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STRIKE CALLED FOR TONIGHT, BUT IT IS CANCELLED

ARID WEST WOULD BE RECLAIMED

SENATOR McNARY'S BILL WOULD ADVANCE \$250,000,000 TO THE RECLAMATION FUND

MEASURE EXPECTED TO BE REPORTED FAVORABLY

Bill Is Designed, Says Author, to Promote the Agricultural Development of the Sixteen Arid and Semi-Arid States of the West—Government Would Advance Large Fund.

(Observer Washington Bureau.) WASHINGTON, April 15.—Twenty million acres of land in the West will be reclaimed and made productive if United States Senator Charles L. McNary's bill advancing \$250,000,000 to the reclamation fund is enacted.

The bill has been carefully drawn so as to avoid the objections made in the past to similar legislation, and Senator McNary believes that it contains the solution of the reclamation problem of the West.

It is expected that the measure will be reported out favorably soon from the committee on reclamation and irrigation, of which the senator is the chairman.

"This bill," said Senator McNary today, "is designed to promote the agricultural development of the sixteen arid and semi-arid states of the West. A preference is given to all ex-servicemen on all the public land in each of the projects contemplated and also on excess land, which means that acreage beyond which any individual is permitted to own and which he is compelled to enter into contract with the secretary of the interior to sell at an agreed value before work on the project is started. The maximum farm unit in the reclamation projects under this bill is 160 acres. The secretary of the interior is given authority to reduce this acreage to eighty acres."

Payment Extended. "The payments of water rights extends over a period of twenty years and the irrigation bonds which are to be issued by the various districts, will carry interest rate at not to exceed 5 per cent.

"Under this bill the government of the United States is to advance to the federal reclamation fund \$250,000,000. Twenty million dollars of this fund is to be paid the reclamation fund for 1922; \$35,000,000 in 1923; \$45,000,000 in 1924 and \$50,000,000 thereafter each year until the entire \$250,000,000 has been paid into the reclamation fund.

"We have carefully avoided the objections in this bill that were made to former bills wherein the government was to accept from the various irrigation districts and in their place issue United States certificates of indebtedness for sale to the general public. This was objected to generally because it was felt under this plan the federal government was lending its credit in such a way as to establish a bad precedent and also in a manner which would subject it almost inevitably to abuse.

No Bond Sales at First.

"Under this bill no reclamation district formed under its provisions shall offer any bond for sale until after the project has been in actual operation and has demonstrated its feasibility and its profitable character to the irrigators themselves. When this stage is reached the bill provides that the secretary of the interior shall examine the project and if he so finds shall certify that the bond is worth double the value of the lands proposed to be sold by the district. Then the district may sell its bonds in any way that it chooses. The United States government does not in any way lend its credit to the project, but it does certify to the actual conditions and value of the land in the project by advancing the original \$250,000,000 later as projects are enabled to reclaim and make productive large sections of our entire Western country.

"Twenty years following the establishment of this bill or to be exact, in 1942, the reclamation fund required to pay into the treasury."

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JOE BRADY IS RELEASED BY COURT JURY

FOUND NOT GUILTY OF LARCENY OF \$45.43 AND THEN CENY OF \$35.

During Trial, No Indications Found That Would Lead to Identity of Talkative Burglar.

PORTLAND, Apr. 15.—Joe Brady, arrested on January 24, was freed today after the jury had returned a verdict of not guilty of the charge that he picked up \$35 which Roscoe C. Nelson had dropped on the street, following a telephone conversation with a purported burglar, offering the return of a stolen engagement ring. Nothing came out during the trial indicating that Brady had anything to do with the "talkative burglar" or "Shadow."

Refusal of authorities to permit Joe Brady, suspected of being the "talkative burglar," to see friends or attorney for two days and a night after his arrival in Portland in custody of police detectives brought a vigorous criticism of prevalent police methods from Circuit Judge Morrow yesterday in the course of the trial of Brady. The case went to the jury at 5 o'clock, with the provision that a sealed verdict could be returned any time during the night.

Action Unjustified. "An order holding a man in jail 'incommunicado' is wholly unjustified," declared Judge Morrow, placing at Deputy District Attorney Mowry, who had admitted that such an order had been issued. "The sheriff or chief of police violates the law when he permits such a thing to be done. 'Incommunicado' is a Spanish term harking back to the inquisition. I don't like it. It is utterly unconstitutional as put in effect here.

