

REFUSE TO WORK SUNDAY; FIRED

American Biscuit Company Discharges Employees Because They Won't Break Sabbath.

MANAGER WITTENBERG DOES NOT DENY STORY

Declares Plant Must Run Every Hour Possible and Employees Must Report for Duty When Ordered to Do So—Many Discharged Are Poor.

If a corporation discharges its employees whose consciences will not allow them to labor on the Sabbath day, whose business is it?

This is the question at issue between some 20 late employees of the American Biscuit company and Herman Wittenberg, manager of that concern.

"Our business," is the way the question is answered by Mr. Wittenberg. Twenty-seven women and several boys and men were discharged yesterday morning by the American Biscuit company, whose factory is located at Eleventh and Davis streets. The discharged workers, some of whom are extremely poor, were loud in their expressions of indignation at the action of the company, but none was allowed to return to his place and they are now necessarily seeking employment elsewhere. The fact that the toilers were given their walking papers for refusing to work on Sunday and for no other reason is admitted by Herman Wittenberg, general manager of the concern. Mr. Wittenberg's account of the incident is as follows:

What Wittenberg Says.
"We generally work our employees until 5 o'clock on Sunday and give them credit for a full day. For the past few weeks this rule has been in force. The girls were always told to report on Sunday morning, but my foreman would often arrive to find only three or four girls out of 20 or 30 who ought to have reported for duty in that department. On account of the destruction of San Francisco we are under great need of getting out our goods faster. On Saturday last I went through the factory and gave explicit orders that the girls should report on Sunday. I told them that if they were not willing to help us out they need not come on Monday."

"On Sunday all but 20 or 25 were there. We quit work at noon and credited the employees with a half a day. I left word with the foreman that if any of the absent ones came Monday not to let them go to work, but to have them wait until my arrival."

Workers Give Reasons.
"When I arrived Monday morning I found a crowd waiting for me and accordingly went down the line and asked each one individually why she had not shown up the previous day. One answered that her husband would not let her, another replied that she belonged to a church and did not believe in working on Sunday, another said her mother and father would not let her come, another said she had wanted to go to a picnic, another that she believed Sunday to be for pleasure, not for work, and so on. When I had questioned them all I said to them: 'Well, if those are your sentiments, you do not want to work for this company, so you would better go to the office and get your money.'"

Mr. Wittenberg declared that the company does not believe in doing business on Sunday, but that on account of the stress of circumstances it was necessary to do so at this time.

Too Tired to Work.
Former employees of Mr. Wittenberg's company declare that the girls and also some women and boys did not report for duty Sunday because they were completely fagged out and not because they wished to go to picnics.

"Many of the girls and boys should not be allowed to grind their lives away in such a factory," said one ex-employee. "Some of the girls do not appear to be more than 12 years old, or 14 at the most. I do not know whether they have permits to work from the child labor commission. I know, though, what they have to do. If one gets there before 6 o'clock in the morning she is put to work at once, and if she finishes lunch by 12:45 she must go back to work when told to do so by the foreman. The company gets 30 minutes' extra work out of each employee daily but does not pay him for it. Then the company worked both girls and boys every night in the week for some weeks and when the children were on the verge of a breakdown they were told that they would have to work only three nights a week thereafter and Sundays when told to do so. This was too much for the young people who had to stand over hot ovens all day long, and many of them were unable to stand the strain on Sunday."

Married men with families, who lost everything in the San Francisco fire, are paid only \$1.50 a day. Full-grown girls are started in at \$2.50 a week and to make a decent livelihood they must work overtime and Sundays.



Bessie Tannehill, the Charming Prima Donna With the Kendall Musical Company at the Heilig. Miss Tannehill Has Made a Most Decided Hit With Portland Theatre-Goers by Her Exquisite Singing and Her Chic Manner.

EASTERN MEN TO WORK IN OREGON

Harriman Organizing Force of One Thousand to Labor on Railway Extensions.

COOS BAY ROAD WILL BE SCENE OF ACTIVITY

Right-of-Way Is Now Being Cleared and Contracts for Construction Will Be Let This Week by Chief Engineer Hood.

Efforts being put forth by Harriman representatives at Chicago to organize a force of 1,000 men and bring them to Oregon to work on railroad extensions have proved partly successful. Several hundred men will be secured, and activity on construction work will be increased. The Harriman companies have an immense amount of work to do this year. The most pressing is the construction of the Coos bay extension from Drain. Right of way is being cleared, and contracts will be let this week by Chief Engineer Hood of the Southern Pacific.

