

PUBLIC IS BLEED

Plumbers Quarrel Only Over Spoils.

COMPETITION IS KILLED

Boycott Enforced Against Independent Firms.

SUPPLY HOUSES AID TRUST

Unions of Journeymen and Bosses Dispute Among Themselves, but the People Pay Exorbitant Bills for Dilatory Work.

Hard and fast in the clutches of the grafting plumbers, the public of Portland pays the bills and sighs.

Resolved to get all the swag they can, the bosses bleed the public and gloat.

Bent on a share of the spoils, the journeymen use their flippers on the bosses and wax sleek.

Not to be distanced in the race for booty the supply trust and its unnumbered middlemen and jobbers likewise wind their tentacles around the bosses and grow fat.

It's dog eat dog. The game would end if the contestants would stop at feeding on each other. But no; the bosses come back at the public, and the game goes on.

One of the closest corporations on earth is the master plumbers' trust. Just recently the local branch fined several of its members for buying supplies from the boycotted firm, Crane Company. Until not long ago every member added \$5 to each contract for the association's "pot." The members are under forfeit bonds to comply with the rules of their organization.

Their nonunion competitors are subject to a boycott which every good member must perform observe. Right now members of the journeymen's union who work for bosses outside of the association are blacklisted.

The new plumbing ordinance passed several months ago was a signal to the union bosses to jack up prices, so up prices went, much out of proportion with the increased cost of materials. So high they went that independent bosses made comfortable profits cutting under the union bosses. So the union bosses had to come down. Now they are in the business to get away with everything they can from the nonunion bosses. The willingness of the union journeymen, whose labor they have monopolized, to work for the rival bosses has further stirred their ire.

Public Sees Behind the Scenes.

All the grafters until the present strike or lockout have been "in cahoots." Now they've split up, and through the breach the much-abused public catches a glimpse of what's the matter.

Any house-owner in town can recite a story of how he has been victimized by plumbers. You find him on the corner, in the store, in the street-car—everywhere.

So long as the public imagined that the journeymen started only from the bosses it said to them "Go it, boys." But the public pays the price, not the bosses. That makes the dear people put on a wry face.

So long as the law of competition fixed the number of bosses the surplus was eliminated by natural process. But now the bosses in their union estate off that process. The town is overridden with bosses. Some 46 prey upon the public, 37 of whom are in the organization. And because the world owes them all a living they think they are entitled to large profits.

The five independent bosses are as thorns in the flesh of the union bosses. Headed by J. F. Shea, one of the most prominent masters in the city, the nine hold out against the 37. For their pains they are boycotted in conformity with the "Baltimore resolution." They are as a plague which all good union bosses must shun.

No Second-Hand Material Allowed.

A poor man managed to secure a water closet from a house that was torn down. He wished to set it up in his home. He called upon one boss, then another. Would they set it up? No. Would they put in a new closet? Yes. Why not the old? Because they must put in a new one. At what price? About \$30. And this man of small resources must pay \$30 for a water closet where \$10 should suffice.

Some time ago a citizen wished to add two feet to the vent pipe on his roof. He got an ordinary mechanic to do the job. The boss in high dudgeon had the mechanic arrested for "practicing without a license." The victim was fined \$10.

A houseowner wished to install a plumbing system in his house. He wanted two water closets, a bathtub, a wash basin, a kitchen sink, a hot water boiler and two laundry tubs. He called for bids.

"About \$300," said the bosses.

The man is an able mechanic, and, therefore, snorted in disgust. He wouldn't pay, indeed he wouldn't. He knew that \$50 would cover the cost of supplies without discount. He knew that \$50 would meet other expenses.

"But the bosses," said he, "want to make a profit of \$100. I'll get along without the plumbing," and he is true to his word to this very day.

The local bosses in all trades are united in an association called the Builders' Alliance. They are sworn to stand by each other through thick and thin. So far so good. But witness the following illustration of how property-owners suffer:

On Fifth street, near Columbia, the Dolph estate is building four flats. The structures are in that stage where everything halts for the plumbing. But owing to the troubles between the boss and journeymen plumbers, the work does not proceed, and all the other contractors are sworn to lay to until the master plumber can go ahead. Meanwhile completion of the flats is delayed indefinitely.

Family Got No Dinner.

A man who lives out on Twenty-third street needed a new water-back for his kitchen stove. The plumber was to come out at 1 o'clock, but the time of his advent was nearer 2. He took down the stove. Then he sent to the shop for piping. Three o'clock and no return from the shop; then 4. Thereupon, the plumb-

Meier & Frank Company

Store Closed All Day Tomorrow
New Armenian Lace Handkerchiefs—Late Novelties.
New Arrivals in Leather Goods—Hand Bags, "Keiser" Belts, Etc.
Merchandise Purchased on Credit Today Goes on Your October Account.

