

RELIEF IN SIGHT FOR UNDERPAID WOMEN WORKERS

Minimum Wage Bill, to Be Presented to Next Legislature, Provides Commission to Insure a Living Wage.

The minimum wage bill in revised form was submitted by the survey committee of the Consumers' League yesterday, as it will be presented to the legislature. This bill proposes the establishment of a commission to investigate wages paid women and the conditions under which they live, then to report on what is considered a living wage in each instance. The bill carries an appropriation of only \$2000 a year, a sum which is believed to be barely sufficient to secure the information desired. Much of the work will be voluntary. The text of the bill follows:

"Whereas, The welfare of the state of Oregon demands that women and minors be protected from conditions of labor which have a pernicious effect on their health and morals; and

"Whereas, Insufficient wages, unduly long hours and insanitary conditions of labor, exert such pernicious effect;

"Therefore, Be it enacted by the legislature of the state of Oregon, as follows:

Commission of Five.

"Section 1. There is hereby established a commission to be known as the industrial welfare commission for the state of Oregon. Said commission shall be composed of five persons, three of whom shall be appointed by the governor, as follows: The first appointments shall be made within 30 days from the passage of this act; one for the term ending January 1, 1914; one for the term ending January 1, 1915; and one for the term ending January 1, 1916; provided, however, that at the expiration of their respective terms, their successors shall be appointed to serve a full term of three years. Any vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term in which the vacancy shall occur. The commissioner of labor and statistics and inspector of factories and workshops shall be ex-officio a member of the commission, and shall be chairman and executive officer thereof. The secretary of the child labor commission of Oregon shall be ex-officio a member of said industrial welfare commission. Three members of the commission shall constitute a quorum at all regular meetings and public hearings.

Receive No Salaries.

"Section 2. The members of said commission shall draw no salaries, but shall be allowed five (\$5) dollars per diem while attending sessions of the commission, while going to and coming from said sessions; also actual traveling and other expenses while engaged in the performance of their official duties. This commission may employ a secretary whose salary for expenses shall be paid out of the moneys heretofore appropriated. All claims for expenses incurred by the commission of its members shall, after approval by the commission, be passed to the secretary of state for payment by warrant upon the state treasury.

"Section 3. It shall be the duty of the commission to ascertain the wages and hours of labor and conditions of labor of women and minors in the various occupations, trades and industries in which said women and minors are employed in the state of Oregon. To this end, said commission shall have full power and authority to call for statements regarding, and examine, either through its members, the labor commissioner or other authorized representatives, all books, payrolls or other records of all persons, firms and corporations employing females or minors as to any matters that would have a bearing upon the questions of wages or hours of labor or conditions of labor of said employees.

"Section 4. Every employer of women and minors shall keep a register of the names of all women and minors employed by him, and shall on request permit the commission, or any of its members or agents, to inspect such register. For the purposes of this act, a minor is defined to be a person of either sex under the age of eighteen (18) years.

May Call Conference.

"Section 5. The commission shall specify times to hold public hearings, at which times employers, employees or other interested persons may appear and

Aurora Hop Man Has Silver Wedding



Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Bents.

(Special to The Journal.)
Aurora, Or., Dec. 28.—A special social event of more than passing interest occurred at the Pythian hall Thursday afternoon when Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Bents celebrated their silver wedding from 2 to 5 o'clock. The hall was beautifully decorated, and the occasion was gay with beautiful music, refreshments and the prevalence of the social spirit and holiday joyousness.

Mr. and Mrs. Bents were married on Christmas day, 1887, and have lived in Butteville, Portland, and Aurora all their lives, and are known throughout the Willamette valley. Mr. Bents is one of the principal hop dealers in the valley, as well as an extensive grower. Brown's Orchestra, of Portland, was in attendance. Five young women served refreshments at four. Mayor Demick of Oregon City, made a congratulatory speech, after which the hosts received the felicitations of their guests.

Many beautiful gifts, in silver, were received. The hostess was attired in the same wedding gown that she wore 25 years ago.

