about by the giving their own land is the fact that the landlord opposition to home rule government will be removed. The people as a whole want home rule government, and the landlords oppose it. The land will be given to the people, and their own land this opposition will be removed."

"And the relations between Ireland and England, how will they be affected if the bill is passed?" he was asked. "That will depend entirely upon how the Irish view England's motives," replied Father Carroll.

"And how would you view England's motives?" "I think that it is a matter of policy with England. The English have come to realize the strength of the Irish at home and abroad. The English at this time has come to make concessions to them."

"Abroad?" asked the reporter. "And why abroad?" "Twenty million Irish people in America," answered Father Carroll, "are watching the progress of the Irish land bill, and the position of the English government toward the Irish people. In America the Irish are strong. They have much influence with the policy of this Government. England wishes the good will of America and knows that the Irish here can wield much influence toward solving the Irish problem. It is a way from here."

"Then you think the Irish will not be disposed to look upon the concession with great gratitude?" "They will not even as much as they deserve. But they are forgiving. It may make better relations between England and Ireland."

Professor M. Garvin, of Columbia University, said that the bill was a favorable opinion of the bill. Like Father Carroll, however, he was disposed to question the motives of England in the matter, and said that the bill was purely a matter of policy with the English government.

"A great writer has said: 'The future of England depends upon the Irish.' There is much truth in that statement," said he, "and the English realize this. The great question in Ireland is the land question, and the English know that any movement to solve this problem will be received with open arms and gratitude."

Both Mr. Garvin and Father Carroll were of the opinion that the landlords would favor the scheme, as they will want to sell the land. "The emigration from Ireland is so large," they said, "that the land is depreciating in value very much. The price offered by the government for the land amounts to about 20 years' rent, and the landlords will be glad to take it."

"Will the emigration diminish when the people own their own homes?" asked the reporter. "They will have something to work for at home, and will be satisfied with their own land," was the reply. "The Irish leave Ireland because they cannot build up homes for themselves, and because they cannot have the sort of a government they want. When they own their own lands and do not have to overcome the landlord resistance to their plans of government, they will be content to stay at home."

J. H. Black, rector of St. Francis' Church, asked for an explanation, said: "I consider it a forward step toward a better and brighter future for the Irish people. The sterling patriot, William J. Walsh, archbishop of Dublin, in speaking of the land bill, says that a great obstacle to the progress of Ireland is to be removed. The fact that nearly all the representative, brainy men of the Isle of Destiny are loud in their praise of the bill is the best evidence of its real merit. This bill also marks another epoch in the gradual transformation of English character. Centuries of oppression have been and are gradually giving way to a sense of justice and humanity. Step by step the English are learning to exercise brains and heart to undo the wrongs of the past and thus promote her own best interests, as well as those of humanity."

Humane Society's Meeting. The annual business meeting of the Oregon Humane Society for the election of officers for the ensuing year, will be held in the chapel of the Unitarian Church on Tuesday evening, March 24, at 7:30. All members and persons interested in humane work are requested to be present. W. T. SHANAHAN, Corresponding Secretary.

# SPEAKS TO MEN.

## Bishop of Olympia Tells Audience That They Need the Church.

The Right Rev. Frederick W. Keator, D. D., bishop of Olympia, addressed a large attendance of men yesterday afternoon at All Saints' Protestant Episcopal Church. Bishop Keator is an eloquent speaker, and interested his auditors intensely from the first to the last words of his address. He spoke of the powers of the Christian religion, as well as the duties and essentials of a true Christian. He also spoke of those who professed to be Christians, yet had not been baptized, claiming this to be an impossibility, and quoting the words of St. John that "unless a man be born again, he cannot enter the kingdom of heaven."

"We hear men say," said the speaker, "that they are Christians, but that they don't want to be in the church. They say that they have their faults, and do not want to make themselves hypocrites by continuing with their bad habits after baptism. The truth is, however, that if a man is established his church here on earth for the salvation of souls, for the benefit of those who were in the wrong path, in order that they might be turned in their course and guided safely into the kingdom of heaven. The establishment of the church on earth was the greatest object of Christ, and he would have never prevailed against it."

"When we think of the church and its religion, we must realize that it is to be an ordinary human society. It is far from that. It is the kingdom of heaven here on earth, seeking the salvation of men. It is a divine institute. Christ instituted it, and he who were in the wrong path, in order that they might be turned in their course and guided safely into the kingdom of heaven. The establishment of the church on earth was the greatest object of Christ, and he would have never prevailed against it."

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