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OREGON CITY ENTERPRISE

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FIFTY-FIRST YEAR—NO. 50.

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ESTABLISHED 1866

Governor Refuses to Call Out Militia In the Face of Existing Peace Situation

That the presentation of the petition to Governor Withycombe Wednesday asking him to call out the militia, was an unnecessary step at this time, was the opinion of local and state officials who have been handling the situation during the past week.

The past four days have seen no violence of any kind, say the officials. "There have been no complaints whatever this week," said State Officer Joe Keller Wednesday evening. "Our men are having no trouble whatever with the strikers. In fact it has looked to us that their actions for the past week have been most commendable. While under some circumstances it might be necessary to make such a move, I believe Governor Withycombe is right in refusing to take any such measures at this time."

"The best of feeling has prevailed between the strikers and the officers—not only the state officials, but also Sheriff Wilson and his men and the city authorities as well. We have

found the union men played square in their promise to observe the laws, and a call-out of the militia at this time, in my judgment, would only prolong the day when the matter is finally adjusted."

SALEM, Or., Dec. 12.—Following the receipt today of petitions carrying signatures of approximately 860 employees of the Oregon City paper mills and asking for militia to suppress a "campaign of frightfulness" which it is alleged is being conducted by the strikers, Governor Withycombe said that he would not comply with the request unless all other means of enforcing law and order should fail.

"I will not call out the militia unless all other means of enforcing law and order should fail," said the executive. "At present the mayor of Oregon City and the sheriff are co-operating with this office which has special agents on the scene under Captain Keller, who are maintaining order. I am hopeful that the mediation commission appointed by me will

succeed in solving the difficulties between employees and employers. Present reports are favorable and conditions of quiet are now prevailing at the mills."

In all, five petitions were received, and the language in all of them is identical. After reciting that the employees of the mills struck on October 26, and the positions of the strikers have been satisfactorily filled by the mills, the petitions declare a "campaign of frightfulness" was inaugurated by the strikers.

"Said strikers, realizing that they have lost their strike and that many of them cannot regain their positions, have started a campaign of frightfulness, which campaign the regular police and the sheriff's department, it seems, are unable to combat," read the petitions in part.

Continuing they ask for the militia that the strikers, some of them declared to be "nothing better than bandits, be forced to remain on their premises if they do not care to seek employment."

EXECUTIVE ASKS LOCAL MEN TO AID SITUATION

Governor Withycombe Saturday afternoon took definite steps to bring about a settlement of the paper mill strike affecting the mills of the Hawley Pulp & Paper company, and the Crown Willamette Paper company at Oregon City, by the appointment of a mediation board, consisting of Circuit Judge J. U. Campbell, County Judge H. S. Anderson and District Attorney Gilbert L. Hedges.

The strike has lasted more than six weeks and has involved more than a thousand men, who walked out when the mills declined to grant their demands or to agree to arbitrate them. The strike was first called on the Crown Willamette Paper company, and within 12 hours the Hawley Pulp & Paper company accepted an order for the manufacture of 10 tons of paper for the Crown Willamette, and the Hawley union employees promptly walked out.

During the last six weeks the mills have succeeded in importing enough skilled workmen to operate most of their machines, and hundreds of their former employees have obtained work in the shipyards, while at least 150 others have been idle.

From the very beginning of the trouble, the governor has urged a settlement, on the ground that the condition of the country demanded the activity of every man. In announcing the appointment of the mediation committee Saturday the governor issued the following statement:

"This committee is appointed with the hope of settling the Oregon City strike. As a patriotic duty the employer and employee should be willing to make any reasonable sacrifice to avert industrial strife when our country is in such great peril. We should put forth our utmost efforts for the largest possible production in all lines of industrial activity. This is no time for strikes, but a time when we, as red-blooded, patriotic American citizens should stand as a unit, backing our government, our president, and our brave boys at the front."

The strike is no nearer a settlement than it was three weeks ago, and within the last month there has been violence on both sides, which has taken up the time of the courts and has resulted in several men being arrested on violation of the state law. In order to preserve order in Oregon City, the governor was obliged to appoint 14

County Poor Farm Meets Feature of Discussion At Live Wire Conference

Considerable interest was manifested Tuesday at the Live Wire luncheon by a discussion of the merits of a county poor farm, which has been recommended by the Live Wire committee, of which Harvey G. Starkweather is chairman. In the budget for 1918 there has been \$14,900 set aside for the county poor, and it is believed by some that the establishment of a poor farm would be economy.

