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GOVERNMENT CHARGES BIG CONSPIRACY

OPERATORS, MINERS, RETAILERS SAID TO BE IN CRIMINAL PARTNERSHIP

TRIALS OF 226 PERSONS ARE STARTED IN COURTS

Federal Court Trials Which Opened Today Charge Violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, by Not Only Individuals But Also By Corporations

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., May 3.—A criminal partnership between soft coal operators, miners and retailers has existed for many years, according to the charge of the government in its anti-trust prosecution which began in the Federal court here today.

The indictment is directed at 226 persons, and corporations and is in five counts, each charging violation of the Sherman anti-trust law.

Among the individual defendants are John L. Lewis, President of the United Mine Workers of America; D. B. Wentz, president of the National Coal Association, many others of both organizations and some of the most prominent operators in the country.

The miner officials under indictment number 39; the operators, retailers and their employees 88; the corporate defendants 99. The defendants reside in six states—Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Taken as a whole the indictment charges:

First, restraint of trade; second, restraint of commerce; third, restraint of trade and commerce; and fourth, conspiracy to monopolize and fifth monopolization.

Conspiracy Was Formed

The indictment is estimated to contain 50,000 words, one paragraph of which says: "That at various joint conferences, miners and operators agreed and arranged that they were partners in the mining, production and distribution of bituminous coal in the several states, and that they should and would assist each other in their plans and efforts to increase wages, increase price, create shortages and limit production and distribution; that bituminous coal should NOT be sold at any time for a price that did not at the same time yield a profit to the operators; that whatever increase of wages of miners should be agreed upon, should be added to the price of coal; that competition among operators should be eliminated by organizations among operators and such other methods and means as would be effective therefore; that the means of increasing the cost of production and the price of coal was by closing down and keeping idle the coal mines."

The indictment also attacks the famous "check-off" system of paying union dues of miners by which the operators virtually act as a collecting agency of the union by withholding part of the miners' wages and paying this to the union.

Coal Shortage Manufactured

The 1921 coal shortage, according to the indictment, was manufactured by the operators "as a part of the general plan of the conspiracy."

By refusing to contract for future deliveries except "for a price which would be the ruling price at the time of delivery" the operators are charged with having erected a "spot" market last year, their alleged plan being "to create a scarcity of available coal and cause a high and excessive price."

The operators are charged with obtaining price cartels with operators from the Interstate Commerce Commission, which divided twenty million tons of coal from the "normal market places, mainly by shipment of West Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky coal to New England and the Northwest." This division, in part is alleged to have affected contract deliveries, and immediately purchases at higher prices, and drove consumers into distant markets and so disturbed conditions that local shortages were created and industries forced to suspend work.

In respect to the 1920 coal situation the indictment charges that

No Compromise In Wage Dispute--Appeal to Citizens

JAZZ HAS NO CHARMS FOR ANIMALS IN CENTRAL PARK

NEW YORK, May 3.—Humans may like jazz, but animals don't. This was the conclusion reached by a group of scientists who recently assembled in the Central Park zoo to see what a saxophone and traps would do to the emotions of monkeys, lions, leopards, elephants and other jungle beasts.

A quintet of musicians guaranteed to rag anything from Wagner down was massed in front of the monkey cages for the first laboratory test to determine whether the line "music hath charms to soothe the savage breast" was, after all, only poetic license.

According to a corps of scientific reporters who journeyed to the zoo with scientists from Columbia University, American Museum of Natural History and New York Zoological Park, the monkeys registered emotion

all right—but of a rather savage kind. Then the latest jazz was banged into the ears of the lions and their mates. All hopped to their feet, with fur bristling. As for Mrs. Murphy, hippopotamus, she merely wrecked the experiment by diving into her tank and shutting out the racket. The elephants seemed to tremble with rage. Only one beast was found that apparently was able to endure, if not enjoy, jazz. That was Bagheeta, the leopards. But when a hymn was played, she started a six-day race around her cage, spitting sparks. The scientists, however, put a question mark after Bagheeta's test, for attention was called to the fact that, at the moment, a keeper whom she chose to relish only as a potential meal, had just passed her cage.

Bonus Booster Meeting Of Legion Tomorrow

Arrangements are being completed today for the big bonus booster meeting to be held by American Legion Post No. 43 tomorrow evening. The meeting is to be held in Eagles' hall and the former service men of the county, whether members of the Legion or not, and the other Posts in the county, including Elgin, Cove, Imbler and Union posts, all are invited to attend.

Boxing bouts are being arranged for the occasion and some good sport is anticipated. Vaudeville numbers are also being arranged and several speakers will be on the program.

