THE LABOR JOURNAL
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THE LABOR JOURNAL.

THE OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE EVERETT TRADES COUNCIL

Devoted to the Interest of Organized Labor

THE LABOR JOURNAL
Is the official organ of the Trades Council, and is read by the laboring men and women of Everett.

VOL. XIX. EVERETT, WASHINGTON, THURSDAY, MAY 20, 1909. No. 19.

Union Labels

Mr. Union Man:

Are you looking for goods bearing the mark of honesty—bearing the mark of distinction, etc?. If so, you'll find more Union made goods at our mammoth store than you can find elsewhere.

We are careful buyers and study our purchases well. It has been clearly demonstrated to us that in the Union Made lines we get better values, and can therefore quote you better prices. Our terms to union people are pleasing. Ask about them.

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EDUCATION THE SECRET

No Strength In Organizations Without It

Organized labor has within itself the elements of success or of destruction. It matters not how strong numerically we may be nor how large our treasury, if intelligence be lacking we will surely fail of our purpose. Do you know the reason that a few men dominate the political machine, or the financial situation, or the commercial situation? Because added to ambition they possess an intelligent understanding of cause and effect in their particular line of effort. Because they have set themselves to work systematically to study the field in the line of endeavor they have chosen and know the reason why such and such a movementw ill produce a certain effect. It is not blind guess work with them that makes them able to dominate the situation, but knowledge of conditions. Union men if they are ever to achieve real success in the emancipation of hard working surroundings must study and read intelligently. The struggle and perhaps defeat of yesterday should teach a lessen today. An analysis of the mistakes of past struggles should teach us how to avoid them in the future. The world's brightest minds have recorded for us on paper economic truths and the history of labor's gropings toward the light. Do we read them and study them and try to apply the lessons taught to modern economic life? If we do not we have failed in the most vital factor of organization, a proper understanding of the labor movement. There can be no strength without intelligence and no intelligence without thought and study. There is no potent strength in just a mere mass of matter; there must be some underlying force to stir it into activity. Neither is there any potent strength in a mere mass of men; there must be some intelligent force to give it power. That force is education coupled to ambition which, when set in motion, will sweep the whole mass towards a well defined goal. Every union man should intelligently study the labor movement and when we do that every individual will be a potent, working force. Too many men reason "what is to be, will be," or blindly follow the leader be he right or wrong. "Education is necessary to organization, organization is necessary to education and fraternity is the cause and effect of unity."

EVERETT TRADES COUNCIL

Council met in regular session last Wednesday evening with President Rourke in the chair.

Credentials of Irving Benton, of the Musicians, were read and accepted.

Credentials of A. W. Stratton, of the carpenters, were accepted and delegate obligated and seated.

Report of special committee appointed to confer with the laundry workers was accepted and the committee on organization was instructed to visit the union.

Reports by unions:

Painters—Bumped up against Seattle spirit. Union painters on G. N. depot.

Machinists—Expect General Organizer Van Lear, of district No. 32, and Vice President Hannah will be in Everett in the near future.

Electricians—Two applications, one initiation.

Cigar Makers—Four by card, one initiation.

Engineers—One application.

Bartenders—One initiation, one application.

Carpenters—Five initiations; two applications.

Lathers—Fined a Seattle member for working on G. N. depot.

Delegates to the council do not hesitate to express their feelings towards members of Seattle unions who will come here to work on an unfair job

A committee was appointed to devise ways and means for an open meeting in June to be addressed by officials of the Mchinists' International, who will be here during that month.

A new press committee has been appointed to furnish dope for the Shingle Weaver. The trials and tribulations of the boys will be duly recorded and the members are expected to be on their good behavior so that the record will not be too doleful.

THE LABOR MOVEMENT IN EUROPE

Workingmen in Politics.

(By the Rev. Charles Stelzle.)

There is more interest and greater activity in politics in England among working people than there is in any other country that I visited—and they are making good. Already the labor party in Great Britain has in the house of commons 31 members; but in addition to these, the miners' union has elected 20 members. These labor members cooperate in all legislation which affects the interests of the masses of the people. The appointment of John Burns to the cabinet was a recognition of the labor wing in parliament. Even though they are in the minority in the house of commons the labor members are often in a position to dictate legislation favorable to labor, because they frequently hold the balance of power. It was due to the entrance of workingmen into the political life of the nation that the Taff-Vale decision was reversed.

