

Strike Talks End In A 'Stalemate' With Telephone Co.

COOS BAY—Negotiations between West Coast Telephone Co. and the I. B. E. W. negotiating committee which were resumed Thursday were broken off without a settlement being effected on Friday, according to Ray Dalton, vice-president and general manager of the telephone company.

"The company made further offers in a desire to arrive at a settlement," Dalton said. "One proposal was a 2-year contract including the wage increases previously offered, together with a proposed reduction in the progression schedules from 72 months to 60 months, effective July 1, 1952, the differential between the 60-month and 72-month rate to

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be spread equally over the other progression steps."

"Furthermore," continued Mr. Dalton, "in order to protect employees against further increases in the cost of living, we offered to include a provision that the agreement could be re-opened for wage adjustments at any time after Jan. 1, 1952, in the event the Bureau of Labor Statistics Cost of Living Index increased 6 points, or approximately 3% over the July, 1951, Index."

"This offer," Dalton said, "was rejected by the union committee unless we would also agree to increase our previous offer of 10c or 11c per hour to 12c or 13c per hour."

"In another effort at settlement, we offered a 13c increase to

plant department employees, of which 8c would be effective July 1, and 5c effective when approved by the Wage Stabilization Board. This offer was also rejected by the committee."

"The union committee then offered," said Dalton, "to accept an 8c increase now and to arbitrate the difference between 8c and 15c an hour. We rejected this offer because in our opinion this would obviously result in a compromise between 11c and 15c an hour. In view of the fact that our wages are equal to or higher than wages of other telephone companies in the northwest, such an increase would be wholly unjustified."

"The recent Bell system strike in Oregon," Dalton pointed out, "was settled within the 10% formula allowable under Wage Stabilization Board regulations, whereas the offers we had made to the union prior to our meeting on August 3, are equivalent to an average increase of 12.3%."

"We have earnestly tried to arrive at a settlement that would continue to provide wages comparable to those in our industry and in jobs of similar skills in other industries. Our efforts have been rejected and the strike continues, much as we regret the loss and inconvenience to the public in general, to our 80,000 subscribers and to our 1200 employees."

"We shall continue to give our emergency service with the aid of our supervisory staff and other employees," Dalton said.

Weather Report

For the week ending on Sunday:	Max.	Min.	Rain
July 30	66	48	
July 31	64	49	
August 1	62	51	T
August 2	62	50	
August 3	64	53	
August 4	65	53	
August 5	71	53	
Rainfall for week	trace		
Rainfall for July	03		

LOCAL NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Crory of Grants Pass are house guests of Mrs. Ann Switzenberg.

Mr. and Mrs. C. W. (Bill) Duggan and boys, together with an uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Hart, of Dayton, O., left Wednesday for the Seven Lakes district, and Mt. McLaughlin, to be gone on a pack trip for two weeks after which they will move from this area to a ranch near the trip site.

Mrs. Harold Young was mat-

ron of honor at her sister's wedding at Camas, Wash., last weekend. Mrs. Al Panzer and daughter returned to Brookings on Wednesday from Portland with Mrs. Young.

Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Gould and Barbara returned from a vacation in California, and across the line to Mexico, on Tuesday.

Mrs. Delsie Hunter and Dr. Palmroy of Portland were recent visitors of Mr. and Mrs. V. A. Mendenhall Sr.

LaVerne Mendenhall, presently stationed at San Diego, Calif., arrived this week on leave. MM1-c Bivings a member of the same squadron, whose home is in No. Carolina, came with him.

The large stucco house near Azalea Park entrance, belonging to Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Jones, has been purchased by Mrs. Charles Warnock. The Jones family will live temporarily in Arroyo Grand, Calif., while looking for a permanent home.

Stan Patterson was back at his old stand at Brookings Market, at the meat counter, for a few days while Mr. and Mrs. Glen Hurst were at Portland for the wedding of their daughter.

Here's one husband who doesn't forget his wife's birthday. Mr.

Bill Duggan was the honored guest at a surprise house party given by her husband at the Rod & Gun Club rooms, Aug. 2. About 30 friends were present.

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