

The COOS GUARDIAN

Vox Populi, Vox Dei.

VOL. I No. 10

THURSDAY, APRIL 5, 1934

PRICE THREE CENTS

Workers Club and The Labor Party

By WORKER

Some comment and criticism has been going on about town over the action of the Coos Guardian in reporting last week's happening at the City Hall and also of its reverberations at the Coos County Workers Club. The Guardian's stand on the matter of appointments is well known; it registered the general feeling that the Mayor did desert his supporters on the all-important matter of appointments; the action taken at the Workers Club possibly calls for explanation.

When the news of the Mayor's action was received at the Club a storm of protest arose, and in the heat of the discussion some member made a motion to expel the Mayor from the Club. According to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Workers Club the motion was out of order, and as such was referred to the Executive Committee.

Now comes a point to our mind which must be made clear to the general public, and to the members of the Club in particular:

The Coos County Workers Club and the Labor Party are two different organizations. The Workers Club is purely and simply a labor organization founded solely to defend, foster, or further the rights of the workingman as one, and of the workingmen as a whole. It is non-political in that the Club itself is not a part of a political party nor is it a political party.

The fact that it is non-political does not, however, mean that the Club may not, or can not, back a political body which, like the Labor Party in Berlin, is pledged to the Labor classes; nor does it mean that the Workers Club cannot "lobby" or petition the government in the interests of Labor.

This spring it founded and backed the Labor Party; the fact that members of the Workers Club served on the Labor Party committee, and campaigned for the Labor Party, does not thereby make the Club a political party, any more than the fact that certain members of the Kiwanis or Rotary Clubs are Republicans, and campaign as such,

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Workers Club Considers Wage Raise

To use a Hooverite expression "normalcy" reigned at the Club meeting Tuesday night. After more or less turbulent meetings over the election the Club has again settled down to ordinary Club business. The packed meeting was quiet, contrary to rumors that had been circulated announcing some agitation.

Routine matters were taken up in the usual order, but the most important matter taken under advisement was the question of a wage increase. Wages are being increased throughout the country in various industries, and it is felt that Berlin might consider the possibility of a raise here. The Club has a committee working on data as to the cost of living under the N. R. A., the actual state of the wages, and the activities along the same line elsewhere. The committee was not yet ready to report at this last meeting, but expects to be able to make a return of its finding within a week or so.

Another matter of interest which came up was a request of a group of one hundred and sixty men at Lincoln, N. H., for a visit to that town of a delegation from the Coos County Workers Club. The workers of that town have followed with interest the developments in this City and feel that they would like to model a club of their own after this one. The invitation contained a naive inquiry as to how much it would cost to get "that lawyer" down with the delegation. Evidently they have a feeling that lawyers are only interested in finance. President Legassie assured them that in addition to "that lawyer" he was coming down Sunday with Ira Cole, the financial secretary of the Club. The group has made arrangements for an appearance in Lincoln this coming Sunday in answer to their request, and no charge whatever is being made.

Renew your Guardian subscription.

1200 Unemployed Registered in Berlin

According to figures released by the local re-employment office there are at the present time 1200 unemployed registered at the office. This figure does not include the heads or members of families who are on State or City relief.

Of these 1200 unemployed most of them are single men or youths and it is expected that the orders for the drive, which is to start within the next two weeks, will absorb 600 to 700. The men who are to take part on the drive and will be hired through the local re-employment office will be judged solely according to their qualifications and not according to their relief status.

It is not known what wages will be paid to the men who will make the drive; last year it ranged from \$1.00 to \$1.75 a day clear. It is felt, however, that the wages will be slightly higher this spring although there is no definite information as yet about it.

Mr. Sharples said that his figures showed a slight decrease in the unemployment situation and it is evident that a certain number of men have been absorbed by the Brown Company or other private concerns, since the low period last November.

The date of the opening of the PWA project on Pleasant Street could not as yet be ascertained. It is felt, however, that it will start soon, as the bids are in; the applicants who will get the jobs will be judged solely on their value to the contractor and not with any reference to their need of relief. Wages will be PWA wages, that is 40 or 50 cents an hour.

Along the Main Stem

With Dr. B. U. L. Connor

The Echo Club's rumpus at the Mount Madison, Easter Monday, proved to be quite a success. It was certainly a pleasing experience for us to assist and see the boys and gals go through their capers.

