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Superintendent Peck Reviews Strike and Says Repair Work May be Done at Albina

Official Insists That Motive Power is Good and That Breakdowns Happening Now Are Common Occurrences the Year Round in Transportation Work; Claims Attitude of La Grande in Strike Encourages Possibility of Moving Back Shops.

According to C. E. Peck, superintendent of motive power and machinery with headquarters at Portland, Oregon, fewer men are leaving the service of the O. W. He states that the Southern Pacific railroad, although having a smaller shop at Portland than the O. W., has practically a normal force, as do the shops at Albina.

"A great share of the trouble that is occurring on the line at present is such as we experience every year," he states. "We had seven engine failures due to super-heated units and leaking flues in the month of May and several of the engine failures this month are due to the same conditions. An engine has to wear out some time and the public eye is directed at that fact now when, during normal times, they would not notice it at all."

Mr. Peck is in La Grande looking over local conditions and conferring with Superintendent W. Hollins. He states that conditions here are satisfactory in every respect. Reports that had power and equipment are responsible for the delays are unfounded, according to him.

The statement that an engine leaving Albina recently was forced to be taken back due to engine trouble, was refuted by him. His statement is that the engine had turned the injector with the frost plug screwed down, which blew the tank hose off. "Such things happen day in and day out, strike or no strike," he stated. "We look at them as unavoidable occurrences at all times."

Mr. Peck believes that it might be advisable to have the back shop work done at Albina. In this connection, he said:

"At the Albina shops we have over 600 mechanics employed at the present time, sufficient to take care of all our repair work for some time to come without any additions. We are getting a few good men from day to day and are employing only skilled mechanics now because we have all the other men we need. Some engines sent from La Grande for overhauling are being turned out. Mailed engine No. 342 will be out this week."

"The present forces here, unless conditions change, will be utilized only for making running repairs. We are cleaning up what engine work we have here and then all back-shop work that has been done here will be taken care of at Albina."

"We must take care of the men that are employed and there seem to be a number of business men here who are not willing to accommodate our men and sell them supplies while barbers have refused to give them shaves. The railroad company must make arrangements to take care of their men and it would not be good policy to keep men here and not take care of them. The attitude of the people around Portland is entirely different. We can double our forces and have capacity to handle all the work from Albina if advisable and necessary to do so, including the repairs that have heretofore been made at La Grande."

"In other words, we will clean up what shop work we have here and then suspend all repair work at this point. I have talked the matter over with Mr. Hollins and he thinks it advisable to make these arrangements unless very material changes in the attitude of the business men in this city of La Grande take place."

"More men are coming in from day to day and it will only be a short time until we have our shop forces up to capacity and can get more men if necessary to take care of the additional work that would fall on us. In some departments of the Albina shops we now have a full force and in other departments we are a little short. Regardless of all that is being said about crippled conditions of power and such, there is no foundation for believing that the power is crippled. Our power is in as good shape and we are having as few delays due to that condition as we ever had before."

"We have a few men employed here endeavoring to get out some of the engines already torn down and if conditions remain the same we do not deem it advisable to build up our force here. However, if our men are assured of the same rights other people enjoy, the same privilege of living in the town and the business men treat them the same as other citizens, the local forces will be built up."

Building Trades Men Flock to California

TACOMA, Wash. July 26.—The demand for building trades craftsmen in California has resulted in a shortage of these workmen in Western Washington, local contractors declare. It is said that California contractors have sent agents here and craftsmen have been induced to go to California with promises of as much as \$10 a day above the union scale.

"There is a shortage in the building trades," R. M. Grant, speaking for local contractors recently stated. "On some building jobs here men are being paid more than the scale, and despite that fact higher wages still are being offered to California, where an exceptional building movement is under way."

MEN RESENT COMPANY'S OWN UNIONS

(By Associated Press.)
DETROIT, July 26.—A threat that 400,000 maintenance of way men employed on the nation's railroads will strike because of the alleged action of certain eastern roads in attempting to form a company organization to take the place of the international railroad brotherhoods and because of the action of guards employed by the railroads was made here today at the headquarters of the international maintenance of way employees and railroad shop laborers.

A GREAT PICTURE TO BE AT SHERRY

Manager H. G. Trull Secures Lon Chaney's Masterpiece "The Trap."