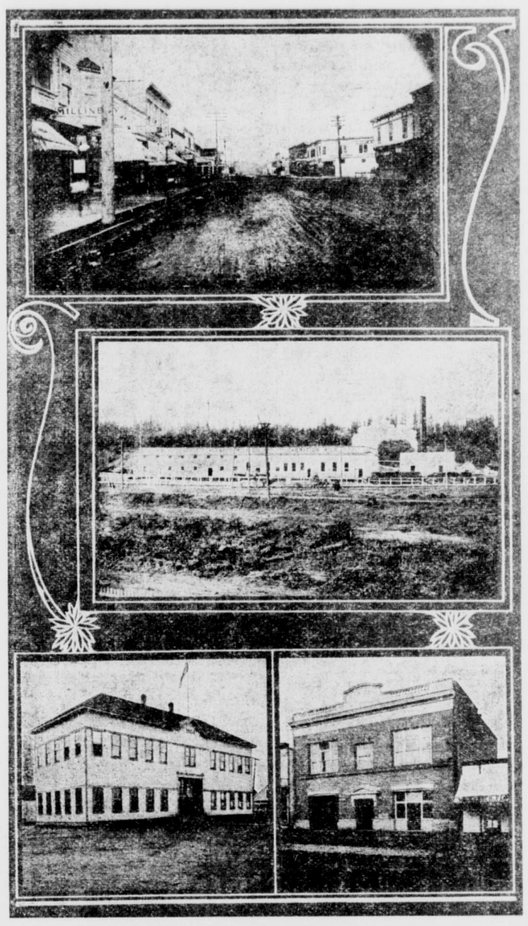
While probably two-thirds of the labor members are socialists, only one member of parliament was elected on the socialist ticket. The labor members were elected upon a bona fide trades union ticket. They are not dreamers, these men of labor. They are not working for the passage of a resolution which will sweep out of existence all the prevailing ills in human society, meanwhile spending their time simply in agitation, but they are opportunists, accepting the next thing. It is in this way that they are making very decided progress. The budget presented by the prime minister of England and passed last week by parliament, which provides for old age pensions, opt-of-employment benefits and many other reforms, is largely the result of the political agitation of the workingmen in Great Britain. The liberal policy adopted by the socialist trades unionists in parliament of seeking to obtain these reforms, one by one, has aroused considerable antagonism on the part of the extreme socialists who are led by Victor Grayson, the representative o fthe socialist party in parliament. These expected the representatives f the labor party who are socialists to fight exclusively for socialist measures and they resented the friendly relations which have been maintained with nonsocialist labor M. P.'s and with the liberal party generally. As a result of this lack of confidence in that policy of the socialist trades unionists the ablest leaders of the party, J. Ramsay Macdonald, Keir Hardie, Philip Snowden and Bruce Glasier, within a month resigned from the council of the independent labor party, which is the socialist wing of the labor party and represents about 15 per cent of the trades unionists actively engaed in the political propaganda.

In Germany the political movement among the workingmen is distinctively socialistic, although I was told by the leaders of the trades union movement that only about 15 per cent of the organized workingmen are members of the social-democrat party. This is about the same percentage of socialists, therefore, that is found among the trades unionists, although the difference in the situation is that the Germans elect socialists as such to represent them in the reichstag, while in England the representatives of the workingmen are bona fide trades unionists and the question as to their being socialists or not being socialists is not insisted upon. The matter of the Englishmen's socialism is purely personal, as is the question of his religion.

Belgium contains one of the most effective political organizations among the working people in any part of Europe. Laboring under many disadvantages on account of the previous strength of the opponents of labor, the Belgium trades unionists the co-operatives and the mutual insurance societies are organized into a labor party which, however, is practically a socialist movement.