Malou Lavoie and his Band of a Thousand and One Melodies furnished the music, being reinforced for the occasion by the addition of Master Rollie, of Intercollegiate Aces and Black and Gold fame.

"Spring is here," comes a notice from the police department, "but so are the red tags." The peace officers have been given orders to strictly enforce the parking ordinances. A word to the wise is sufficient, coz we're sure no one likes to see his flivver (or his Packard) decorated by the brightly colored pasteboards.

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Do You Want to Win \$15.00?

Do you want to make some easy money during your spare time doing light and pleasant work? If you do call at the Guardian Office this week!

The Guardian will conduct a Subscription Contest during the next month

Ten per cent of all money collected will be paid to the participants in this campaign, besides giving them a chance on the prizes offered.

1. Contest to open April 9, 9:00 a. m., to close May 9, 9:00 p. m.
2. All eligible to participate except staff of the Guardian.
3. All contestants to be responsible for their subscription blanks to the Guardian office; all said blanks to be property of the Guardian.
4. In case of tie, duplicate prizes to be awarded.
5. The prizes shall be \$15.00, \$10.00, and \$5.00, besides a bonus of 10% on all subscriptions sold.
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Chain Store Milk Ordered Removed

Monday morning, April 2, members of the Berlin-Milan Milk Association were advised that the A&P were selling milk a cent lower than the price set by the Associated Dealers in this vicinity. A committee investigated and as a result the producer, and the A&P, who were found not to have a license to

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The COOS GUARDIAN

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MAYOR DANIEL FEINDEL

It is not our intent to harp every week on the rift between his Honor and the Labor Party which placed him in office. What is done is done and must remain done for it cannot now be mended. We do feel, however, that the sham with which our confrere, the Berlin Reporter, featured the matter calls for a clear-cut editorial on our part.

We are also living in Berlin and know that the Mayor's prompt capitulation to the Democratic "machine" did not meet with the approval of those who voted for him, both Laborites and Republicans, but aroused sad disappointment to say the least. It is our contention that the Reporter analyzes the matter perfectly from the standpoint of the Democratic Party but is not at all representative of public sentiment outside that Party.

The man who, according to the Democrats, "was not big enough" for the "job," now possesses "keen perspective" of city affairs. The man who, if elected mayor of this city, "would not be able to meet the payroll two weeks after his election" is now credited with "swift action to place the city government on an efficient working basis." The Democratic councilmen, who questioned his ability in the campaign now express their confidence that Mayor Feindel has the ability to handle City affairs, but that he "must be left alone." The Reporter adds that the only thing likely to disturb progress now is the "unwarranted interference of outsiders," meaning of course Laborite leaders. We can appreciate the irony of such statements when made by people who know or should know as well as everybody that the Mayor "surrendered" without a struggle just because of the interference of "outsiders." He "cracked up" even faster than had been hoped by the Democratic leaders because of pressure brought to bear on him, the source of which is easy to surmise. In short, they "took him away from his party" just because they did not "leave him alone."

Is it not strange that the Democrats should now appear to be so enthusiastic over the Mayor whom they were so much against during the campaign? Would they be complimenting him had he "stuck to his guns"? We believe not, and we further believe that they stand just as ready to put the "greased plank" under him next spring as ever before. The "harmony" and "co-operation" achieved was simply that the Mayor "gave in" to them and did so with more grace than they ever expected. It was a complete surrender on his part and they have him "in hand" for the year. We never saw such a transformation in a man as happened in this case according to the Democrats and their supporters. Yesterday he was backed by "carpet baggers" and "radicals" who endangered the community. He was pictured as a candidate to be voted down because of the crisis in the finances of the City and his inexperience and lack of ability. Today he is presented to the community as a capable executive with the confidence of all behind him. We consider that quite a change. And a change there was. Instead of being a menace to the "machine" as feared, he turned out to be a blessing in that he says "Yes" so well.