The case brought out that there was slight suspicion on the part of officers handling the affair that Joe Brady was really the "talkative burglar" and no belief whatever that the young man was the much-sought "Shadow."

Small Sum Involved.

The action involved \$35 Attorney Roscoe C. Nelson testified had been given Brady to give to the "talkative burglar" for the return of a valuable diamond ring stolen from the Nelson home. Brady admitted receiving an envelope presumably containing \$35 from Nelson, but said he turned it over to a third person whose identity he did not know and who had offered him 50 cents for the messenger service.

The theory of the prosecution was that either Brady was the "talkative burglar" himself, or an opportunist who took advantage of newspaper publicity concerning the robbery to impose on Mr. Nelson's credulity.

CLEAN-UP WEEK ENDS TOMORROW

BOYS WILL HELP IN WORK OF HAULING RUBBISH.

All Residents Urged to Place Rubbish On Street Before Tomorrow Morning.

According to the survey made by the Boy Scouts this week, from 125 to 150 loads of rubbish will be hauled tomorrow, when the final clean-up of clean-up week commences. The city manager has arranged for a number of wagons for hauling the rubbish.

The boys are asked to meet at the city building, corner of Elm and Washington, at 7:45 tomorrow morning and again at 1 in the afternoon, so that they will be ready to start when the teamsters arrive.

Nearly all of the rubbish that will be hauled has been sacked by the residents. About 20 sacks can be hauled on one load and it is believed that this entire amount can be hauled tomorrow. If it is not all hauled tomorrow the work will be finished Monday morning.

All people who have not yet put their rubbish on the streets in front of their houses are urged to do so immediately, so that when the wagons call tomorrow morning none will be missed.

Those responsible for vacant lots are also urged to see that the rubbish which is on them is taken away. Many vacant lots have been used as dumping grounds and a number of them had still not been cleaned up this morning.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Light and Saturday, fair. Heavy killing frosts in the early morning.

PORTLAND MEN GET STOCK OF LOCAL GROCERY

SEVERAL LOCAL MEN BID ON TWO GROCERY STOCKS.

H. N. Bain, of Portland, Successful Bidder on Harris, and M. Washer On Hooverized Stocks.

H. N. Bain, successful bidder for the bankrupt Harris grocery stock, arrived in La Grande today and, with G. W. Ingram, of the adjustment bureau of the Portland association of credit men, began checking up the stock in the store. Mr. Bain would not state today whether he would remain in business here permanently or whether he would only close out the stock. He is from Portland.

Morris Washer, the successful bidder for the Hoover store's stock, is expected to arrive in La Grande in a few days to take charge of his stock. It is not known whether or not Mr. Washer intends to remain in business here permanently.

The following bids were offered on the stocks: E. & H. company of Portland bid \$14,643.90 on both stocks. J. D. McKennon, of La Grande, bid \$20,012.80 for both stocks.

Mr. Brown of Yakima, bid \$25,942.18 for both stocks.

New York Store, of Portland, bid \$5,500 for Harris stock alone.

Mr. Loeber, of Portland, bid \$18,000 for both stocks.

Wilson Auction House, of Portland, bid \$19,000 for both stocks.

Nagle, of Portland, bid \$21,595 for both stocks.

Boyer Bros., of Portland, bid \$20,024.46 for both stocks.

Vera Joel Ringner bid 52 per cent or about \$19,000 on the Hooverized stock only.

Mr. Washer, of Portland, representing a group of La Grande bidders on the Hooverized stock, bid fifty-five and one half per cent, amounting to approximately \$20,000. He was the successful bidder.

It is understood that La Grande people are behind the Washer bid and developments are expected soon regarding the future of the Hooverized store.

Mr. Bain, of Portland, was the high bidder on the Harris grocery stock and will soon take charge of the same.

COLUMBIA HIGHWAY

MAY BE RELOCATED

HOOD RIVER, April 15.—The Columbia highway west of Wyeth, may have to be relocated, according to J. R. Nickelsen, in charge of maintenance on the route between here and the Multnomah county line. Mr. Nickelsen said that the entire gorge side, probably as the result of underground streams, is sliding. Already the roadbed has been caused to settle and crack and the paving, laid year before last, is in bad shape. Unless the route is relocated, Mr. Nickelsen said the paving will have to be repaired constantly.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

PORTLAND, Apr. 15.—The price of cattle was steady, hogs and sheep weak, eggs weak, and undertone but three cents lower.

