FRAUD IN A FIRE

Remarkable Insurance Plot That Failed.

$2750 ON AN OLD SHACK

Building Destroyed, Money Partly Collected.

HOW AGENTS WERE DECEIVED

One August Kreitzel, a Mysterious Person, and His Relations With George E. Streeter and T. B. McDevitt, Jr.

Behind the recent discharge of George Streeter as agent for the Portland branch of the Aachen-Munich Company lies the story of an attempted swindle which has been run to earth in this city by a special agent representing the three fire insurance companies involved. And while it is improbable that any open charges will be laid against Streeter and Thomas B. McDevitt, Jr., a young attorney, the two men who, it is alleged, conspired to commit arson and fraud, the facts which have so far been made public seem to support the statement made by the insurance companies that they are refraining from active prosecution only from motives of charity and not because the evidence is at all insufficient.

The charge made by some of the insurance men whose companies came near to being fleeced by the scheme is in brief that Streeter and McDevitt bought a tumble-down shack near Oregon City for $300, of which amount they paid only $50 cash, and then insured it in three different companies for an aggregate of $2750, after which it was burned down and they attempted to collect the insurance.

Streeter and McDevitt claim on the other hand that they were merely acting as agents for one August Krietzel. At this allegation the insurance companies are much amused, saying that there is no such person as August Krietzel, and that he was impersonated at different times by both McDevitt, Streeter and another man hired by the conspirators for that purpose.

Whatever the merits of the defense offered by Streeter and McDevitt may be, the finale of the matter was that the policies on the shack were meekly surrendered to the insurance companies on their request, and neither Streeter, McDevitt nor the mysterious unseen Mr. Krietzel made any claim for their payment.

Old Board House Bought for $300.

Early in February last, George Streeter agreed to purchase of Thomas Mann an old board house near Oregon City for the sum of $300. A few evenings later he went to Mr. Mann's residence with the deed and asked that it be signed. The deed conveyed the property to A. Krietzel, and Mr. Mann, to whom Streeter had never introduced himself, naturally supposed that Streeter was Krietzel himself. Streeter paid Mann $50, and gave a mortgage for $250. This document was produced by McDevitt, who had brought it along duly prepared and acknowledged, and at that time it was not noticed that the name of the mortgagee appeared both as Krietzel and Kreitzer.

Not long after Streeter, as agent of the Aachen-Munich Insurance Company, issued a policy for $1000 on the property which he had bought. He now states that he did this at the request of McDevitt, who was acting for Kreitzel under a power of attorney. Later another policy for the same amount was obtained by Streeter and McDevitt from the Thuringia Insurance Company, making a total of $2000 carried on the building.

Then McDevitt and Streeter called at the office of the Home Insurance Company and procured a policy for $750 on the furniture of the shack. This policy, like the others, was made out in favor of A. Kritzel.

It is a common practice among insurance agents to divide the risk on a property among different companies, when the total amount carried is greater than the agent's own company wishes to assume. In such cases the agent bringing the business to any other company than his own is entitled to half the commission. But when Streeter obtained the policy on the furniture from the Home Insurance Company he told the agent of that company to keep all the commission. And it was this unwonted generosity that aroused the first suspicion of the genuineness of the transaction and eventually led to the undoing and exposure of the fraud.

None of the two outside companies involved made a personal inspection of the risk. Insurance men say that when a reputable agent has taken a risk on property and offers another company a risk on the same building, it is usual to take it for granted that everything is all right, otherwise the agent would not present the matter to a friendly company.

Shack Burns Down.

On March 6 the shack burned down. As it was insured for nearly ten times its value, this occurrence was natural enough. After the loss was reported to the companies by McDevitt, it became necessary for their adjusters to examine the ruins and report what the amount of damage alone might be. This matter was easily disposed of by Streeter, who adjusted the loss of his company and reported it "total."

Then Streeter affably offered to accompany Theodore Manner, the local agent of the Thuringia Company, and T. B. McDevitt, agent for the invisible Kreitzel, to the burned building. McDevitt took the guileless insurance man some distance north of Oregon City, and sadly pointed out the ruins of a building which must have cost at least $3000, and which had been burned some months ago. Manner naturally supposed the risk had been a good one.

