

THOUSANDS OF SHOPMEN MAY GO OUT

EMPLOYEES ARE DISSATISFIED
WITH ACTION BEING TAKEN
AT WASHINGTON.

500,000 RAILWAYMEN
WILL BE AFFECTED

Strike Ultimatum Demands Wage of 85 Cents An Hour For Machinists, and 60 Cents For Helpers—Quarter Million Men In the Country Are Now Idle As Result.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—Dissatisfied with President Wilson's proposal to have congress create a special body to pass on their demands or consider them in connection with the high cost of living problem, the railway shopmen began today to take an arbitrary strike vote.

The shopmen contend that the railway wage force of the railroad administration should pass on their demands, and failing in favorable action a strike of 500,000 men is threatened, labor officials said.

B. M. Jewell, acting president of the railway employees' department of the American Federation of Labor, said tonight that Director-General Hines had been informed by the committee representing the shopmen of their dissatisfaction with the suggestion that congress intervene.

"We have now decided to send out a call for a strike vote return August 24 at midnight to the 500,000 employees of American railroads and the 10,000 employees of Canadian railroads affected," Jewell said.

The shop craft asked for a minimum of 85 cents an hour for mechanics, an increase of 17 cents; a minimum of 60 cents for helpers, an increase of 15 cents, and an increase of 10 cents per hour for apprentices.

NO SETTLEMENT IN SIGHT.

CHICAGO, Aug. 2.—More than 250,000 railway shopmen of the country were idle tonight as a result of the strike called yesterday by the railroad shopmen's union, leaders of the organization said tonight, with the strike spreading and no indication of immediate settlement in sight.

The men are to remain out until their demands for 85 cents an hour for mechanics and 60 cents for helpers are granted. John D. Sanders, secretary of the organization, said that regardless of what the international officers of the various unions are doing and since they are making no announcement, the rank and file of the men have determined not to recede from their demands, with back pay to January 1.

No men will be removed from the wrecking crews and no violence will be tolerated. Plans for a huge mass meeting of thousands of strikers at a baseball ground at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning were completed tonight.

STRIKE IMMINENT AT BOSTON.

BOSTON, Aug. 2.—Union railroad shopmen of the local district of New York, New England and Hartford railway at a mass meeting tonight voted unanimously to strike Thursday unless their demands for 85 cents an hour for mechanics and 60 cents an hour for helpers are granted. The men who said they had received appeals from the Chicago union to join the general strike, disregarded the advice of their international officers by voting to strike.

KUN GIVEN SAFE CONDUCT.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)
VIENNA, Aug. 2.—The new socialist government of Hungary has offered safe conduct to Bela Kun, a Hungarian communist dictator, who has resigned and has been succeeded by a socialist government, a Budapest message states. On receipt of the news from the front, the government was created in Budapest. Kun, at a meeting of socialist leaders, became pale and with his back to the wall declared: "Very well, if you demand it, I must resign. I made the best fight I could."

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GREAT DRY DOCK IS BEING BUILT

TO BE OPENED AT HONOLULU IN SHORT TIME.

Is Over Thousand Feet in Length and Will Accommodate the Largest Vessels Afloat.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—The official opening of the navy dry dock at Pearl Harbor, near Honolulu, Hawaii, late this month, will mark the successful completion of one of the most difficult engineering projects ever undertaken by the United States government. The immense dock, represents a total investment of more than \$5,000,000, and has been under construction for ten years. Secretary of the Navy Daniels will officiate at the christening of the dock about August 25.

The dock is completed just in time to add a much needed facility for care of the ships of the Pacific fleet. The first vessel to enter the dock will probably be one of the dreadnoughts of Admiral Rodman's force, possibly the New Mexico. The dock is 1028 feet in length, 32 1-2 feet deep, 114 feet wide at the bottom and 138 feet wide at the top. It will dock the largest ship of war now afloat or contemplated.

After the sections of the dock had been finished and were being anchored in their places in 1913 the water was pumped out whereupon the bottom of the dock was forced upward by pressure from the sides and the engineers and workmen were forced to stand helplessly by and watch the fruits of four years of labor and millions of dollars of money crushed into a shapeless mass of debris.

A new plan of construction on a much greater scale was then adopted. Concrete sections sixty feet long and the full width of the dock were cast one at a time and lowered to the bottom of the dry dock securely anchoring it. Then the great structure was built. Early in March this year the dock was pumped out for the first time. The upward pressure of the bottom had been overcome and the structure rose but 3-16 of an inch when perfectly dry.