County Judge Anderson and Commissioner Knight, however, who were at the luncheon, took issue with the views of the committee. The court does not favor the establishment of an infirmary as a matter of economy, but indicated that such an institution would make the care of the feeble and helpless more systematic. It was stated that probably 50 per cent of the destitute cases could not be sent to a poor farm, for one reason or another,

and in that event, there would still have to be an appropriation made for their care, in addition to the maintenance of the infirmary.

It was explained by Judge Anderson that the budget item of \$340 for a county physician was really a part of the expense of caring for the poor, as it is necessary to have some one to make investigations and pass upon the merits of applications for aid. This is a work, said Judge Anderson, that has no connection with the health officer, whose duties are largely those of looking after contagious diseases and matters of the health of the community. The judge said, in relation to the care of poor, that Clackamas paid less per capita than many Oregon counties where poor farms are maintained.

Commissioner Knight endorsed the position of his colleague. In reply to

a question, he said the money from the Oregon-California land grant taxes was not placed in the budget, as it was not on hand when the budget was made up, and it was stated that this money had been handled as other delinquent taxes and would be expended in the manner and for the purposes originally provided when the taxes were levied.

Judge Anderson said a sinking fund should be established for the construction of a new suspension bridge across the Willamette river at Oregon City. The Live Wire committee endorsed the item of \$1500 for a county agent and recommended that \$500 be appropriated for a roadster for the use of the rural school supervisor. Mr. Starkweather gave his warm approval to the proposed appropriation of \$1800 for the county commissioners. He said the work was large enough to demand practically all of their time.

COUNTY SECURES CONTRACT FOR GRADING OF HIGHWAY FROM COALCO TO CANEMAH

Competing with several private paving and contracting firms, Clackamas county awarded the contract for the completion of the road bed from Coalco to Canemah, by the State Highway commission Monday.

The strip of road bed is about 2 1/2 miles long and lies just south of Oregon City on the new water grade highway in course of construction. The county bid \$34,800 for the job of finishing up the roadway exclusive of the paving contract, which has already been let. The nearest bidder was a

Portland firm which estimated close around the \$44,000 mark.

The roadway completion will necessitate a large amount of blasting as 50 per cent of the work is solid rock. About 35 per cent is intermediate grading and approximately 15 per cent earth. The county has been successfully operating its own paving plant for the past two years and the officials are of the belief they will handle the contract and break even at least on the job. Work will proceed shortly after the holidays, it is understood.

GILBERT L. HEDGES ELECTED PRESIDENT STATE ASSOCIATION

Gilbert L. Hedges was unanimously elected president of the State District Attorneys' association at their annual convention in Portland Wednesday. District attorneys from about 16 counties of the state were in attendance at the meeting.

George Nenner, Jr., of Douglas county, was chosen vice-president and Max Gehlar of Marion county was elected secretary-treasurer of the organization.

The association met Wednesday morning in the district attorney's office in Portland and held an interesting session discussing the work of their offices, and the strength and weaknesses of the criminal code. The election was held at the conclusion of the meeting last evening.

The state county judges and commissioners are also meeting in Portland and Judge H. S. Anderson and Commissioners Knight and Proctor and Roadmaster Roots attended the session. Mr. Hedges delivered an able address before the convention of county courts on "The Relationship of the District Attorney's Office to the County Courts." Both conventions are being largely attended by officials throughout the state.

GRAND JURY GRIPS PAPER STRIKERS ON CHARGE OF ASSAULT

Tom Carlson and Sam Finucane, well known paper mill strikers, were bound over to the grand jury in Judge Sievers court Monday morning, following their preliminary hearing with Floyd Hogan, on an assault and battery charge filed by Frank Miller. The action against Hogan was dismissed by Judge Sievers on the grounds that there was insufficient evidence to hold him.

The case is the outcome of the bridge riots which took place on the suspension bridge as the mill workers were returning to and from their shift change, on the night of Sunday, December 2. Witnesses for the state claimed that the trio were guilty of the assault on Miller, which was one of several to take place during the night. At the preliminary, however, they were unable to identify Hogan.

Christian Schuebel represented the strikers and put on no evidence at the hearing. The state was represented by District Attorney Hedges, with O. D. Eby appearing for the mill company.

The bonds of the two bound over were fixed at \$100 which they furnished immediately. The hearing drew a big crowd of spectators, most of whom were from the ranks of the papermen. The crowd was entirely orderly during the hearing.