In a few days L. F. Lamping, adjuster of the Thuringia Company, arrived in Portland and desired to visit the ruins of the risk. He called on Mr. Manner, who, of course, took him out to the place where the $3000 building had stood. Mr. Lamping took the dimensions of the building as shown by the ruins, expressed the opinion that the risk had been a good one, and the two insurance men returned satisfied.

Insurance Men Visit the Ruins.

Suspicion of something wrong in the matter had been growing in the Home Insurance Company's office, owing as much as anything else to the unusual fact that Streeter had waived his commission when placing the risk with them. When their local agent, F. E. Dooly, went up to inspect the ruins of the furniture on which his company had made such a quick losing, he was accompanied by Mr. Lamping, of the Thuringia Company, to whom Dooly had confided his suspicions. Dooly had not before seen the ruins or the building itself, and Mr. Lamping therefore acted as pilot. Naturally the pair of investigators found themselves at the place which the wily Streeter had originally pointed out to the local agent of the Thuringia Company.

Even the suspicious Dooly could see nothing wrong with the elaborate ruins on which he gazed. The house had evidently been large and spacious, and must have been worth more than the policies called for. To furnish it would certainly have required more than $750, and, indeed, Mr. Dooly rather wondered at Mr. Kreitzel's moderation in insuring the furniture for so small a sum as he did.

After examining the ruins the baffled insurance men returned to Oregon City. Here they found that they had some time to wait for a car, and decided while waiting to stroll into the Recorder's office and inspect the records. They soon discovered that the ruins they had inspected were not those of the house whose insurance they were trying to adjust, but were removed from it about a mile. A thorough investigation was then commenced.

Who Is Mr. Kreitzel?

About the first thing that the insurance men desired was to find the mythical Mr. Kreitzel. They still desire to see Mr. Kreitzel, but up to date no person has laid eyes on the evanescent purchaser of cheap shacks except Streeter and McDevitt, and in this case, the insurance men say, it was probably only the eye of faith.

It was soon ascertained that the property had been sold to Kreitzel by Thomas Mann, and, accordingly, Mr. Mann was asked what kind of person this Kreitzel might be. Mr. Mann knew but little about him, but when asked for a description gave a fairly accurate description of Streeter.

As McDevitt had a power of attorney from Kreitzel, and Streeter had issued a policy on the house burned to him for Kreitzel, and as "Frenchy," or H. H. French, who lived in the house when it was burned, was at the time a tenant of Kreitzel, they were sent after to furnish information in regard to him. These gentlemen did not rush around to give this information, but were finally induced to talk, one at a time and at intervals.

French said Kreitzel was a single man, who lived at Sellwood, or somewhere on the East Side. When it was remarked that it was strange that a single man should have furniture worth more than $750, French was silent. When the inquisitors displayed a desire for more knewledge as to the origin of the fire, his wife, who accompanied him to the insurance office, declared that she was very ill, and the couple left abruptly.

When Streeter was seen he stated that Kreitzel had been a married man, but was now divorced, and that the furniture was a relic of his matrimonial career.

McDevitt had another and more original explanation. Kreitzel, said the attorney, was a Catholic priest, who was now in Alaska, working as a missionary.

Mann Recognizes Streeter.

Finally Lamping had Mr. Mann come to his office, where he met Streeter and immediately recognized him as Kreitzel. This appears to have satisfied Lamping as to Streeter's guilt. Mr. Lamping said to Streeter:

"Now, Mr. Kreitzel, I want you to turn over to me the draft for $1000 your company sent you to pay the loss on the house near Oregon City, and also to return the policies secured for Mr. Kreitzel in the Thuringia and Home insurance companies."

Streeter turned over the draft, and the companies mentioned received their policies back without any claim being made for payment.

Search for Missing Kreitzel.

After the insurance companies had begun a careful investigation of the matter, and had made repeated demands on Streeter and McDevitt that the absent Kreitzel be produced, Streeter called at Mr. Mann's house two or three times.

One evening he brought a man around to the back door and asked Mrs. Mann if she recognized him. She said she had never seen him. Streeter said he wanted her to recognize the stranger as the man who had bought the property from Mr. Mann.