The guests present were Dr. and Mrs. E. W. Finer of Portland; Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Brown, of Portland; Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Murphy, of Portland; Dr. and Mrs. S. W. Weaver, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Colvert, of Hubbard; Mr. and Mrs. Grant B. Dimick, of Oregon City; Mr. and Mrs. Chris Glesy, Mr. and Mrs. Byron J. Geism, Mr. and Mrs. Adelbert Yergen, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Yergen, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dawson, Mr. and Mrs. Benj. F. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Marcus Smith, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Smith, Mr. and Mrs. George Kraus, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Will, Mr. and Mrs. N. C. Westcott, Mrs. M. Vandeleur, Mrs. Edith Carpenter, Miss Gertrude Glesy, Miss Lieta Bents, of Aurora; Miss Francis Weaver, of Hubbard; Miss Ivy Feller and Miss Lois Beebe of Woodburn.

give testimony as to the matter under consideration. The commission shall have power to subpoena witnesses, and to administer oaths. All witnesses subpoenaed by the commission shall be paid the usual mileage and per diem allowed by our courts in civil cases.

"Section 6. If, after investigation, the commission is of opinion that in any occupation, trade or industry, the wages paid to female employees are inadequate to supply the necessary cost of living and to maintain the workers in health, or the hours or conditions of labor prejudicial to the health or morals of the workers, the commission is empowered to call a conference composed of an equal number of representatives of employers and employees in the occupation or industry in question, together with one or more disinterested persons representing the public; but the representatives of the public shall not exceed the number of representatives of either of the other parties. The chairman of the conference shall be a member of the commission. The commission shall make rules and regulations governing the selection of representatives and the mode of procedure of said conference, and shall exercise exclusive jurisdiction over all questions arising as to the validity of the procedure and of the recommendations of said conference. On request of the commission, it shall be the duty of the conference to recommend to the commission an estimate of the minimum wage adequate in the occupation or industry in question to supply the necessary cost of living, and to maintain the workers in health; to report on the number of hours of work per day consistent with the health of the workers, and to recommend standards of conditions of labor demanded by the health and morals of the employees. The proceedings and deliberations of the conference shall be made a matter of record for the use of the commission.

Then Establish Scale.

"Section 7. Upon the receipt of such recommendations from a conference, the commission shall review the same, and may disapprove any or all of such recommendations, or it may disapprove any or all of them and recommit the subject to the same or a new conference. If the commission approves the recommendations of the conference, it shall give public notice by advertisement in at least one newspaper in each county of the state in which the occupation or industry in question is carried on, of its intention to issue an order declaring such recommendations mandatory, and shall likewise give notice of a public hearing thereon to be held not earlier than 14 days from the date of such publication. After such notice and such public hearing, the commission may, in its discretion, issue an obligatory order to be effected in 60 days from the date of said order, specifying the minimum wage for women in the occupation affected, the maximum hours, provided that the hours specified shall not be more than the legal maximum for women in Oregon, and the standards of conditions of labor for said women; and after such order is effected, it shall be unlawful for any employer in said occupation to employ women over eighteen (18) years of age for less than the rate of wages or more than the maximum of hours specified or under conditions of labor prohibited for women in the said occupation. The order shall be published in at least one newspaper in each county of the state in which women are employed in the said occupation, and the commissioner of labor statistics shall send by mail so far as practicable to each employer in the occupation in question a copy of the order, and each such employer shall be required to post a copy of said order in each building in which women are affected by the order are employed.

Has Full Power.

"Section 8. Whenever wages or hours or standard conditions of labor have been made mandatory in any occupation, upon petition of either employers or employees, the commission may at its discretion reopen the question and reconvene the former conference or call a new one, and any recommendations made by such a conference shall be dealt with in the same manner as the original recommendation of a conference.

"Section 9. For any occupation in which a minimum time rate only has been established, the commission through its secretary may issue to a woman

LAFFERTY INTRODUCES PROGRESSIVE BILLS

(United Press—Lead Wire.)

