

## LONG, HARD WINTER FOR LABORER SEEN

Closing of Employment Bureau Set for Friday.

## MANY NOW SEEKING WORK

Wilfred F. Smith, Director, Says Conditions to Be More Serious Than Last Winter.

That the Portland day laborer is to face a long, cold winter with a lean pocketbook is the prediction made yesterday by Wilfred F. Smith, director of the federal employment agency, which is to close its doors Friday.

"We look for a more serious unemployment situation than ever before," Mr. Smith declared. "Last winter, while the wooden shipyards went out, the steel ones suddenly expanded and cared for a good many of our men. The high tide was reached in January, when 12,000 men in Oregon were out of work, but I look for something much worse this year. It is likewise the opinion of this office that the reason there were no labor troubles last winter was because the federal employment service has a large staff scouring the state for jobs. A large government or municipal employment office appeals to the men because it has the appearance of doing something for the individual."

### Gloomy Prospect Seen.

Mr. Smith admitted that he feels rather gloomy over the prospect and believes the closing of his office through lack of funds will complicate the situation. The government had ordered it to close on October 15, but municipal aid was given and this enabled the staff to close its business by November 1. If it is possible to finance an employment service again under the direction either of city or state, the government will loan furniture and complete office equipment. Other large cities, realizing the hardship the winter will work on the laborers who had had government assistance, are starting a large extent of reporting similar bureaus, and it is hoped by those connected with the work that Portland will follow suit. If the 2-mill tax levy carries at the special city election on November 12, the city will immediately take steps to establish a municipal employment service, according to City Commissioner Bigelow.

Such service will not be as extensive as has been the federal service, he explains, but it will be of sufficient scope to handle both the men's and women's departments. Inasmuch as the city inaugurated the free employment service, it is not expected that any great difficulty will be encountered in establishing the service, and it is probable that, with the passage of the tax levy, the municipal service can begin November 29 or not later than December 1.

### Two Hundred Placed Daily.

The men's division of the present bureau is placing an average of 200 men daily. Yesterday morning Mr. Smith said he believed if he had had 1000 jobs he believed if he had had them with applicants who visited the windows with requests for employment.

Seasonal workers now are coming in by the hundreds and about 3000 loggers and sawmill men soon will be in from the woods. "There is no shortage of men in the lumber industry," said Charles Willis, who signs employes for the Bridal Veil, Milton Creek and Wind River Lumber companies and incidentally registers most of the loggers who have been visiting the federal employment office.

"It is reported," said Mr. Smith, "that on December 1 all of the shipyards will close entirely, probably not to open again until April. That will have a tremendous bearing on the situation, and will put many high-class men out on the streets temporarily. I also understand that the branch office at Liberty temple has between 700 and 800 soldiers waiting for work. Some of them are former army officers."

## TACOMA HAS UNEMPLOYED

Distress Due to Strikes Noted by Federal Official.

TACOMA, Wash., Oct. 27.—(Special.)—The adoption of the "American plan" by many employers and distress among workers due to strikes and slackening of construction work are noted by C. Hoy Fleming, superintendent of the Tacoma office of the United States employment service, in his weekly report filed today. Three hundred men for section work is the sole demand noted in this district during the week.

Many ex-service men are out of work, due to the shipyard and pleaders' strikes attendant with attendant conditions but 88 men were placed in jobs during the week. Light work for men who have been disabled is badly wanted, and mechanics are urged to register for a possible future opening.

## NEW EPIDEMIC REPORTED

Medical Men Give Attention to Hiccough Attack.

SAN FRANCISCO.—San Francisco newspapers have given space recently to a discussion among medical men here as to the cause of a local epidemic of hiccoughs.

Some physicians attributed it to the too emphatic "kick" in substitutes for liquor, and others said the paroxysms were caused by an "attenuated influenza germ."

## SPANISH AUTHOR IN U. S.

Blasco Viscent Ibanez and Miss Anne Morgan Among Arrivals.

NEW YORK, Oct. 27.—Blasco Viscent Ibanez, Spanish author, arrived today on the La Lorraine from Havre. Miss Anne Morgan and a French delegation of 14 to the international labor conference at Washington also were passengers.

## Land-Clearing Demonstration Set.

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, Oct. 27.—(Special.)—A land clearing demonstration will be held near Hillsboro some time in November, according to W. J. Gilmore, professor of farm mechanics at the college. All companies selling land-clearing equipment will be invited to take part in the demonstration. The land will be divided into small tracts where each exhibitor will have a chance to show his equipment.

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## LIBERALS TO HAVE PARTY

CONVENTION WILL BE HELD IN ST. LOUIS DECEMBER 9.

Intelligent Programme of Social, Political and Economic Reconstruction Is Object.