Once more he called to say that he had found the genuine Kreitzel and exhibited an affidavit signed by Kreitzel, dated April 30, stating that he was the man who had bought the property from Mr. Mann, and that George Streeter had nothing to do with it.

Mrs. Mann asked him where Kreitzel was then, and Streeter said he did not know. He had disappeared after signing the affidavit, and he had not seen him since. He thought he had gone to Alaska.

No Prosecution to Be Made.

A representative of one of the insurance companies concerned said, when speaking of the probabilities of his company undertaking a prosecution of the matter, that he would advise against such a course being followed.

"Those implicated," said he, "are young men of good families, and if the matter were followed further, it would work a hardship on innocent people. This is especially true of one of the young men to whom the evidence at our disposal points as being the arch-conspirator."

George E. Streeter's Denial.

In answer to the charges made against him, Mr. Streeter makes the following statement:

"I had absolutely nothing to do with the matter so far as any fraud was concerned. I acted simply as the agent for the company. The business was given to me by Mr. McDevitt, Jr., and taken by me in good faith. There was not a cent of money paid out by anybody and the companies did not lose anything. I don't know French and had never seen Mann until I took his acknowledgment of the deed in which he conveyed the property to George Kreitzel. On the day of this transaction a man appeared before me and gave his name as George Kreitzel, and so far as I know, he was the person he pretended to be. Since the policies and money were returned the same George Kreitzel signed an affidavit clearing me of all share in the fraud, if one has been committed. I feel that I have been more imposed upon than the agents of the other companies, and there seems to be a disposition to shoulder all the blame off onto me, whereas, if I had been a party to any fraudulent transaction, I certainly would have protected myself.

"As evidence that there is such a person as George Kreitzel, I might cite the fact that the same man gave a power of attorney to T. B. McDevitt, Jr., which was certified to by another Notary Public in the city. The affidavit made by Kreitzel clearing me from any part in the transaction in question was acknowledged before Henry H. Newell, Notary Public, and president of the East Side Bank, and witnessed by W. J. Lyons, cashier of the same institution. This affidavit is, in substance, as follows:

"'George Kreitzel, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That I am the person who negotiated with and purchased a certain house and tract of land, described as follows: One acre of land surrounding the house and being a portion of the tract bounded by the county road, the Abernathy land claim and the Oregon City car line;

"'That I hired T. B. McDevitt, Jr., an attorney-at-law, to draw up a deed; and I further depose and say that George E. Streeter had nothing to do with the above transaction with the exception of attaching his name and official seal as Notary Public.'

"I have been in business in Portland for 15 years, during which time I have always held positions of trust, and have handled other people's money during the entire period, and there has never been the slightest question as to my integrity. In the face of this showing, I feel that I am being done a great injustice in the present instance."

JOHN L. WILSON IS HERE

EX-UNITED STATES SENATOR ARRIVES TO GREET PRESIDENT.

Will Attend the Lewis and Clark Ceremonies and Be a Guest at the Private Dinner.

John L. Wilson, of Seattle, ex-United States Senator from Washington and a member of Congress from both the state and territory for several years, is in Portland. He is to attend the ceremonies at the City Park attendant upon the laying of the corner-stone for the Lewis and Clark monument, and will be a guest at the private dinner which is to be given the President at the Hotel Portland.

It is five years since Senator Wilson visited Portland—a multitude of business and political engagements crowding upon him to keep him away from this city. Because he has not been able to see much of Portland during recent years Senator Wilson came early to the city to renew old acquaintances.

"I have always felt kindly toward Portland," he said last night as he discussed the city, his mission and the early days of the Northwest. "My earliest recollections of the Northwest are associated closely with Portland. When I first came to Washington, about 1882, I was residing in Colfax, and to get in and out of that town we came through Portland. I saw a great deal of the city at that time, and have always liked it, coming here as often as possible. I wanted to come a day ahead of the reception to the President in order that I might get out about the city and study the improvements that have been made here."

Senator Wilson will return to Seattle after the reception to President Roosevelt in this city, and will join the party on the steamship Spokane, which takes the President from Seattle to Everett and return.