There are pictures and pictures—the latter outstanding and above the ordinary, pictures that make you think, that teach a lesson and at the same time presents the talents of a great actor in such a way that you yearn to see that actor again.

Such a picture is "The Trap," a Universal-Jewel production with Lon Chaney, that great picture actor, as the leading character. Lon Chaney works every minute—he lives and breathes the character he is to represent. No other walk of life calls for such sincerity as the movie life—the sincere actors are heard from, the rest are but chaff. Chaney is the sincere actor and in "The Trap" he has a play which gives him opportunity to show the genius he possesses.

It will come to the Sherrys Sunday and Monday and will be one of the theatrical treats of the year.

CONVENTION TO BE IN AUGUST

OREGON AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, Corvallis, July 26.—Edith M. Barber, manager of the Syracuse, N. Y., Home Bureau, has been secured to talk before the visitors at the fifteenth annual convention of the American Home Economics association here August 1 to 5.

"A Thrift Kitchen As An Asset in City Home Bureau Work" is the subject of the address to be given by Miss Barber, formerly connected with the New York state food administration for two years during the war. Miss Barber has conducted several milk campaigns with success in the Syracuse Home Bureau which is a branch of the county farm bureau. She is connected with the schools of Philadelphia for six years. She is a social editor of the Home Economics Journal and has been a contributor to many women's magazines and it is expected that she will have a real message to offer.

BULLETINS

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, July 26.—The state railroad and public utilities commissions were called upon today by the Interstate Commerce Commission to give active assistance in carrying out priority orders for coal distribution.

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, July 26.—Republican senators opposing tariff rates proposed below a level of 100 percent today in the first phase of the effort to limit these rates to 100 percent, a reduction of 60 percent.

ONTARIO MAN TO BE HERE THIS EVENING

Controversy Over Central Pacific to be Presented From Point of View of Interior Oregon.

The present state-wide discussion over who shall inherit the Central Pacific will be brought to La Grande tonight when a party of Ontario, Interior Oregon and Portland people will explain the proposition to the board of directors and members generally of the Ad Club at a picnic dinner at Riverside Park. Present will be not only directors of the Ad Club, but as many of the Ad Club membership as can attend, and members of the Union Commercial Club.

Some sections of the state want the Central Pacific to revert to the Southern Pacific, and some to the Union Pacific. The Natron cut-off and development of interior Oregon are matters at stake. The Ontario delegation will explain its viewpoint of the whole intricate matter.

Several committee meetings have been held in the Ad Club on this proposition but as yet no action has been taken, due in large measure to the complications, which no one seems to thoroughly understand. It is believed all this will be clarified tonight. The meeting will be concluded in time for all to attend the evening program if they so desire.

THREE DIVORCES ARE GRANTED

Three divorce cases were brought before Judge J. W. Knowles in the last few days and were acted upon. Yesterday afternoon Judge Knowles granted a divorce to Ella M. Walker, who had brought suit against her husband, James H. Walker, charging him with cruel and inhuman treatment. They are residents of Hubler.

On Monday, two divorce decrees were granted. William Knight was granted a decree against Dorothy Knight on the charge of cruel and inhuman treatment and Jesse Lawrence was granted a decree against George W. Lawrence on the charge of desertion.

STORM BLOWS DOWN BIG TREE

A wind storm, accompanied by thunder and lightning, struck La Grande about 2 o'clock this morning. On Cedar street a walnut tree over 15 years of age was blown down in front of the Hollister residence, necessitating diverting traffic this morning until the tree was taken away.

So far as could be learned today no other damage was done. The grain in the valley is believed to have been unharmed as it is just beginning to ripen well now and has not reached that stage where shelling out is to be feared. Although there was considerable thunder and lightning, no rain accompanied the storm.

PRIORITY ORDERS EFFECTIVE
(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, July 26.—The Interstate Commerce Commission today issued priority orders effective today for the movement of food, perishable products, coal, other fuel and livestock. The railroads, public utilities, hospitals, government institutions, national and state will be given preference for coal in this order.