FIREMEN'S CIRCUS WITH NORRIS & ROWE

The ever popular Norris & Rowe circus is billed to appear in Everett for two performances, afternoon and evening, and a big street parade in the morning. Young and old always go to the circus and everybody in Everett who can raise the price of a ticket will be in the big tent when the show starts. The coming show will be something of a departure from scheduled performances in that it will be under the auspices of the Everett fire laddies. A percentage of the receipts will be turned over to the Firemen's Relief association, which is a most worthy cause.



BUSINESS SCENE OF MONROE, WASH.

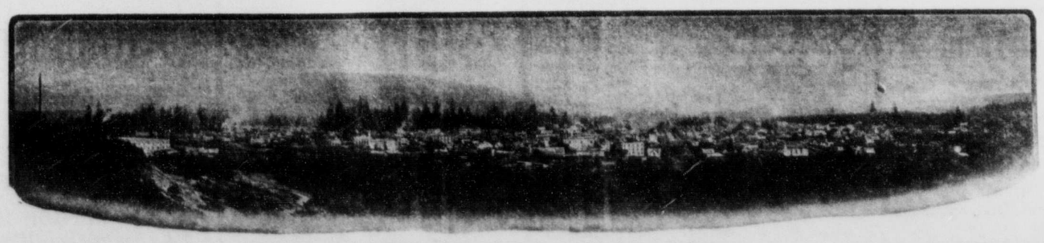
SEATTLE CARD MEN DO UNFAIR WORK

Claim Ignorance of Conditions Existing In the Great Northern Depot.

Why will a man carrying a union card in his pocket deliberately walk onto a job that has been declared unfair by the building trades council? This is the question that is agitating the minds of union mechanics in this city who months ago placed the new G. N. depot officially unfair to organized labor. All of the building trades locals in this city have refused to touch this work and have had to see card men from other cities go to work on the building, and some of them have refused to come off when told the job was N. G. What makes the pill more bitter to swallow is the fact that not a union in this city had a personal grievance against this job, and if they had been willing to ignore the trouble of another outside local the work would not have been stopped ten minutes. To go back: When construction work first commenced local bricklayers and carpenters were employed. They, finding out that the foreman of the work and several corpenters he had brought with him from Seattle were among the men who tried to wreck the Seattle carpenters' union during the split over the A.-Y.-P. buildings, reported the fact to the Everett union and every known means was exhausted to get these scab carpenters to settle up with the Seattle local. Failing to get these men straightened up, the union men walked off the job. Not because of any grievance over their treatment by the contracting company, but because of a desire to protect the Seattle carpenters' union which had expelled these men from membership. Further more they believed in a closed shop in fact and not in fancy. Now what happened? The bricklayers' national officer, after vainly attempting to induce the local boys to go back to work, sent Seattle bricklayers onto the job over the protest of the local union. We dwelt on this action at some length in a former issue. Then in rapid succession came plumbers and gasfitters, electricians, painters, lathers, plasterers—all but the last named trade carrying union cards in their pockets. In each instance they were told by members of the various local unions the conditions surrounding the work. One and all of course they claimed to be in ignorance of the fact that the job was unfair. We would not be unfair enough to say that they all knew better. They may have been honest about it. But it seems strange in view of the fact that commitees from the local carpenters visited Seattle in an attempt to straighten out the tangle; that district officers of several of the trades came here and looked over the situation, that it should take so long a time for the facts in the case to reach the ears of the members of crafts in Seattle other than the carpenters. Plumbers came onto the job and were met by loel members and the situation explained. They were induced to quit and then came back again. Can ignorance be pleaded in that case? A Seattle electrician showed up one day and when he was talked to said if he quit and went back his union would only send somebody else up. Did he tell the truth? If he didn't why was it that after he was induced to leave, other members of the same Seattle local came onto the work? Could they plead ignorance? Now that both the Everett unions of electrical workers have protested against this action, the business agent of the Seattle local, No. 217, wants particulars of the trouble, claiming it is all absolutely new to him. Oh, rats!