Store Closed All Day Tomorrow
New Importation of Cloisonne Ware—Immense Variety of Pieces.
New Stock Jewelry Just Received—Stick Pins, Waist Sets, Opera Glasses.

Store Closed All Day Tomorrow

Store Closed All Day Tomorrow

Store Closed All Day Tomorrow

Peninsular Heaters

We offer for today 22 Hickory "Peninsular" wood heaters—36 inches high—takes 19-inch wood. Built of handsome, ornamental iron and steel, nickel trimmed. The best wood heater for the money ever offered. Regular \$8.75, today **\$7.75 Each**

BARGAIN CARNIVAL TODAY

Today we present the grandest bargain event of the season—Values such as you have never before been offered and all the more important because they are bargains in seasonable and desirable things only—The store being closed all day tomorrow requires that we crowd two days' business into one—We have therefore ignored the cost, disregarded former selling prices, on every article advertised for today—Profits are tossed to the winds—The phenomenal sales records of the past two days only spur us on to greater deeds of bargain giving—You miss scores of money-saving chances if you fail to visit the store today—Hundreds of Other Bargains Not Listed Here

81x90 Sheets 45c

For today only we offer one hundred dozen 81x90 linen finish Bed Sheets at 45c each—Considering the sharp advance in the price of all cotton goods, raw material and finished product, as well as curtailment of product caused by labor troubles, this offering is extraordinary, only 100 dozen, remember 1200 sheets for economical housewives at 45c each.

90c Cotton Waistings 69c

Two thousand yards of beautiful new heavy cotton waistings at less than cost for today. Oxford white basket weaves, with pin dot and small figures—a large and pleasing assortment of good styles that we have been selling regularly at 90c a yard. A chance to secure material for a handsome new Fall waist at a big saving. Today only at the very low price of **69c yard** (Fairy Soap, 35c for a dozen cakes.)

Zibelines at 79c yd

The same kind a store not a hundred miles from here are offering regularly at \$1.25 yard. Flaked and plain styles in a big assortment of all the leading shades. All new Fall dress materials and Zibeline is the most popular of all fabrics this season. Buy all you want today at the very low price of only **79c per yard** (AT THE REGULAR DRESS GOODS COUNTERS.)

\$1.25 Flannelette Robes 93c

Great special offering of Ladies' \$1.25 Flannelette Night Robes for today. Plain colors, fancy stripes, round and square yokes, fancy braid and silk stitched trimmed. All new this season's best styles, all sizes. **93c** Children's outing flannel night robes, pink and blue, square yokes, 1 to 8-year sizes, **39c** 50c values for **39c** 9 to 14-year sizes, **65c** values for **49c** (SECOND FLOOR.)



Ladies' Fine Kid Gloves

TODAY ONLY At 73c PAIR

One Thousand pairs of Ladies' Grace Kid Gloves at a marvelously low price for today's Bargain Carnival—all new desirable gloves in a complete range of colors and sizes—2-clasp overseam style of great special purchase, we offer for today only at the very low price of **73c** Shades include white, black, tans, browns, modes, reds and grays. Every pair will give the most satisfactory wear. Morrison street window display shows you what they look like. We don't expect them to last through the day, so come early to avoid disappointment.



\$2.25, \$2.50 Umbrellas

TODAY ONLY At \$1.57

500 Oregon "Rainproof" Umbrellas for women. The best Umbrella bargain we have ever offered comes to you just at a time when umbrella needs must be supplied. A great special purchase from the largest manufacturer in America—All new goods in a beautiful assortment of handles, pearl, horn, natural, sterling trimmed, metal and novelty styles in immense variety, heavy Paragon frame, bulb runner—Every one guaranteed to give satisfactory service—We purchased them to sell regularly at \$2.25 and \$2.50 each—Your choice of the entire lot for today only at each **\$1.57**

\$1.75, \$2.25 Wrappers
Ladies' best quality percale Wrappers, braid and Hamburg embroidery trimmed, full flounce skirts, best patterns and colors. We've sold hundreds past two days—all sizes, at each **\$1.19**

35c Ribbons 17c
Two thousand yards of fancy striped and lace effects in all silk Ribbons—big assortment of the best colors—35c value at the very low price of **17c**

Bleached Muslin 5c
Five thousand yards of good Bleached Muslin; the price today only, is **5c** yard.
Unbleached 4c
Five thousand yards unbleached Muslin, good weight, today only, at **4c** yard.

