

B'NAI B'RITH GRAND LODGE IS REOPENED

Delegates From Pacific Coast District Meet in Portland.

ANNUAL REPORTS READ

Splendid Progress Made During the Past Year by Jewish Order—Reception Following Business Session a Brilliant Affair.

The first session of the 45th annual convention of District Grand Lodge, No. 4, B'nai B'rith, was called to order in Women of Woodcraft Hall yesterday morning at 10 o'clock by the grand president, George N. Black.

In his report read at the opening session, Grand President Black referred to the fact that during the past year the order has grown in spite of many difficulties and discouragements, and has seen the accomplishment of two tasks—the preservation of the order in the San Francisco city lodges and the regeneration of the membership and activity of the interior lodges.

Reference was also made to the work of the general committee in securing the new headquarters for the order in San Francisco, pending the selection of a site for the proposed permanent building.

Mention is made of the movement recently inaugurated by the Los Angeles lodge for the establishment of an orphan's home for Jewish children in or near that city.

Reference was also made by Mr. Black to a movement inaugurated by District No. 2 for the erection by the Jewish people of a monument in the City of Washington to the late John Hay, as an expression of their gratitude for his great services in the cause of humanity and of religious liberty.

The white slave traffic was also referred to at length by Mr. Black. Efforts are being made, he said, to eradicate this evil in Europe by organizing its intended victims in the various districts of European countries regarding the traveling procurers.

The growing tendency in the public schools all over the country to devote the celebration of the Christmas exercises in the schools to open and unadvised religious instruction was referred to by Mr. Black, and he expressed his satisfaction with the efforts of the San Jose lodge in securing an order from the school superintendent of that city that should prevent the practice of obliging the children of the public schools to join in singing sacred songs of the most pronounced sectarian character.

In conclusion, Mr. Black said the upbuilding of the membership seemed to him the most important duty now before the organization. San Francisco, he said, must give at least 1000 new members. Los Angeles, Portland and most equally well, cities like Oxnard, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Santa Ana and Pasadena should be represented in the order and that Nevada, Arizona and British Columbia should be brought into closer touch with its humanitarian activities.

An interesting report was that of Grand Secretary T. J. Aschheim, who referred to the gratifying results of the order under the able administration of Grand President Black. He also referred to the place Oregon has achieved commercially in the great Western country.

either Oregon 65 or North Pacific 314. How proud they would have been of this event. But the mutability of time has also wrought its changes among us. The charters just named have become extinct, and my friends have been laid in their eternal resting-places. New charters are now in force and new friends are leading, equally true and equally zealous, engaged in building structures of even more enduring quality. Let us hope that the future will be as bright as the past.

Reception to Delegates.

The reception tendered the visiting delegates and their wives in Women of Woodcraft Hall last night brought out one of the largest assemblages of Jewish people ever gathered in Portland. It is estimated that between 200 and 300 persons were present. The address of the night was given by the grand president, George N. Black, and Lucius L. Solomons. Otto J. Kraemer acted as chairman and introduced the speakers. The singing of Mrs. Maurice Weinstein was warmly received. Baileys' Orchestra furnished music.

The reception was in charge of the following committee: Judge and Mrs. Julius Kraemer, Rabbi and Mrs. J. Bloch, Mr. and Mrs. Sol Blumauer, Mr. and Mrs. D. Germanus, Mr. and Mrs. David N. Mosness, Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Sweet, Benator and Mrs. Sigmund Siegel, Dr. and Mrs. A. Titzer and Misses Helen Coblenz, Paula Heller, Amalia Hirsatz, Edna Levy, Ruth Lewis, Mildred Meyer, Alice Rosenthal and Esther Segal.

Mr. Solomon's Address. You people of Oregon, how often have you watched the flow of the winding Willamette from its source in the snow-capped peaks of the Cascade range, winding its way through fields and stretching forests. For a hundred miles it flows peacefully, its banks quietude beside the giant pines which shade its banks and its banks are green and its banks are green and its banks are green.

Programme for Today. At this morning's session of the Grand Lodge, committee reports will be read and the recommendations contained in the reports of the grand officers will be referred to committees. A special session of the lodge will be held tonight for the purpose of initiating a large number of candidates into the local B'nai B'rith ranks.

PINCHOT TO QUIT SERVICE REPORTED HE WILL MOVE TO WESTERN STATE.

Chief of Forest Service Believed to Have Plans for Career in the Senate. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 15.—The story has been put in circulation in Washington to the effect that Gifford Pinchot, chief of the Forest Service, will retire from office at the close of President Roosevelt's term, and go West to grow up with the country.