NEW WATER DISTRICT COVERS PRACTICALLY ALL TERRITORY GLADSTONE TO MILWAUKIE

By a vote of 174 to 147, a water district, made up from the precincts of Oak Grove No. 1, Oak Grove No. 2, Jennings Lodge, Concord and Milwaukie Heights, was formed by a special election Monday. The district runs from Gladstone to Milwaukie and covers all of the territory between the Willamette river and the hills east of the Oatfield road, except a section around the open air sanitarium and the Hollowell tract west of Gladstone. J. Dean Butler, John F. Risley and H. C. Starkweather were elected commissioners, defeating W. I. Blinstone, John Overbach and William Jacobs.

The proposition carried a favorable vote in every precinct except Jennings Lodge, where the vote was 36 to 117. In Milwaukie Heights the plan carried by a vote of 23 to 12, and in Concord by a vote of 48 to 12. The vote was favorable in Oak Grove No. 2 by a vote of 39 to 5, and in Oak Grove No. 1 by a vote of 33 to 3.

Under the 1917 law, the commissioners are permitted to organize the

district, and to spend money, up to 2 per cent of the assessed valuation in securing preliminary plans and in making surveys to determine the cost of a water system. The district is also permitted, by a majority vote of its legal voters, to authorize bonds, up to 10 per cent of the assessed valuation, to secure water, including the construction of a distributing system. The 10 per cent limitation applies to all of the money expended, including the cost of the preliminary work. J. Dean Butler, of Oak Grove, said Monday night that the preliminary cost would not exceed 1 per cent, leaving 9 per cent to cover the cost of securing water, in the event that bonds should be voted.

It has been proposed that the district should obtain water from either the South Fork source, from which Oregon City and West Linn secure their supply, or from the Bull Run system. Negotiations will probably be entered into with the cities governing the two supplies.

LAWYERS DRAFTED TO ASSIST IN FILLING OUT QUESTIONNAIRES

The questionnaire prepared by the government for all of those subject to selective draft can be filled out by the parties themselves, or with the assistance of the lawyers of the county.

There is an advisory board consisting of Grant B. Dimick, chairman, O. D. Eby and J. E. Hedges. This advisory board is authorized to call to their assistance all of the lawyers in the county, and this had been done.

Headquarters have been opened in the parlors of the Oregon City Commercial club, and one or more of the lawyers will be there at all times, and if work becomes too strenuous the applicants will be sent to the private offices of lawyers in the city.

All parties interested are requested not to delay the filling out of their questionnaire and must do it immediately upon the receipt of the same from the local board.

VALUATION OF PUBLIC SERVICE CONCERNS IS REDUCED \$197,372.73

While the state tax commission has reduced the assessed valuation on the property of public service corporations in Clackamas county \$197,372.73 from last year's valuation, a deficit has been avoided through the normal rise in valuations of property assessed by the county.

The assessed valuation of public service corporation holdings for the year is \$5,697,617.94, as against a total for last year of \$5,894,990.67. The big reduction is on the holdings of the Portland Railway, Light & Power company. The valuation of the Southern Pacific property in the county has also been lowered. Mutual telephone companies and other small corporations have, in most cases, been increased in value. This is notably the case in connection with the valuation of the Oswego Light & Power company.

The county court has estimated its receipts from all sources for the coming year at \$562,771.50, exclusive, of course, of special district road taxes. To this total will be added a balance from the present year of approximately \$10,000. Direct taxation will produce \$544,998.69 of this total and from sources other than direct taxation \$17,772.81 will be collected, according to the estimate contained in the 1918 budget.

Drafted Men Must Comply With New Ruling This Month, Else Forfeit Claims to Exemption

Supplies in great numbers are being received by the local board each day from the war department, preparatory to the sending out of the "questionnaires" to every registrant of the county under the draft act.

The mailing, according to Clerk Iva M. Harrington, will start December 15, unless government orders are received in the meantime to the contrary, and pursuant to the regulations one twentieth of the total number which is around the 2500 mark, will be sent out on that date. Each day thereafter a like number will be sent out for 19 days. This system of mailing is in accordance with governmental instructions and will be followed, to simplify

the tremendous amount of work in classifying and tabulating the returned questionnaires.

The government imposes a strict duty on every registered person, to properly fill out and return the questionnaires within seven days from the date on which they are mailed from the clerk's office—and not the date of receipt by the registrant. In case the registrant fails to get a questionnaire it is made his duty to apply to the local board for a copy of the same, and it is specifically provided that failure to give notice or receive the questionnaire will not excuse the registrant.

Any person who fails to return the

questionnaire within the seven days will be deemed to have waived any claim to exemption he might otherwise have and shall stand classified as belonging to Class I, which means the next call for service. Failure to return the questionnaire means that the registrant is to be picked up by the proper authorities. The government places the burden on the registrant entirely and it is up to those who registered last June to be on the look-out for their questionnaires any time after December 15. The registrant is also held responsible for any change in his address made since June 5th last, and the burden is on him to keep the local board notified of any such change.