FIVE SPEEDERS ARE FINED

Five violators of the traffic laws paid fines of \$15 each in municipal court yesterday and today. A. Siegfist, Walter Duth, William Roberts and C. R. Shuey were fined \$15 each for exceeding the speed limit, all having been arrested Sunday. Dewey Cooper was fined \$15 for failing to kill his engine when he stopped. His car got away from him and went 42 feet before he could catch it and stop it, according to evidence.

Several other traffic law violators who were apprehended during the last few days will have their cases heard tomorrow. The police department announces that the campaign against traffic violations will be continued until the city streets are rid of speeders.

J. STILLMAN HAS RESIGNED

NEW YORK, May 3.—James A. Stillman, who figures in the divorce case, resigned today as president of the National City Bank.

WEATHER FORECAST

Tonight and Wednesday, probably fair.

"There was no shortage of available coal in the United States during that time."

Investigation Lasts 18 Months

Various other acts are charged by the long indictment as a part of the conspiracy, including allegations of fixed territorial limits for an operator's sales, the granting of strikes, the private agreement of operators to maintain uniform sales contracts, the breaking of contract deliveries, the refusal to sell directly to consumers and to sell to retailers who were not members of the retailers' association, and the violation of prices, especially by "pretended sales and distribution" through sales agencies "operating" only in name from the operators and producing no competition.

The indictments were returned last February 25, after an almost continuous investigation by the government for 18 months.

MANY MATTERS ARE DISCUSSED

With Bruce Cox, of the La Grande Grocery, presiding the Ad club held its weekly luncheon at the Foley hotel today and discussed at Chairman Fox's request "trade extension" for La Grande. The attendance was fair but all present were interested in anything that will increase the volume of La Grande's business. Earl Stoddard, of the Grande Rodeo Lumber company, was the chief speaker and took the Country Club for 1. theme, explaining how the game of golf is spreading and how the well appointed golf course, club house and other recreational features are to assist La Grande in claiming more citizens. He also brought forth strong argument that playing golf is a great feature for business and professional men of the city, binding them together in a stronger bond of friendship.

Others who spoke dwelt upon the need of solving this foreign labor problem on the highways, claiming that money paid Americans would, once it had its way into the channels of trade whereas the money paid European labor would go to Europe in a great part. The Worcester farming community, many of whom want to come to La Grande to trade, was discussed and it was decided to refer the matter of repairing and maintaining the Ladd Canyon road to North Powder with the county court.

Pendleton asked by wire to have the Ad club confer with the county court about putting some men on the mountains west of La Grande at once in order to keep the road open so that tourists which have already begun to move could get across the mountains. This was another matter referred to the road committee.

A. W. Nelson reported on the Philharmonic concert, stating that about \$1550 was taken in, all going to the concert company but \$200 out of which after expenses are paid will leave about \$1350 to the Ad club as an organization.

The support of the Ad club was promised to the new ball club, fostered by the American Legion.

Wallace Attorneys Rev.—J. A. Burleigh, of Enterprise, A. G. Lawson, of Enterprise, and A. W. Schupp, of Joseph, are of La Grande today on their way from attending the state supreme court session at Pendleton.

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Ship Owners Do Not Accept Arbitration

Secretary of Labor goes on With Plans For Settlement; Holds Conference With Owners and Union Leaders today; Number of Strikers is Not Ascertained.

WASHINGTON, May 3.—Chairman Benson of the shipping board will look to the naval reservists and discharged navy seamen to keep the American transatlantic mail ships in operation during the wage dispute, if their services are necessary, he indicated today. With the ship owners declining arbitration and Reuben opposing the compromise on the fifteen per cent reduction order, James J. Davis, Secretary of labor, arranged conferences today with the owners and the union leaders.

One Hundred Vessels Tied Up

Action of the steamship owners closed what was intended to be an opening for an adjustment of a nation wide shipping strike, involving thousands of employees on a majority of American ships on the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts.

Walkouts in response to the calls of the union leaders began Monday, preceded in most cases by a 24-hour notice by the men that they would leave. In New York more than 100 ships were affected, on all of which at least some of the men walked out. Reports to the Steamship Owners' association were that many of the engineers were refusing to leave. Of these ships more than a dozen are passenger liners.

The Mallory, Southern Pacific and other coastwise lines received notice from many of their men that they would strike.

W. L. Marvin, general manager of the Steamship Owners' Association, said approximately 40 per cent of the American flag tonnage was idle—due to lack of cargo offerings. His estimate was that 65,000 men would be out. Union leaders place the number at over one hundred twenty-five thousand.

Announcement of a policy of no compromise on the 15 per cent wage reduction in the settlement of the controversy between the shipping board, American steamship owners and marine workers, chairman Benson Monday called on "all loyal citizens to rally to the support of their flag."

"Full protection," he said, will be given by the shipping board to all those who come to its assistance in keeping ships in operation."

