

The News-Review

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PLYWOOD STRIKE

By Charles V. Stanton

Plywood workers employed by the Roseburg Lumber Company have been called out on strike. The action follows a strike vote last weekend and a meeting between committees Monday.

A strike is something Roseburg "least needs the most!" Many people are looking upon the strike as a foolish gesture on the part of the Union. What can the Union hope to gain by striking at a time when mills are closing, when hundreds of people already are unemployed, when the market demand is down, and plywood production is at slow bell? Employers barely hanging on, making little if any profit, are not apt to be easily pressured into wage increases, these people contend. Certainly, in the light of existing circumstances, the prospect of a strike doesn't frighten an employer nearly as much as it might in more favorable and profitable times.

The State Employment Service reports that three small mills closed in Douglas County last month, that job placement was down and unemployment was up. Obviously such conditions are not favorable for use of an economic lever upon an employer reluctant to meet demands for wage increases.

Union Has Problem

On the other hand, the Union has certain responsibilities. Plywood workers are organized industry wide. Although separate contracts are made with individual employers, it is obvious that there must be uniformity in the scale paid throughout the industry.

Several of the larger companies have settled with the Union on a basis of an additional five cents per hour. The Roseburg Lumber Company, with which negotiations now are in progress, is one of the large plywood operators of the Pacific Northwest. If the Roseburg Lumber Company can continue to operate with a lower wage scale than its competitors, it will have a very substantial advantage on a tight market.

Having won a wage increase from companies competing with the Roseburg Lumber Company, the Union undoubtedly feels a responsibility to protect employers who have complied with wage demands against the competition which a lower wage scale here would permit.

Compromise Desirable

The companies granting wage increases are for the most part large corporations with affiliates and subsidiaries manufacturing everything from charcoal briquets to pullman cars. They are not dependent exclusively upon lumber and plywood production. Because their operations extend across the nation, they are not tied to the regional economy as is the Roseburg Lumber Company, an independent operation which, while rapidly diversifying, still is far more restricted in economic position than its competitors.

For the sake of the community and the workmen who will suffer from a prolonged strike, negotiators on both sides, I hope, will seriously consider compromise.

Speaking entirely from ignorance of the intimate details of demands and offers, I would suggest that the negotiating committees strive to arrive at an agreement on a "break even" point in the local operation. It should not be difficult to determine then what wage increases, if any, can be granted now or in the future, as market demand and prices improve. It could be stipulated that the present demand for wages would be paid whenever profit advance to a specific level beyond the "break even" point and that, as and if further gains are experienced in demand and profits, retroactive payments would be made.

In other words, labor would share with the employer the preservation of local economy, precarious as it is, during the current depressed period, but would be assured of its reward if and when conditions return to normal and the industry once again is in a profitable position.

Under such scheme the local operator, it is true, would have a slight advantage over his more diversified competitor, but, in the long run would pay on the same basis as improvements in local economy justify.

IN THE DAY'S NEWS

By FRANK JENKINS

(Continued from page one)

high speed, almost running most of the time. She not only waits on the tables, taking the orders and passing them on to the kitchen crew and bringing the food out to the customers when it is ready. She is the cashier as well, taking in the money and keeping it straight.

She has her hands full. The members of the kitchen crew must have their hands full also. They turn out the food as fast as the waitress can deliver it. They are good cooks. The food is excellent. Preparing excellent food requires skill, and preparing it on time, so that the customers will be kept happy, calls for speed and efficiency.

Over the highway from the little restaurant is a motel. There are many motels along this great highway. Here in midsummer of the year 1957, there are many vacancies. Tourists are not quite as numerous this year as they had been expected to be.

But there is seldom a vacancy sign at this particular motel. If you are going to arrive later than mid-afternoon and want to get in, you'd better phone ahead for a reservation.

Why? Well, it's nice. It is relatively new, and it has been well kept up. The service is good, and the people who give the service are pleasant and friendly.

Portland Police Ask Elkins To Buy Tickets

PORTLAND — The office of Police Chief William J. Hilbruner recently sent a letter to Big Jim Elkins — convicted last May on wiretap charges.

The letter asked Elkins to buy two \$1 tickets to the policemen's ball.

Hilbruner was appointed to his position by Mayor Terry Schunk.

In the trial in which Schunk was acquitted of a perjury charge, Elkins was a state witness.

Said Elkins: "I ought to buy some tickets just to show them I appreciate their kind words."

"Don't Worry, I'll See That He Gets Them"



Hal Boyle

NEW YORK — Many young actresses who go to Hollywood become trapped by "the cheesecake curse."

They never graduate above the leg-and-bosom publicity photos put out by their studios to build up public interest. They become caught on a cheesecake treadmill, and go no farther.

Jane Russell, who pioneered in making the three-foot tale measure obsolete, feels now that at long last she has busted that hex forever.

