McADOO'S REPORT ON THE RAILROADS

So Much Interest, Not Only by Railroad Officials and Employes, but by All Citizens, Attaches to the Future Handling of Transportation Lines That The Observer Herewith Prints the Reports on Railroads Made by Hon. W. G. McAdoo. The Report Is Long and Will Appear in Daily Installments, Giving Every Observer Reader a Chance to Study Carefully the Contents of a Document Which Promises to Have Deep Bearing on Our Country's Future.

(Continued from Monday)

Labor.

The participation of America in the European war, with the consequent shortage in man-power available in this country and the increase in the cost of living, has made the railroad labor problem a difficult one during the past year. However, the great bulk of railroad labor has demonstrated a fine spirit of patriotism and has co-operaed heartily with the government. The labor troubles which were facing the railroads when they went under government control were practically all eliminated, and, with a few exceptions, there has been quiet in the railroad labor world during the last twelve months.

In order to place railroad labor upon a living wage and provide fair working conditions an investigation into labor conditions on the railroads was begun immediately after the carriers were taken by the government, with the result that many reforms in working conditions, decreases in the hours of labor and increases in the rates of pay have resulted. These investigations have been continued since the machinery was set up for the thorough investigation and hearing of all grievances and representations about wages and working conditions. This machinery generally has recognized the so-called "bi-partisan" principle of equal representation of employer and employee on boards. Decisions, however, have always been made by the Director General, since he is charged with that responsibility as the chief representative of the government. A director of labor was appointed in the person of W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Engineers and Firemen, who was placed on an equal footing with the heads of other divisions.

The critical labor conditions are strikingly brought out in the report of the Railroad Wage Commission, composed of Honorable Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior; Charles C. McChord, William R. Wilcox, and J. Harry Covington, appointed January 18, 1918, to "make a general investigation of the compensation of persons in railroad service, the relation of railroad wages to wages in other industries, the conditions respecting wages in different parts of the country, the special emergency respecting wages which exists at this time, owing to war conditions and high cost of living, as well as the relation between different classes of railroad labor."

This commission heard representatives of every class of employees, railroad officials and experts on the subject and examined hundreds of written statements and personal letters from employees. The requests presented to the commission for wage increases, if granted, would have involved an outlay of something over one billion dollars per year in excess of wages paid in 1917. In its report the commission, after reciting the various demands for wages made by railroad labor in 1916 and 1917 and reviewing increases given by the railroads under private control, said:

"But these advances were not in any way uniform, either as to employments, or as to amounts, or as to roads, so that one class of labor benefited much more than another on the same road, and as between roads, there was the greatest divergence. The situation has been dealt with as pressure made necessary, and naturally those who, by organization or through force of competition, could exert most pressure fared best. Things came to a head just before the government took over the railroads. Another three months of private management and we would have seen much more extensive concessions in wages, or there would have followed an unfortunate series of labor disturbances. The government therefore has now to meet what would have come about in the natural course.

"Indeed, the patience of the men was only allayed, after government intervention, by the assurance that the matter of wages would be promptly taken up and that the awarded increases would be retroactive as of January 1st of this year."

The commission also said:

"It has been a somewhat popular impression, that railroad employees were among the most highly paid workers, but figures, gathered from the railroads dispose of this belief; 51 per cent of all employees during December, 1917, received $75 per month or less, and 80 per cent received $100 per month or less. Even among the locomotive engineers, commonly spoken of as highly paid, a preponderating number received less than $170 per month, and this compensation they have obtained by the most compact and complete organization, handled with a full appreciation of all strategic values. Between the grades receiving from $150 to $250 per month, thereby included less than 3 per cent of all the employees (excluding officials)' and these aggregate less than 60,000 men out of a grand total of 2,000,000.

"These, it is to be noted, are not pre-war figures; they represent figures after a year of war and two years of rising prices. And each dollar now (the report was made April 30, 1918) represents in its power to purchase a place in which to live, food to eat, and clothes to wear, but 71 cents as against the 100 cents of January 1, 1916."

Wages

Wage increases granted during the year are estimted to aggregate between $600,000,000 and $700,000,000 per annum and in a large part were retroactive from Jan. 1, 1918. These wages were fixed not upon the theory that the railroads, a permanent industry, should compete in prices for paid labor with the transcient war industries, many of which paid very high wages in order to attract labor. Rather the effort was made to find a just and equitable basis which would outlive the war and which would give a living wage and decent working condition to every railroad employee. Efforts have been made to eliminate inequality, and, while this work has not been finished, it has been chiefly done.

