

## WILSON IS BLAMED FOR OUTLAW STRIKE

Failure to Organize Railroad Wage Board Criticized.

### SENATE ORDERS INQUIRY

Action of Switchmen to Be Fully Investigated With View to Appeal to the Public.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, April 9.—Accepting the viewpoint that the outlaw railroad switchmen's strike is due to the failure of President Wilson to name the railroad wage board provided for in the Cummins-Esch railroad bill, the senate today instructed the senate interstate commerce committee to make an investigation of the "outlaw railroad strike" now in progress.

The action was taken on the resolution introduced yesterday by Senator McCormick of Illinois. Senator Cummins will proceed to bring the matter before his committee at once.

The investigation is not expected to yield much in the way of sociological information but is expected to provide a forum before which the matter can be aired and the public attention centered on the salient features of this unusual situation.

The purpose of the investigation is to appeal to the forum of public opinion, that intangible jury which has been successfully appealed to in previous labor disputes, like the steel strike and the coal strike.

**Congress' Purpose Shown.**  
This was the purpose of congress in providing for the railroad wage board. There is no compulsion back of the labor board's decrees. It merely provides machinery for threshing out controversies, allowing public sentiment to express itself after it has been informed.

The theory back of this provision is that after all in disputes between capital and labor, it is the public that pays. The public has, therefore, a right to be heard. Without such a hearing public opinion has no chance to express itself, since it is uninformed.

It is believed that if the facts in a labor dispute are generally and impartially made known there will never be any resort to the drastic method of the strike. In such a case the public is expected to bring to bear its influence and assert its right to be a party to the dispute. The wage board is designed to represent labor, capital and the public.

**Service Hard to Obtain.**  
The explanation obtained from administration sources in extenuation of the failure of the executive to name the board, and thereby provide a forum before which disputes can be heard, is that it is difficult to secure men who are willing to live in Chicago, where the board must conduct its hearings. This is no reflection upon Chicago as a place of residence, the statement merely noting the natural disinclination of people to change their homes.

The senate decision registers a realization of the seriousness of the labor situation. When a well-organized and highly disciplined body like the railway union strikes, it is clear that there is a savor of unrest throughout the country that might lead to evil consequences.

The frantic efforts which the labor leaders are making to call off the "outlaw" strike shows the keen realization they have of public opinion in dealing with a labor situation which so intimately affects the general public.

**Unrest Is Made Clear.**  
The reports of the speech made by Hiebert, head of the switchmen's union in Chicago, when he asked the strikers if they thought they were greater than the United States government, to be answered by a chorus of "Yes," is regarded as highly enlightening so far as the condition of unrest is concerned.

Senator McCormick said today in the senate that the investigation was the only way he knew of mobilizing public opinion to bear on a situation which would compel the men to go to work, pending arbitration of their grievances.

It was understood from the White House that the wage board would be organized soon.

The department of justice was called on the carpet today in connection with the railroad strike by Representative Cooper of Ohio, a labor organization man. Mr. Cooper called up the department and asked why the Lever act had not been used against the "outlaw" strikers. He called attention to the fact that the department had not hesitated to use the Lever act in connection with the coal strike against a well-organized body and he could not see why it could not be used in connection with the present unorganized strike.

**JERSEY HERD IS SOLD**  
Prices for Stock at Chehalis Range From \$500 to \$1000.

SAPSOP, Wash., April 9.—(Special.)—The Jersey herd of E. L. Brewster, prominent Chehalis valley dairy and agricultural farmer, has been sold. The herd was sold at public auction the early part of the week.

Prices from \$500 to \$1000 were paid for the stock. Mr. Brewster will remain in the farming business.

**JAPANESE NOT WANTED**  
Grays Harbor District Offers No Employment to Orientals.

HOGUE, Wash., April 9.—(Special.)—Gazing wistfully at the indu-

trial and agricultural resources of the Harbor district, and seeing fresh opportunities in the opening of the Quets trading station near here, Japanese of Puget Sound and Portland are making every apparent effort to colonize in these parts. The local mills make it plain that the labor supply can be filled without them. Looped-off lands here are not using them. Claim digging is beyond their employment by an ordinance that calls for American citizenship for each granted license.

A delegation of Japanese has just waited upon C. C. Pinnock and F. A. Leonard, who head the Quets trading interests. The Nipponese offered various blandishments to settle in Quets. They offered to enter the berry-raising industry with any num-

**NINE DAYS LEFT TO REGISTER!**  
Totals compiled yesterday show that Thursday was the heaviest registration day this year, with 256 names recorded. A normal registration in Multnomah county this year would be about 100,000. To reach this goal it is necessary for more than 1200 persons to register daily before the closing of the books April 29. Suburban registration offices will close next Monday.

