

GENERAL MENTION.

Swiped Bodily From the Portland Labor Press Without Apologies.

Glassworkers will form women's auxiliaries. Roosevelt has agreed to speak in Fargo on Labor Day. In Kansas the law against paying men in checks is being enforced.

In Berlin, Germany, there are 230,000 card-holding trade unionists. The Photo Engravers' International union reports \$50,000 in the treasury. Work on the immense water system of Los Angeles has been resumed. German unions are exceptionally strong among unskilled branches of labor.

Mill employees in Lancashire, England have equal pay for work, regardless of sex. The sugar trust is on with another fight with its refinery men in the vicinity of New York.

Hereafter the city department of public works will bid on every public contract let in Milwaukee. Telegraphers have gained better pay and conditions by arbitration with the Grand Trunk Pacific.

Organized farmers and mechanics have united in Spokane for clean and honest city and county government. Night schools and trade schools for adults in Germany are increasing. A college of trades is also provided for.

The Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen has appropriated funds for the establishment of a course of scientific firing.

Milwaukee authorities have put 104 dives out of business in the last few months. They were all stations in the "white slave trade."

Milwaukee is to construct cottages and sell on the installment plan at figures so low as to make the ordinary real estate shark weep.

The difficulties in Spain seem to be between the gobackers and the stand-patters. The liberal element seems to be out of the running.

of Hindu laborers in San Francisco has become a public scandal because most of them could be sent back, and the traffic stopped.

The federal laborers of Spokane have established a fund to be used in enforcing the eight-hour and other laws regarding public laborers. And some of the contractors the shocked at such anarchy!

Courts have ordered the city council of Spokane to call an election for a board of charter makers not later than October 1; but there are other courts, and the council does not want to give in to the people.



S. D. SMITH, HAVELOCK, NEBR. Blacksmiths' Union

Three thousand striking workmen and their families are camping out in Los Angeles, and they buy all their supplies from other points rather than patronize unfair stores and "open" shop business men.

The proposal that women be called on to render military service if they were granted the right to vote has been taken up seriously in Germany. Women could do much in hospitals and camps to relieve and to aid.

Both Taft and Ballinger thought the government irrigation enterprises savored too much of Socialism. With the dignity and red tape of the army engineers tied to it, the reclamation bureau will not be so much after this.

Sheet Metal Workers in St. Louis won after thirty-seven days' strike. The bosses point out that the workers lost \$35,000 in wages. If the strike had been lost the bosses would soon have caused worse loss than that.

By means of a purchasing agent the workmen's government of Milwaukee, Wis., saved a dollar a ton on all municipal coal. The official getting that amount of graft from it kicked with no beneficial results to himself.

The appropriation by Congress will result in a very elaborate and probably a very thorough investigation of mine accidents. The sum of \$310,000 is available, and the work will be carried out under the newly created Bureau of Mines.

The American Anti-Boycott Society is very much miffed at its desertion by the Bucks State concern. It has had a good thing collecting contributions from rich suckers to fight Campers and the A. F. of L., and it hates awfully to let go. Perhaps it won't.

The three nurses who testified in the Hyde murder case in Kansas City have been boycotted by the physicians of that city and compelled to leave town. There some physicians are no doubt in sympathy with the "open" shop fight against organized labor.



PRESIDENT FRANK M. COFFEY Nebraska State Federation of Labor

It is confidently asserted that almost the entire issue of the Anti-Saloon League millions of leaflets, pamphlets and given-away literature is printed without the label, and usually in unfair shops. No wonder its representatives keep away from union meetings.

In British Columbia the timber claims are said to be licensed to cut timber over 160 acres of land, the particular location of which is not surveyed. The government gets \$140 for each license, and in many cases such licenses apply to the same piece of land or timber as half a dozen other licenses. This may

look like trouble for B. C. in the future but it probably spells more trouble for American speculators than anybody else.

It is proposed to hold the next convention of the Washington State Federation of Labor on board a steamer off the wharf at Olympia. At the time of its gathering the legislature will be in session and rooms and board will be difficult to secure. The ship will be hotel and hall.



BUSINESS AGENT FRED EISSLER Carpenters' Union No. 1055

Curry County, New Mexico, is making a special plea to investors in its bonds that they are not taxable. Silver City is doing the same thing. It secures purchasers, although most bonds of that nature are not taxed, anyhow, because the holders thereof never show up except for their interest, and then only through banks.

To keep persecution from themselves, the Russian nobility encourage the degraded and ignorant masses to persecute the Jews. The results are sickening and revolting. It is said that if five certain Jewish families of Europe would refuse to loan Russia any money that the persecutions would come to a speedy stop.

One of the measures coming before the people of Arkansas next month is that of exemption of cotton factories from taxation. The idea is that if you want factories don't fine and punish them for coming where you want them. If you kick a dog every time you call him, or he shows up without calling, the animal refuses to come at all after a while.