Petitions For Election
Now Being Circulated

The next step in the good roads for Union county is the circulating of petitions praying for the county court to call a special election to vote on bonds amounting to a million and a half dollars, which petitions it is thought will place in all legal technicalities and also give an expression of the voters to a certain extent. Only a few days remain to get the required number of names and it will require fast work.

The first snag struck in the petition is the way in which it is formed, for according to the reading of the document one is led to believe that the bonds cannot be paid off until twenty years expire. This is not the desire of those fostering the good roads movement, for all who have expressed themselves favor an amortization bond which will begin to pay itself off at the end of five years, thus cutting down the interest and making a shorter time in which to pay the road debt.

While this was thought to be very serious at first, it develops that legal authority has advised the county court is empowered to issue the kind and nature of bond deemed best, and the petition merely recites the prayer of the voters for an election and stipulates the amount of the bond issue.

Then came the second snag, for whoever had the petitions printed failed to have the union label on them. When the organized labor of La Grande saw no label on the document it had no chance. Not that labor is against the highways, for as near as can be learned labor will support the movement, but they refuse to affix their names to a paper that does not carry the union label.

This can be easily remedied, however, and the list of names favoring the calling of a special election to vote on the bond issue should not be difficult to secure. All details will be worked in the county court, but the program as promised by those who campaigned the county prior to the election in June will be carried out to the letter.

Road work in Union county is progressing well. The Island City road is shaping up fine and soon there will be hot top placed on it, with the understanding that in another sixty days the road will be ready for use.

MANY HOMES ARE BURNED IN CHICAGO

SIX BLOCKS OF HOMES OF THE STOCKYARDS WORKERS DESTROYED BY FLAMES.

NEGROES ARE BLAMED
AND BARRED FROM YARDS

Many Workers, Mostly Poles and Lithuanians, Are Left Homeless—Governor Lowden Lays Cause of the Rioting to Labor Troubles and Not Racial Feeling.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

CHICAGO, Aug. 2.—As a result of the fire which early today destroyed six blocks of homes of stockyards workers, negro workers at the yards will be barred to prevent possible recurrence of race rioting. This is the announcement made tonight after a conference with Governor Lowden and the packers.

The stockyards have been a storm center of racial feeling during the riot five days this week and with the ceasing of serious outbreaks yesterday it had been planned for the 15,000 negro workers to return to their posts at the yards tomorrow, but the fire, which many of the foreign workers who were made homeless declared was started by negroes, aggravated feeling and changed the plan.

Governor Lowden was inclined to believe that labor trouble rather than race feeling was responsible for the outbreak. The homes burned were chiefly those of Polish and Lithuanian families. Except about the stockyards racial feeling seems to have subsided tonight. Militiamen were on duty to night and houses of refuge were opened in schools, etc. Business men have raised funds.

A surprise was caused today when Coroner Hoffman announced that no mark of violence had been found on the body of Eugene Williams, a colored man who was reported stoned and sunk from a raft last Sunday, which precipitated the riot. The coroner stated the negro had not been struck by stones but had been drowned.

George Stauffer White is held by the police, charged with murder, in connection with the death of Williams.

WOODSHED BURNED AT
FRED LAST RESIDENCE

A fire call from the Fred Last residence, 1603 Adams, was rung in to the department last night shortly before 11 o'clock. The fire was located in the woodshed behind the Last home and the top of the building was blazing merrily when the firemen arrived.

The fire was extinguished before it had a chance to spread to any other buildings, but not before the shed was practically burned down.

HOLD TRAIN FOR BASEBALL GAME

LA GRANDE ENTERPRISE PLAY TODAY.

O-W. Officials Accommodate Local Fans by Holding Train at Enterprise After Game.

With all games in the Cove-La Grande-North Powder and Baker base ball league finished, the locals are arranging a few games with teams with other towns. This part of the state and go to Enterprise for a contest with the big team of that village today. They will leave on the branch train this morning and will return on it after the game is over. The O-W. officials kindly granted the request of the management that the train stop at Enterprise long enough to see the game finished, so as to let the players and fans get back home the same day.

The Enterprise boys have been playing considerable ball this summer, meeting neighboring towns, and they have a very formidable line-up. La Grande is going out with a good bunch, too, and the result should be a game well going the distance to see.

GREAT PILE OF ROCK BLASTED

10,000 FEET BLOWN OUT OF HILL AT MARS QUARRY.

Undertaking Was Expensive, and Considerable of a Gamble, But Success Was Achieved.

