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DEFECT IN AIR COUPLING WRECK CAUSE

Head of Carmen's Brotherhood Announces Cause of Accident.

FIVE KILLED LAST NIGHT IN MISSOURI

Railroad in East Stops Mail Trains; Postmaster General has Trucks Ready to go to work.

(By Associated Press) KANSAS CITY, July 12.—F. A. Knight, assistant general president of the brotherhood of railway carmen today told the Associated Press that he believed the Missouri Pacific wreck here last night, in which five were killed, was due to a defective air coupling. The engine condition was responsible for the recent wreck on the Rock Island near Wichita.

(By Associated Press) BALTIMORE, July 12.—The Baltimore and Ohio today announced the continuance of eight passenger trains usually carrying mails.

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Postmaster General Work today notified the president that a survey showed that a thoroughly organized fleet of 30,000 motor vehicles would be available within 24 hours should the shopmen's strike further interfere with the mails.

OROVILLE, Calif., July 12.—Numerous strike breakers and guards were injured, several seriously and one probably fatally when about 75 men speeding into town early today in autos charged the Western Pacific roundhouse. The attackers then motored away. Four guards are missing, believed to have been kidnaped.

BULLETINS

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 12.—Democratic members of the senate agricultural committee expect to move tonight that the committee report favorably on the Ford offer for Muscle Shoals.

(By Associated Press) LOS ANGELES, July 12.—Gloria Swanson, film actress, will appear in court tomorrow to answer charges against her and her mother of undue influence in connection with the will of the late Matthew P. Burns, the actress' stepfather. Relatives are contesting the will.

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, July 12.—The republican state central committee is meeting here today considering electing a campaign secretary.

TWO MEN KIDNAPED

(By Associated Press) DENNISON, Texas, July 12.—Two men were beaten and carried into the country by a band of 20 which attacked the Price store at Sherman.

LABOR DEMAND IS LARGE NOW

The demand for cherry pickers and haying hands in the valley is large now and the city employment office has found difficulty in supplying men for the calls received this week. Practically no men doing farm work are out of work now and those few who are out of work are reported to be sending to go to work just now. Conditions are similar in other fruit and hay sections, according to reports.

All's Well with the Railroad, says Bollons

J. P. O'Brien, general manager of the O. W. & L. La Grande section, today announced to Superintendent W. Bollons. Apparently he found nothing unsatisfactory in the conditions here. Bollons states that the conditions here remain unchanged and that all is well from the railroad viewpoint. In regards to the report that shots were fired near the yards Wednesday morning at about 2:15 o'clock, Bollons announced that the statement was erroneous and that six torpedoes had been run over and showed a reporter of the Observer some crushed torpedoes as proof. No trouble was experienced, he said, and Bollons also stated that the guards did not wear guns or fire arms of any kind while on duty in the yards.

Head of Shopmen's Union Issues Reply to Proclamation Made by President Harding Tuesday Night

GOMPERS SAYS BOARD HAS NO REAL POWER

Calls attention to the Fact that Railroad Labor Board Cannot Compel Obedience.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 12.—The executive proclamation warning against interference with the movement of interstate transportation in connection with the railroad strike, and particularly against interference with the United States mails, was declared Wednesday night by Samuel Gompers, "to be calculated to make a fetish of the transportation act and of the railroad labor board."

Referring to the injunction against interference, Mr. Gompers' statement declared that "railroad workers who withdrew their services, necessarily affect 'this movement of equipment.'"

"The president's proclamation," the statement continued, "implies that the workers have not participated in accordance with the law, and in stopping work they have gone outside of the law. The fact is that the law specifically gives to the workers the right to cease work in the event that they cannot accept the award of the railroad labor board."

"The board are not decisions which must be obeyed. They are awards which the board hopes both employers and employees will accept, but which neither is bound to accept."

BAND CONCERT WAS POPULAR

Under ideal conditions the La Grande band last evening presented its very splendid program at North 2nd and T streets. A large attendance was out and the audience was apparently anxious to make everything as pleasant as possible for there was no disturbance and no annoyance to anybody. All the business of an auditorium revealed. The system employed of allowing the cars to park one block from the intersection of where the band is working out in splendid manner. The assistance from the audience to keep the cars quiet helped the band out over their program in fine shape. The numbers presented were both popular and classical, ending with the old familiar overture "The Poet and Peasant."