INJUNCTION DISSOLVED
(By Associated Press.)
TACOMA, July 26.—Sixty Columbia river fishermen who obtained temporary injunction recently against the Washington State Fisheries board, have 48 hours to cease their picketing operations as the result of a federal judge's late yesterday dissolving the injunction.

OPERATORS IN OHIO ASK FOR CONFERENCE

First Move Towards Meeting With Union Officials.

CONTROL ONE-THIRD OF OHIO'S OUTPUT

Fifty Thousand Miners Affected by Offer to Discuss Settlement of Differences.
(By Associated Press.)
BRIDGEPORT, Ohio, July 26.—The Pittsburgh vein operators' association, producing over one-third of the state's coal output of Ohio, announced today through Secretary Albina that the association now stands ready to enter into conference with officials of the United Mine Workers of America, either for Ohio or for the central competitive field, with a view of terminating the strike. This is the first definite announcement of the willingness of the association, which employs 20,000 to 30,000 men, to enter conference on this basis.

BOISE WANTS TO PLAY LA GRANDE

Four Game Series in Event La Grande Wins Pennant Is Probable; Would Play Two Games Here.

"We are interested in playing a series of games with the champions of the Intermountain League, be they La Grande or Baker," stated Manager E. Rosenheim of the Boise Mountain tigers, who clinched the pennant in the Western Idaho League by winning from Weiser Sunday, in a letter received today.

"The manager of the Baker team has already written me in the same connection and I am answering him by today's mail. His suggestion was that we play two games, one at Baker and one at Boise, the team playing at home to its own advantage and the visiting team to travel at its own expense," he continues.

"The distance from Boise to Baker or La Grande is too great to justify a one-game series so we suggest that we play two games at Boise and two at La Grande or Baker. Our league season ends the 30th and I am going on my vacation for a period of two weeks starting August 1st. I would therefore suggest that the dates for these games be fixed for the third week in August. In other words, we might be able to fix the first game at Boise for Saturday and Sunday, August 19 and 20th and the other two at Baker or La Grande for Saturday and Sunday of the 26th and 27th."

Manager Rosenheim further stated that he will be glad to hear from the La Grande team officially on the matter and hopes that the games will be arranged favorably to the winner of the Intermountain League.

Hector Melnes, manager of the Pirates, is in Rich today and will not return until tomorrow but in all likelihood will get in touch with Mr. Rosenheim at an early date. If the Colts are defeated it is nearly a sure thing that the Idaho champions and the Pirates will battle for the Interstate title and with the team La Grande has this year with games both at Boise and here, it would prove a big sporting event.

BOY IS ON LONG DISTANCE HIKE

A boy, eighteen years of age, tramped into La Grande last evening with a knapsack on his back containing all his traveling equipment and after spending the night here, continued on a journey that will take him to Australia and back to his home in New York. His name is Robert Adams and he is small for his age, but nevertheless is making the trip in good time and is not discouraged with the difficulties that he is encountering. He made his camp last night near the edge of La Grande and left about 10 o'clock headed for Pendleton, which will be his next stop.

Adams started from New York April 15 with just fifty cents in his jeans and he now has \$2.05. Not only is he making the trip by foot but he is earning more money on the way than he needs to spend for his necessities.

After reaching the coast he will go to San Francisco and expects to work his way to Australia where he will stay a while before returning to New York.

Shopmen Do Not Demand Trade Card Display; Committee Says Motive Power on Roads is Bad

"CAPPY RICKS" PLEASES LARGE AUDIENCE HERE

Music and Lecture on Program for Tonight Will be One of Best During Week.

"Cappy Ricks" is a good comedy. If in doubt, ask any of the big audience that heard the clever three-act affair at Chautauque last evening and the contention will be sustained. The audience was a large one and was a well entertained affair. There was a hearty laugh every minute of the way—and not a tear anywhere; just the kind of a play that entertains. The actors were very satisfactory, too. All in all it was a big night at Chautauque.

Tonight's music and lecture will be one of the really worth while affairs of the whole week. Dr. Williams, the lecturer is famous the country over for his campaign against vice in Chicago, where he won the title of a fighter. He is not only a fighter but a fine orator and his message is a thrilling one. The musical feature this evening as a prelude will be charming—it proved so this afternoon.

J. L. White is giving himself a splendid platform manager. He is possessed of an especial qualification in that he can get his announcements over in less time than anyone who has had the job in many years.

