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UNION LABEL

Today's Weather.

Portland, Ore., March 16.—Oregon Washington and Idaho Friday, cloudy to partly cloudy wita showers.

CHARITY.

The Portland papers are criticising the actions of the Portland board of charities, claiming that they have a misconception of the term, and are ignorant of its true meaning. It is evi- by this board it is on the principle by this board it is on the principle that charity begins at home. If after paying the fat salaries of the grafters, their is anything left, it is distributed to the poor, but there is never anything left. It takes all the donations and bequests of the charitably inclined of of being named "board of charities" it ought to pay teh salaries. Instead of ought to be called the "amalgamated board of grafters." All of their meetings are held with closed doors, a sort of star chamber gathering of incurables. They receive money and donations to distribute among the poor; alleviate suffering and care for the destitute. Up to date all the poor, all the suffering, all the destitute, are confined to the members of the Portland board of charities, of which Thos. N. Strong, the great reformer, is the grand chief mogul.

During its earthly existence, it has never made a report of the disposition of the funds, except the statement that the funds are insufficient to pay the salaries of the officers and there is nothing to distribute to the poor. In all civilized communities, the good people engaged in the work of charity contribute their services free. Nothing is free in Portland. Even the hotel rates have advanced 500 per cent. The Portland Telegram discussing the question says:

Criticism of the methods of the city board of charities, which has a record of having spent $2 on itself for every dollar devoted to actual charity, has culminated in a number of outspoken statements of disapproval, brougat about by refusal of the board at its meeting yesterday afternoon to permit other than members to be present. Star chamber methods in the handling of public charities are being roundly condemned today.

At the regular monthly meeting of the board yesterday afternoon it was stated that the meeting would be private, that they had always been private, and if the public wished to know what was transacted application might be made for information after the meeting. It is the opinion of leading citizens that as the board must exist from funds obtained from the public by solicitation, the public is entitled to know what is being done with the money. It is considered that the board is simply acting as agents for the donors in putting the money to the use for which it was intended when contributed, and that therefore all action of the board should be open to the public.

PEACE WITH JUSTICE.

Again the chief justice of the greater republic has declared, in terms none can well misconstrue, that "this nation wishes the peace of justice, the peace of righteousness."

While this may be meant as much for warring armies of industry at home as for peoples of other nations, his declaration will be taken as having much and plain meaning for those other nations, particularly for those which are relatively weak in men and in money. To some nations of the old world these smaller countries of the new world have long been a temptation, because their broad and fertile lands may be made to furnish food to millions accounted, and a market for the products of the industry of those millions.

Nor should those old world people be blamed if they earnestly wish to secure such control of great regions in the new world, from which to surely get ample supplies of food,and in which to build up colonies which will in a time of stress rally to the support of the mother country, as Canada and Australia came to the support of England, when she had trouble with the Boers. For every nation of Europe seems to exist in constant fear of attack from some neighbor, eternally seeking to grasp power and territory.

No need exists of proof that more than one European nation would gladly seize any country of America, is only it dared do so. There is more than a suspicion that one has designs on Argentina and on Brazil, and would quickly control there, were not the greate republic in the way. Many times has the United States been compelled actually to drive a nation of Europe from lands of the south, on which that nation had laid hand. She has long held an actual, if not a formal protectorate over her sister republics.

"Much has been given to us, and much will be rightfully expected from us. We have duties to others and duties to ourselves; and we can shirk neither," said President Roosevelt, when he was taking the oath of his high office.

That was a solemn pledge of the American republics; but it may well be taken as a promise to Europe, also, that if the United States does safeguard the integrity of territory of those republics, she will see to it that they regard properly their own financial integrity, and pay their just debts.

"No weak nation that acts rightly and justly should ever have cause to fear us; and no strong power should ever be able to single us out as a subject for insolent aggression," said the president.

"That will be taken as a clear announcement of a determination to resent and resist such aggression, and as frankly tellig this nation that it should maintain its power instantly to punish any attempt at aggression, whether it be against this republic or against any of its wards.

"Justice and generosity in a nation, as in an individual count most when shrown, not by the weak, but by the strong."

A plea for justice appears in the most serious utterances of President Roosevelt; and none knows better than he knows that he voices the sentiment that gave to him the most overwhelming majority any man ever had in an election—the most glorious tribute to his honestly and righteousness of purpose. The history of his political life warrants the belief that he is sincere in these utterances, and determined to do all in his power to secure a fair deal to evry man. He stands committed before the whole world to do everything in his power—all that may be in the power of the millions who put him at the head of this nation, to compel this government to do justice to all, at home or abroad.

There is no reason to fear that he will fail through lack of determination or of desire to deal fairly. He knows that he will be supported by the people, even though he should go farther than strict reading of the law provides, so long as he strives to do the greatest good to the greatest number. And in this all the smaller nations may find safe promise and a measure of comfort.

DUTY OF LABOR.