Economic conditions fully justify, he said, the readjustments in wage scales and working conditions as made effective by the board May 1 when the old agreements expired, the "gratifying success" with which the board's efforts to keep its ships in operation have agreed with the position taken by the board. The chairman said he was willing to meet and talk with the union heads here but not to negotiate on a wage reduction.

In spite of the stand taken by Chairman Benson Secretary Davis continued his efforts to settle the dispute by conciliation.

NEW PRESIDENT URGES ECONOMY

WASHINGTON, May 3.—President Harding today cautioned the cabinet members against the "dangerous tendency of the government departments to live beyond the means provided by Congress and then submit requests for the deficiency appropriations to cover the deficits. He called attention to the fact that approximately \$216,000,000 in deficiency appropriations were pending, and that the estimated deficiencies will run beyond that.

Bert Gerard In City Today—Bert Gerard, who is well known to La Grande, having been here several years ago as a member of the University of Oregon Glee Club, is spending today in La Grande.

For two years he was a newspaper man, having been connected with the Pendleton East Oregonian and the Pendleton Tribune. He is now with the Equitable Life Insurance company.

BURNING JAPANESE VESSEL OFF COAST SENDS OUT HELP CALL

PORTLAND, May 3.—The survivors of the Japanese steamer Tokuyo Maru, which caught fire sixty miles southwest of the mouth of the Columbia yesterday, were taken aboard the transport Buford. The fire, which started in the hold yesterday afternoon, burned so quickly that the ship had to be abandoned.

Eight persons were so badly injured that they died aboard the Buford, according to a wireless today from Captain K. Suckut of the Tokuyo, which had a lumber and nitrate cargo. The Buford is taking the survivors to Seattle. The lighthouse at Tillamook Head reported seeing the hull burning forty miles off the coast this morning.

Some of the Tokuyo survivors were transferred to the cutter Snohomish, which headed for Aberdeen. A Marshfield wireless said the tag was standing by the Tokuyo today. The ship may not be a total loss.

The Tokuyo's first S. O. S. was sent about 4:30 yesterday and the Buford reached her a half an hour later. The tank steamer William

DIFFERENCES MAY CALL FOR ADJUSTMENT

JAPANESE AMBASSADOR SAYS THERE IS NO TROUBLE.

CLEVELAND, May 3.—Differences between the United States and Japan "call for adjustment but their existence does not justify apprehension or a pessimistic forecast," Baron Shidehara, Japanese ambassador declared today in addressing the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce. Declaring that the stability of every human institution about the shores of the Pacific ocean depended upon harmony and good understanding between Japan and the United States, the ambassador said grave responsibility rests upon the United States and Japan.

LUMBER CUT STILL LOW

Lumber production in Western Oregon and Washington counties is still far below normal, according to the weekly trade report of the West Coast Lumberman's association. Production of 116 association mills for the past week was 53,900,330 feet, 36 per cent below normal. Shipments totaled 59,374,359 feet, the report stated.

STEAMER CREW IS SIGNED UP

PORTLAND, May 3.—The steamer West Nimrod left last night with mostly a non-union crew. Efforts are being made to get a non-union crew for three other shipping board vessels here. One shipping board vessel, the Eelback, is held at Seattle. Efforts are also being made to get a crew for the steamer, the Eastern Sailor, now at San Francisco.

MRS D. LOREE PASSED AWAY

WIFE OF COVE BAPTIST MINISTER DIES

Leaves Large Host of Relatives and Friends to Mourn Her Loss; Funeral is Thursday.

Mrs. Rebecca J. Loree, wife of Rev. D. Loree, of the Baptist church at Cove, passed away yesterday morning, at the age of 36 years, 1 month and 11 days.

Mrs. Loree leaves to mourn her loss, her husband, four children, two sons and two daughters, her father and mother, R. P. Redifer and wife, and three brothers, R. A. Redifer, J. C. Redifer and L. B. Redifer, all of Redmond, Oregon.

The funeral will be held Thursday at 10 o'clock, at the Baptist church at Cove. Rev. A. R. Sifton, of the La Grande Baptist church will officiate. Interment will be in the Cove cemetery.

Ceremonial at Pendleton—A Dookie ceremony will be held at Pendleton tomorrow, at which time a large delegation of Dokies from this city will attend. The local delegation will leave here on No. 17.

DECISION IS MADE BY THE ALLIES TODAY

PREMIER BRIAND READS NOTE TO GERMANY FROM CHAS. E. HUGHES; IS PLEASED

NAVAL ACTION WILL BE POSTPONED FOR TIME

Nine Days Remain for Germany to Inform the Allies of Her Intentions; One Division of Infantry and one Division of Cavalry Leave Headquarters for Ruhr.