Empire Quilting 9c Yd
5000 yards handsome Empire Quilting in a big variety of the best patterns and colorings—great special value, for today only, at **9c**

\$1 Comforter Bats 79c
Two thousand full size Comforter Batts, fine, soft and fluffy. We sell thousands of them regularly at \$1.00 each—special price, for today **79c** only, is, each **79c**

50c, 60c Waistings 39c
Great special lot of Oxford Waistings in desirable patterns and color combinations. Go on sale, for today only, at the exceptionally low price of, yard **39c**

\$2.50 Corset Covers
Great odd lot of handsome \$2.50 Corset Covers—nainsooks, laces and cambrics—dainty lace, beading and ribbon trimmed, round, square and V-shaped neck all sizes, today **\$1.69**

Jap Crumb Sets
New importation Japanese lacquered Crumb-sets and Brush—gold ornamented, odd style, would be special value at 25c set, today's price, **15c**

All Linen Towels 19c
Two hundred dozen pure All Linen Hemstitched Huck Towels, 18x39 inches, the greatest Towel value the town has ever seen, today only, each **19c**

\$3.00 Rugs \$1.95
One hundred Axminster Rugs, 27x54—beautiful oriental and floral designs—great special Wednesday bargain, at **\$1.95** for this sale only, per rug. (Third Floor)

25c Tooth Brushes 14c
Choose from our entire stock of 25c Tooth Brushes today at, each **14c** Best bristles—14c is the lowest price ever quoted on 25c brushes.

Men's Night Robes
Fifty dozen Men's Flannelette Night Robes, and a big variety of patterns and colorings—all the \$1.00 values **65c** today! (Men's Furnishing Dept.)

Muslin Underwear Specials

Ladies' 85c Gowns, made of cambric, tucked and Torchron lace, trimmed yoke, lace edging neck and sleeves, all sizes, 85c values. **48c**
Ladies' fine cambric Gowns, embroidery and ribbon trimmed, round neck, short sleeves, \$1.00 values... **52c**
Ladies' fine nainsook and cambric Gowns, high neck, trimmed with dainty Nainsook embroidery, \$2.29 values for... **\$1.63**
Special line of fine kimono-shaped Gowns, of fine Nainsook, hemstitched, lawn trim'd, marvelous val... **\$1.48**
Special lot of Skirts at \$3.98; \$5.00 and \$6.00 values.
Special lot of lace-trimmed Corset Covers, round and square neck **29c**
Ladies' cambric and lawn Drawers, trimmed with wide Torchron lace and tucks, regular \$5 values, pr... **52c**
Ladies' Drawers, wide flounce, tucks and embroidery trimmed, 40c values for, pair. **29c**

Linens, Towels, Etc.

One hundred and fifty dozen hemstitched huck towels, 18x36 inch. Value extraord- **14c** inary at...
Two hundred dozen bleached Turkish bath towels, 20x39 inch. Marvelous value **13c**
Silver bleached, all linen table Damask. Handsome assortment of patterns. Best value ever offered at, per yard. **48c**
Bleached Damask napkins, large size, very best Great special lot at a **\$1.48** ridiculously low price, per dozen.
Hemstitched Damask tea cloths, 36x36 inches at \$1.38—4x44, at, each **\$1.65**
Hemstitched Damask tray cloth. Size 20x28 inch. Extra value at, each **29c**
Continuation of the Great Anniversary Sales in all departments.

Lace Curtain Bargains

Plain Net Curtains with Battenburg lace edging and insertion—white and Arabian—three yards long, 45 inches wide. Great special value at, per pair. **\$2.27**
Ruffled Swiss Curtains, three yards long, 45 inches wide—stripped design—wide ruffle—marvelous value at, per pair. **87c**
Scotch Brussels Net Curtains—3 1/2 yards long, 50 inches wide. Very variety of neat designs. Great bargains at, per pair **\$2.27**
Arabian Net Curtains—plain centers—extra heavy border—regular \$4.50 values **\$3.67** for this sale only, per pair.
All grades of Toilet Paper at lowest prices ever quoted. (Drug department.)

Flannel Waisting Bargains

27 inches wide—silk embroidered dots and figures, in an assortment of forty colorings—black, white, gray, brown, navy, royal, old rose, light blue, cardinal, tans, green. Sale continues through the week—75c values **42c** for...
75c Flannels 37c
Special lot of plain colored Granite Flannels, fancy bordered; big variety of all the **37c** leading shades—regular 75c value, for...
Drug Sundries and Soaps at low prices.
Ladies' Knit Underwear greatly underpriced.
Bargains in Embroideries and Laces.
Great values in Ladies' Shoes.

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

comes to the shop instead of going to his

job, even though the "job" is nearer his home than the shop. Of course, he doesn't arrive at the shop much ahead of 8. It would be a cruel boss, indeed, who would not allow his man to chat a little and smoke a pipe after "coming on". Therefore, if the plumber is off by 8:30 he's doing well. If he makes the distance to his "job" in 30 minutes or an hour he's doing well again.

