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PRODUCTION OF COAL IS INCREASING

Cars Shipped Monday Are Greater Than For Some Time.

EMERGENCY FUEL PLAN IS WORKING

Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, Directing Machinery of System with Aid of Governors.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 27.—Favorable reaction to the government's efforts to stimulate coal production are seen in the figures showing 13,083 cars of coal loaded Monday at the mines compared with 9,886 last Saturday and with a daily average of 10,914 during the six previous working days.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 27.—President Harding Wednesday night set in motion the federal emergency fuel control organization with the selection of a central coal distribution committee of government officials under the chairmanship of Secretary Hoover.

The committee secretary, at the request of the president, immediately wired the governors of the various states asking them to set up emergency state organizations as the first step toward centralization of the organization of distribution and maintenance of fair prices for coal under the administration's plan.

UPWARD TREND OF LIVING COST

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 27.—While living costs generally in the United States were 25 per cent lower last month than in June, 1920, and twenty-four per cent lower than in March this year, they were 66.6 per cent higher than in December, 1913, the bureau of labor and statistics of the department of labor announced Wednesday. Food prices showed an upward trend from March to June.

FIRE STRIKERS ARE RELEASED

WALLACE, Ill., July 27.—Lack of evidence to sustain charges of criminal conspiracy led Wednesday to dismissal from custody of J. H. McCoy and W. E. Ludwig, arrested in connection with the alleged strike of fire fighters on Marble creek. The men were released by order of the prosecuting attorney.

Both men vigorously protested that they were not members of the I. W. W., as charged by the arresting officer, and insisted that no strike was involved in their suspension of work.

Minors to be Kept Out of Pool Halls in Future

After reports had reached the city police that minors were frequenting pool halls and similar establishments, the police made an investigation yesterday and found that such was the case. A warning was given to the managers and owners of all pool halls in the habit of having or arranging in pool games there and any violations of the ordinance governing this matter will be prosecuted.

Support is Given the Union Pacific System Against the Espee

Just how the people of La Grande and Union county can help build a railroad through Central Oregon was explained last evening at the city park following a community picnic dinner when J. W. McCulloch of Ontario told why himself, Bill Hanley, Oswald West and W. H. Doollittle had driven to La Grande to talk to the business men and other citizens about the big railroad row that is now on between the Union Pacific and the Southern Pacific systems, the bone of contention being which shall have the Central Pacific railroad with its important connecting links of road in the west.

It seems that the supreme court of the United States has decided to do some railroad unscrambling, in other words, through its edict the Southern Pacific system must divorce itself from the Central Pacific road. Naturally the Espee resents such a ruling by the high court and appeals to the Interstate Commerce Commission, which body has the power to group railroads into systems, and asks that a little scientific grouping be done to retrace the Central Pacific to the Southern Pacific system.

Seeing its opportunity, the Union Pacific system raises an objection and will endeavor to show the Interstate Commerce Commission why the Central Pacific road should be a part of the Union Pacific system.

"If the people of this part of the state join with Central Oregon people it will have a great influence with the Interstate Commerce commission," said ex-Governor Oswald West, who spoke in favor of the Union Pacific's proposal, for the great interior of Central Oregon wanting and dreaming of a railroad for the last quarter century as it has, now has the only chance left to get one.

By a resolution the assembly stated its position as absolutely loyal to the Union Pacific system and promised to do everything humanly possible to get the entire matter squarely before the Interstate Commission showing that this part of the state is becoming a part of the great Union Pacific system.

Rates on Wool Waste are Approved by the United States Senate

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 27.—With little discussion other than registering of a formal protest by democratic leaders, the senate today approved the rates on wool waste, shoddy, etc., as originally recommended by the committee which included 33 cents a pound on top, bottling, roving and ring waste.

BULLETINS

(By Associated Press) AURORA, Ill., July 27.—Congressman Conroy of this city, just back from an economic survey of Europe for the U. S. government, favors a moratorium of at least two years on international obligations.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 27.—The "better butter" bill of Senator Sterling of South Dakota, to define butter by law and require it to contain 80 per cent of butter fat, was favorably reported by the state agriculture committee.

NAME OF TOWN CHANGED

SISSON, Cal., July 27.—This town voted Tuesday to change its name to Mount Shasta. The vote for Mount Shasta, 160; for Sisson, 33. The people claim that the town should bear the name of the state's most noted mountain, at whose base it nestles.

INCENDIARY ORIGIN OF FOREST FIRE

Washington Forester Believes Men Wanting Work Responsible.

(By Associated Press) OLYMPIA, Wash., July 27.—Combined with the ever-increasing danger from fires is an undercurrent of incandescence in several sections of the state, said State Forester Pape today. The fact that a number of old fires sprung up after being virtually extinguished caused the belief that members of the crews anxious to continue working in certain areas are responsible. Several under suspicion have been discharged.