It is rather discouraging to stand for principle and sacrifice work to uphold the tenets of unionism and then have some fellows who have taken the same obligations that you have to uphold the hands of his brother unionist come in and grab the work that you won't touch because it is scabby. It is rather exasperating to see a union tacitly give its consent to such actions on the part of its members. It explains to a great extnt why some unions never get anywhere from a true union standpoint. Why it is that the whole labor movement creeps where it should walk and walks where it should run. Because it must stagger under the weight of a lot of fellows who re really a detriment to the cause but who perforce must cling on like barnacles to a ship. Pechaps they'll get innoculated with the true union virus sometime. For the good of the trade union movement we hope so.

Give a copy of the Journal to your non-union friend and ask him to subscribe for the paper that stands squarely for the interests of the man who toils.



BIRDSEYE VIEW OF MONROE, WASH.

VAN CLEAVE QUITS JOB

Here's Your Hat—What's Your Hurry?

"Jeems" W. Van Cleave, according to press dispatches, tendered his resignation as "gavel wielder" of the Citizens' Industrial alliance; while the dispatch does not so state, inferentially at least, it appears that the "head hunting of Jeems" was not ardently cherished by the "dough producers" in the alliance; the aforesaid "d. p.'s" awakened to the fact hat it's one thing to produce for the advancement of an organization, but a cat of a different breed to feel that your dough is being used to advertise a competitor's goods. As long as the press mentioned Jeems Van Cleve as president of the Citizens' Indutrial alliance, the mazuma was cheerfully contributd, but when the news-writers commenced to talk Bucks stove and range Van Cleave stuff was off and violent kicks began to be heard in that dear old San Loole. At that we believe the alliance members, especially those in the stove and range business, have made a mistake, a tactical blunder, so to speak; for while admitting that the Bucks stove and ranges were frequently mentioned in the press dispatches, the advertising was of a negative value, and had Jeems been let alone for another term or two as president it's a moral certainty that the Bucks Stove and Range company's products would be about as popular as that four-legged creature called the skunk.

Van Cleave's abdication leaves a vacancy created by a vacancy, paradoxical as that may seem, and the only one that will regret Jemms' side-stepping act is Davenport, of Bridgeport, for the nutmeg state disciple of Blackstone found Van the easiest mark ever to get "het up" and fussy. Fare thee well Van—that means good by—you have had your fun—but the fiddler remains unpaid.—Mixer and Sower.

ADVANCE WAGES TEN PER CENT.

PITTSBURG, Pa., May 18.—Announcement was made here today that 35,000 employes of the iron and steel companies having headquarters in this vicinity will receive an advance in wages averaging 10 per cent June 1 or July 1.

The United States Steel corporation has made no announcement of an increase of wages, but it is said the Jones & McLaughlin Steel company, the Republic Iron and Steel company and other independent concerns would restore the wages paid prior to the first of last April.—Press Dispatch.

THE JAP IS NOT WANTED

Are Trained Soldiers and Ready to Act

Labor agitators and labor papers are not alone in their analysis of the Japanese situation on the Pacific coast. The secular press would have the people believe that the Japanese agitation is spread only by labor discontents whose sole mission in lfe is to to create race hatred and stir up trouble generally. That there are other clases of people who view the situation in much the same light as the so-called "labor agitators" however is proven by the following editorial expression from Goodwin's Weekly, published in Salt Lake City:

"It is good to see the men of the west coast paying especial courtesies to the admiral and cadets of the Japanese warships now in San Francisco harbor. They express the real sentiment of the people of the United States toward Japan and her people, which is altogether of friendship, kindness and good will.

"There is one feature of the reception which should be taken quiet notice of. At Los Angeles thousands of resident Japanese rushed to the port to welcome their country's ships and crews. Ten thousand more met them at San Francisco, and still a greater number will receive and welcome them on Puget Sound. Of these many thousands are trained soldiers. In the event of a war, within three days all these would be at points on the coast where they could receive arms, war munitions of all kinds and such additional officers as might be needed. Any one can see what the conditions would be on an unfortified coast and among a people unused to the discipline of a camp, knowing nothing of the movements of an army, and, withal, unarmed.

"The bare sugestion of such a situation is enough to fully justify the protest of the men of the west coast against the Japanese immigration that has been pouring in since before the Japanese-Russian war. And those men are Japanese and always will be and always stand ready to obey any order that may come to them from their home government."