REMAINS WILL LIE IN STATE

Friends who wish to view the remains of Mr. George Palmer may do so between 10 and 1:30 Friday at Stodgrass and Zimmerman Chapel.

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 at the Presbyterian church. The body will be shipped to Portland for interment.

Between the hours of two and four business houses and professional men generally will pause in their activities to pay honor to the memory of Mr. Palmer.

HAD NOT HEARD ANYTHING. LONDON, July 12.—Lloyd George told the house of commons that he was afraid that a deadlock had occurred at The Hague, but that he had no information that the conference on Russian affairs had broken down.

B. M. Jewell Declares that Railroads are Responsible and that Strikers are not Interfering with the Mails.

CHICAGO, July 12.—B. M. Jewell, leader of the striking shopmen and the six international presidents of the shop crafts, today wired a reply to President Harding's proclamation on the strike situation. He urged that the railroads have not lived up to the transportation act and that the strikers walked out because the wages fixed by the labor board were in violation of provisions of the transportation act.

The strikers insisted that no interference with commerce or interference with the mails has been caused by any unlawful act by the shopmen. The telegram laid such interference to the railroads' attempt to operate with incompetent workmen.

Jewell and his associates reiterated their desire to cooperate in any effort to bring peace but that up to the present the rail executives refused to meet employes' representatives. Such action as taken by President Harding in the coal strike is suggested by a new move of the shop craft leaders.

The complete text of Jewell's telegram is as follows: "It appears from your proclamation of July 11 that incomplete information has been furnished you concerning the present dispute between the railroad operators and employes."

"Ninety-two railroads have violated the transportation act or decisions of the railroad labor board. In 14 cases these involved not only contracting out of work in shops but also wage decreases. Interpretations of rules and the right of employes to select their own representatives. When the Pennsylvania railroad refused to comply with the board's rulings, Federal Judge Page held that the board's position on wages or rules was only advisory. The railroads have refused ever since the passage of the transportation act to establish national boards of adjustment described by the labor board as the central part of the machinery to decide disputes between the carriers and the employes."

"The railroads have made all negotiations merely formal thus throwing on the board an impossible burden of arbitration. The board has abolished overtime pay for Sundays and holidays, enjoyed for 20 years even on unorganized roads; the board has established a rate of pay of \$5.00 a year though the department of labor fixed the bare cost of living at over \$14.00 and a minimum comfort budget at over \$21.00. "When the basic wage is unjust it follows that all wages graded upwards for skill and responsibility are likewise unjust. The organized employes support your declaration of May 23, 1921, that the lowest wage must not be only enough for comfort, but that the living wage struggle for existence shall not crowd out things purely worth living and that it should provide for amusement, recreation and saving."

"Employes have never violated any decision of the board but the railroads have violated decisions and employes have refused to work under wages fixed by the labor board which violated provisions of the transportation act."

"The board has attempted to unload financial burdens of railroad management on the employes through inadequate wages and will undermine the health of prosperity of the next generation. After exhausting all other methods the employes sought a gain to obtain a conference and agreement with the railroad executives. Only as a last resort did they secure, we respectfully insist, that no interference of commerce or interference of mails was gained by direct or unlawful acts of the organized employes. Such interruptions and interferences result inevitably from attempts of railroads to operate with insufficient, incompetent and unskilled workmen."

"Such interruption and interference will continue and increase until agreement is obtained upon just and reasonable wages between the representatives of the skilled employes and railroad executives who up to date have refused even to meet with employed representation. We stand ready to cooperate wholeheartedly with an effort to bring about such an agreement."

NEW CONSTABLE IS APPOINTED

County Judge U. G. Couch has appointed A. M. Hilt as constable in place of Isaac Fackel, who resigned recently on account of falling health after having served in that capacity for many years. Mr. Hilt took up his new duties immediately following the appointment.

SITUATION IS HANDLED WELL IN LA GRANDE

A meeting was held last evening by members of the city commission and railroad officials. Matters pertaining to the railroad strike were discussed and the city commissioners and officials of the railroad, the latter including General Manager J. P. O'Brien and W. Bollons, division superintendent.