Citizens of La Grande have become used to the sound of the blasting operations at the Mars quarry on the hillside west of town recently, but most of them were surprised by the detonation of the great blast that was set off about 6:30 last night. Two hundred and fifty kegs of giant powder were set off at once, under 10,000 feet of rock, and a pile of stone greater than the size of the Observer building was blown out of the hillside and made available for crushing in the quarry for the road work that is now being carried on near the city.

The undertaking which Mr. Mars achieved was an expensive one and one which was somewhat a gamble as to results. There was a danger that too much powder might be placed under the mass of rock and the whole thing scattered so that it would be practically a loss; or there was the possibility of not putting in enough explosive thereby failing to loosen the rock and causing a great financial loss. The cost of the operation is said to have been about \$5,000 a foot, for tunneling etc. Mr. Mars, advised by the state highway engineers, went after big game, however, and got it. The rock which the one blast removed will keep him ahead of the demands made on his quarry for some time to come.

ALL STOCKS GO TO FIGHT HIGH COSTS

SALE OF ALL SURPLUS FOOD SUPPLIES OF ARMY HAS BEEN ORDERED.

DISTRIBUTION STARTS
MONDAY, AUGUST 18

Government Will Sell Millions of Pounds of Foodstuffs at Lower Prices Than Are Prevailing, Buyers to Pay Postage Charges From the Shipping Point.

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—In the face of growing unrest over the high costs of living, as indicated by the spreading strike of railroad workers, many government agencies moved today in an effort to effect a return to normal price levels.

Immediate sale of all surplus foodstuffs purchased for the army, instead of only canned goods, was ordered by the war department. Millions of pounds of meat, beans, pumpkins, squash and other commodities will be offered to the public Monday, August 18, through the parcel post system at prices materially lower than those now prevailing in markets. Purchasers will have to pay postage charges from place of storage.

Director-General Hines, Commissioner Colter and Assistant Secretary Leffingwell, appointed by the conference assembled by Attorney-General Palmer to recommend steps to reduce living costs, were engaged today in an exchange of memoranda bearing on the problem. The impression went out that the committee had agreed that steps could be taken by congress which would alleviate the situation at once. The committee was instructed particularly to deal with profiteering and to suggest how law enforcement agencies should proceed to bring to justice men guilty of extortion of unreasonable prices.

Boys Are Arrested In
Connection With Death
of Young Bandon Girl

(By Associated Press to The Observer)

BANDON, Aug. 2.—Harold Howell, aged fifteen, and Carrol Norden, aged eighteen, have been arrested as being connected with the murder of Lillian Leuthold, the high school girl whose body was found Monday.

Sheriff Gage said that a .22 rifle bored to .25 calibre was found in possession of Howell. The evidence is circumstantial. The boys were seen in the vicinity of the murder Sunday afternoon.

J. B. Norden, father of Carrol, declares that his son was eating supper at home at 6 o'clock Sunday evening when the murder is alleged to have been committed.

RUMORS FLY FAST ABOUT CITY HALL

CITY COMMISSION SAID TO HAVE IN MIND NEW MANAGER.

No One Will Talk and the Public Is Left to Do Its Own Guessing.

The city hall is a house of rumors these days. It is the center of lots of conjecture and the street talk tells of changes, but officials deny any knowledge whatsoever of possible future happenings.

It has been known since the new administration went to the bat that Commissioner Brown was opposed to Manager Collier because of the differences existing between Brown and McKennon, and for the further fact that Dr. Brown would have much preferred some one other than Mr. Collier to handle the city's business. Brown was a Curry man. It was also understood by some that Grandy was a Curry man, but this was dissipated when the rattle of the election cleared away and Mr. Grandy stood with Mr. McKennon on the city managership.

That settled the whole affair and Mr. Collier assumed his official duties. In commission meetings it could be seen that Dr. Brown was still unconvinced and that he preferred some one other than Mr. Collier.

Then came the annual town row over the city water. Feeling ran high for some time when it looked as though the city was to lose lawns and vegetation, and the burden naturally rested on the city manager. It was then, according to some rumor, that Commissioner Grandy forsook Mr. Collier and claimed that it was too difficult to get action under him, decided to stand with Commissioner Brown for a change in the manager. Commissioner McKennon says nothing, for Mr. Collier was his choice and he is standing firmly by him.

If there is a change who is to be the man? That is the question that many are asking and rumor replies, Sherwood Williams. But Mr. Williams who is lately home from France where he worked in the Red Cross, says he has nothing to say and that he is not to be quoted relative to the city manager's position in any way whatsoever.

Should Williams be selected and should Mr. Collier resign one of these days, it is very doubtful if the city will get a manager at the present salary of \$150 a month. Should the whole thing blow over and Mr. Collier remain on the job, many believe he will demand a larger salary than he is getting at present.