The work will probably be done by Erickson & Peterson, who have the Riparia-Lewisson grading contracts. They have established headquarters in new offices in the Commonwealth building and are permanently located in Portland. Their headquarters were formerly in San Francisco. The Coos bay extension has aroused more interest in Oregon than any other extension proposed by the Harriman companies. It is conceded that this road will open a larger and richer country than any railroad extension now under way.

District Is Wealthy.
Coos and Curry counties, through which the proposed Harriman line is surveyed, are enormously wealthy in natural resources. The railroad will tap the valleys of the Coquille and the Umpqua, as well as the great basin surrounding Coos bay proper. This is a well watered country, with rich soil, a salubrious climate, progressive people, and everything but rail connections to make it prosperous. It has vast areas of coal, timber and strong indications of oil. There are thousands of acres

W. C. T. U. Should Favor Beer

Miss Phoebe Cousins Speaks Plainly and to the Point on Temperance.

Every day seems to bring us nearer a sane, sensible and practical solution of the temperance question in the United States. More than one noted speaker and thinker have of late shown a leaning to a practical rather than a theoretical effort to aid in the cause of temperance. One of the most noted women of our day and age is Miss Phoebe Cousins, for a quarter of a century the leader in the woman's suffrage movement in the west. She recently said: "There never will be a law to compel prohibition and the sensible thing for the Women's Christian Temperance Union to do is to aid in the substitution of mild, nourishing drinks like beer, which seldom produces drunkenness."

This broad assertion may bring a storm of criticism from the fanatical upon this devoted woman's head, but in the end the living truth of her words will prevail. She is borne out in her statement by statistics: It has been clearly shown that with the increased use of malt beverages in this country there has been a corresponding decrease in intemperance. Recently a prominent army officer in the west operated canteens at three different army posts at which only beer was sold—no alcoholic liquors whatever were allowed. He made the canteens so acceptable to the soldiers who found beer satisfying their demands, that he actually ran all the low dives of the surrounding neighborhood out of business. Yet it was through the efforts of the W. C. T. U. that the army canteens were driven out. Let us hope the many noble women comprising the W. C. T. U. will be broad-minded enough to recognize their mistake and join Miss Cousins and others who are sincerely striving to stem the tide of intemperance by the substitution of mild, harmless beer for strong drink. In this connection it might be well to mention that chemical analysis shows Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer, which is perhaps the best known of all bottled beers, to contain only a fraction over 3 per cent alcohol—as one eminent physician puts it, "just enough for a good tonic effect to the stomach, while in food value it is far superior on account of the Pabst exclusive eight-day process of making malt."

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Pabst Blue Ribbon Beer

WHEN ORDERING ASK FOR PABST

DEATH AND DISEASE AMONG COLLEGE GRADUATES

Two Members of Senior Class at Northwestern Are Dead and Twenty-Seven Ill.

(Journal Special Service.)
Chicago, June 13.—Death and disease have laid hands on the graduating festivities of the senior class of Northwestern university. Two members have died within a short time, one is dying, two others have been sent away with nervous prostration and 27 are severely ill.

Some of the conspicuous instances of the misfortune of the senior class of 125 persons show:
Oliver S. Hubbard, president of the class, died a short time ago with typhoid fever; Miss Emma Theodora Fatten, one of the most popular coeds and daughter of the acting president, died a week ago from blood-poisoning; R. Hojo, a Japanese student, who won distinction by completing a five-year course in three years, is dying in the hospital with tuberculosis; Miss Lucy May Armstrong has been sent to her home in Ottawa, Canada, with nervous prostration; Miss Edith Hoag has been sent to her home in Des Moines with nervous prostration.

Both coeds and men students have devoted themselves to their work in the last few months with such seriousness that their health has failed.

Last month one Houlton firm shipped 29 carloads of coopersage and the small mills near town shipped 23 carloads of lumber.

that have never been trod by the foot of the white man.

J. B. McCellan of Ohio, who was a visitor at Coos bay during the recent farmers' congress, was in Portland yesterday, en route to the east. He said: "I believe Coos bay has a great future, and in proof of it I will place my son there in business. We have purchased the business of the Coos Bay Mail, the daily paper at Marshfield, and consolidated with the Advertiser. We will make a first-class little daily paper for the community. Mr. Lever, formerly editor of the Mail, retains his typesetting machine, press and printing plant, and will do commercial printing. We will put in a linotype, and otherwise improve the plant of the consolidated daily."

"Coos bay is a country of wonderful resources. The young man who with a small amount of capital and push locates there now will be rich in six or seven years. The conditions there fully warrant this statement. There is but one possible drawback—the chance for jealousies and bickerings between the neighboring cities. The sure way to make a great city at Coos bay in the quickest possible time is for all the towns on the peninsula to unite, under one name, and pull together."