It is gently intimated that the Morgan-Guggenheim-Rockefeller interests will cause a panic this fall in order to scare the fool working man into voting the republican ticket. This has been a trump card to talk about as a bluff these many years. If it is ever laid on the deck there is likely to be a sudden and nerve-racking rough-house one of these days.

It is told that a number of years ago the saloonkeepers needed friends in Boston. Union cigars were almost impossible to secure in any Boston saloon, but after the labor unions in the Central Council had indorsed the anti-

saloon movement by resolution, the securing of a cigar not of union make was difficult in the city of "kulehar." The rescinding of the resolution was the price paid to secure the deal.

The Manufacturers' Association has started in to make Washington, D. C. the "model open shop town of the United States." If the association means business it will immediately import into that city 10,000 Hindus, 25,000 Japs and as many Chinks as can be gathered up. In order to make sure, several thousand Mexican peons can be brought from the mortal open shops of Yucatan. Let us have a full exhibition.

THE STRUGGLE FOR EXISTENCE.
By Rev. Charles Stekler.

The cost of living during the past fifteen years has been rapidly increasing. In ten years it has gone up 40 per cent. This tendency will probably never decrease very materially. While wages have gone up, they have by no means kept pace with the living expenses. The increase in the rate for the skilled workers has been about 20 per cent, but the wages of unskilled labor have remained practically stationary. The greatest expenditure of the average family is for food, constituting about 45 per cent of the cost of living, and it is in the food products that the increased cost has been greatest. The next largest item of expense is that of rent, constituting about 20 per cent, and that for clothing following with about 16 per cent of the total expenditure.

We need not discuss the causes of

poorest-paid workingman in the world. The question of a living wage must necessarily be a relative term. It depends altogether upon the standard of living which men set up for themselves. The living wage of the day laborer would not be a living wage for the average professional man. But, generally, the term is employed to designate the amount upon which the average workingman and his family may subsist. The average family in New York City cannot live comfortably on less than \$500 a year. This applies to practically every other large city. Less than this amount lowers the standard of living below the normal demands of health, working efficiency and ordinary decency.

The wages of the average worker in the United States is \$432.20 per annum. But this includes all wage-earners and it must be evident that there are large numbers of workers who receive very much less than this amount. A study of the earnings of wage earners in Bulletin No. 93 of the Bureau of the Census indicates that during the week that the Census was made in 1905, there were 225,793 wage-earners who received less than \$3; 264,626 between \$3 and \$4; 340,113 between \$4 and \$5; 363,693 between \$5 and \$6; 454,285 between \$6 and \$7; 433,203 between \$7 and \$8; and 423,689 between \$8 and \$9. It should be remembered that large numbers of wage-earners are not permanently employed during the year. In many industries the workers are not employed more than half the year. This applies principally to laborers, who are more subject to casual employment than are the skilled workers, but even among the trades unionists about 20 per cent are unemployed, even during prosperous years.

It is true that there is often more than one wage-earner in the family. But the measure of a man's wages today is not determined by his ability

to support a family, but rather by what the average family as a whole may earn, and this measure is the margin of bare subsistence.

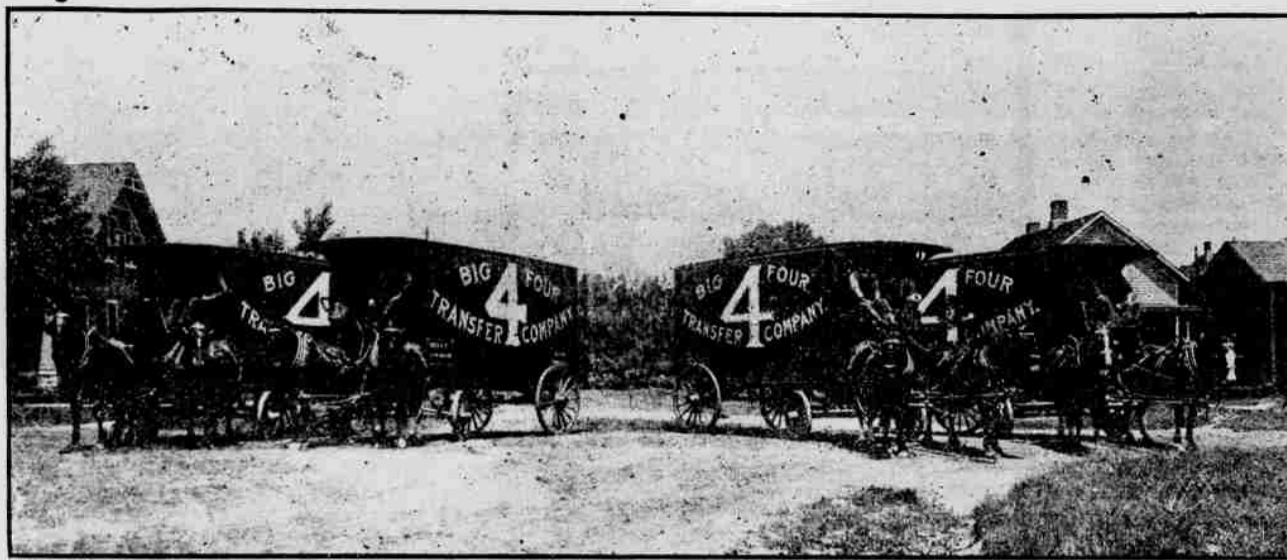
A PEACEFUL STRIKE.
Leatherworkers on Horse Goods Made Conditions Better.