Since Mr. Roosevelt became President, Mr. Pinchot has been a very powerful man in the Administration. He was holding an insignificant office as chief of the forestry division of the Agricultural Department. Government forestry work was then in its infancy and the work of Pinchot's division counted for little. Mr. Pinchot quickly interested the President in the subject of National forestry, and when the President became interested the division sprang into prominence, and has grown steadily to its present proportions. Its growth, and the extension of its work would not have been possible but for the aid of President Roosevelt.

Mr. Pinchot became a member of the "Tennis Cabinet" and is today one of the President's most intimate friends. While he does not figure in matters of importance outside of his own department, he is nevertheless freely consulted by the President and his advice on other subjects, particularly questions of public policy, is frequently sought and freely given. Few men holding bureau offices under the Government rise to such heights as Pinchot has attained in the present Administration.

It is true that Mr. Pinchot has been severely criticized in the West, but it is equally true that his policies are meeting with more and more approval as time goes on and the people become better acquainted with the purpose and operation of the forestry system. The policy which is established, the foundation is such, Mr. Pinchot may desire to step aside in the interest of some other man. He has a wide circle of acquaintances among wealthy politicians, and in contact with leading Republicans and Democrats from all over the West, and if Mr. Pinchot determines to launch forth on a political career, it is natural to suppose that he will locate in some Western state where his interests lie. He may decide to go to Idaho, for there is more missionary work to be done there than in any other state beyond the Rockies. In that event he may again cross swords with Senator Heyburn, but with another issue at stake.

TELL OF WORK OF REFORM FORCES

Municipal Association Officers Speak at Hassalo-Street Church.

MUCH GOOD ACCOMPLISHED

Need for Practical Reform Always Exists and the Problem of Government of Large Cities Is Still Unsolved.

Instead of a sermon at the Hassalo-street Congregational Church last night, the audience listened to two addresses, delivered by Samuel Connell and Miller Murdock, of the Municipal Association. Mr. Connell told of some of the problems confronting the large cities, and Mr. Murdock told of the work which has been accomplished by the Association in the last four years. Mr. Connell said in part:

For many years the political reformer was looked upon as an idealist, a crank. He lacked the influence necessary to secure the enforcement of the good laws already upon the statute books. Today things are different. The spirit of reform is in the very air. The forces of good have now become distinctly separated from the influence of evil.

One of the most serious problems which has come before us is the municipal problem. It has its origin in the great growth that has been made in the city population in recent years. The growth of the country life, where there are no temptations, to the city life, where there is everything to tempt the appetite and corrupt the morals of the people. In the cities we find the thief, the burglar and the anarchist. We find the modern saloon, with all its terrible adjuncts to debauchery, and the headquarters of the underworld. So-called wicked cities have swept over our large cities. The most atrocious crimes have been perpetrated and allowed to pass unpunished, until we have begun to believe that the thief by day and the highwayman by night were being tolerated by our public officials, and when the facts were investigated the most startling revelations have resulted.

Criminals Are Protected.

The wholesale practice of crime has come as a result of the tremendous organization, both financial and political, which attracts and protects the criminal. Investigation is being given to recruiting these criminals. No expense is spared to make these affairs of vice attractive, and that these headquarters of criminals afforded protection is a matter of common knowledge.

Within the last ten days the police department has reported to the city council that certain saloons are notoriously bad. They have asked that the licenses be revoked. Then we have had a long and a long investigation by the liquor license committee, which has not resulted in a single license being revoked, but only in the ownership of a few of these bad saloons being transferred to some dummy bartender.

What on the frontier would be known as a salaried man in the city is known as a politician. We make it a source of revenue for the government. Ethically this is hideous, and socially it is suicidal, but financially it has been the largest retail business in the large city. There is only one larger interest than the sale of liquor in our cities, and that is the liquor business, and everybody who has regard for the home, the church, the law, or the state, it is the same with those interested in it.

The way great things are to be accomplished by the united efforts of all good people, we believe, is to try to get together, but how to unite them is the question. Miller Murdock, vice-president of the Municipal Association, said that the wicked man spreading himself as a green bay tree, and said he had seen them giving everybody to understand that they were as good as dead, and that there were no others. He said in part:

A bill is to be circulated at the next election to give the cities independence, so-called. Provision is made that instead of the city being controlled by the state laws, it be under its own laws. The Mayor of Medford is supposed to have taken that bill up to Salem, but you will remember that the liquor dealers would endorse it at the time the petition was filed.

Attacks Proposed Act.

The bill amounts to this. The city can ordinarily be controlled by the vicious element. The country cannot. The interests are willing to turn it and help elect men who will be satisfactory to the vicious element, that they may use these means. The combined forces of the vested interests are looking for special privileges from the city. They can usually carry the city, but they cannot usually carry the state, except on questions as to whether gambling shall be permitted, whether theaters shall run on Sunday, and whether the dance halls and saloons may run together. If that law was in force they would get into the City Council and have an ordinance passed to run the town wide open.