LABOR BOARD ABROGATES AGREEMENTS

RULING AFFECTS LINES FORMERLY CONTROLLED BY THE U. S. GOVERNMENT

ABROGATION MATERIALLY ADVANCES BOTH SIDES

Decision Affects all Railroad Employees Except Those in Train Service Who Are Under Separate Agreements Between the Railroad and the Four Big Brotherhoods.

CHICAGO, Apr. 15.—Both the railroad executives and the labor leaders declared that the decision of the railroad labor board abrogating the national agreements would materially advance the efforts to arrive at an agreement satisfactory to all parties. The board directed individual railroads and employees to agree on new working rules by July 1.

National agreements defining working conditions on all American railroads formerly under the federal railroad administration Thursday were ordered abrogated, effective July 1, by the railroad labor board.

This method of procedure had been sought by the railroads, whereas the labor side had favored a national conference between representatives of all roads and all unions.

The decision affected all railroad employees except those in train service, who are under separate agreements between the railroads and the four big brotherhoods.

In connection with the conference negotiations, the board laid down a set of 16 principles which are to serve as a foundation for any rules which may be agreed to. The present general rules hearing before the labor board, in progress since January 10, will continue until both sides have completed their testimony, following which the board "will promulgate such rules as it determines just and reasonable as soon after July 1 as is reasonably possible and will make them effective as of July 1."

Sixteen Principles Given.

The 16 principles outlined by the board were drawn up by Henry T. Hunt, of the public group, and upheld the right of the employees to organize for lawful purposes, the right of employees to negotiate through their own representatives, the right of seniority and the principle of the eight-hour day. It was specified that "eight-hour work must be given eight hours pay." Espionage should not be practiced by either side, the decision said, and employees' representatives should

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MINER'S STRIKE WILL CONTINUE, FRANK HODGES, SECRETARY, SAYS

BAD DAY FOR BANDITS IN CHICAGO.

Chicago, Apr. 15.—Six bandits, who held up two bank messengers on the Illinois Central train early today, escaped with two satchels filled with cancelled checks. The robbery was elaborately planned, two robbers following the messengers when they boarded the train at Randolph street and the other four joining them at Van Buren street half a mile south. The robbers escaped with the worthless souvenirs at Twenty-second street.

S. S. Witowsky, cashier of the state bank of Cicero, shot up and defeated six automobile bandits today. He killed one, wounded two, captured two, and only the driver of the car, who remained outside the bank, escaped.

GRAIN GROWERS MEET SATURDAY

CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING IS SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION.

President of Co-operative Association Will Explain Its Purposes to Union County Farmers.

At the grain growers' meeting to be held in the city hall tomorrow afternoon at 2 o'clock, A. R. Shumway, president of the Co-operative Grain Growers' association will be the principal speaker. Mr. Shumway will explain the purposes of the proposed organization for this county to the farmers.

The organization is organized for the purpose of so regulating the flow of wheat as to keep the market stable and to encourage the production of wheat, to do whatever is possible to secure the planting of those varieties of wheat which are best adapted to the various communities in which branches of the organization are formed, and work in the interests of the producers in various other ways.

In Umatilla county, Baker county, and the states of Washington and Idaho considerable progress has been made by associations of this nature, all of which are united in a central marketing association. The details of the contract the farmers are asked to sign will be thoroughly explained tomorrow afternoon by Mr. Shumway and other speakers.

THREE MEN HANGED TODAY FOR MURDER

CHICAGO, Apr. 15.—Sam Cardella, master mind of the robbery gang, and Joseph Costanzo and Salvatore Ferrera, convicted of murdering a fellow countryman, were hanged today.

LOYD GEORGE ANNOUNCES IN HOUSE OF COMMONS THIS AFTERNOON THAT MINERS HAD REFUSED TO REOPEN NEGOTIATIONS.

SNOW AND COLD WIND COVER THE MIDDLE WEST

PARTS OF COLORADO, NEW MEXICO AND KANSAS.

Smudging Is Done In the Early Morning In Rogue River Valley to Protect the Fruit.

DENVER, Apr. 15.—Snow, with a cold wind, today held forth in the eastern and central part of Colorado, northern New Mexico, southeastern Wyoming, western Kansas and parts of Nebraska.

Smudging Is Done.

MEDFORD, Or., Apr. 15.—Smudging in orchards was general this morning in the Rogue River valley orchards, where the mercury was at the minimum, 26.6 degrees.

TAX RECEIPTS ARE HEAVY

TURNOVER GREATER THAN OTHER COUNTIES.