One of the most peaceful strikes on record was conducted by the United Brotherhood of Leather Workers on Horse Goods in their efforts to gain the eight hour day. During the entire period of cessation of work no disturbances are recorded. The hours of employment in the saddlery industry prior to the strike varied from nine to ten, and the wages the lowest received by any skilled mechanics. The average yearly wage being less than \$12.00 per week. While their efforts to establish the eight hour day proved unsuccessful, nevertheless, it resulted in putting into effect a universal nine hour day. Notwithstanding the peaceful attitude of the Leather Workers during the entire trouble they were bitterly opposed by the National Saddlery Manufacturers' Association, who declared early in the strike that their doors would be forever barred to members of the Brotherhood. This, however, only had the effect of making the men all the more determined, and they decided rather than submit to such overbearing tyrants they would leave the trade, and no less than 1,000 secured employment at other occupations. The Saddlery Association in order to get even decided to hire boys and unskilled labor and teach them the trade in three or four weeks; this however, proved a dismal failure and the individual firms began to break over and offered a compromise of nine hours with a substantial increase in wages, which was accepted by the brotherhood. There are still a few firms holding out to their own detriment. An officer of the Brotherhood recently stated that they have only a small number of men still on strike, but that they felt confident that when business picks up they will also make terms with the organization, and a universal nine hour day will be the result of their efforts.

The only shoe-man who is a union man is Murray French of the Yates, French Co., 1220 O Street. He belongs to the Musicians' Protective Union, Local No. 463, and should have your patronage.

TAXING TOIL AND THRIFT.
When the farmer clears and levels a little patch of land the assessor tells him that as it is more valuable than it was, and as land is going up in value all the time, anyhow, he will have to do his duty and raise the assessment. But when it is pointed out that timber land is going higher all the time, too, and that timber is cash value, the kindly-hearted assessor reduces the assessment on such land to "conserve our natural resources." The farmer is not a natural resource, don't you know. He is "a pudding" for the tax dodgers.—Portland Labor Press.

WE MOVE EVERYTHING



BIG - 4 - FOUR

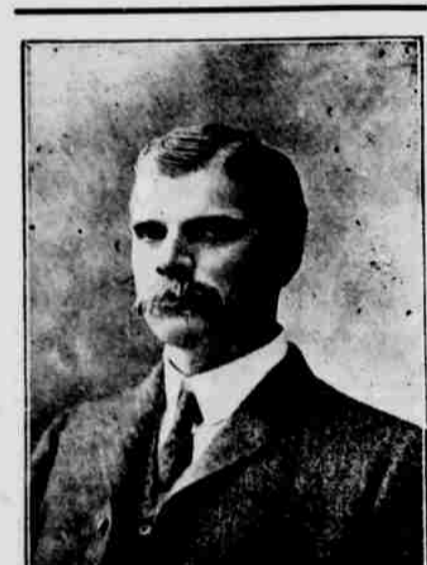
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GRAND CHIEF STONE, B. L. E.

The court appealed to for an injunction in Spokane against peaceful picketing by waiters has decided that such picketing is lawful.

Oklahoma union labor forces are keeping after any political printing without the union label. Merely mentioning its absence is very irritating.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa, has an Employers' Association and it has labor unions. Instead of fighting they have agreed to arbitrate all differences.

The Foresters of America in California have condemned the Japanese, and their official organ contains the explicit and brief slogan, "Fire the Japs!"

The Maryland legislature has passed a law requiring that the union label of the Allied Printing Trades council be placed on all printing done for the state.

No Pinkerton detectives are allowed to stir up strikes in Milwaukee. They are classed as vags and given short shift notices. Some of them are in Portland.

Milwaukee is to have a municipally-owned street car terminal station. All lines must use it. It is expected to pay and will also prove a great convenience.

The Chicago traction trust is supplying its men with a free magazine. Its articles on welfare, faithful service, etc. are described by a rough critic as "hogwash."

The governor of Arkansas comes out squarely for organized labor, and will not, as the head of the state, employ or permit the employment of any but union men.

The Secretary of Commerce and Labor has decided that there is nothing to the charges of the A. F. of L. that slavery exists on the sugar plantations of the Hawaiian Islands.

The German government pays damage to those injured on the state-owned and operated railroads. Last year these satisfactions amounted to more than \$1,400,000, or 4 per cent on an investment of \$35,000,000.

During the year ending with June over 25,000 emigrants seeking admission to this country were turned back for physical defects and indications of becoming public charges. The admission