Big Picnic Dinner Tonight.
As a side feature of Chautauque is a big picnic dinner this evening. This is Union Day at Chautauque, the Union people having come over in fine style, bringing lunch baskets with them. The directors of the Chautauque were hosts and hostesses at the affair tonight, which became really more than an inter-town affair when it became known through Ad Club sources that ex-Governor West, Bill Hanley and other notables will be present.

SCHOOL BOARD LETS CONTRACTS

Contracts were let yesterday afternoon for improvements to the high school building and the central grammar school building to O. E. Coolidge and John Melville.

The interior of the high school building will be entirely remodeled, readjusted and put into first class shape before the opening day of the fall term, which is set for September 11. O. E. Coolidge was awarded the contract. No repairs have been made on the building since its erection in 1910.

The installation of new plumbing and other repairs in the central school building was let to Mr. Melville. The sanitary condition was very bad, the installation having been made since the erection of the building 20 or more years ago.

GOV. WEST VISITS HERE

Arriving on train No. 4, which arrives in this city at 3:30 in the morning, ex-Governor of Oregon, Gov. West stated that he really did not know the early morning air of Eastern Oregon was so refreshing. After eating the staple American breakfast of ham and eggs, the ex-official viewed the city, commented on its growth and discussed some development matters with local people. He left on the stage for Baker and will return this evening with Bill Hanley and the Central Oregon robbers who met with La Grande business men in the city park to discuss the Union Pacific-Southern Pacific railroad row that is now brewing.

POLICE TOO SLOW FOR WOMEN
(By Associated Press.)
TOLEDO, Ohio, July 26.—Forty women, wives and relatives of striking railway employees attacked a part of non-union shopmen on their way to work in the New York Central shops here today.

Police responding to a call were met with a shower of bricks and stones which resulted in calling out the police reserves. Three patrol wagons were rushed to the scene with orders to arrest every woman in the vicinity. When the reserves arrived the women had left and no arrests were made.

Business Houses Can Use Their Pleasure on Trade Cards, Is Committee's Verdict; Twenty Strike-Breakers Said to Have Quit Work Here Monday; Baker County Sheriff Issues Orders to Men Acting Under Him as Guards.

MERGER OF BIG TIMBER FIRMS MADE

(By Associated Press.)
PORTLAND, July 26.—Consolidation of three timber owning corporations controlling approximately a billion feet of timber in Clatsop county, was announced today. The Western Cooperative company announced that to facilitate logging operations it had merged its holdings with the Wright-Budgett company, Limited, and the Merrill Lumber company.

The consolidation is to be known as the Tidewater Timber company. The Astoria Southern Railway is included in the merger. The capital is \$4,000,000.

AGRICULTURE REESTABLISHED

(By Associated Press.)
WASHINGTON, July 26.—Agriculture in western Europe is being rapidly reestablished on a normal basis, according to Nat. C. Murray, crop statistician of the department of agriculture who has just returned from an investigation of European crop conditions.

"Farm lands in Germany are well tilled and the farm houses are well kept," said Mr. Murray today. "In the devastated parts of northern France the land has been brought back to a normal state of cultivation."

The American farmer visiting western Europe is impressed by the small size but high state of cultivation of fields, the large proportion of hand labor as contrasted with machine labor on American farms, the large use of women as laborers in the fields, and the use of oxen instead of horses as work animals. Two-wheeled carts instead of four-wheeled wagons are universally used, and few automobiles are seen in the farming districts.

Mr. Murray said he was impressed in England by the high prices at which 100 pure-bred Friesian cattle from South Africa sold at an auction sale. The average price for the lot was \$5,000 a head, one cow bringing \$20,000 and a bull calf \$30,000 the day before the sale selling for more than \$700.

Allies Incensed at Action of Germany: Naval School Formed

(By Associated Press.)
PARIS, July 26.—The council of ambassadors decided today to send a sharp note to Germany demanding immediate destruction of the fire control and range finding school which has been quietly established at a strategic point on the Kiel canal.

Allied officers declared the school could be converted into a fort at the canal entrance and termed it the most flagrant of a long series of violations of the naval terms of the Versailles treaty.