Conditions of Employment

On February 21 General Order No 8 was issued, containing among other things, the following:

"No discrimination will be made in the employment, retention, or conditions of employment of employees because of membership or non-membership in labor organizations."

This has had the effect of many railroad employees joining labor unions who previously were not affiliated with them. At the same time, equal consideration has been shown employees who were not members of unions and individual employees have been heard on an equality with representatives of the unions. The principle of the eight hour day was recognized early and strengthened whenever possible.

Special efforts have been made to better the working conditions of the women in railroad service, and a special Woman's Section was established in the labor division to investigate conditions surrounding women so employed and apply remedies where unfavorable conditions were found to exist. In General Order No. 27 it was ordered that:

"When women are employed the working conditions must be healthful and fitted to their needs. The laws enacted for the government of their employment must be observed and their pay, when they do the same class of work as men, shall be the same as that of men."

In the same order it was provided that where negroes performed the same service as whites, they should receive the same pay as whites.

Labor Shortage

The necessity for manning the American Military railways in France with trained American railway men, and the induction into other branches of the Army and Navy through voluntary enlistments or through the draft, of many railroad employees, added to the difficulties throughout the year, since at no time in the history of the American railroads has there been a greater need for trained and skilled railway help than during the war period. This difficulty was greatly increased by the influenza epidemic during the last half of the year, which very seriously interfered with the operation of the railroads for several months.

Expenditures for Capital Account

On February 2, 1918, all lines under Federal control were directed to prepare and send in budgets of improvements immediately required to increase capacity and efficiency and to promote safety in operations; and in the letter of instructions the following policy was prescribed:

In determining what additions and betterments, including equipment, and what road extensions should be treated as necessary, and what work already entered upon should be suspended, please be guided by the following general principles.

(a) From the financial standpoint it is highly important to avoid the necessity for raising any new capital which is not absolutely necessary for the protection and development of the required transportation facilities to meet the present and prospective needs of the country's business under war conditions. From the standpoint of the available supply of labor and material, it is likewise highly important that this supply shall not be absorbed except for the necessary purposes mentioned in the preceding sentence.

(To be continued)

French Army's Tremendous Loss

3,000,000 soldiers of France, about one-half the entire army, have been killed or seriously wounded, according to Andre Tardie, French high commissioner to the United States. This enormous sacrifice for liberty is larger than any other country. America owes France a huge debt of gratitude, not only for this, but also for the discovery by her peasants of a perfect remedy for stomach, liver and intestinal ailments which is reported to have alleviated incalculable suffering, prevented many surgical operations and saved thousands of lives the world over. Geo. H. Mayr, for many years leading Chicago chemist, imports the ingredients and sells this remedy in America under the name of Mayr's Wonderful Remedy. It is a simple, harmless preparation that removes the carrhal mucus from the intestinal tract and allays the inflammation which causes practically all stomach, liver and intestinal ailments, including appendicitis. One dose will convince or money refunded —Adv.

For Sale by all Druggists.

HORSES ESTRAY

The following listed horses have been missing from my pasture since about October, and information concerning them is sought:

Sorrel mare, two years old, white in face; black gelding, two years old, white hind foot; bay mare, one year old, small stripe in face; black gelding, one year old, face and two hind feet white; sorrel gelding, one year old, small stripe in face and white on hind feet; bay gelding, yearling, dirty gray gelding, yearling; dirty gray mare, yearling. All these animals bear the ox bow brand on the right shoulder. Please notify

HARRY SCHWEBKE,
1-20-6 La Grande, Ore.

ANNOUNCEMENT

I wish to announce to the public that I have purchased the Oregon hotel, 10 Depot street and will conduct it in connection with the Darland Apts., and it will be known as the Darland hotel. The rooms will be newly renovated and made as attractive and pleasant as possible. Steam-heated. Two apartments for light housekeeping will be furnished. Special rates on rooms by the week or month will be made for a short time. Those interested call and see them.
1-13-tf H. C. LAWYER.

Fresh Eggs

60c per dozen

HAVE YOU TRIED THOSE DIXIE DOUGH-NUTS?

Columbia Boiled Ham, Cream Brick Cheese, and Dried Beef Fresh Today.

Try Swann's Salad Dressing with your next order.

No Charge for Delivery

Phone Main 43

J. G. SNODGRASS

The soda water fountain at Silverthorn's is doing a nice business in hot and cold drinks. Also hot tamales, schalades, chili con carne. 1-16-tf

Silverthorn's
FAMILY DRUG STORE
LA GRANDE, OREGON.

Y. M. C. A.
Educational Department. Shorthand and typewriting. Day classes, 10:00 a. m. to 3:30 p. m. Night classes 7:30 p. m. to 9:30 p. m.

