

Medford Printers Organized Since 1908; Prospered With Years

EARNING POWER
LOCAL MEMBERS
\$77,225 IN 1930

Few Of Charter Members In
Active Craft—Many Fam-
ilies Maintained—High
Type Citizens In Union.

(By A. F. Stennett.)

As these pages in today's Mail Tribune are dedicated to Medford Typographical Union, No. 559, the writer considers it appropriate to embellish them with a brief historical sketch of the local union, believing that such an article will prove informative and of some interest to a majority of its readers.

It was in the autumn of 1908 that the few journeyman printers in Medford and Ashland assembled in joint meeting to discuss the feasibility of organizing a local unit of the International Typographical Union, so that they could unitedly urge the adoption of a uniform wage scale, regulate the number of working hours per day, and have other rules and regulations for the betterment of the craft, and the employers as well.

Organized in 1908

Application was made for a charter, and on December 1, 1908, Medford-Ashland Typographical Union, No. 559, was instituted with the following twelve members upon the charter:

L. E. Whiting, president; Maude M. Hokenyos, secretary; H. L. Young, Geo. R. Morrison, James D. Fay, Arthur Jackson, A. B. Williams, L. J. Butterfield, A. E. Powell, all of Medford; Jerry Hegarty, John Loughlin and S. L. Burton of Ashland.

Of these twelve whose names were engraved upon that charter twenty-four years ago, Mrs. Hokenyos and A. B. Williams are still residents of Medford. John Loughlin operates a job office in Ashland. A. E. Powell is publisher of the Central Point American. L. E. Whiting is with the Oregonian. H. L. Young is dead, and the whereabouts of the other five are unknown to the writer.

Few Disagreements

The local union from its inception had but little difficulty in establishing wage agreements with the employers of Medford and Ashland and ordinarily when new contracts were promulgated and finally consummated, both union and master printers exhibited equal fairness in the discussion, and negotiations generally concluded with but little friction. The only difficulty of any consequence the local has encountered during its existence was in August, 1931, when the Daily News abrogated the unexpired contract of the News Publishing Co. and gave notice of \$13.00 per week reduction in salaries of all journeymen. The union considered the action a lock-out and since that date no members of our organization have worked in that shop.

Earnings Increased

In 1909, the year following the organization of the local union, the members earning power was \$11,600, but as the years rolled on business continued to multiply, wages augmented from time to time, naturally the membership grew with the movement, and today there are 38 journeymen upon the membership roll whose earning power reached the peak in 1930—\$77,225.00. Since 1930, owing to the general depression, there has been considerable decline in printing output, accompanied by a reduction in salaries to keep step with the trend of times, but nevertheless, regardless of these conditions, investigation will justify the assertion that the prosperity of union-operated printing concerns provide one of the most substantial sources of all-year revenue that Medford can boast of from a manufacturing point of view.

Families Maintained

Of the thirty-eight members of the local union thirty-two are married and have families; of the remaining six members two are single and four are widows. The organization thirty-four families to be provided for through the channels of the printing industry of this valley. With an exception, possibly in three or four instances, all these families own their homes and some are fairly heavy taxpayers.

Four of our members, being old and incapacitated, are on the pension roll, and each receives an income of \$8.00 per week. Every four weeks the local secretary passes out international union checks to these four members in the sum of \$128.00. One of these members has been on the pension roll since 1924 and to date has been paid through the local secretary the total sum of \$9,553.00.

Non-Members a Threat
The band of non-union printers who infest the Pacific slope are long on instability and very short on ability, and watch for an opportunity to break into an organized shop at a time when there is a disagreement between proprietors and employees. They are, ordinarily, persons without family obligations, of a roving inclination, and never intend to become permanent residents of any particular community. Their main desire is to disrupt the typographical union, cut the wages to a meager existence, and then move on to another field of operation. When they have passed on the local merchant, in many instances, finds he has suffered more than he has profited from their patronage.

