

Morning Oregonian

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THE BOYCOTT DECISION.

To what lengths labor unions may go in their effort to enforce Oregon demands on employers has been further defined by the United States supreme court in granting the Duplex Printing Press company of Battle Creek, Mich., an injunction against the International Association of Bridge and Structural Ironworkers.

A strike was called on the Duplex company's plant, but only thirteen machinists struck, while 200 remained at work. The union then attacked the company through its customers by warning them not to do business with the strikers.

The subject of the boycott is dealt with specifically in the "ceasing of patronage" provision, and by the clear force of the law, the union is forbidden to threaten to pressure exerted upon a "party to such dispute by the use of forceful and lawful" influence upon another.

There is nothing here to justify demands or threats of force or persuasion to bring about strikes or a cessation of work on the part of the complainant's customers, or of the trucking company employed by the customers.

In support of this conclusion the court quotes the words of Representative Webb, spokesman of the house committee, when the Clayton law was passed, and in which he said that the law was not intended to sanction the secondary boycott.

This decision once more denies the right to extend a labor dispute indefinitely beyond those directly concerned until it reaches through the work of the machinery of the law to destroy the business of a company which refuses to come to its employees' terms.

It clearly implies that a combination of a manufacturer and his customers to sell their products to those who practice the closed shop principle would be enjoined. It concedes the right of the Battle Creek machinists to influence people not to buy the Duplex press, but it denies the right to the machinists to request or to other unions.

But why restrict the state now at all? Any plan to precipitate the legislature into precipitate action is a waste of time and effort, and it is needed for more pertinent affairs.

Assumption that agriculture can be reformed, crop production increased, any waste removed, by applying to farming the same methods that have marked the development of other industries in America fails to take account of a number of considerations that run beyond the mere matter of scientific organization.

put on the footing proposed by those theorists who see only greater output and smaller cost per unit as their goal. Efficiency to function to its highest extent ought to be arrived at in some other way.

THE BELGIANS ARE ONLY A LITTLE LESS AN INSPIRATION TO THE REST OF THE WORLD IN PEACE THAN THEY WERE IN WAR.

The American consul-general in Brussels in a report on the industrial situation shows that except for a single industry manufacturing has been restored practically to its pre-war basis.

INVESTIGATE. The remarkable financial showing of the interstate bridge again raises the question as to whether it is sound policy for the country to operate a public utility at a wide margin of profit.

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IN FACT THE LUMBER BUSINESS IS OF SUCH A NATURE THAT FORMATION OF A NATIONAL TRUST IS IMPOSSIBLE.

When Ring Lardner moved down to Great Neck, L. I. to live, his choice of possession was a good-sized dog, a pointer, which a year ago would have been a dog of the same name.

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Stars and Starmakers.

Minnette Barrett, Portland girl, whose theatrical activities are always heard of with interest, has at a moment's notice taken a role in "The Bai," a new play which has been taken to Chicago, following a New York run of six months.

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Those Who Come and Go.

"Josephine county has enjoyed a very prosperous year and everyone is optimistic as to the future," says F. S. Bramwell of Grants Pass, who is in Portland for a few days.

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"BOULEVARD" MORE DISTINCTIVE.

Community Club Opposes Word "Way" in New Street Name. PORTLAND, Jan. 11.—(To the Editor.)—The Portland ad club has suggested that the name of Sandy boulevard be changed to "Boulevard," and City Commissioner Barbur has shown his democracy by suggesting the name be left to the residents along the boulevard.

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More Truth Than Poetry.

HOW CAN THEY DO IT? Old Jack Kildare was a hard-boiled egg. Uncommonly hard and grim— You never could borrow or coax or beg. The price of a meal from him. The old man's wits were as keen as steel. Whatever he tackled paid; He never was gyped on a business deal. Or trimmed on a single trade.

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