CECIL COSPER
Public Accountant.
Income Tax Advisor.
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Cooperative Up-Building

"Competitive annihilation" is an apt description of the great war. It's a game the kaiser started—and it proved a boomerang.

Co-operative upbuilding must become the national and international "game" in the new era which is before us.

This institution stands for co-operation with business enterprises as well as individuals.

United States National Bank

La Grande, Ore.

"La Camille" is superior to any other front lace corset, for without the *Ventilo* features no corset can possibly be just as good. It contains the master touch of scientific construction.

You do not sacrifice comfort for style and you do not sacrifice style for comfort when you wear

"La Camille"

A complete line always on hand, priced at $2.50 up.

Mrs. Robt. Pattison
Corsetiere
Phone Red 3271 Res. 1702 Oak Street.

The Observer's Classified Ads.

FOR SALE

FOR SALE—16-inch yellow pine wood, $8 per cord delivered. Phone Red 1022. 1-20-6tp

EGGS FOR HATCHING—From pure-bred Buff Wyandottes. Prize winners. Heavy layers. Choice table fowls. $2.00 for 13 eggs. Ira R. Aldrich, 707 Fourth street. 1-20-24t

FOR SALE—That monument you want for Decoration day is ready for immediate delivery. B. M. M. & G. Co., 1502 S avenue. 1-17-tf

FOR SALE—Household furniture. Inquire 1504 Sixth street or phone Black 1901. 1-20-2tp

FOR SALE—14 cords of wood. Inquire La Grande Pharmacy. 1-14-tf

FOR SALE—That monument you want Decoration day for immediate delivery. B. M. M. & G. Co., 1502 S avenue. 1-17-tf

FOR SALE—White Leghorn cocks, Lancard strain. Ethel Kerns, Alicel P. O., phone Cove, Ore. 1-18-3tp

WANTED—Miscellaneous.

HOUSE WANTED—Three or four roomed house, furnished, wanted immediately for permanent rent, if possible. Must be close in, modern, and on south side of tracks. Phone Silverthorn's Drug Store. 1-20-tf.

WANTED—At once chambermaid at Grande Ronde Valley house. $10 a week and dinner. 1-20-tf

WANTED—Plain sewing. Mrs. Norma Webb, 1105 O avenue. 1-20-12tp

WANTED—For ash hauling or cleaning up. Call Red-3551. 1-20-2tp

WANTED TO RENT—Modern house, close in, either furnished or unfurnished, wanted at once. Phone Main 26. Dave Stoddard. 1-17-tf

WANTED—Five-horse electric motor. B. M. M. & G. Co., 1502 S avenue. 1-17-tf

WANTED—Maid at Foley Hotel. 1-18-tf

WANTED—Private secretary. Must be good stenographer. Hot Lake Sanitarium. 1-18-tf

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Modern two-room furnished house. Phone Black 3902. 1-10-tf

FOR RENT—Furnished rooms Phone Red 3171. 11-29-tf.

FOR RENT—Furnished housekeeping rooms. Call Black 831. 1-14-tf

FOR RENT

FOR RENT—Steam heated rooms. Special rate. Darland hotel, formerly the Oregon hotel, 10 Depot street, under new management. H. C. Lawyer. 1-13-tf

FOR RENT—Nice cosey rooms from $12 up. 1510 Adams. Phone R3901. 1-18-tf

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND—Lady's pocketbook. Owner can have same by paying for ad and describing contents. Call 1410 Washington avenue. 1-20-3tp

LOST—Black seal muff left in station this morning. Phone M-37, Reward. 1-20-5t

LOST OR STOLEN—Lincoln bicycle with green frame. Notify J. D. Lynch. 1-16-tf

FOUND—Newfoundland pup. Owner can have it by paying for ad. Call Observer. 1-15-tf

LOST—Two-year-old bay colt branded with C W and bar on right shoulder. Reward. Farmers 25x, H. R. McKennon. 1-15-tf

LOST—Bunch of keys between postoffice and depot yesterday. Please inform J. R. Oliver. 1-14-tf

YOUNG MEN—16 and over, are eligible for government railway mail clerks. $92 month. Examinations soon. For free particulars, write J. C. Leonard (former civil service examiner), 608 Kenois building, Washington, D. C. 1-20-2tp

PAT HARRISON

Congressman Pat Harrison will succeed Vardaman as senator from Mississippi.

Observer ads are widely read.

You bet'cha!

"The more a man knows about genuine tobacco, the surer he is to see the value of Real Gravely in comparison with ordinary plug."