Speaking in Baltimore at a meeting of organized labor, President Samuel P. Gompers of the American Federation declared the strike of the Interborough railroad men in New York was due to violation by the men of contracts and agreements. "The most important object in the labor organizations today," said Mr. Gompers, "is the honor of agreement between employe and employer."

It is a bright augury for American industry when the executive head of the greatest association of labor bodies in the world dares stand bravely for faith in dealing. By expressing this plain opinion of the metropolitan local Mr. Gompers has drawn down upon himself the attacks of that wing of organized labor, now happily in the minority, and annually losing strength, which holds unionism above patriotism, honor, justice and truth. New York labor, in particular, has been for years in the grip of the walking delegates. Grafters of the Parks sort have cost the employer millions and the employe millions, in time lost and wages lost.

Unionism, getting firm on its feet and more conservative in its views, is rapidly eradicating the crooked official who would call strikes for private gain and sacrifice the happiness of thousands to gratify his personal spleen or severe individual purposes. National organizations embracing New York locals have repeatedly been drawn into strikes in which the unions were not always sustained by the national executive committees of their own organizations after the depletion of the treasury anc consequent taxation of men of the craft throughout the country. The national organization of the engineers promptly set forth its stand on such lockouts last week when it expelled the New York local which joined the Interborough strike without permission from the national board—Butte Inter Mountain.

Senator Hawley Dead.

Washington, March 17.—General Joseph R. Hawley, for nearly 24 years United States senator from Connecticut, died this (Saturday) morning, aged 78 years.

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Commemorative Services Held in the Opera House

ADDRESSED BY THE GOVERNOR

Oration on "The True Irishman by Hon. J. Hennessey Murphy, and an Appropriate Musical Program Rendered and Enjoyed by Audience.

Fishers' opera house was crowded last evening, the occasion being the celebration by our Irish citizens in commemoration of the patron saint of Ireland, St. Patrick. On the platform were seated the governor of Oregon, distinguished citizens of the city and states, judges, attorneys, county and city officials and members of the press. The hall was beautifully and appropriately decorated for the occasion, lending enchantment to one of the most successful and brilliant celebrations ever held in the city.

The first number on the program was the Caecelian quartet, consisting of Messrs. Shields and Larner and Misses Benoit and McCann, who rendered "Norine Maureen."

Father Walters, in a few eloquent and appropriate remarks introduced Hon. G. C. Fulton, as the Chesterfield of Clatsop county, as chairman of the meeting. Mr. Fulton paid a glowing tribute to the Irish race and gave a brief review of the early history and struggles.

A selection, "Medley of Irish Airs," violin and piano, by Miss Irenaeus Parker, accompanied by Miss Madge received meritorious applause.

Hon. Geo. E. Chamberlain, governor of Oregon, was introduced and delivered an eloquent and patriotic address, paying a deserved and high compliment to the many famous and illustrious Irish patriots and their valuable aid and assistance to this country in the time of need.

John Shields next favored the audience with a tenor solo, "The Harp That Once Through Tara's Halls."

Hon. J. Hennessey Murphy, vice president of the United Irish League of Oregon, was introduced as the orator of the evening. In a forcible and eloquent oration he depicted the early struggles of the Irish people for freedom; giving a clear and concise review of the nation from the time of St. Patrick to the present day, and paid a glowing tribute to the United States for their sympathy and assistance in the cause of justice and freedom and sympathy with the Irish cause. His remarks were listened to with marked attention, being frequently interrupted by applause.

A soprano solo by Mrs. James O'Connell, "Killarney," was the gem of the evening, showing a strong, sympathetic voice with rich melody in the rendition of that most beautiful song.

A recitation by A. B. Dalgity, "The Flag of Erin," was well delivered.

A contralto solo, "Come Back to Erin," by Miss Laura McCann, received meritorious applause.

The grand finale, song "America," in which the entire audience arose to their feet and joined in singing, showed the enthusiastic patriotic spirit of the audience and was an appropriate finale to the evening's entertainment.

BUSINESS LOCALS.

Danziger & Co. are open for business.

Just received, some fancy smoked bloaters. ASTORIA GROCERY.

Just received today, a fresh shipment of fancy creamery butter—Watsonville brand. Foard & Stokes Company.

The Occident tonsorial parlors and bath facilities are equalled by none. Everything modern and up to date See Peterson.

Do you know that the McCrea-Ford Co., 638 Commercial street, are making a big reduction on all photographs during the Lenten season?

R. M. Gaston, at his feed stable No. 105 14th street, offers for sale a Landis harness machine; one butcher's wall scales, will be sold cheap.

Jap-a-Lac, the finest finish for floors has proven both durable and makes a fine finish. B. F. Allen & Son have received a complete assortment.

Now is the time to order your clothes so as to have them by Easter Sunday. Call at C. H. Cooper's on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, and select your suit and have it made to please your own taste and satisfaction.

Courteous treatment, an abundance of amusement, together with a line of all popular brands of liquid refreshments, has made the LaTosca a popular resort.