"The President will spend the time between 1 and 3 P. M. on May 22 in the City of Seattle. At 3 P. M. it is planned he shall be escorted on the steamer Spokane from Seattle to Everett, a committee from Everett having charge of the excursion going up to that city.

"The plans for the return trip include a dinner to be given aboard the steamer. The trip down from Everett will require about two hours' time, and advantage will be taken of the opportunity to obtain dinner. In the evening it is the intention of the President to deliver an address to the Alaska Society at the Grand Theater.

"This, I believe, is the only time during his trip when Alaska interests will be discussed.

"Beyond providing for the comfort of the President after the meeting of the Alaska Society, the Seattle committee's plans do not provide for his further entertainment. He will be given every opportunity to rest on Sunday, and will be free from any local engagements to spend the day as he sees fit."

Senator Wilson would not discuss the newspaper reports of friction between the Tacoma and Seattle reception committees over the President's entertainment. He dismissed the subject with the explanation that it was all settled, and that the entire misunderstanding was an unfortunate circumstance.

Nor would Senator Wilson enter into a discussion of Washington politics. "I have had 20 years of the strife and worries of political life, and I want now to devote my attention to business," he said, as he dismissed the subject.

"I only met Mr. Hill for a moment," Senator Wilson said, in response to a question directed at the object of the visit of Messrs. Hill and Mellen to the Coast. "Mr. Mellen is now on Puget Sound, and will, I believe, come to Portland tomorrow. Mr. Hill had left for the East before he arrived. Mr. Hill remarked when I met him, in speaking of the low rates he had quoted for Eastern flour shipments, that it cost about $115 to bring a car to the Coast. If he could make this car pay its own way westward, a big part of the transportation problem would be solved, for the West is demanding more cars than the railroads can supply.

"It's the politicians who make trouble for the railroads," Senator Wilson insisted, when the subject of possible inimical legislation growing out of the low flour rates was suggested. "And," he continued, "it is possible the politicians might use this to argue for low rates in Washington and Oregon. But I do not know. It is just one of the possibilities.

"We had an editorial the other day"—Senator Wilson was referring to his newspaper, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer—"in which it was shown that the railroads had been fought in Washington, where they had done so much in extending their lines, encouraging immigration and otherwise to build up the country, while Portland, which the railroads had neglected, had always been friendly. But, as I have said, the anti-railroad fights have been encouraged principally by the politicians. The business interests have not precipitated these contests."

But Senator Wilson would not discuss the problems of the future, so far as politics are concerned. "No one is talking politics in Washington now," he stated; "it's between seasons."

Of Seattle's municipal politics Senator Wilson declared he was uninformed. That he stood, personally, for moderation, or even conservatism, in preference to the "wide-open" policies of the past, he was willing to admit.

THE EMERSON CENTENARY

Anniversary of Birth of Famous Author to Be Celebrated.

The Emerson centenary will be celebrated at the chapel of the Unitarian Church Monday evening, under the joint auspices of the William G. Eliot Fraternity of the First Unitarian Church and the Young People's Culture Union of Temple Beth Israel.

Several short addresses dealing with Emerson and his work are to be given, among the speakers being H. W. Scott, Alfred F. Sears, Jr., Dr. George C. Cressey and Dr. Stephen S. Wise. In addition there will be a number of readings from the poems of Emerson.

The 100th anniversary of Emerson's birth is to be celebrated generally throughout the country by admirers of the famous poet and scholar. The meeting at the First Unitarian Church is to be public, and an invitation has been extended to all lovers of Emerson's works.

ABOUT LADIES' CLOTHING

Did you know that we are manufacturers of ladies' wear? Make all the stock we carry or make ladies' garments to special order? Think of it, will you, right here at your own door, such a concern. We have the expert fitters to fit you, we have the tailors to make them. If we have not your fit in stock ready to wear we will make you a suit. We have just finished some 20 ladies' coats for Spring, Summer and early Fall wear, which are the most stylish, serviceable little coats ever offered in this city. They are made—tailor made, well made—you can't help but like them. We have placed them at the remarkable low price of $9.50. We can sell them at this price because we are the maker—the manufacturers—the first people on them. Don't fail to see them. Also our ladies' suits all made of regular substantial tailor cloth.