The direct primary law is very offensive to the ordinary politician because he cannot manipulate matters as formerly, although I see that are going to try it here in Portland. Under the direct primary law any good man may be nominated to office. One result of their refusing to be nominated is that salacious granted licenses are created by violating the law every day. That is the kick we have coming against church people. At the last two elections the vested interests, gas lights, street railways, and some of the banks and others combined to stand in and elect people whom the wholesale liquor dealers would endorse. Before that the vicious element carried things in the city, but kept their hands off the Legislature. They selected six out of twelve on the legislative ticket. Then the laws passed were all favorable to the vested interests. What is known as Statement No. 1 will come up at the next election. That is another effort to take from the people the power of direct voting.

COAL OUTPUT IS LARGER

Less Gold Mined, However, in British Columbia. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Feb. 15.—From an advance copy of the official report of the product of mines in British Columbia for 11 months of 1907, and a close estimate of that for December, Consul Abraham E. Smith of Victoria, presents the following summary of the mining operations in that Canadian province for last year:

The report shows that the product has decreased in gold, lead and copper and increased in silver, coal and coke. The decrease in copper was caused by the almost total stoppage of work in all copper mines in October, on account of the

GOOD BANK RECORD

Thomas McCusker Says Portland Does Itself Proud.

BIG STIMULUS TO TRADE

Restoration of Three Banks on Full Payment Basis in Six Months He Cites as Being Unprecedented.

PORTLAND, Feb. 15.—(To the Editor.)—The citizens of Portland are to be congratulated on the fact that this city has now a record unprecedented in the history of banking anywhere in the United States, if not in the world. Less than six months ago we had our first bank failure, or rather suspension, to be followed some weeks later by two others, causing for the time being a general alarm as to the outcome of what was predicted to be a widespread panic, as it was intended to be by those who precipitated it.

Money being the most sensitive thing in existence, immediately commenced to get under cover, until in a very few weeks, it is estimated that about \$6,000,000 was placed in cold storage. The withdrawal of this amount from circulation in this city alone had a most depressing effect on business, which has continued to a greater or less extent up to within a few weeks ago.

The fact that we had a panic did not, however, depreciate values of real estate, which in this city has always been conservative, that is since our great boom of some 20 years ago. Other securities were somewhat affected, as was to be expected, but only temporarily. This, however, is true of the entire country. The Controller of the Currency, I believe, made the statement some weeks ago, that since August last, about \$27,000,000 had been withdrawn from circulation. This of course caused a "stringency" for a short time, but with the restoration of confidence, which is the foundation of our business system, this money has gradually gotten back into the channels of trade, until now call money can be had in New York at 2 per cent, and the lenders are not overly particular as to the security.

If it were not for the fact that this is a Presidential year, and that business men will as a matter of precaution, be a little conservative, I would predict the greatest business for the present year of any in the history of the country.

Big Business Year.

Even as it is, I am morally certain that the business of the country will be as great as for any past year, for the reason that the stocks of nearly all jobbers are at a very low ebb, and the factories have no surplus on hand, consequently the manufacturers are going to be extremely busy, which means employment for many men now idle, and that of course means general prosperity.

So far as we are personally concerned, the moment that Mr. Ladd guaranteed the payment of all accounts in the Title Guarantee & Trust Company, a feeling of

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secured this session, no matter how many men appeared on the scene to urge its enactment. Thereupon the "big lobby" was called off and the original delegation went home.

Two propositions were submitted, but no pledges of any sort were given. First, it was suggested that it might be well to send a Congressional party to New Mexico during the coming summer to make an investigation and determine whether or not conditions in that territory were such as to justify its admission into the Union.

Because the campaign is on this year the junket is likely to be put over, which will mean that at the short session the New Mexico lobby will appear in Washington in full force and do its utmost to persuade Congress to admit the Territory into the Union.

Whether Congress, after hearing its pleas, will act favorably or otherwise is a matter for the future to determine. The indications are that New Mexico will not become a state in the near future.

One primitive method of getting water for irrigating vegetable gardens in China is to dig a hole in a shallow river bed and carry the water to the American coal oil line. The well, of course, is lost the next time the river rises.

Advertisement for Schlitz Beer. Includes text: 'As a food and a tonic. Every component in good beer is good for you. But be sure it is pure, else harm will be mixed with its healthfulness. Beer aged insufficiently causes biliousness. That is why all Schlitz beer is aged for months in our cooling rooms. Beer that's impure—not cleanly, not filtered, not properly sterilized—should be avoided. That is why we spend more to insure absolute purity than we spend on anything else in our brewing.' Features the Schlitz logo and 'The Beer That Made Milwaukee Famous' slogan.