"People used to expect me to come in with three naked men thrown over my shoulder," she recalled. Miss Russell, who looks like a strapping, tall-stemmed American Beauty rose.

This happened because of her first picture, "The Outlaw," (made when Marilyn Monroe was in high school and Jayne Mansfield was still playing jacks). The camera seemed intent on proving that Miss Russell's heaving chest qualified her more for deep sea pearl diving than acting.

Her promotional buildup made Lana Turner, "The Sweater Girl," look like a fugitive from a kindergarten.

Discovered: She's a Lady. "When I met women at a party," said Jane, "they'd talk to me for a while and then say in real surprise, 'Why, my dear, you're a lady!'"

"This doesn't happen any more — and for this I'm grateful. There have been so many blasts against cheesecake art that now I'm allowed to be me."

"Me" — as Jane sees herself — is a normal, wholesome young career actress happily married to Robert Waterfield, a former pro football star. She is the proud mother of three adopted children. She and Bob head their own film production firm and share a joint enthusiasm for WAIF, an international adoption agency which Miss Russell founded in 1954.

"So far WAIF has found new homes for more than 4,000 children from 18 countries at a cost of about \$500 a child," she said.

"Not all have been brought to America, but most have — because the demand is here. We have thousands of people who want to adopt children."

Bruce Blossat

The late Sen. Walter George was the kind of lawmaker who makes the kind of law legislative system workable and effective.

Inevitably, that system depends heavily upon a relatively few men of character and intelligence. This handful soberly guides the Congress on a generally sane course, helps it to balance or cancel its errors, keeps it moving toward objectives despite its great inherent inertia.

For many years George headed the important Senate Finance Committee which frames the nation's tax laws. In this post he was a stalwart guardian of governmental fiscal responsibility.

BASICALLY a conservative, his opposition in the mid-1930's to some of Franklin D. Roosevelt's policies led the latter to attempt to purge George at the polls in 1938. The effort failed and George continued a Senate career that lasted 34 years.

Despite F.D.R.'s action, George led the late president's campaign to gain congressional approval of the vital war-time lend-lease program through which we aided our allies.

Later in life, the senator turned his interest to foreign affairs and took the leadership of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

As chairman he was a strong advocate of bipartisanship in foreign policy. His personal pronouncements often had important effect both at the White House and in foreign capitals.

When he decided in 1956 not to run again, President Eisenhower gave recognition to his achievements in this field by making him a special ambassador to NATO.

Reader Opinions

Title Of Early English Scout Unit Corrected

To The Editor — Please accept a slight correction, which might be of interest to Boy Scouts, concerning the article of early day English Scouts.

The Scout band, in which my husband played a fife, was composed of fifes and drums and was called the "Fife and Drum Corps."

The "Fife and Drum Corps" was also a regular military band organization in this country as late as Civil War days; used for marching and drilling. The fife is a small instrument somewhat like a flute.

Mrs. Ernest Wheeler
Camas Valley, Ore.

Sierra Ordeal Survivor Faces Divorce Threat

FAIRFIELD, Conn. — Lt. David Steeves, who survived 54 days in a California wilderness after bailing out of his plane, may be divorced by his wife, a lawyer says.

Atty. Paul Cullinan told a reporter Mrs. Rita Steeves has consulted him "about a problem of long-standing which conceivably could end in divorce."

"I have to analyze the problem and make a recommendation to her," he said. "Then it will be up to her."

Mrs. Steeves, 21, would neither confirm nor deny the report. Lt. Steeves, 23, bailed out of his Air Force plane May 9 into the frozen wastes of the high Sierras. He trudged back to civilization 54 days later, after he had been officially declared dead and all but his family had given up hope. When she heard he was alive, Rita commented:

"I don't think a wife, deep down, ever really gives up hope."

Steeves and Rita were re-united in New York before newspaper and television cameras.

A week later, the couple went to California, leaving their 15-month-old daughter, Leisa, with Rita's mother. Two weeks after that, Rita returned here alone.

Tuna Industry Agrees To Quit Price Fixing

WASHINGTON — The Federal Trade Commission said Sunday "substantially all" of the West Coast tuna industry has agreed to stop fixing prices for the tuna fish it produces.

Producers of more than half the nation's tuna pack agreed to an FTC order to stop price fixing and also preventing attempts to suppress competition in the industry, the announcement said.

Named in the order were: California Fish Cannery Assn., and its member-members accounting for 70 per cent of the pack; six associations of tuna boat owners and three area unions of fishermen and cannery workers.

Octogenarian Singer Of Eugene Dies At 89

EUGENE — Frank L. Terpin who gained considerable local fame by organizing and singing with the octogenarian quartet, died here Monday.

Terpin was 89. Several years ago, he brought together three other singers over 80 years old and formed them into a quartet, with himself singing bass.

The group, with its membership changing as death took away the originals, sang at anyone's request and entertained thousands.