Long In Service

On the other hand, to illustrate the type of men who constitute the local union, we shall mention the names of several who have been holding situations in Medford ten years or longer:

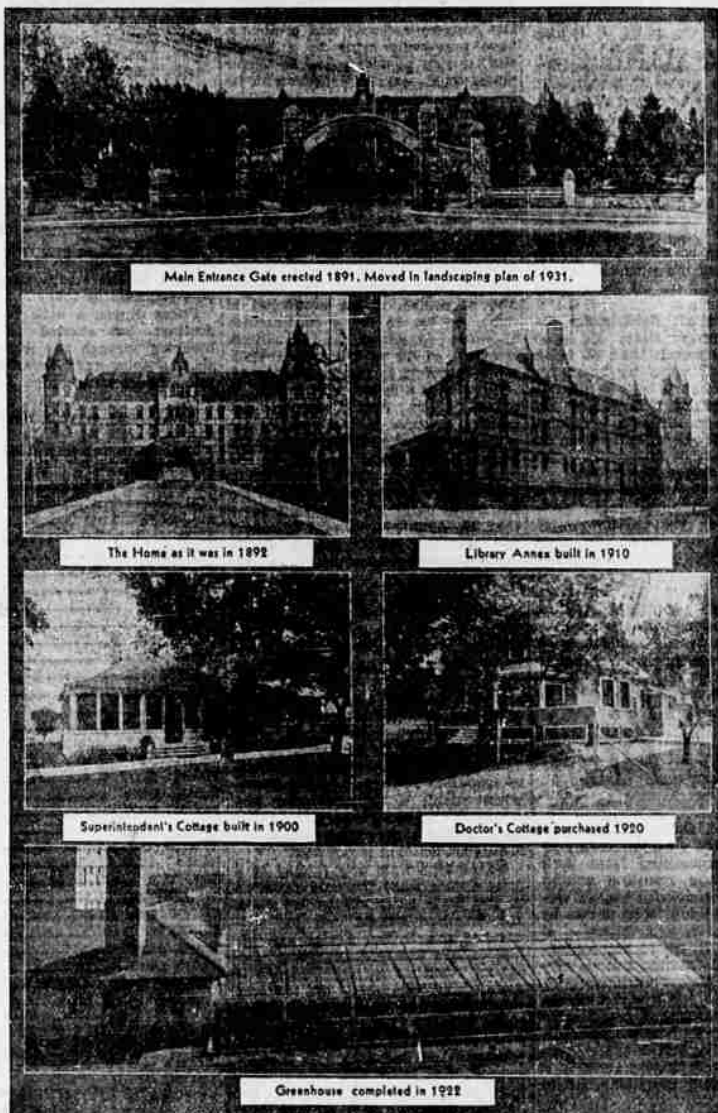
A. B. Williams, resident almost a

Many Recover Lost Health Printer's Home



Another air view of printers home at Colorado Springs, Colo., showing tent houses in foreground where tubercular patients are housed for benefits of open air treatment. The home stresses rehabilitation of ailing members of the craft and maintains a complete hospital with large staff of doctors, nurses and internes. To secure the best in healthful foods, the home maintains its own dairy and poultry flock.

Original Home Enlarged Through Years



There have been many additions and alterations in the buildings at the Colorado Springs, Colo., home for printers. The main entrance (top) was moved last year in process of beautifying the grounds. One of the largest additions since the building of the original home, is the Library Annex, shown above. In the greenhouse plants for gardens and sick rooms are cultivated.

quarter of a century, and with the exception of a short interval, has worked continuously for the same corporation.

A. F. Stennett, 23 years a resident, holding same position 22 consecutive years.

J. A. Manke, 21 years as linotype operator for one concern.

J. C. Murray, 17 years as linotype operator for same company.

K. F. Murray, 17 years in Medford, and 13 years on present job.

R. E. Behb, raised in the valley and 11 years with present employer.

A. J. Klocker, 10 years in Medford, and now owner of Klocker Printery.

T. R. Leonard, learned his trade in Medford, and now associated with Marshall-Smith-Leonard Co., Inc.

W. E. Rowley, 11 years in Medford, voluntarily retired from mechanical work four years ago, but still the most ardent worker for the cause of unionism in Medford and it was through his solicitation that the two pages of advertisements and information were made possible.

M. L. McCoy, in the valley 10 years, with present company eight years.

Stable Citizens

And there are others who have been with the same concern five, six and seven years. In fact, with the exception of two recent arrivals, all local members have been residents not less than four years.

The length of service above mentioned is indicative that our members are competent workmen, steady and reliable, and are giving continued satisfaction to their employers.