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, July 27.—Using a knowledge of the relative humidity in the atmosphere to determine the behavior of forest fires in advance and the best method of combating blazes is the last word in fire fighting.

J. V. Hofmann, director of the experiment station of the United States forest service at Stabler, Wash., has been on the ground of the Herman creek fire on the Columbia highway studying the variation of forest fire behavior with the change in the humidity of the air. This is an entirely new study inaugurated by Mr. Hofmann and has proved successful beyond all hopes of the experimenters.

It has been found, through constant study and observation, that with low humidity—little moisture in the air—the blazes rage furiously, regardless of the wind conditions; and that the higher the humidity, the greater the struggle the flames have to keep alive. This conclusion came through the finding that the blaze did not reach the wind conditions. At times when the winds were low, the flames thrived, and when the winds would tear down the canyon the fire would be little affected. Thus it was concluded that the comparative dampness of the air determined the nature of the fire.

"In the case of small blazes, when they are first discovered, the observation ranger may calculate whether the fire will burn rapidly or not, and judge whether many or few men are needed to fight it; also, when a fire line is being put through greenery for some distance, exactly what sectors of the woods should be cut first, and what parts to take more time about is easily found."

OIL ON TROUBLED WATERS



PORTLAND LADY HAS RIGHT TO USE BIG TITLE

Adoption Papers Signed Today; Now is Countess de Chamquetot.

(By Associated Press) NEW YORK, July 27.—Claudia Windsor Tartone, wife of Pierre Tartone, portrait painter, is being adopted as daughter in proceedings in surrogate's court here today by Countess Clara de Chamquetot de Rampas de Chamquetot.

CONTRACTS ON HIGHWAY WORK ARE AWARDED

Number of Projects in Union and Wallowa Counties Aeted Upon; Multnomah Must Reimburse State.

(By Associated Press) PORTLAND, July 27.—Until satisfactory assurances are received from Multnomah county that it will reimburse the state for work on the Mount Hood Loop, no contract for surfacing the grade, already made, will be let. This is the attitude of the highway commission, voiced by R. A. Booth, chairman, at a conference yesterday with the Multnomah county commission.

Among the contracts acted upon Wednesday were the following: Wallowa county—Loatne-Enterprise section of La Grande-Joseph highway, 7.83 miles grading and surfacing. Wallowa county cost, \$99,997.26. Awarded.

Baker county—Haines-Baker section, Old Oregon trail, 9.8 miles ditching and surfacing. Newport Construction company, \$22,800. Awarded.

LIVES IMPERILED

SEATTLE, July 27.—The lives of a group of persons were imperiled today when the Japanese steamer Hawaii Maru collided in a fog with the Puget Sound passenger steamer Callista off West Point. All were saved.

WAR ON ROGUS DOCTORS

CHICAGO.—Several medical societies have launched a campaign to drive out charlatans posing as legally qualified physicians.

COAL STRIKE CONFERENCES MAY BE SOON

President Lewis Believes Within Few Days Something Will Be Done.

ILLINOIS MINERS MEET AUGUST 3

Peace Plans Presented by Operators Will Be Discussed at Miners Meeting.

(By Associated Press) PHILADELPHIA, July 27.—John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, said today he had every reason to believe the interstate joint conference will be arranged within a few days.

(By Associated Press) ST. LOUIS, July 27.—Frank Parrington, president of the Illinois miners, called a convention of delegates of every union local in the state to meet August 3, at Perlo, to take action on strike peace plans presented by the mine operators. His action was considered so significant that leaders on both sides of the controversy Wednesday night predicted that the strike in Illinois would end within two weeks.

Mr. Parrington's action was taken after an all-day conference with his executive board of approximately 20 members from all over the state. In his call for the convention, he openly declared that he would submit a proposition from the operators which might lead to speedy peace.

SPEAKER COMING ON NEXT MONDAY

Local railroad officials announce that there will be a free and open meeting to which business and professional men and the public generally are cordially invited next Monday evening at the city hall. Chas. Dillon, who is an assistant to the President of the Western Railroad President's Association, will be the speaker. He will discuss topics of national interest such as the actual condition of railroads, rates, equipment and earnings, labor negotiations, government ownership, and other related topics.

WAR ON ROGUS DOCTORS

CHICAGO.—Several medical societies have launched a campaign to drive out charlatans posing as legally qualified physicians.

COMMISSION NEUTRAL ON RAIL STRIKE

Investigations Indicate That Present Police Force Is Sufficient; Ice Tests Received.