LONDON, May 3.—The Supreme Council decided today to take no naval action against Germany without first consulting the United States. Premier Briand read the text of the note sent by Secretary of State Charles E. Hughes to Germany, urging Germany to make clear, definite and adequate proposals to the allies. Premier Briand said he was greatly pleased with the note. Nine days remain for Germany to inform the allies of her intentions.

A complete agreement has been reached among the allies on the measures to be taken in connection with the German reparations question, it was announced tonight at the conclusion of the session of the supreme council.

FRENCH MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, MAYENCE, GERMANY

May 3.—One division of the black Moroccan infantry and one division of cavalry, left yesterday for the Ruhr.

LONDON, MAY 3.—If the plans are carried out British and Belgian forces on the Rhine will join with the French. Orders for the mobilization of the 1919 class were dispatched to Paris Monday night.

Guarantees Hard Problem

The question of guarantees is a perplexing one. The council was engaged four hours trying to harmonize the views on the form of guarantees, which will include the establishment of a commission of debt. This commission will be charged with observation of the German revenues. The allies will also ask for participation in the profits of German industry.

Results of Monday's meeting are regarded by the French delegation as measurably satisfactory. They would rather have occupied the Ruhr first and then informed Germany of the allies' minimum requirements, but in deference to Mr. Lloyd George's conviction that British public opinion would not willingly support occupation until Germany had been given another chance, M. Briand yielded.

1919 Class Called

PARIS, May 3.—Minister of War Barthou Monday night issued an order calling the class of 1919 to the colors, except men who have served in the Orient and in Morocco and men belonging to the auxiliary services.

Mobilizations will be carried out by a letter sent to each man. When detachments have been formed they will be sent toward the Rhine.

The French government is proceeding with the preliminary necessary to the occupation of the Ruhr valley, should that step be ordered.

Newspapers as a whole expressed themselves as being in favor of the mobilization, the only discordant note being struck by Humanite, which in large headlines attacked the order calling the men to the colors. It also carried on its first page an advertisement by the Communist committee of action, beginning with the words: "Down with war; down with mobilization."

LA GRANDE WINS GAME

The American Legion team of La Grande drowned the Haines team at Haines Sunday afternoon. The score was 12 to 7. Roberts struck out five men. Thirteen hits were made, six two-baggers and one three-bagger being the features of the game. Dave Johnson did the heavy hitting for La Grande.

The line-up of the team was as follows: Roberts, pitcher; Johnson, catcher; McGinnis, 1b; Mike Carroll, 2b; Dunn, 3b; Bill Wagoner, ss; M. Childers, lf; Thelander, cf; Red Read, rf.

Next Sunday the local team goes to North Powder to play the team there.

RETRIAL OF ALBERS ORDERED

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3.—Solicitor General Fricson today ordered a retrial of J. Henry Albers in the lower United States courts. This information was given Senator McNary, of Oregon, who represented the Portland Bar Association in demanding a new trial.

GEORGE KELLY FIRST WONDER

NEW YORK, May 3.—George Kelly of the New York Giants, hit his seventh home run, yesterday in the game with Boston.

Ruth is One Behind

BOSTON, May 3.—Babe Ruth, of the New York Yankees, knocked his sixth home run in the game with the Red Sox yesterday.

HIGH SCHOOL SHOW FRIDAY

Program of Popular Numbers Arranged By Student Body for Annual Show.

On Friday evening the La Grande High School Meritmakers will put on the annual student body show at the high school auditorium. A collection of skits has been arranged for the evening which will be full of surprises for the audience.

Among the features that have been announced are the African Cutups, Max Sennett's Battling Beauties, Bud Fisher's Mot and Jeff, the renowned Castle City Orchestra, and the high school society queens in the Follies of 1921.

The show is being put on for the benefit of the student body. Seats will be placed on sale at Silverthorn's tomorrow morning. Reserved seats will be 35 cents and the balcony will be 25 cents.

REGENT PIERCE TALKS AT O. A. C.

CORVALLIS, May 3.—"The only life worth living is the life of doing," said Regent Walter M. Pierce of Eastern Oregon at the convocation following the annual meeting of the regents at O. A. C. "This is a time when work demands a deed. Boys and girls must be taught to think as never before. This institution must put on men and women who can think and vote intelligently. Education is the solution to the whole problem. We need leaders and doers."

Mr. H. Weatherford, who has been on the board of regents for thirty-four years, ever since 1886, and who has been president for the last twenty years, spoke at length on the foundations laid by the pioneers of Oregon.

"Dig in" was the motto propounded by Regent George M. Corwall, of Portland, editor of the "Timberman."

Warnick in Portland—Lee Warnick, sheriff, is in Portland on business connected with the federal court there.