Mixed Prices Pictured For Oregon Field Crops

CORVALLIS — It's touch-and-go for Oregon field crops this year with wheat and feed grains leaning heavily on government supports while hay and seed crops are strictly on their own.

Oregon State College agricultural economists believe Oregon wheat farmers will realize a better price on their 1957 crop by holding back part of the crop under the government loan program.

A wait-and-see sales approach can practically assure prices at least equal to the government's minimum selling price, says M. D. Thomas, agricultural economist.

The selling price is set at 5 per cent above the government support of \$2.22 at Portland terminals, plus an allowance for carrying charges. This totaled \$2.34 a bushel on No. 1 soft white wheat at Portland in July.

Market Glut New Pacific Northwest wheat crops were offered on the market at harvest time, prices might drop to support levels, Thomas warns. Since the same wheat were held off the market until government stocks were gone, orderly marketing seems to be the best answer, he says.

The price picture is mixed for Oregon feed grains, hay, and seed crops. Large supplies of feed grains are likely to keep markets from rising above support levels this fall, believes Ray Teal, OSC seed and grain marketing specialist.

Price supports on 1957 barley and oats crops run from about \$3 to \$3.75 a ton under last year. The basic support rate on No. 2 western barley at Portland terminals is \$1.20 a bushel or \$50 a ton — \$2.92 a ton less than last year.

Harvest At Record A record feed grain harvest in Oregon and the Northwest will run head on into bumper crops elsewhere. A prospective decrease in the nation's corn production should be more than offset by an increase in corn carryover and larger crops of other feed grains.

Even so, demand for good malting-type Oregon, Hannechen barley may be strong enough to bring moderate premiums over feed barley at harvest time, Teal says.

Oregon hay supplies now in sight are also the largest on record. With a few less hay-eating animals in the state than in the last two or three years, low hay prices are almost certain, unless the winter is unusually long and severe, say the economists.

Large supplies of old hay carried over from the mild winter, plus a bigger crop of new hay this summer, have combined to clip \$8 to \$10 a ton off last year's harvest-time prices.

Market prospects for seeds seem to be a "duke's mixture" of good and bad. Teal reports, Oregon cover crop seeds may find less competition this year with reports from the South of small crops of crimson clover and lupine seed along with weather damage to hairy vetch. At the same time, better moisture conditions in the South may encourage greater use of cover crops this fall.

Teal believes ryegrass prices will probably hit rock-bottom and could stage a comeback with a smaller new crop and less carryover on July 1 than earlier expected.

Turf seeds will have more competition from Kentucky bluegrass than last year. Also, fine fescue, bent, and Meyer bluegrass crops probably will be as large or larger than last year, the specialist reports.

Demands for dryland grasses may be delayed, Teal says, as Great Plains farmers turn their moisture-filled land to cash crops before retiring them in the Soil Bank.

Speedboat Operator Hits Guy Wire, Killed

NYSSA, Rt. 2, Parma, Idaho, was killed outright Monday night when he struck a guy wire while driving a speedboat on the Snake River at Nyssa.

State police said he suffered a broken neck when the boat went under the wire strung across the river at a bridge construction site.

Chest injuries were suffered by Bruce Dehaven, 15, Rt. 1, Nyssa. He was riding in the boat with Butcher.

A water skier who was being towed by the boat, John Smith, 19, was unhurt.

Nuclear Test Explosion Postponed Again Today

ATOMIC TEST SITE, Nev. — The nuclear test shot "Shasta," was postponed again Tuesday, less than an hour before it was to have been detonated.

The off-postponed shot was to have been fired at 5 a.m. Another try will be made in 24 hours.

The Atomic Energy Commission said adverse winds and mechanical difficulties caused the postponement, 15th for "Shasta."

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Kidnaper Draws Penitentiary Term At Eugene

EUGENE — James Adam Repp, 33, convicted kidnaper of Mrs. Alda Lorene Wright and James Awbrey, both of Jasper, Monday was sentenced to a state penitentiary term of up to 15 years by Circuit Judge A. T. Goodwin.

Deputy District Atty. Kenneth Morrow asked for a maximum sentence of 25 years.

Repp's court-appointed attorney, Douglas Spencer, appealed for leniency. He said Repp had eight years of honorable service in the U. S. Navy behind him and blamed drinking for the Avon, Ill. man's downfall.

Repp was accused of being one of two men who held up a store at Jasper operated by Mrs. Wright on July 30 and then kidnaping her and the elderly Awbrey who was at the store.

William Harry Eckels, accused of being Repp's companion in being held in Tillamook on another charge.

RECORD HEAT MARK

HONOLULU — The temperature got up to 90 degrees in Honolulu Sunday and the weather bureau said it was the hottest ever recorded in the city's history. The previous high of 89 was recorded on Aug. 15, 1941.

VOLKSWAGEN '56

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