THE J. M. ACHESON CO.,
Merchant Tailors and Manufacturers of Ladies' Suits, Skirts and Coats ready to wear or to special order, Fifth and Alder Streets.

For twenty-five cents you can get Carter's Little Liver Pills—the best liver regulator in the world. Don't forget this. One pill a dose.

Meier & Frank Company | Meier & Frank Company | Meier & Frank Company | Meier & Frank Company

HEADQUARTERS FOR FLAGS AND BUNTING

Our Store Closes Tomorrow at 12 o'clock Noon | See Trunk Display in Fifth-Street Window

LADIES' SUITS
AT SPECIAL LOW PRICES

Everything that is desirable, new, stylish, combined with the best quality at the lowest prices, is always to be found here. We have to offer a trio of specials for this week's selling that is bound to meet with the approval of all economically inclined. We have divided them into three lots, which are—

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suits in blouse effects, colors, black, blue, brown, regular prices $22.00 and $22.50, special at **$16.25**

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suits in blouse and jacket styles in cheviots and granite cloths, colors black, blue, brown and mixtures, regular prices $24.00, $25.00, $26.00, special **$18.25**

Ladies' Tailor-Made Suits in blouse and jacket styles in cheviots, granites and basket weaves, colors black, blue, browns and mixture, regular prices $28, $30, special **$21.25**

Special Jacket Sale The latest styles, colors tan, castor, blue and red, regular $18.00 value, special **$13.85**

FLAGS! For Decorating FLAGS!

Decorating for the President's day will assume great proportions. Everyone will be thinking of decorating in some appropriate way—The American flag is of course the grandest and best decoration that can be put forth. Our assortment of flags exceeds the assortment of all other houses in the city combined. Prices:

Best All-wool Bunting Flags, sizes 3 to 24 feet, prices $1 to $25.
Printed Cotton Flags, warranted absolutely fast colors, 4x6 feet $1.00; 5x8 feet $2.00; 8x12 feet $3.50.
Silkoline Flags, warranted absolutely fast colors, 5x8 feet $2.75.
Muslin Flags, from 1c dozen to 30c each.
Mounted Bunting Flags, with spear ends, 15c, 25c, 35c and 50c.

CURTAIN SALE Ruffled Swiss Curtains, 36 inches wide, three yards long, all $1.15 and $1.00 values, reduced to 79c. Excellent bargain, so do not miss the opportunity **79c**

Boys' Department

Boys' Washable Sailor Suits, in dark blue and pink cheviots and crash, sizes 3 to 9 years, regular $1.00 values, special, suit **78c**

Little Boys' Washable Kilt Suits, blue striped chambrays, with embroidered collar, white braid trimming, blue striped percale, Russian style, white braid trimming, also linen with white braid trimming, sizes 2 to 5 years **98c**

Boys' Blue Flannel Sailor Suits, with black, white or red soutache braid trimming, sizes 3 to 9 years, special, suit **$1.78**

Boys' Long Pants Suits, in all-wool cheviots, brown, gray, green mixtures, sizes 12 to 18 yrs **$5.35**

Men's Clothing Sale

This clothing store has been in existence for almost half a century. Its success is greater each season from the fact that the most desirable wearing apparel for men at the lowest prices is always to be found at Meier & Frank's—It is always our aim to satisfy you thoroughly in every purchase you make in this department, giving you a splendid fit in good reliable merchandise. We are always here to rectify any error or dissatisfaction should any exist after a purchase. Here are some special items for this week's selling that should interest every man economically inclined:

Men's Trousers, fine-quality worsted, neat, dark gray stripes, fifteen different patterns to select from, all sizes, special at the low price of **$2.80**

Men's all-wool Suits, unfinished worsteds, tweeds and cassimeres in brown, gray or green mixtures, regular $12.50, $13.00, special **$9.85**

Men's All-Wool Suits, worsteds, cheviots, and tweeds, newest styles, extra well made, regular values $15.00 and $16.50, special **$12.98**

Great Crockery Specials

60-pc. white semi-vitreous Dinner Set, ... **$3.89**
60-pc. brown or blue semi-vitreous Dinner Sets **$4.99**
5-pc. Chamber Sets, blue, brown or pink decorations **$1.72**

Great Clock Sale

We are placing on sale a line of clocks—the alarm kinds and others at prices below manufacturer's cost. Sometimes prices are reduced on clocks, but this sale eclipses all former ones and prices below should not be overlooked, for the kind of clocks we sell at prices are the lowest and cannot be equaled by any one.