With all the rumors and the wait which is necessitated by the absence of Commissioner Brown, whose arrival home is expected to clear the air, there is a sentiment among a number to start a petition asking that Fred B. Curry be requested to return and take up the work of manager, as he still has many friends who believe he gave good service. This movement is looked upon as more or less impractical because of Mr. Curry's present connections in other lines of business and it is thought doubtful about getting him, even if the commission should decide on such a course.

IGOE DETERMINED TO
HAVE INVESTIGATION
OF HIGH SHOE PRICES

WASHINGTON, Aug. 2.—By refusing unanimous consent for consideration of the resolution, Representative Igoe, of Missouri, Democrat, blocked the efforts of the house to have a recess of two weeks until the house acted on his measure for an investigation of the high cost of shoes.

House leaders had hoped to suspend business two weeks and said if the recess is not taken the house will meet daily but will transact no business.

The War Department announced a plan to dispose of all subsistence commodities instead of only canned and cured meats and vegetables as at first proposed. Sales of food direct to the public through the parcels post will begin Monday. Sales will be made in case or carton lots only. Purchasers must add cost of delivery by parcel post from the storage plants where they are held.

GOVERNMENT IS SOCIALISTIC.

COPENHAGEN, Aug. 2.—A purely socialist government has been formed in Copenhagen at Copenhagen, under the leadership of Herr Peidl. The new government has issued a manifesto declaring its chief task to be to preserve internal order and enter into negotiations with the entente.

LABOR DAY PLANS ARE PROMISING

BIG CELEBRATION IN THIS CITY HEARTILY ENDORSED BY ALL UNION MEN.

AIRPLANE GUARANTEED
TO REMAIN ALL WEEK

Mass Meeting of La Grande's Union Men Hears Program Plans Announced—Music, Parade, Sports, Aero Circus Exhibitions, Carnival Entertainment, Etc., On the Bill.

The plans for the great Labor Day celebration which the Central Labor Council of La Grande, representing practically all the union men of the city, has been working on for several weeks, were outlined in detail at a mass meeting of union men held in the city hall Friday evening and all the arrangements which the executive committee has made for the celebration given full endorsement. The committee which has arranged the program was encouraged to carry on their work, the meeting giving them assurance of all needed support financially and otherwise.

The executive committee of the Labor Day celebration plans to make this one of the most notable days in the history of the city and one of the best celebrations held in the west in a long time. It is to be not a one-day affair only, although the first day, Monday, September 1, will be the biggest day. Part of the program will continue throughout the week, the committee having contracted with an aero circus to have exhibitions given over the city during six continuous days, starting on Labor Day.

All Crafts In Parade.
Briefly outlined the program of Monday will include a parade as the prelude to the grand entertainment that is arranged for the afternoon. This does not mean, however, that the parade will be a minor affair. All the crafts of the city will appear in it and it is expected that it will surpass even the parade of the Fourth of July here. The parade will be held before dinner and immediately after dinner there will be a band concert and possibly an address by a noted speaker. The committee has apportioned a goodly sum of money to bring a speaker here who will be really worth while hearing, and while they have not secured their man yet, they expect that there will be no disappointment in connection with this part of the program. It is planned to have three bands in attendance during the whole day, and there will be nothing lacking in the musical line.

The band concert and the speaking will be held up town and immediately after they are concluded the crowd will be taken to the fair grounds, where they will have the pleasure of witnessing and participating in a splendid general program of athletics and sports. The children have been well remembered by the men who are arranging this part of the program and that this will be as successful as any other feature of the day is felt assured.

Parachute Jump From Plane.
During the afternoon there will also be performances by the Watkins-Warner Aero Circus. The committee yesterday received a contract from the aviators guaranteeing their appearance here. The aviators positively agree to appear here, in fact promise to be in La Grande two days before the first exhibition in this regard, such as the people of this part of the state had on the Fourth of July, therefore is not even thought of. There will be two army officers, two lieutenants and a sergeant, come with the plane. They will exhibit their full repertoire of trick stunts in the air, and as part of the show the sergeant will make a parachute descent from an altitude of two or three thousand feet, leaving the plane as it turns upside down to loop the loop. The plane will also take passengers for flights, charging a nominal price for each trip.

Good Carnival Attraction.
A carnival company that is well recommended from nearby towns where it has shown will be here on Monday to open for a week's performance. This is the Babcock & Ryan Company, which has been engaged for the Frontier Days celebration at Walla Walla. The evening program will include besides the carnival attractions, a

(Continued on Page 8.)