MEDIATION OF FEDERAL BOARD NOT SOLICITED

The Crown Willamette Paper company will absolutely refuse to listen to a proposal to arbitrate the paper mill strike, even though such a proposal comes from the federal mediation board, according to a fresh statement emanating from the office of A. J. Lewthwaite, resident manager of the concern, Friday afternoon.

Mr. Lewthwaite is talking with the authority conferred upon him by the officers and directors of his company and is emphatic in his statement that the position of the company is unchanged and that so far as the Crown Willamette is concerned, there is nothing to arbitrate.

The basis for the statement made Friday is due to the rumors that have been current in Oregon City and Canemah for weeks. The leaders of the striking mill workers have repeatedly told the union men that there was ground for the belief that the assistance of the federal mediation board would be invoked in bringing about a settlement of the strike. When the board was in Portland two weeks ago, a committee of strikers was given a hearing and on the following day the commission heard the representatives of the mill owners. The mediation board has made no definite statement since these hearings were held, and the members of the board left Portland without indicating what their action would be, if any. This situation has had a tendency to encourage the strikers, who still believe that the board will induce the companies to consent to arbitration.

In view of the strong statement of Mr. Lewthwaite, mediation can come only by insistent action on the part of the federal board, and individual members of the board indicated, while they were in Portland, that they might take up the matter, providing both sides of the controversy would agree to submit it to arbitration. The general policy of the federal mediation board has been to mediate only where it could obtain an agreement for arbitration from both sides of a labor controversy, and in view of this condition, it appears that hope of securing federal mediation in the present difficulty is rather remote.

STRIKERS AGREE TO HELP KELLER PRESERVE PEACE

Deploping any and all violence and desiring to co-operate with the officials in the enforcement of law and order, the paper mill strikers Friday appointed a special police committee to work with State Officer Joe Keller.

The union men further instituted a plan of furnishing picket identification cards to their members on picket duty. Under this scheme all union men doing night picketing will carry authorization cards from union headquarters which will identify them at all times when accosted by the officials. The union men feel that this measure is one for their own protection, so that the responsibility of the activities of their men may be centered and that acts by those outside of the union and unauthorized by the organization can be taken care of in the proper manner.

The officials will demand these cards after twelve o'clock at night, and unauthorized persons, and those who are unable to give a satisfactory explanation of their appearance on the streets will be sent on their way or arrested on vagrancy charges. The scheme meets the approval of both the officials and strikers as it is rumored that outsiders, unaffiliated with either the union or the strike-breakers, have been hanging about the city, lured by the news that a strike was in progress.

The union men say they are perfectly willing to assume responsibility for their pickets, who will be carefully selected each day, but they do not feel they should be held responsible for the acts of unknown loiterers.

Officer Keller stated Friday evening that his policy was not to interfere in any way with the picketing and that he would not ask that the unions limit the number of pickets. "As long as the union boys give them identification cards and choose responsible men for the task, they need fear no interference from our department," said Mr. Keller. "The new plan applies only at nights and will be invoked to keep irresponsible and unaffiliated loiterers from getting themselves and the unions into disrepute."

HOWELL LOSES \$1800 TO CAPTAIN HOSFORD OVER LAND TRANSFER

A verdict for \$1800 damages was returned in the circuit court Tuesday evening, after a two hours' deliberation of the case of Bertha M. Hosford vs. Anna Howell and E. M. Howell.

The complaint asked for \$5175.96 damages by reason of fraudulent representations claimed to have been made by E. M. Howell, of Oregon City, to Captain Hosford of Portland, at the time of an exchange of property between the two. Howell is said to have represented there were 32 1/2 acres of land in the tract he sold to the Hosfords lying along the banks of the Clackamas river on the Baker's ferry road. A subsequent survey showed the land contained but 27 acres. Howell, in his defense, set up a counter claim alleging misrepresentations on the part of Hosford as to certain Portland property that went in on the exchange.

The case was bitterly fought before Judge Bagley of Hillsboro. J. E. Hedges and O. W. Eastham represented the defendants while John F. Logan of Portland and H. E. Cross acted for the plaintiffs.

MEMBERS OF PAPER MILL STRIKE MEDIATION BOARD AND GOVERNOR, WHO APPOINTED THEM



Governor Withycombe



Circuit Judge J. U. Campbell



County Judge H. S. Anderson



District Attorney Gilbert L. Hedges.

Port of Umpqua will levy new tax to extend jetty.

Batesville, Baker county, is new saw-mill town grown up in a year.