The Dot Sunrise and Buzz, sold everywhere for $1.00, special for the remainder of this week **72c**
Wasp Time Clock, one-day lever, nickel plated, special **83c**
Wasp Time Clock, one-day lever, gold plated, special **97c**
Time Wasp Alarm Clocks, one-day lever, sold everywhere for $1.50, nickel plated, special **97c**
Time Wasp Alarm, one-day lever, gold plated, special **$1.14**
The Reveille, double bell alarm clock, special **$1.18**
Spasmodic, one-day lever time alarm, sold everywhere $1.50 and $1.75, special **$1.18**

Children's Garment Sale

We will make this one of the greatest sales for the little girls. A sale that brings the prices of a great majority of our very desirable stock of children's goods within the reach of all. We aim to eclipse all previous records. Facts are:

Children's Sailor Suits and Dresses in fine serges and cheviots, colors, blue, red and brown, regular prices $8.50 to $10.00, special **$5.95**

Children's Sailor Suits and Dresses in fine serges and cheviots, colors blue, red and brown, regular prices $10.00 to $13.00, special **$7.85**

Children's Sailor Suits and Dresses in serges and cheviots, colors blue, red and brown, regular prices $6.00 and $7.50, special **$4.85**

Children's Novelty Jackets, sizes 4 to 14 years, in pongee, fine cloths and cheviots, colors tan, blue, white and red.

Reg. $22.00, special ..$16.45 Reg. $18.00, special..$12.85
Reg. $14.00, special ..$ 9.90 Reg. $12.00, special..$ 8.25
Reg. $11.00, special ..$ 7.25 Reg. $10.00, special..$ 6.85
Reg. $ 8.50, special...$ 5.95 Reg. $ 6.50, special..$ 4.25
Reg. $ 4.50, special...$ 2.75

Great Ribbon Sale

Our stock of ribbons has always been up-to-date—no old stock—everything fresh and bright from the manufacturers. This week we have two splendid offers for your consideration:

Latest Novelty in Ribbon, Dresden Crepe De Chine 4½ inches in width in all the light shades, regular 60c values, special per yard **25c**

Best Washable Taffeta Ribbon, 4 in. wide, in light blue, pink, red, cream, white, maise, turquoise and old rose, regular 30c values, special per yard .. **20c**

Special Glove Sale

Splendid opportunity to secure a very desirable pair of good gloves at a special price. We have to offer you some splendid values at good price reductions.

Ladies' Lace Lisle Gloves
In black, white and gray, all sizes, 50c values, special at the extraordinary low price of, pair **23c**

Ladies' Plain Lisle Gloves
16 button, in black and white, only 50c values, special at the low price of, pair **23c**

Ladies' Perrin's Cape Suede Gloves
In black, gray, tan and mode, in all sizes, regular $2.00 value, special, pair **$1.38**

Ladies' P. K. Two-Clasp Heavy Walking Glove
In tan, gray, ox blood and white, regular $1.25, special, per pair **89c**

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VOTING ON THE STRIKE

BUILDING TRADES UNIONS NOW WRESTLING WITH QUESTION.

If Two-Thirds Are in Favor, Cessation of Work Will Follow.

The Federated Trades Council, the central labor body of Portland, has no power to order a general strike. But the Building Trades Council, representing 11 building crafts, has been authorized to submit the question of a strike to a referendum vote in its unions. The voting is now in progress. Should two-thirds of the members of the 11 organizations vote for a strike, in all probability cessation of work in the building trades would follow.

The unions represented in the Building Trades Council are the following: Painters, carpenters (millworkers), carpenters (housebuilders), sheet metal workers, lathers, plasterers, electrical workers, bridge and structural iron workers, shinglers, glaziers and laborers. The building trades are related to the Federated Trades the same way as are the Water Front Federation and the Allied Printing Trades. All the unions here hold charters under National and international bodies. A union, in order to receive financial backing from its international organization, must receive sanction from that body before going out.