All persons must register who have not voted in one of the past three elections or who have changed their address since last registration. The main registration office is on the first floor of the courthouse, Fifth and Salmon streets. It is open every week day from 8 A. M. to 5 P. M.

**Totals Announced Yesterday.**

Male	Female	Total	
Republicans	37,904	24,068	61,972
Democrats	12,184	8,505	20,689
Other parties	2,552	1,855	4,407
Grand total			87,068
Increase over preceding day			926

ber of growers and pickers—men, women and children. And they explained their coming would be an asset in opening a big truck-raising industry here. It was, however, explained the local labor supply was abundant.

### POTATO FAMINE LOOMING

CALIFORNIA SUPPLY REPORTED SERIOUSLY SHORT.

Indications Also Are for Light Plantings This Spring and Scarcity Next Season.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 9.—(Special.)—San Francisco and California are facing a potato famine.

With the potato supply 25 per cent less than at this time last year, indications today were that there would be a scarcity of potatoes the coming season.

Two reasons have been advanced for the shortage—one that there will be a light crop; second, that the acreage planted this year is far below that of 1919.

State Market Director Daniels, after making a survey of the supply in the state, issued a proclamation today urging extreme conservation. Retail potato prices, following an increase in the wholesale market Wednesday, jumped Thursday to approximately 85 cents a pound.

Daniels does not believe that there will be any price reduction within the next 30 days.

Yesterday's survey of the potato situation revealed less than 200,000 sacks of potatoes in the state. Of this amount from 25 to 50 per cent must be saved for seed. There are but 57,000 sacks of potatoes in San Francisco today, compared with 91,500 sacks at this time last year. The situation in Los Angeles was a trifle better, there being 65,250 sacks on hand, as against 65,300 of last year. At Sacramento there are but 38,000 bags and at Stockton 65,745.

Making the situation more critical is the fact that there was little or no movement in potatoes this week. Only 29 cars arrived from Oregon. Reports from all points in the United States indicate a dearth of spuds.

**\$403,825 Collected in Taxes.**

KALAMA, Wash., April 9.—(Special.)—During February and March taxes for 1919 amounting to \$403,825.41 were collected in Cowlitz county. The largest payments were made by the Weyerhaeuser Timber company, more than \$109,000, and the Northern Pacific Railway company, more than \$54,000. County Treasurer L. P. Brown has remitted to the state \$30,294.75, which is \$20,000 more than ever before sent in by this county for a month's collection of state taxes.

S. & H. Green stamps for cash. Holman Fuel Co. Main 353. 560-21. —Adv.

## Two Great Specials for Saturday

Regular \$20 and \$22.50  
Wearpledge Suits for Boys and Skolny Suits for Boys  
**\$16.85**

including every boy's suit in stock at these two prices. The best boys' suits in America! —Second Floor.

400 Dozen Men's Woven Madras SHIRTS  
Regularly \$3.50, \$4.00, \$4.50  
**\$2.95**

Three Shirts for \$8.50

The newest spring patterns and colorings, direct to me from New York! Offered for less than manufacturers' present price! —Main Floor.

### Ben Selling

Leading Clothier Morrison at Fourth

## STARTING TODAY "THE COPPERHEAD"

WITH LIONEL BARRYMORE  
A Paramount Artcraft Picture

The first of the big productions on the new Columbia programme.



Serving the land he loved, he lost his freedom—his wife; his son; the respect of decent men. Thus Milt Shanks lived for the cause that others died for—and suffered more than they. (When Barrymore played "The Copperhead" on the stage men and women wept like children—and arose from their seats and cheered.)

## EXTRA!! LARRY SEMON

in "THE FLY COP," the Season's Fastest Comedy.

NOTE:—Owing to the tremendous cost of these super-specials, it has been decided to concentrate them all at the Columbia, where they will be shown at the lowest possible admission. You are assured of seeing the moment's greatest picture productions—always.

### ADMISSIONS

TO 5 P. M. Adults, including tax... 25c  
Children, including tax, 10c  
(These prices are the same as they have been.)

AFTER 5 P. M. AND SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS  
Adults, Balcony, including tax... 35c  
Adults, Lower Floor, including tax, 50c  
Children, including tax... 10c

