LOCAL LABOR NEWS

CARPENTERS.

Work is good just now, and no union men are idle. There has been a great demand lately for union carpenters, and it is expected that the membership of this union will be considerably increased within a short time. Brother Wendland is certainly doing a great deal to advance the interests of his union. You cannot have too many of that brand of union men.

TYPOGRAPHICAL UNION.

The last regular meeting was well attended. Many members from nearby towns were present. It was decided by a vote that every member who was not working on September 4th should take part in the Carnival parade. Typographical union is sure to be well represented in the labor division.

Two new members were initiated. The numerical strength of this union is increasing slowly, but surely. After disposing of some minor business, the meeting adjourned.

EXPRESSMENS' UNION.

The membership of this organization is rapidly increasing, and it is only a question of a short time when the expressmen of this city will be thoroughly organized. Bro. Spencer is doing yeoman work for the welfare of the expressmen, and, with the aid of organized labor, he is bound to succeed. The members are requested to attend the next regular meeting, as very important business is to be disposed of.

The charter is due this week, and every union expressman will shortly have a union tag on his wagon.

BRICKLAYERS' UNION.

There was a large attendance at the last regular meeting. It was decided to attend the Labor Day meeting in a body. This union will take part in the Carnival parade, and Brothers Blaney and Jorgensen are on a committee to arrange everything pertaining thereto. It was moved that Labor Day be regarded as a holiday, and members of this union will not work on that day.

One member of the union was fined \$10 for scabbing, and he considers himself lucky to get off so "easy." No doubt he will remember this object lesson.

PAINTERS' UNION.

The event of the week was the unionizing of one of the largest shops in the city. Henry Berger has acceded to the demands of the union, and all the men employed by him, seventeen in number, joined in a body. Brother Rogers, the business agent, of the union, is entitled to a very great extent for this victory. Some outside influence, no doubt, has helped the painters a great deal in this matter. The fact that any one union is backed up in its just demands by organized labor is of inestimable value to such a union. We congratulate the painters, and wish them further suc-

LEATHERWORKERS' UNION.

On July 16th this union was organized with a charter membership of twenty men. Since that time it has nearly trebled its numbers, and today is one of the best unions in the city. Brothers Kitch and Lorch are doing everything in their power to get every leatherworker in this city into the ranks of the union. They certainly will succeed, as they are indefatigable workers.

The last meeting was well attended and considerable business transacted. Work is good at the present.

It was decided to attend the Labor Day meeting in a body, and Monday was declared a holiday.

BEER DRIVERS.

This union is rapidly progressing, both in the increase of membership and in securing better conditions of work. The contract was received last week from the National Executive Board, and the Beer Drivers will have no trouble in getting it signed by their employers.

At the last regular meeting it was unanimously decided that the union subscribe in a body for the Portland Labor Press, both for the general fund and a copy of the paper for each member. Brother August Eschle was elected as the representative of this union on the Board of Directors of the Portland Labor Press Publishing Association.

MILLWORKERS' UNION.

Millworkers' Union met at the usual hour Sunday afternoon. J. A. Bushman, chairman; L. Becker, secretary; H. G. Coats, treasurer and other officers were present. The attendance otherwise was good. C. A. Read, one of the delegates to the Federated Trades Assembly, resigned, as his employment prevented his being able to attend the meetings thereof as regularly as he thinks his duty requires. On motion, L. A. Parker was elected to fill the vacancy thereby caused. Several matters coming up for consideration were elaborately discussed, and disposed of, but, not being of interest to the public at large, need no furth-J. T. MORGAN. er mention here.

The National Association of Lettercarriers is holding its annual session in Detroit, Mich.

Officers of the association announce that it has now a membership of 16,000, with 45 local branches, and that all the government letter carriers, with the exception of about 1,000, are included in its membership. One of the principal subjects of discussion will relate to the increase of salaries to a uniform rate for carriers both of the first and second class. Carriers of postoffices of the first class now receive \$1,000 and of the second class, \$850. What the men desire is a uniform salary of \$1,200.

The question for a provision for infirm and disabled letter carriers will also receive due consideration. A bill has been prepared for the administration of the matter by the postoffice department, without any further expense to the government.

Another conference of importance, at which it is thought a scale will be agreed to, is fixed for September 4th, at Detroit, between the representatives of the Republic Iron & Steel Company, the American Steel Hoop Company, the Standard Chain Company and the Amalgamated Association.

There must be something higher in the idea of trades unionism than "short hours and high wages," otherwise it would not have survived so long. It is the idea of brotherhood, fellowship and equality, which are inherent in unionism, and more than any other power tends to keep the workers together and raise them to a higher level.

If you have any time to spare you can use it to no better advantage than by reading literature dealing with the modern labor movement.

England has dominated India 150 years, and now of India's 300 millions, but 100,000 are British born; and it takes 70,000 British soldiers and 140,000 native soldiers to make life bearable for these 100,000.

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"Prosperity" is signally illustrated by the fact that while in 1896 diamonds of the value of \$2,000,000 were imported into the United States, in 1899 the value of imported diamonds increased to over \$12,000,000. Workingmen who yet swallow the political and economic rot dealt out to them by their capitalist masters, should find no difficulty in accepting the above figures as an indication of general "prosperity." The statement that

the children of the locked-out workmen in this city are using diamonds to play marbles with, is not one white less worthy of belief than most of the other "proofs of prosperity" which are concocted by and appear daily in the capitalist press. The "prosperity" of the working class might just as well be measured by the importation of diamonds as by any other capitalist standard.—Workers' Call.