Good taste, smaller chew, longer life is what makes Genuine Gravely cost less to chew than ordinary plug.

Write to:—
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REAL CHEWING PLUG
Plug packed in pouch

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Mr. Business Man--

As a matter of economy you should consult the Observer's Job Department before placing your printing--we are satisfying La Grande's leading firms--put us on your calling list. Phone Main 37. Only Highclass Printers are employed.

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On improved real property in Union county. No delays. Current rates. La Grande Investment Co.

Professional Directory

ATTORNEYS

COCHRAN & EBERHARD—Geo. T. Cochran and Colon R. Eberhard, Attorneys. La Grande National Bank Building.

R. J. GREEN, Attorney at Law—Practice in all state and federal courts. Office La Grande National Bank Building.

CRAWFORD & EAKIN—T. H. Crawford and Robert S. Eakin, Attorneys a law. Practice in all the courts of the state and the United States. Office, West-Jacobson Bldg., rooms 9-10-17, La Grande, Oregon.

ARCHITECTS

C. E. MILLER—Architect, room 27, New Foley Bldg. Phone Red 1871.

OSTEOPATHIC.

DR. MARGARET INGLE, Osteopathic Physician—Specializing in diseases of women and children. Hours 10 to 12 a. m., 1 to 6 p. m., and by appointment. Phones—Office Red 1761, residence, Black 1231. 37 New Foley building.

VETERINARY

DR. H. W. RILEY—Graduate Veterinarian. Hospital, 1409 Madison Ave. State Stallion inspector and inspector of stock for shipment. Home Independent Phone, Black 41; Farmers Co-operative Phone, Main 113.

EDUCATIONAL

REMEMBER GOODING COLLEGE, Gooding, Idaho. Pratical business courses, review subjects, regular college work and summer school. 12-19-tf

Fraternal Directory.

WOODMEN OF THE WORLD—La Grande Camp No. 169 meets every first and third Monday at Eagles Hall. All visiting neighbors welcome. Dues payable at the office of the clerk, New Foley Bldg., 9 a. m., to 5 p. m.
J. J. MURCHISON, C. C
R. J. KITCHEN, Clerk

MODERN WOODMEN OF AMERICA—La Grande Camp No. 7703 meets on the first and third Thursday evenings of each month in the K. of P. Hall. Visiting neighbors welcome.
L. J. M'INHALL, V. C.
W. F. ASHMAN, Clerk

O. E. S.—Hope Chapter No. 13, O. E. S. holds stated communications the second and fourth Wednesday of each month. Visiting members cordially welcomed.
SADIE E. GIVEN, W. M.
MARY A. WARNICK, Sec.

K. of L. of Security—Mt. Emily Council, No. 246, meets the second and fourth Monday evening at 8 o'clock at Eagle hall. Visiting members are welcome.
ABE HARRIS, Fin'l. Sec.
J. K. FITZGERALD, Pres.

A. F. & A. M.—La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. & A. M. holds regular meetings first and third Saturday at 7:30 p. m. Cord'al welcome to all Masons.
ROBERT S. EAKIN, W. M.
A. C. WILLIAMS, Sec.

F. O. EAGLES, AERIE NO. 259.—Meet every Friday night, at Eagles Hall. Visiting members welcome.
J. F. STACEY, W. P.
LEE BELLINGER, Secretary

REBEKAHS—Crystal Lodge No. 50 meets every Tuesday evening in the I. O. O. F. Hall. All visiting members are invited to attend.
ROSA GLASS, N.G.
LUCIA HALEY, Rec. Sec.

L. O. O. M.—La Grande Lodge No. 850, Loyal Order of Moose holds regular meetings every Wednesday night at 8 p. m. in Eagle hall next to Elks' Bldg. on Washington Ave. Visitors always welcome. Dues payable at Young's Sweets.
W. C. HANSEN, Dic.
HARRY SWART, Sec.

B. P. O. E. ELKS, La Grande Lodge No. 422, Lodge meets each Thursday evening at 8 o'clock. Home and club privileges cheerfully extended to all Brother Elks.
R. J. GREEN,
Exalted Ruler.
A. B. CHERRY,
Secretary.

ROYAL NEIGHBORS—Iris Camp meets every second Friday afternoon and every fourth Friday evening, every month in K. P. hall. All visiting members cordially welcom.
HENRIETTA GHARST, Oracle
MARY L. WEST, Recorder.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS—Red Cross Lodge No. 27 meets every Monday night in Castle Hall (I. O. of P. hall) A Pythian welcome to all visiting Knights.
J. L. ROBERTSON, C.C.
DELILE GREEN, K. of R. & S.

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