NEW YORK.—Because the dominating groups of both the democratic and republican parties are "no longer capable of evolving or working out an intelligently planned programme of social, political and economic reconstruction," men and women representing every state in the United States will gather in St. Louis December 9 to launch a new party which may yield a tremendous influence at the presidential election in 1920.

The political forces of America are keenly interested in this movement not only because of the influential persons who will attend the conference and probably lend their support to a new party, but also because past experience has shown that a third force in the political world can easily swing the balance of power in the direction that best suits its purpose. It is remembered that disaffection in the republican ranks in 1912 elected President Wilson.

An organization known as the committee of 48 is sponsor for the movement, and if a new party is launched this committee will be its directing force. The conference is expected to call together the scattered forces of liberalism to "nationalize politics," according to heads of the committee here, and it is for the conference to decide whether or not it should join forces with the farm and labor organizations to insure a greater measure of success for the new-born party.

The paramount purpose of the committee of 48 is to summon from all parts of the country the leaders of its liberal thought and of its forward-looking citizens to meet in conference. Out of this is expected to grow an effective co-operation of organized labor and agricultural workers for the task of social reconstruction. At the present time the committee has no platform, no political creed, is merely the organizing power from which the real political party is expected to spring.

In order to determine the basis for a platform, which will be discussed at the conference, a questionnaire was

sent out to every member of the committee, asking their views on certain radical and conservative questions of the day. The returned answers show a surprising unanimity of opinion in regard to most of the present-day issues. Some of the questions asked were as follows:

"Do you favor the Plumb plan? Do you favor the programme of the American labor party? Do you favor the programme of the Nonpartisan league? Do you favor a federal department of education with a member of the cabinet at its head? Do you favor literal restoration of the constitutional rights of free press, freedom of speech and public assemblies? Do you think the United States should become a guarantor of American foreign investments? Do you favor income and inheritance taxes not only to raise revenue but for the purpose of equalizing the distribution of wealth? Do you favor continuation of absolute control of foreign relations by the president? Do you favor free trade? Do you favor the further restriction of immigration? Do you favor compulsory military training? Do you favor the formation of a new political party?"

Not only were most of these questions answered in the affirmative in each case, but the writers elaborated on their views and displayed an even more radical trend than the committee had expected to discover.

Included in the membership of the committee are prominent lawyers, doctors, business men of high standing, school teachers, university professors, newspaper editors and reporters, magazine writers, civil service employes, salesmen, clergymen, manual laborers, farmers and virtually every other branch of American industry and the professions. Three former United States senators, a number of Episcopal bishops, many former state legislators, are also members of the committee of 48.

The charge is made by Traffic Officer Carlson, who has secured five witnesses who saw a portion of the run.

The defendants are also said to have knocked the railing off a bridge near Svenson when their car skidded as

## HOUSE GIFT TO Y. M. C. A.

Eugene Campaign Aided by Donation of Miss M. E. McCornack.

EUGENE, Or., Oct. 27.—(Special.)—The gift of a two-story residence to be sold for the benefit of the Y. M. C. A. fund now being raised here, was made by Miss Mary E. McCornack yesterday. The residence is old but said to be in good condition. It is expected that several hundred dollars will be added to the fund by its sale.

Of the \$50,000 which is desired to raise to pay off the debt on the Y. M. C. A. building and to maintain it for a year, all but \$2000 has been raised, not including the sum to be derived from the sale of this house.

## SPEED DRIVERS SOUGHT

Portland Men Said to Have Damaged Highway Bridge.

ASTORIA, Or., Oct. 27.—(Special.)—A complaint was filed in the justice court this afternoon charging Forrest Braley and George Adams of Portland with speeding over the Columbia river highway in Clatsop county, when making their record run from Portland on October 11.

The charge is made by Traffic Officer Carlson, who has secured five witnesses who saw a portion of the run.

The defendants are also said to have knocked the railing off a bridge near Svenson when their car skidded as

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No. 136-G—Winter weight, fleece lined cotton union suits; gray—\$2.50.

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No. 365-G—Medium weight fine ribbed wool mixture suits—\$5.

No. 3306—Heavy weight, fine quality worsted and cotton mixture suits. An exceptionally fine winter undergarment that will give lasting satisfaction—\$6.

Men's Furnishings Shop, Just Inside Washington-Street Entrance—Lipman, Wolfe & Co.

they were running at a high rate over the structure.

Artificial rubber has been made in an experimental way for many years, but it is now reported that it has become a practical success, and that the great dye and color works at Ellersford, Germany, are erecting a large factory for its production on a large scale.

The saloon free lunch is a thing of the past, but a Springfield (Ill.) church offers free lemonade to all who attend the Sunday services.

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