The Mayor's action placed his Party in a difficult position. The Party must either refuse to sanction him now or take the responsibility for what he did. If it sanctions his appointments, how can it honestly campaign against them in the spring? If the people of Berlin had wanted those office holders, they would have re-elected Mayor Coulombe. Once appointed by Mayor Feindel they are his appointments and he must take the responsibility accordingly. How can any one or any party campaign against their own appointments and do it honestly? It was felt that if he attempted to "bargain"

and "dicker," that he would not be a match for the Democrats. The Sunday conference proved it. His way was clear. They had to accept competent neutral appointments or keep what they had as holdovers. If they refused such appointments they were not public spirited but would be struggling for the life of the "machine." Public opinion would have been the judge of that. They would not have done their duty any less as holdovers. If they had, then they are not worthy of re-appointment anyway.

The Labor Party was fair. No slate was forced on his Honor. He was free to pick and choose from all except machine affiliates. The Democrats are the ones who would not co-operate and accept competent neutral appointments. The fact that they would not indicate that they realized that the "machine" was struggling for its existence and bound to die hard. That the City cannot get along without them or their co-operation is absurd. Mayor Coulombe used that "indispensability" argument in his campaign.

In our estimation to re-appoint the "machine" slate is to break faith with the voters who elected the Labor candidates and that is what his Honor has done. He most likely was "frightened" into doing it by such arguments as the interest of the City demanded it, holdovers have difficulty getting bonds, and that not to appoint as dictated by them meant the risk of paralyzing the city government; all of which is "poppycock." Had the situation been reversed and Mayor Coulombe found himself with three Democrats facing nine Laborites or Republicans we are quite certain that the City would have witnessed something altogether different.

In our estimation that is not what the Labor candidates were elected for. We feel that his Honor did not feel "right" about what he did. He never notified the Party or the Councilmen of his Party beforehand but took them unaware. After it was done he avoided all Labor contacts and the same night went not to the paper that helped elect him but to the Reporter to present his "defence." He attempts to "square" himself with the Labor Party by saying that he "put up" a Labor slate at the inauguration and that after that he was "free." Such rationalization sounds insincere. The Labor Party did not want the neutral slate read for the sake of hearing the sound of it in public. The Mayor had a lot of other names he could have suggested. He knew that the Democratic slate would never be acceptable to those who elected him.

We mean now to drop the matter as the Mayor is in "good hands." We feel that the Labor Platform will lie dormant for another year and that Berlin is in for another year of Democratic "machine" government as if there had been no election at all. The responsibility for this cannot be placed on the Labor Party that refuses to sanction it.

Close-ups of The News

By BIJOIE

"BEER"

The Beer Commission has constantly curtailed the dispensation of the beverage since its inception. First they have the booths cut down and now they shorten the "legal" hours of beer serving.

If they keep on we shall have beer in New Hampshire but it will be illegal to serve it. Few are interested in beer for exhibition purposes. The direct effect of "blue sky" beer regulations will be illegal sales. Thirsty customers will supply the demand for an illegal traffic if the laws are made too rigid.

"VETO"

It is strange what Congressmen will do in the face of re-election. The veterans put one over on Roosevelt recently because there will be an election too soon now to "stick" by the President.

The strangest thing about this bit of veto overriding is that the Republicans who under Hoover stood out strongly against veteran legis-

lation voted for it this time. Are we to take that as a change of principles on the part of the Republicans? Oh, no, just a re-election stunt.

"INSULL"

We see the Turks are to turn Insull over to the United States for extradition. His race for an asylum state is over.

For a man who professes to have done no wrong he was mighty afraid to come home. If he did not do anything, he should have come home to stand trial a long time ago.

"MARRIAGE LOAN"

We have heard of farm loans, home loans, and R. F. C. loans, but Hitler has come out with a new one on us. It is a marriage loan which will enable some 200,000 girls to get married. We do not know just what the terms of the loan are or the security, but it seems to us to be a war measure of the Mussolini type. The latter encourages big families for more cannon fodder. It is certain that the depression has delayed marriages and so Hitler probably wants them to catch up.

"C. W. A."

The New York Evening Post says:
(Continued on Page 3)

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CLOSE-UPS OF THE NEWS
(Continued from Page 2)

"CWA demobilization means lowered mass purchasing power, a glutted labor market pulling down the wage standards set in the NRA codes, a slackening of business activity. How can business, on that basis, be expected to shorten hours and raise wages even farther? The federal government must do its part by increasing rather than decreasing its expenditures for revival and relief."