Many Small Taxpayers Pay in Full, While Number of Large Ones Haven't Paid Any Yet.

The tax turn-over of Union county for the first installment is much greater than that of many other counties, according to D. McIlroy, tax collector. Over 45 per cent of the total has been collected, 50 per cent being due on or before April 5. While the exact figures will not be available for several days, Mr. McIlroy stated today that over \$128,000 of the \$355,000 due April 5 has been collected.

The sum of \$85,000 has been turned over to County Treasurer John Frawley and over \$245,000 will be turned over on Saturday.

The amount collected this year is somewhat less than that collected in other years. Union county taxpayers usually paying about 55 per cent at this time. However, reports from other counties indicate that Union county's turnover is high, comparatively speaking.

In discussing tax payments Mr. McIlroy stated that he was surprised at the large number of workmen making payments on homes who paid the assessment of the entire year at this time instead of postponing half of it until the fall payments are due. There has been so much talk of hard times and workmen spending their money recklessly that the way they paid their taxes in full was not expected. The reason the percentage of taxes collected is lower this year than last is due, he stated, in large part to a number of heavy taxpayers, who pay from \$1,000 to \$4,000 a year, and who failed to make any payment whatever at this time.

MOTION PICTURE IS CENSORED

After viewing the picture "Romance," which was scheduled to appear at the Sherry Theatre this afternoon and evening, Manager H. G. Trull and his wife decided that the picture, although it had passed the national board of censorship, was not the right type for the screen, and as a result, cancelled the showing of the picture. This action will mean a large loss to the theatre. As the management does not happen to have another picture on hand, it was decided to have a dark house this evening.

A good Paramount picture has been secured for tomorrow.

Corvallis Pastor Called.

CORVALLIS, April 15.—Rev. G. H. Parkinson, of the First Methodist church of Corvallis, has been called to the pulpit of the Methodist church at Manhattan, Kansas.

Miners Submitted Their Cases to House of Commons Last Night—Lloyd George Is Visiting About Midnight By a Deputation From House of Commons.

LONDON, April 15.—An announcement that the railroad men's and transfer workers' strike, called for 10 o'clock tonight, had been cancelled, was made at 4 o'clock this afternoon by J. H. Thomas, general secretary of the railwaymen's union.

The calling of a conference of representatives of the miners from all the coal fields at a date to be fixed tomorrow was decided upon by the executive committee of the miners' federation this evening after the railroad men and the transport workers had cancelled the sympathetic strike. Frank Hodges, secretary for the miners, said that this action meant that the miners' strike would continue.

Lloyd George announced in the house of commons this afternoon that the miners had refused to re-open negotiations for the settlement of their strike on the basis suggested.

House of Commons Hears.

Both the mine owners and the miners submitted their cases to about 200 members of the house of commons Thursday night. The request for the miner hearing rested with the miners. Frank Hodges, secretary of the miners' union, explained the attitude of the men and their demands. According to the Central News he agreed to another conference on wages, leaving all other issues for further negotiation. "There is every reason to believe," says the Central News, "that definite steps will be taken immediately to re-open negotiations and a strike may be averted."

Determined efforts were being made to reopen the negotiations between miners and mine owners for a settlement of the coal strike. A deputation from the house of commons visited Premier Lloyd George about midnight after Frank Hodges, secretary of the miners' union, had addressed members of the house and explained the miners' points. The mine owners also decided to invite the miners' leaders to continue the discussion.

Another Invitation Extended.

Evans Williams, president of the mining association, announced that the mine owners would extend another invitation to the miners to deliberate, with the object of asserting what was feasible to improve the lot of the lower paid miners. The owners then again visited the premier in response to a summons.

New hopes of a resumption of negotiations, therefore, have arisen through this offer and that made by Mr. Hodges before a meeting of the members of parliament.

"We are prepared to consider the question of wages provided they are not regarded as permanently on a district basis, but only of a temporary character," he said.

The whole labor movement is aligning itself with the miners. The workers seem to believe that the hour has struck for a final struggle against what they suspect to be an organized plan by employers to force down wages.

RATIFICATION IS ASSURED

WASHINGTON, Apr. 15.—The Republican senators of the progressive group, headed by Senator Johnson of California, today renewed the attack on the pending Colombian treaty, but the administration leaders sent word to President Harding that the ratification was assured when the vote would be taken next Wednesday.

Prohibition against the shipment of arms and munitions to any country where they might be used for a revolutionary purpose, has been asked of congress by the state department.