Washington, Dec. 28.—Congressman Lafferty of Portland has introduced in the house two of the Progressive party bills, which in this session will cover a wide range of subjects. His first proposal is that a minimum wage commission, similar to that now at work in Massachusetts, be established for the District of Columbia. The penalty attached to refusal by an employer to raise wages in accordance with an award by the commission is to be \$25 fine per employee in each instance provided.

Lafferty's second measure provides that a physical valuation shall be de-

termined for all public utilities in the district, and that their service and their rates and prices of service or commodities shall then be fixed upon a basis of the actual physical investment, and not upon the basis of stock capitalization. This bill is adapted from those in effect in Wisconsin and Oregon.

As in the case of Senator La Follette's eight-hour bill, the introducer has no expectation that these will become law at this session. They are designed only to build up a public demand for legislation on these lines.

The Dutch East Indies supplied the United States with nearly 13,000,000 pounds of tapers and more than 300,000 pounds of black pepper in the third quarter of 1912.

Reversing the process of keeping tropical plants in hot houses in temperate climates, a botanical garden at Calcutta utilizes a cold house for plants from cooler lands.

FATHER-IN-LAW TELLS ON NAVAL DESERTER

Oakland, Cal., Dec. 28.—W. J. Emmons, who is under arrest here on information furnished by his father-in-law, that he is a deserter from the navy, is alleged today to be badly wanted by the navy department.

Emmons is said to have escaped from the battleship Philadelphia in Puget sound in 1908, while he was under arrest charged with stealing \$5000 worth of wireless instruments from the Cape Blanco station.

Emmons' father-in-law, George Lawrence of Pasadena, who has been trying to get his daughter to leave her husband, wired the Oakland police that his son-

in-law was on his way from Seattle, where he has been working in the lumber woods, to Oakland.

Emmons is being held at Goat Island for disposal of his case. Lawrence is on his way from Pasadena to take his daughter home.

TO USE PSYCHOLOGY TO TELL GIRLS' AGES

Paris, Dec. 28.—Girls under 18 and youths under 18 are forbidden to use the poste restante (where letters are kept for callers) in Paris for letters marked only with figures or initials, under a new regulation which has just come into force.