There are four printing establishments in Medford that are employers of union labor and have the use of the union label. They are: Medford Printing Co., publishers of the Daily Mail Tribune; Mail Tribune Job Department; Klocker Printery and Marshall-Smith-Leonard, Inc. The three last named concerns are fully equipped to handle everything in the line of commercial printing and we, as a union, whose local membership are 100 per cent Medford buyers, urge business men who depend upon home people for their patronage, to do unto others as others do unto them—or in other words scratch the back of the man who scratches your back. Remember this: Every time you spend a dollar

for mail order printing, or in fact for anything else that you can buy at home, you are helping that money an everlasting good-bye—putting it entirely out of local circulation—because there can be no exchange of wares, as you have nothing the receiver wants—but money. On the other hand, keep it at home by spending it with local concerns, and it will return to you at least once a month, each time with more profit than you saved in the one instance when you banished it from the community.

Remember the Label!

Patronize the institutions that pay substantial salaries to their employees, affording them the opportunity to buy the necessities and luxuries of life, making the best class of customers a merchant can have.

Make everlasting patrons out of the printing fraternity by demanding the union label on all your printing.

The request for the label and receiving it is an assurance that living wages are being paid the producers and that you are willing to co-operate with your every-day customers.

And in conclusion we wish it understood that these union-operated establishments have many other employees besides union printers. In the job shops there are pressmen, feeders, folders, binders, book-keepers, solicitors, managers, etc.

On newspapers are managers, editors, reporters, advertising solicitors, circulation, book-keepers, pressmen, stereotypers, apprentices, carriers, etc. In fact the payroll to the employees in these branches, is considerable in excess of the amount received by the compositors, but it all circulates in Medford along with the printers' income.

Remember the four shops that carry the union label and keep your dollars constantly rolling around in Medford. It will go a long way towards curing the present depression.

Klocker Printery
Is Oldest in City

With eighteen years of continuous printing, The Klocker Printery holds the distinction of being the oldest commercial printing plant under the

same name and management, in Medford.

Since the early history of the city, South Central has been the home of printing. A. B. Elton established his newspaper in the Halley block in 1893. In 1909 he disposed of his plant, George Putnam being the ultimate buyer. By the time the Putnam paper had removed to the west side, Russell Evans had established a job shop on South Central. In 1914 this shop was sold to Schrack & Klocker. One year later, Mr. Schrack moved to Portland, selling his interest to Mrs. Klocker. Since then The Klocker Printery has expanded and served the commercial interests of Medford without change of name or ownership.

Marshall-Smith-Leonard, Inc.
Ruling Machinery

Marshall-Smith-Leonard, Inc., printers, located at the corner of Main and Grape streets have been in business in Medford for five years. The firm does all kinds of commercial printing and have the only ruling machine in Medford. The firm, which employs 5 men, is composed of the following members: Joe Marshall, Justin B. Smith and T. R. Leonard.

TURKEY DINNER
COMPLETE

From 11 a. m. to 10 p. m.

50c
at
Valentine's Cafe

Just south of Main on Riverside

Marshall-Smith-Leonard, Inc.
Corner Main and Grape Streets Telephone 1363

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Tribune Job Shop Employs Ten Men

S. Sumpter Smith, veteran newspaper publisher, is head of the Mail Tribune Commercial Printing department. "The Home of Distinctive Printing Since 1892," located at 28-30 North Grape street. This shop is modernly equipped to do all kinds of commercial printing. The "Red Fox," Hiliiah Temple's official Shrine paper, Medford Hi-Times, The Copco Forum, The Jacksonville Miner and many programs and pamphlets are printed in this modern plant.

All kinds of duplicate and triplicate sales books, endless forms for various makes of registers, ledgers sheets and statements of all kinds of bookkeeping machines, blank books, county, city, corporations and business forms of all kinds, calendars, blotters, fancy stationery, etc., are products of this plant. In fact every want in the printing line can be supplied by this up-to-the-minute plant. Al Hagen is the superintendent of the plant, which employs ten people, more than any other job plant in this part of the state.

Knitted Suits at bargain prices at ETHELWYN B. HOFFMANN Sixth & Holly

Real Estate or Insurance—Leave it to Jones Phone 796

50c Sunday Dinner

SOUP:
Cream of Chicken, Noodle
RELISH:
Stuffed Date
SALAD:
Waldorf, Sugar Wafer
CHOICE
Roast Rogue River Turkey Cranberry Sauce
Grilled Veal Chops, Baked Yam
Fried Eastern Oysters a la Tartare
Leg of Pork, Applesauce
Small Dinner Steak, Rasher of Bacon
Mashed Potatoes Hot Rolls
Vegetable
DESSERT:
Homemade Hot Mince or Pumpkin Pie
Cake a la mode Cranberry Sherbet
Milk Chocolate Sundae
DRINKS:
Coffee Tea Milk

Franklin's Cafe

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