Voluminous correspondence between the city manager and Superintendent W. Bullock of the O.W.R. & N. and a discussion of the policing of the city relative to the railroad strike resulted in the city commission expressing its confidence in the police department and requesting that the correspondence on irrelevant details be discontinued by the city manager, and an investigation made whenever any alleged violations of law and order are brought to his attention.

The two incidents which most of the discussion centered around were a call received by the police, city commissioners and other officials at about one o'clock Wednesday morning when rioting was supposed to have taken place on the northside and another incident in which the contention was made by a railroad special agent that about a score of men had attacked a guard and taken his badge away.

In both cases the police department was asked to give a report and the report made by Chief Roy Flexer indicated that a thorough investigation had been made in each instance. In the case of the alleged stoning of the J. A. Bolding residence by strikers, the chief of police reported that only three stones were found and some apparently had been thrown and some footprints, the latter apparently being those of small boys. From this investigation it appeared that some mischievous boys had thrown a few stones, instead of a strike riot taking place. Mrs. Bolding was excited.

WHEAT HARVEST HAS COMMENCED

A number of the wheat growers in this section have commenced the harvesting of their winter wheat and many others are planning on starting harvesting and threshing within a few days. Among those who have already begun work is Floyd McKennon, who is using a combine on his ranch near the Conley warehouses, and Don Ruckman, who has a large ranch out in the valley.

The winter wheat this year is expected to yield a very good crop and is ripening much faster than was expected to yield a very good crop and is ripening much faster than was expected. Despite the late spring the wheat is maturing at an earlier date than last year and the wheat is heading out well and promising a large yield. Especially near Imbler the winter wheat is showing an exceptional stand. Several fields in that vicinity have wheat that is about three feet high and nicely headed out.

ARRESTED ON CHECK CHARGE

Oliver Davis, formerly manager of The Gardens, was arrested in La Grande last evening by John Striker, on the charge of passing three bad checks in Wallowa. Davis was taken to the city jail and connection was made with the prosecuting attorney at Enterprise, who agreed to drop the charges if Davis settled for them. Davis paid the checks and was released. One check was for \$25, one for \$11 and one for \$5.

WHITE HOUSE CENTER OF ACTIVITIES

President Harding Holds Conferences on Rail Strike.

EXECUTIVE TALKED LONG WITH HARDING

Jewett and Other Strike Leaders Presenting Their Side to Nation's Chief Executive.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 27.—Having presented the striking shopmen's views to President Harding at this morning's conference, B. M. Jewett and other strike leaders returned to the White House this afternoon for further conference at which it was believed Harding might present some provision for settling the strike.

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 27.—The White House again today became the center of developments in the rail strike. The president met in conference first with T. DeWitt Cuyler, chairman of the association of railway executives and then with strike leaders headed by B. M. Jewett, who reached Washington early today from Chicago. Jewett and his colleagues went into conference with the president after Cuyler had continued an hour and a half's discussion with President Harding.

After a hurried conference with the president the strike leaders planned to leave Washington Thursday night, arriving in Chicago Friday.

TOURISTS IN AUTO ACCIDENT

A party of tourists from Caldwell, Idaho, drove on the approach to the Telescot viaduct last evening some time after ten o'clock and struck the masonry barrier, turning the car over and injuring the occupants. The names of the members of the party are not known but none were fatally injured.

According to W. C. Fletcher, of Idaho, who was driving a short distance behind them, the car upon approaching the detour preliminary to the viaduct approach took the wrong road, due to a blinding glare from a car coming from the other direction. The car was being driven about ten miles per hour and when it struck the masonry barrier, which Fletcher described as a huge rock turned over, it states that there was no danger signal or sign directing the motorist not to use the road approaching the viaduct.

R. H. Bajdick, engineer of the State Highway Commission in this division announced this morning that he and Judge U. G. Couch had driven over the detour last evening about ten o'clock and at that time the warning signs were erect and should give any approaching notice of the detour.

THE DALLAS, July 27.—The fourth annual convention of the Oregon American Legion assembled today. Geo. Colburn of Medford and George R. Wilbur of Hood River are candidates for commander. Pendleton and McMinnville are seeking the next convention.

Chautauqua Closes with Opera Program Tonight

The 1922 session of the Grande Rende Chautauqua will come to a close tonight when the Gilvan Light Opera company presents its program. From the standpoint of group musicians this will be the largest number of the whole week and the directors are unqualified in their endorsement of this program. Anyone who enjoys the light opera and in costume will get a delightful treat this evening.

Yesterday two splendid lectures were heard by Dr. Williams, last evening, and Mr. Herberman yesterday afternoon, both discussing timely topics in a learned way. The Platt-Stone Company are a group of novelty entertainers, Mrs. Stone being a clever entertainer who keeps the audience laughing all the time. Mr. Pratt plays anything from a hand saw to a one-lung fiddle.



Tonight and Friday fair and continued warm.