The local unions in the building trades have performed these preliminaries and have been authorized to take a referendum vote on the question of making a general strike. The international and National bodies, at all times during the recent difficulties, have been closely informed about labor conditions in this city.

A union may declare a strike independently, but in doing so it risks its opportunity of getting financial assistance from the head organizations. The union painters and the union carpenters are receiving weekly stipends from their international organizations, and also from allied unions in Portland. If the nine other unions in the building trades should go out or be locked out, they would be assisted in the same way.

The Federated Trades Council is simply an advisory body, organized to promote the mutual welfare of the unions represented in it. This council has no authority whatever to declare a strike. "It can only recommend or sanction a strike," said President C. H. Gram yesterday. "A strike must be resolved upon by a referendum vote in each union affeced, and must be further sanctioned by the international bodies. The Federated Trades Council cannot order a strike, but its recommendation carries weight with the international organizations. They largely trust to its judgment in local questions such as this."

Union leaders say that contracts with employers will be religiously observed, unless employers are found to be breaking faith. The Typographical Union, for example, has contracts with the newspapers of Portland, which it is obliged to observe. This is on eof the unions which is prohibited by its constitution from going on a sympathetic strike. It is the farthest removed of any from the danger of strikes, and when it goes out something's going indeed.

The unions will not participate in the President's parade. They are highly offended at the nonunion platform from which the President will speak in City Park, but they have resolved to be dispassionate in the matter and to lay the blame of any trouble that may occur at other doors than their own. "It's for the President to say," they remarked, "whether he will speak from that platform." Mr. Roosevelt has been informed that the platform is 'unfair.' The unions trust that he will stay off an 'unfair' platform, as he is credited with having done before under similar circumstances.

The unions will not boycott the parade. They will join in the celebration only as ordinary citizens on the curb. "We have not been invited to join the procession," they complain. "Had we been asked to do so 7000 men would have marched after the President in a parade two or three miles long. But the only union men who will be in the parade will be the musicians."

The peace committee of the Board of Trade and Chamber of Commerce is doing what it can for a settlement of the trouble, but has not accomplished much progress. The committee is composed of T. B. Potter and Seneca Smith, of the Board of Trade, W. B. Honeyman and O. M. Scott, of the Chamber of Commerce, and Mayor Williams.

The Typographical Union will meet this afternoon "to take action relative to the strike situation." This "action" is understood to be that of voting financial assistance to the union men who have been on strike or locked out.

The teamsters and their employes have come to an amicable understanding, concessions having been made by both sides. The draymen agree to employ nonunion men only when union men are not available. The teamsters agree to accept the old wage schedule for another year.

CONVENTION OPENS TODAY

Delegates of Lewis and Clark Women's Clubs to Assemble.

Many delegates to the convention of Lewis and Clark Women's Clubs have arrived in Portland and will assemble in the chapel-room of the Unitarian Church at 10 o'clock this morning. The outline of business will not be known until the meeting is called, but whatever is transacted will be for the best interests of the state and all clubs yet to be organized will be given the same consideration as those already formed.

All delegates are expected to be on hand promptly. In the evening a general reception will be given at the Oregon Historical room, City Hall, by the local Women's Lewis and Clark Club. Mayor Williams, the Lewis and Clark Fair directors, Senator Mitchell and the pioneers will be guests of honor. Major William Hancock Clark will also be a guest. The members of the club will bring escorts. The reception will be given at 8 P. M. This will be the first public function given by the Lewis and Clark Club and a pleasant social time is anticipated. Mrs. C. B. Wade, president of the State Federation of Women's Clubs, and other leading visiting clubwomen will be present.

STRIKE OR NO STRIKE

Don't Affect the Following:

Why is it that we could give every tailor in Portland work today if they were to apply to us for work? Because we are popular-priced tailors, never sell any shoddy or cotton mixed cloth, have the largest stock to select from in the city, try to please our customers so we can hold them and don't try to rob them on price, as all goods are marked in plain figures. That is why. If you want to see work and business or want any clothing come in.

THE J. M. ACHESON CO.,
Fifth and Alder.