PREPARATIONS BEING PUSHED

W. V. Connor, general manager of Chautauqua, has Taken Charge of Work on Pavilion.

W. V. Connor, who will again of-ficiate as general manager of the Grande Ronda Chautauqua assembly, came over from Union today to begin preparations for the assembly which begins July 21st. Mr. Connor is rounding up the carpenters for the erection of the fence around the pavilion and installation of the seats and building of the tents. In order to make matters as easy as possible in the reservation of tents the public is advised that it can place reservations either at the Union County Ad Club, Main 20, or Mr. Connor direct. Mr. Connor will be in and out of La Grande for the next few days but just before Chautauqua will be on the grounds at the park continuously. Reservations made with A. W. Nelson at the Ad club, will be forwarded to Mr. Connor immediately.

The grounds committee announces that arrangements have been made with Mr. and Mrs. Joe Williams for the operation of a light lunch counter during Chautauqua. Coffee will be for sale in bulk or in cup and there will be ample food for sale to supply light lunches but not main meals.

CASE SETTLED OUT OF COURT

Just before the hour set for trial last evening, Max Terchinsky announced his intention of withdrawing charges of assault against Ira Cantrell alleging that Cantrell had hit Terchinsky following the latter's refusal to declare that he had not changed his opinion on the strike. Terchinsky declared that he had said that the statement would not be without the aid of the train men.

MRS. MULKEY HAS I. X. L. STORE

Former J. C. Penney Co. Clerk Enters Business for Herself in La Grande.

After seven years service as clerk in the J. C. Penney company store, in this city, Mrs. Lydia Mulkey has resigned her position with that firm and purchased the I. X. L. grocery on Jefferson street.

Restraining Order Asked. SACRAMENTO, July 12.—Application for a restraining order compelling the shopmen from interfering with the movement of trains was filed in federal court here today by Southern Pacific. The hearing will be in San Francisco.

WINTER WHEAT WITHSTANDS DRY MONTHS

Crop Estimates Show That Some Crops Suffered from Weather Conditions

PORTLAND, Ore., July 12.—Unusually dry weather over the greater part of the state during the month of June, following similar conditions during May preceding, has further reduced the 1922 crop prospects from the below average estimates of a month ago according to information gathered by F. L. Keet, agricultural statistician for the U. S. department of agricultural affairs.

Winter wheat appears to have withstood the dry season better than any of the other grain crops in the western part of the state. It appears probable that the crop will make about an average yield per acre. The same is true of most of the eastern part of the state although Wasco and Sherman counties report a prospect very below normal. Condition of the Oregon crop on July 1 was estimated at 85 per cent of normal, compared with 90 per cent on June 1, 1921, and a ten year July 1 average of 91. Present condition indicates a probable state production of 17,844,000 bushels, compared with a final estimate of 20,562,000 bushels produced in 1921, and a five year average of 14,867,000 bushels.

The United States winter wheat condition on July 1 was estimated at 77 per cent compared with 81.9 per cent on June 1, with 77 per cent July 1, 1921, and a ten year average condition of 81.7 per cent. The July 1, 1922 condition indicates a probable crop of 3,060,000 bushels.

The condition of Oregon spring wheat on July 1, 1922, was estimated at 79 per cent, a decline of 15 points during the month of June. Reports state some of the spring seeding has already been "worked into summer fallow." Much of the average will probably not be worth cutting for grain. Last year's July 1 condition was 92, and the ten year average is 88. The July 1, 1922 condition indicates a probable crop of about 3,060,000 bushels.

EXPERT SEES GOOD GRAIN PRICE

Hyman H. Cohen, of Portland Journal, Says Visit to La Grande and Surrounding Country.

"It seems to me from the information obtained that the wheat crop this year and therefore the price for a good year for northwest wheat," remarked Hyman H. Cohen, noted editor of the Portland Journal, who with his wife, Earl, spent Wednesday in La Grande.

OPEN HOUSE AT COUNCIL TONIGHT

Labor Organization Invites Public to Discuss Questions of Interest to All.

WRECK ON LOGGING ROAD LAST NIGHT NEAR VINCENT KILLS ONE; INJURES THREE

PAVING WILL BE DEFERRED UNTIL SPRING

City Commission Decides Fall Months Weather Conditions would be Disadvantageous.

At the meeting of the city commission last night it was decided to go ahead with finishing the resurfacing work and to do the field work preliminary to establishing grades and making cross sections for the street improvement work contemplated.