PART OF MONUMENT FUND STILL REMAINS

After paying the costs of the erection of the monument to the soldiers of the Second Oregon who fell in battle in the Philippines, the committee in charge of the monument fund finds itself with a balance of \$1,134.43 on hand. The committee recommends that this sum be turned over to the mayor of Portland as trustee, to be placed at the disposal of the committee to be used for the care and preservation of the monument. The monument will have to be cleaned every year, and the committee believes the income from the trust fund will be ample for the purpose.

The total amount contributed for the erection of the monument was \$14,046.59. Citizens and school children contributed \$14,948.59 and the Woodmen of the World \$1,134.96. Interest on the fund amounted to \$1,815.62. The monument cost \$14,000. The committee paid Douglas Tilden and E. S. Coxhead of San Francisco \$1,000 for the design, and Mr. Tilden \$5,000 for the statue. The granite work cost \$5,000. Incidental expenses, the cost of a cent walk around the monument and the expenses of the dedicatory exercises on Memorial day amounted to \$722.

GENERAL COMMITTEE EXTENDS ITS THANKS

The general committee on Memorial day exercises from the posts of the Grand Army of the Republic of the city desires to extend thanks to the generous citizens who contributed funds to meet the expenses of the day's observance that was so well attended; to Mrs. D. F. Thompson for the donation of 19 carriages for the use of disabled comrades; to the Oregonian, Telegram and Journal for gratuitous notices; to William J. Staidley, who gave the music on the march; to the Veterans' double quart and Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Hamilton, for music at the cemetery; to the Rev. F. Burgette Short for his address which was a hearty commendation; to Levi W. Myers for his able poem; to the detachment O. N. G. and bugler, and to Colonel C. U. Gantenben, their commander, and to all and every one who responded so heartily to any and every appeal made on behalf of the committee, that contributed to make the services fitting and commemorative, a unanimous vote of thanks was given.

L. WIGAND, Chairman.
D. J. HAYNE, Secretary.

Banff Hot Springs.

Passengers going east via the Canadian Pacific have an opportunity to see Banff, the most attractive mountain resort on the North American continent. Excursion tickets now on sale to eastern points give you stopover at this point, as well as Glacier, Lakes in the Clouds, Field and the wonderful Yoho valley, all of which are recognized by the traveling public as being the greatest scenic attractions in the world.

Very low excursion rates from Portland to Banff Hot Springs and return. Less than 48 hours' ride from Portland. For descriptive matter and full particulars, call on or address F. R. Johnson, F. & P. A., Portland, Oregon.

The Real Estate Columns of The Journal are interesting to buyer and seller alike.



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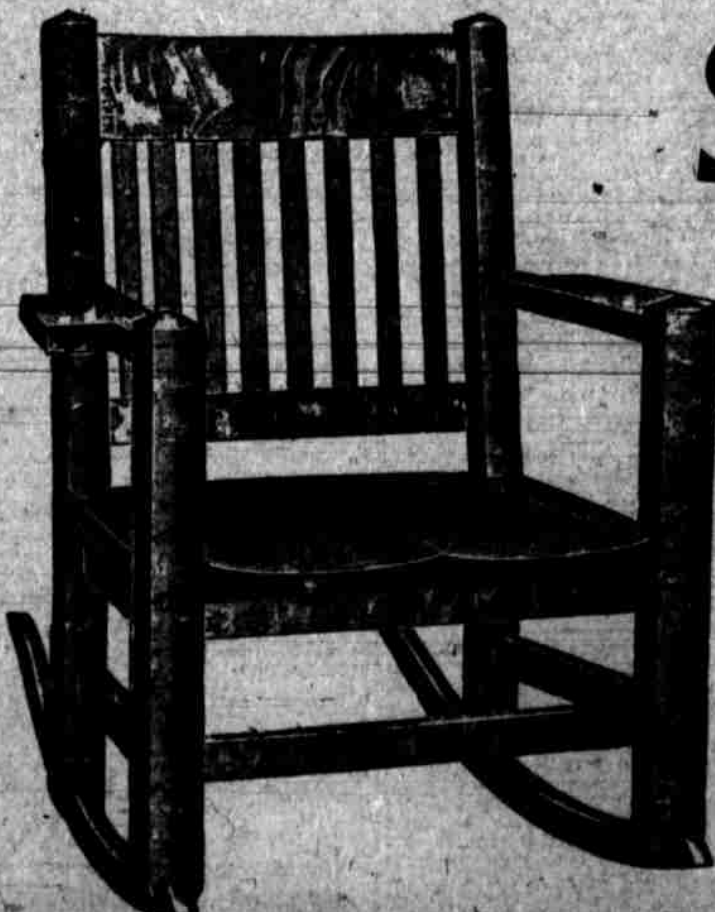
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