Arrived at his "job," he orders the "boy" to light the pot. In the course of half an hour or so the pot is hot and ready for work. But something is missing. The "boy" must go back to the shop to get it. He goes. Eleven o'clock draws near, then 11:30. The journeymen perhaps must go back to the shop. He starts and arrives not later than 12. An hour for lunch. One o'clock sounds. Perhaps he starts back to the "job" at once or perhaps not. Anyhow, he does not get back much before 2. Then he works, or pretends to work. At the stroke of 4 he starts for the shop in order to be there at quitting time, 5 o'clock.

This is an extreme illustration, perhaps, but none the less true.

"I figure," said a boss yesterday, "that nearly half of the eight-hour day goes to waste. By this I mean that many journeymen could accomplish twice as much if they would."

"The public," said another boss, "imagines we are responsible for the carelessness of journeymen. In a way we are, but in most cases we are not. We have

as much grievance against the journeymen as has the public."

Journeymen Say It's Not Fair.

The journeymen declare that this broad arraignment of their union is not true.

"It is not fair," said one of them, "to characterize us all by the shortcomings of a few. We have as faithful workers as in any union. But we can't work for the bosses under their new rules, for our international laws won't permit us."

"I've got a leaky pipe up at my house," said an unfortunate citizen, "and it's only a question of time when the plumbers will bleed me. But I won't call 'em in right away; no, not yet a while."

Architects must be on their guard against the plumbers. Inferior materials will go into the building if the bosses are not watched. Poor workmanship will go with the materials if the journeymen are not watched. Pipes will be placed against the outside wall where they will more readily freeze or will be connected so they will not drain of water. Then when some frosty night comes they will burst. The plumbers try to "work" the public through the architects.

High indignation reigns against the

plumbing ordinance which citizens believe was framed in the interest of the plumbers. Maybe the plumbers had some influence on the ordinance. But the truth is that they are far from being satisfied with it. The ordinance increases the initial cost of plumbing, but diminishes repairs, upon which plumbers rely for

profits. The ordinance requires large

pipes which will not get clogged so readily as small sizes. It requires also "drum traps." Such traps can be readily cleaned out by anybody; but not so with other traps.

Many persons are indignant also because the bosses have sole privilege of buying supplies. The bosses won't sell in turn; instead, they will install the equipment, and charge the total cost thereof to the houseowner. It matters not if a man is a proficient mechanic, he does plumbing over in his own house at the risk of being fined and arrested, unless he is a licensed plumber.

MAY SOON BE RICH.

Owners of Northern Light Mine Think They Have Good Thing.

The owners of the Northern Light quartz mine in the Shenandoah, Clackamas County, mining district, about 50 miles east of Portland, yesterday received from the mine a quantity of very rich ore, taken from the end of the tunnel now being extended into Huckleberry Mountain. The ore was brought in by E. Mienig, one of the owners, and is much richer than any that has yet been taken out of the shaft.

The ledge is 3 1/2 miles from the well-

known Summer resort of William Welch on the Salmon River. It has an elevation

of 2300 feet above the sea level and

about 1000 feet below the summit of the mountains. The mine is reached by a wagon road to the stock farm of F. Walkey, and recently a trail has been opened to the mouth of the ledge, which is within six miles of the Springwater branch of the Oregon Water Power & Railway Company. The tunnel is now being extended 100 feet further by contract. A tramway has been built to the mouth so the work is progressing rapidly. There are 160 acres in the claim. Until a year and a half ago no effort had been made to do development work on Huckleberry Mountain, but the Portland owners of the Northern Light made up a purse among themselves having determined to ascertain if there really was ore in paying quantities in the district. They have spent \$500 so far, and express themselves as well satisfied. As the tunnel has progressed the ore has increased in richness. In the ore brought in yesterday pure silver can be seen without the use of a magnifying glass. This year owners of other claims on the mountain have been prospecting and blasting out the rock. Should the developments warrant it a branch railway can be built from Huckleberry Mountain to a connection with the electric railway of the Oregon Water Power & Railway for the shipment of ore. Mr. Renfer, president of the company, says that a ton of ore will be brought in a wagon to be smelted at Oswego, when the real

value of the ore will be ascertained. The

owners of the Northern Light mine are Edward Renfer, T. S. West, V. Schmitt, B. Hall and E. Mienig.

BEAUTIFYING THE HOME.

The B. B. Rich curio store occupying the entire upper floor, Sixth and Washington streets, has a variety of articles to fill in your odd corners in your hall, den or dining-room. Come up and see what we have. The entrance is on Sixth, near Washington.

DO YOU WEAR GLASSES?

Properly fitting glasses and MURINE promote eye comfort. Murine makes weak eyes strong. Druggists and opticians, or Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago.