PRISONERS SET AT LIBERTY.

(By Associated Press.)
BUCHAREST, Rumania, July 26.—King Ferdinand's recent amnesty decree proclaimed on the occasion of his daughter's marriage to King Alexander of Yugoslavia, embraces a wide variety of offenses and already has resulted in the liberation of 200 of the 248 Communists on trial for plots against the government.

The following offenses are included within the decree: Clamorous and public propaganda against social and political order; spying during peace time; mutiny; electoral and newspaper offenses; participation in strikes against the state, and certain military crimes and misdemeanors.

Without any provocation a guard at Rieti is said to have followed a carman up to Pendleton and hit him on the head with the butt of his revolver, according to the bulletin issued today. The man is in the hospital and the strike committee will have this properly handled by the Umattilla county grand jury if the district attorney refuses to issue a complaint, as the Rieti strike committee states that he has.

A statement that six engine failures between La Grande and Rieti in the last 24 hours completes the bulletin issued today by the strike committee to men out on strike.

The shopmen who are out on strike protesting the decision of the railroad companies and the Labor Board on a wage cut and other points do not demand that business houses of La Grande place the "trade cards" on display unless there is a desire on the part of people engaged in business to do so.

This was virtually the statement issued by the shopmen through their committee yesterday morning. In order to gain the condition of local sentiment regarding the strike several days ago, the strikers had a card printed for window display, stating that the firm displaying the card did not especially solicit the trade of strike breakers or strike breaker guards. At the time many merchants understood that it was merely the collecting of local sentiment rather than a movement to affect any business in the city.

Yesterday the men out on strike gave the matter further consideration and decided they did not want to work any hardship on La Grande people, especially upon those who are friendly to the strikers, and they issued an order as above stated. The order reads:

"Considerable argument has been heard both pro and con in regard to the window cards which strikers have been placing in windows of business houses in the city. After a careful consideration of all phases of this matter the strikers have concluded that any business house desiring to continue the use of the card is privileged to do so, but that no request is made to have cards further displayed. Sentiment of the community has been learned, which was the mission of the cards. This action is taken not because of the vigorous protests made by some of the foremen against the cards, but in the spirit of dealing fairly with everyone.

In the bulletin issued today by the striking shopmen, twenty strike-breakers are said to have quit their jobs Monday, were paid off and left the city.

A strike-breaking machinist at Umattilla is said to have worked on an engine three hours and then took French leave, with the officials wondering what he did to the engine, as they have not been able to move her since.

Bert Fox, a local man, is said to have taken a job as stationary engineer. That craft is out on strike.

The strike committee posted this morning a statement that George Dabsh, a boilermaker here who went out on strike and has since been working in The Dalles, is in La Grande for a few days. It was reported that Mr. Dabsh was a general foreman at The Dalles but the strike committee has information from a like committee in The Dalles stating that Mr. Dabsh is working as a boilermaker.

The matter is being taken up with the local lodge of Boilermakers to determine the truthfulness of the report.

Four men holding cards in the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers were expelled, according to reports today, from the order yesterday afternoon after charges had been proven that they had acted as strikebreakers by doing work which should have been done by shopmen.

The strikers' committee also mentions in their bulletin of today that trains are all running late.

Fifteen strikebreakers are said to have arrived in La Grande last night on No. 18 and left the train on the opposite side from the depot.

What the committee considers a reliable report is in circulation to the effect that forty strike-breakers are expected to quit today.

Kameia is to have three guards for the men who are acting as fire-knockers there, taking the places of regular men who quit in the last strike.

The sheriff of Baker county gave orders yesterday, so it is stated in La Grande, to all deputy sheriffs that any of them found acting as strike-breakers will be discharged. The reason for this order is said to be that three guards who had been sworn in as deputies were knocking fires at Baker.

Without any provocation a guard at Rieti is said to have followed a carman up to Pendleton and hit him on the head with the butt of his revolver, according to the bulletin issued today. The man is in the hospital and the strike committee will have this properly handled by the Umattilla county grand jury if the district attorney refuses to issue a complaint, as the Rieti strike committee states that he has.

A statement that six engine failures between La Grande and Rieti in the last 24 hours completes the bulletin issued today by the strike committee to men out on strike.