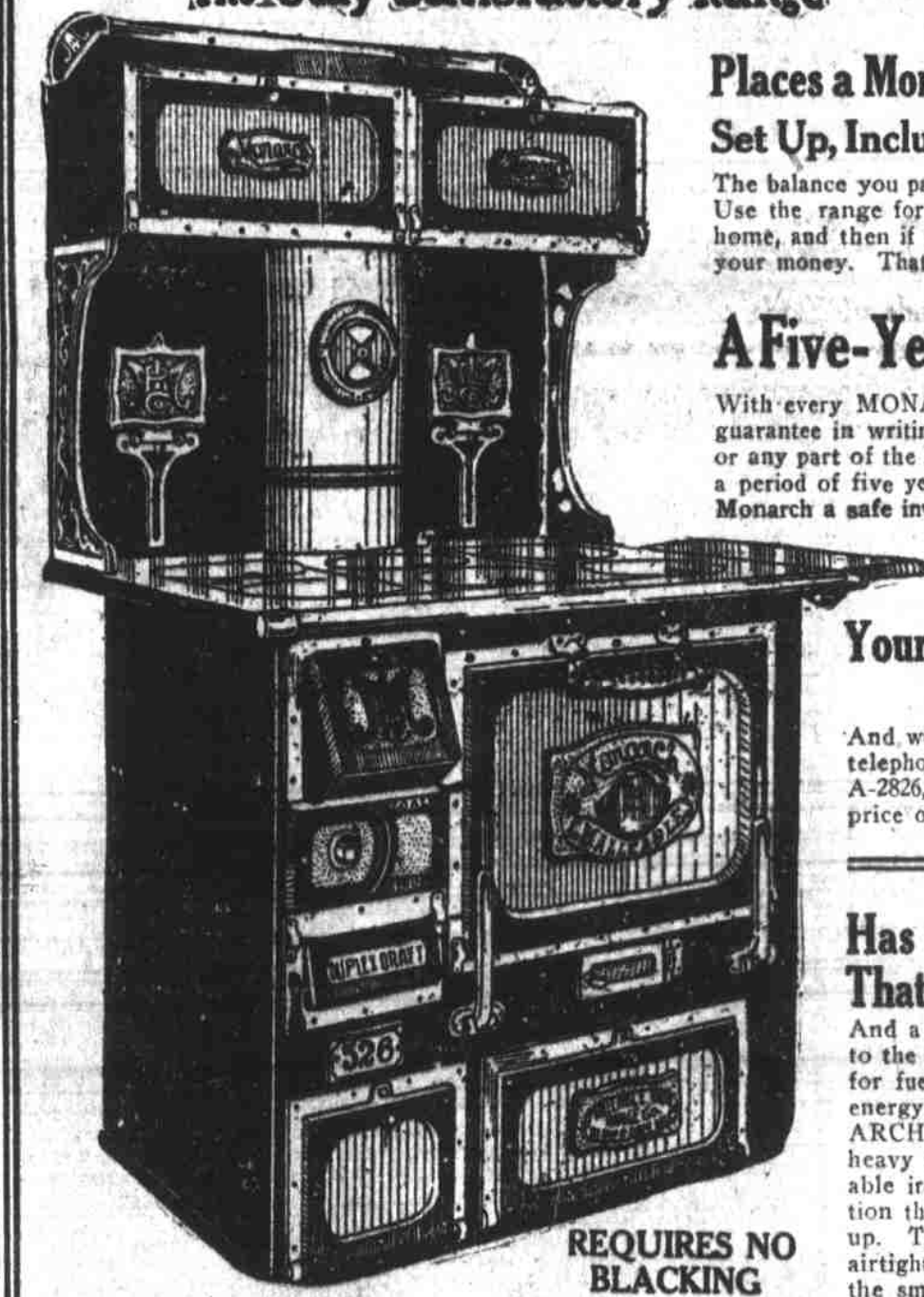
A postal official, asked how the age of an applicant was to be decided, replied, "We shall use psychology. Are we not as well able to decide age as railway officials in determining the age of children under 7?"



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The balance you pay at the rate of \$5 per month or \$1 per week. Use the range for 30 days. Test in every way in your own home, and then if not satisfied we will take it back and refund your money. That's fair.

A Five-Year Guarantee in Writing

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And we will allow you every cent it is worth. Just telephone. Exchange Department, Main 504, or A-2826, and our store man will call and make you a price on your old stove.

Has the Famous Duplex Draft That Saves One Third the Fuel

And a Monarch Range in the kitchen means much to the entire family. It means less money expended for fuel, better cooking, a big saving in labor and energy to the women who do the cooking. A MONARCH actually pays for itself in a short time. The heavy steel sides are COLD RIVETED to malleable iron frames, making a tight, strong construction that the hardest usage and wear cannot loosen up. This, with the DUPLEX DRAFT, makes an airtight Range that consumes all gases and most of the smoke as it generates, thus the saving in coal.

Sale of Dressers



These Dressers are usually sold and are worth \$11.00, but this week the price is only

\$7.95

Large, square French mirror, 18x24, with rounded corners, otherwise exactly like illustration. Only one to a customer. Delivery at our convenience.



\$2 Cash

Call and see Edwards' quality dining set at \$39.75. The superior workmanship, expert construction and high-grade materials used in making this set distinguish it from the ordinary furniture you see so often advertised. We have many sets at less price, but this is the favorite with our customers.



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Mean all that is best in eye examination, with quality in material and skill in workmanship.

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IN SICKNESS OR MISFORTUNE, You may be sure, if you lose your position or fall sick, we will not press you for payment on your furniture.