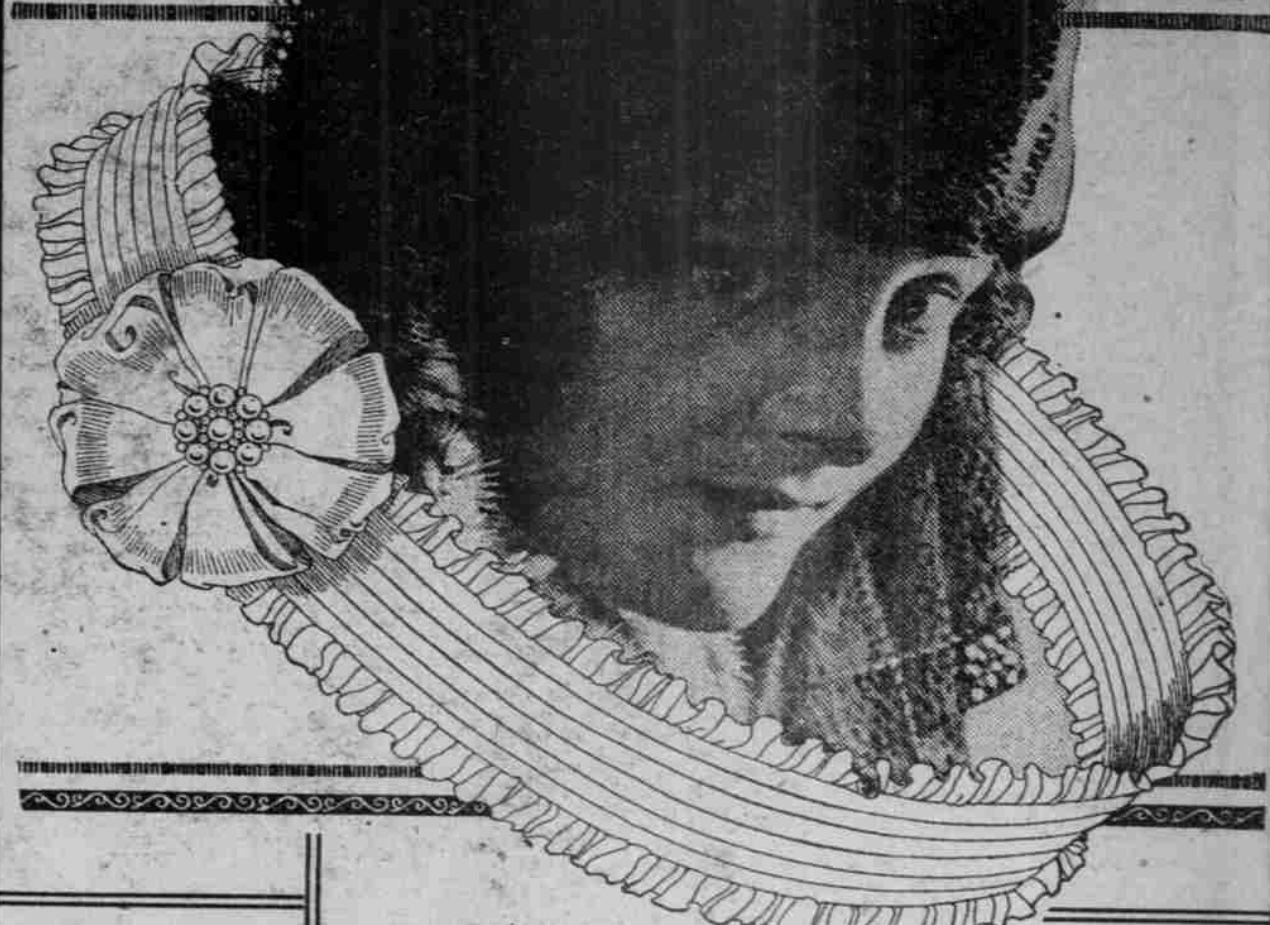
### COLUMBIA ORCHESTRA

Director Knowles has prepared a dandy score for this



ORCHESTRA MATINEE DAILY AT 2:30 P. M.

## MAURICE TOURNEUR "MY LADY'S GARTER"



ALSO Screen Magazine Sayings of Wit Pictorial Revue "Bud and Susie" (The funniest Cartoon comedy on the screen.)

A silken garter lost by a gay court beauty who lived and loved centuries ago—  
What has that to do with a nine days' gossip fest in New York's "Upper Ten" in 1920?  
How could that entangle a young society bud in a maze of mystery, blackmail, robbery and romance that will keep you tingling for an hour and a half?

### MURTAGH'S CONCERT

12:30 Tomorrow

"Afghanistan" Oriental  
"Dusky" Duet  
Songs of Portland Composers  
"Twilight"  
"Eyes of You"  
"Roulette"  
"Coco"  
"Tango"  
"Mendelssohn"  
"Bartolomeo"  
"Gillette"  
"Long Time Ago"  
"Not So Long Ago"  
and Today



THEY'RE OFF! TODAY FOR ONE BIG WEEK!  
THE BIG EVENT OF THE YEAR



Alice Joyce IN THE FAMOUS DRURY LANE MELODRAMA "THE SPORTING DUCHESS"

SPARKLING—RADIANT SPECTACULAR  
A Magnificent, Colorful Production, Alive With Thrills and Heart-Interest—  
With the Great Horse-Race Scene at the Climax  
Peoples  
PELZ AND THE PEOPLES ORCHESTRA