True enough, but we ask how can the government keep it up? It was simply a dole. Every cent was invested in non-selfliquidating projects.

"ORGANIZERS"

John Bielak, an employee of the Hudson Motor Company, who was one of the head organizers of the employees of that Company under the N. R. A. in the recent dispute between the auto workers and the industrialists in Detroit, was "taken for a ride" and his body found in Monroe on the shore of Lake Erie. He must have got mixed up with somebody else's wife on his organization canvasses.

ALONG THE MAIN STEM
(Continued from Page 1)

Big doin's at the Police Station this last week-end. First: a little girl of four darts across Main Street in front of a car driven by Byjah Anderson, Denmark Street. Mr. Anderson, who was proceeding slowly, could not apply his brakes in time to save hitting the child. The little girl was knocked down and bruised painfully but was not severely injured.

If the quantity of beer guzzled along the Main Stem last Saturday is any criterion, many of the boys and gals must have taken good resolutions on Ash Wednesday. They certainly appeared very thirsty which would have been o. k. with City Marshall Hynes, if some of the lads had not taken it upon themselves to drink the local dispensaries dry with the effect that not a few of them had to be taken to the station to recuperate.

There is much rejoicing and happiness in Fireladdie "Tony" Beaudoin's cozy flat these days. He has become a proud "pappy"; a sweet young tiny labeled Marie-Jeannine.

Wonder what she thinks of her eminent (or is it imminent) cousin, Doc Connor?

The Veteran

By A. E. Martel

White Mt. Post 2520 officials have received confirmation of Commander-in-Chief, of Veterans of Foreign Wars, James E. Van Zandt's proposed visit to Berlin. Our city will be host to Commander Van Zandt, April 26.

As a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Van Zandt has served as Commander of James L. Noble Post No. 3 in Altoona, two successive terms as Commander of the Department of Pennsylvania, National Chief of Staff in 1930-1931, and Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief, to which

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LEGAL NOTICES

GUARDIANSHIP

The undersigned hereby gives notice that has been appointed by the Judge of Probate for the County of Coos, Guardian of Leon C. Davis of Errol in said County, who is an insane person.

Dated at Lancaster this 20th day of March, 1934.

MARY E. DAVIS, Guardian.
By FRANK P. BLAIS, Atty.



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WORKERS CLUB AND LABOR PARTY

(Continued from Page 1)

make the Rotary or Kiwanis Clubs Republican in themselves.

The Coos County Workers Club is not the Labor Party nor is it any other political party; neither is the Labor Party the Coos County Workers Club. The decision of the Executive Committee on the matter of the expulsion of the Mayor is not yet known, but it seems that it may be anticipated by a correct interpretation of the rules of the Club; since the Club is non-political it cannot condemn the Mayor or any one else because of his political actions or beliefs, any more than it can dismiss a member because of his nationality or religious creeds.

Now if at a public hearing of the Labor Party, the general public who compose this party assemble in a forum and decide to condemn the Mayor's action on his appointments, this is the Labor Party's privilege; it has no relation whatsoever to the Coos County Workers Club, beyond meaning that the Club will support in future elections such a candidate or political party as it may approve.

CHAIN STORE MILK ORDERED REMOVED

(Continued from Page 1)

sell milk in Berlin, were forced to take back their goods.

The Berlin-Milan Milk Dealers Association, which governs about 100 persons engaged in the milk trade in Berlin, came to an agreement last summer, and agreed on certain prices to eliminate cut-throat competition in the milk field. It is felt, by members of that organization, that if an independent concern undersells the Association it will eventually cause a price war with corresponding quality decrease as well as lowering of the employees' wages.

A conference of the Milk Dealers Executive Board will be held shortly to see what action may be taken in anticipation of the A&P's entering the local market and underselling the local merchants. The local dealers are all working under NRA regulations, and it is felt that competition of this type would force them to reduce the wages of their employees as they are usually the first affected when any business loses a part of its income.

The members of the Coos County Workers Club were apprised of the affair, Tuesday night, but in the absence of a delegation of their Milk Association employee-members, no action could be taken.

Don't forget "La Maison Rivel," at the High School Auditorium, Sunday, April 8.

A F. M. LaForce presentation!

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