As the street improvement work could not be started in less than eight or ten weeks, the commission decided that it would be the best policy to do it next spring as weather conditions might have an adverse influence this fall and as it is probable the charter will be amended in November so that the bonds can be marketed to better advantage.

The commission decided to place the charter amendments for placing the improvement bonds on the same basis as improvement bonds in most cities on the ballot at the November election. Contractors and bond buyers have signified their willingness to take the bonds under the present charter at par or better and if the amendments should fail to pass the property owners would have the work done in the spring under the same conditions as would be the case if the bonds were marketed to better advantage to the property owners who pay for the improvements.

The short section of road at the intersection of Twelfth street which is needed several weeks ago to the city will not be affected by the commission's decision.

The motion to continue the resurfacing and to do the field work still remaining unfinished to establish grades, etc., was passed by Commissioner Williams and passed by Commissioner Williams and Stadler voting in favor. Commissioner Grandy voting against the motion.

Several accidents along Spruce street appeared before the commission and asked for further action on the dust. The city will not turn over a sprinkler at work for several days. It has been unable to make much impression on the thick blanket of dust on the road.

ONE SHOT; 12 KIDNAPPED. (By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 12.—A W. P. A. was severely shot and 12 others, some of them deputy U. S. marshals guarding the M. K. and T. shops at Denison, were kidnaped, taken to the woods and beaten by a mob of thousands at Denison early today, according to reports to the railroad's general offices here. The railroad advised to ask the government for aid.

Seven-year-old Boy Killed Instantly When Thrown off Carr.

THREE TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL HERE

Breaking of Brake Chain is Believed to have been Responsible; car made wild Dash of Three Miles.

Seven-year-old William Palmer, son of James Palmer, was killed and several people injured yesterday afternoon about four o'clock when a flat car, on the way to the lumber camp near Vincent, ran away and after going about four miles, left the track. The boy was thrown from the car just before it was derailed, being killed by the fall. Between 15 and 18 people were on the car, only one of whom, a four-months-old baby, escaped injury, according to reports this morning.

The logging train, with a flat car on the rear end, was going to the camp above Vincent and stopped about three miles from the junction to switch some cars, the flat car being left on the track with the brakes set. The brake chain broke and the car started running downhill. Conductor Leonard Leslie, of the logging train, mounted the car and attempted to stop its progress, which he was unable to do.

The car traveled three miles down the logging branch before striking the Joseph branch and went one mile more before leaving the track about a quarter of a mile south of Vincent. The car did not turn over, according to reports, but the sudden stop threw the people to the ground and on the car.

A good burner engine, used on the Joseph branch, brought the people to La Grande, arriving here about 8:15 o'clock, after No. 18 had passed through. A large crowd collected at the depot when the ambulances pulled up to take the injured and dead. This was the first one of the wreck that came to La Grande, excepting word to the ambulances and rumors of the wreck did not reach the street until several hours arrived.

In addition to the death of the boy, Conductor Leonard Leslie was injured about the head and body but expected to be out of the hospital in a short time. The mother of the four-month-old baby that was injured is reported to have been hurt badly about the head and leg.

James Palmer was injured, suffering an injured knee and a broken shoulder.

Paul Polenkup, crooner, announced this morning that an request would not be held until after the removal of Superintendent J. W. Crowley, who is expected to arrive in La Grande this afternoon. The body of Billy Smith, the victim of the wreck, is at the Bohmenkamp Undertaking parlors.

TO PREPARE TROOPS

WASHINGTON, July 12.—Secretary of War Weeks today instructed Major General Hines at San Antonio, Texas, to prepare troops to protect the Missouri, Kansas and Texas railroad lines, which are in the hands of a receiver appointed by the U. S. court receiver. He said the marshal's office had been unable to cope with the situation.

Birthday of Library to be Community Event

Two years ago tomorrow La Grande's public library building was completed and thrown open to the public. Tomorrow evening the library board and the librarian are going to have a community reception and celebration of a decade of useful work by the institution which has served so many people.

At eight o'clock in the library building the reception will take place and everyone is invited to attend. Speeches will be delivered by Mrs. Stella Ingle, David I. Stoddard, George T. Cochran and the librarian, Mary A. Nichols. Work of the institution will be reviewed and the community will be advised of the progress made in the ten years. Refreshments will be served following the program and the occasion will be a community meeting.

