FREIGHT CONGESTION BEGINNING TO BREAK

Accumulation of Cars Is Reported Reduced.

ATTACK NOT DIMINISHED

Terminal Committees Organized at 30 Railroad Centers to Keep Commission Informed.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 24.—The freight jam was declared tonight to be slowly yielding to the efforts concentrated on the mass of cars which was closing the country's railroad yards.

Reports to the American railroad association's car service committee showed a reduction in car accumulation from 269,000 on April 24 to less than 170,000 last Friday.

While the battle by no means has been won, railroad officials said indications of improvement were strong enough to substantiate the belief that the peak of the congestion had passed.

Data on Cars Prepared.

The car service committee's reports showed the number of cars accumulated at the important terminals on various dates for the past 30 days to have been: April 24, 269,000; May 1, 255,000; May 8, 201,000; May 14, 184,000, and May 21, 170,000.

The figures also disclosed that on April 2, just prior to the unauthorized strike of switchmen, 33,000 cars constituted the congestion. In 22 days it rose to 290,000, the highest mark in history.

Efforts of the interstate commerce commission to speed the work were not diminished in any manner today.

Terminal Committees Formed.

Local organizations to be known as terminal committees were formed today at 30 leading railroad centers and were instructed to keep the commission informed of their problems. Carrying out the commission's order for a great exchange of equipment—coal cars east and grain cars west—is to begin tomorrow.

A principal benefit from action of the local groups formed today is expected by road officials to result from delaying shipments of non-essential commodities.

Belief was expressed that work of the committees would remove the necessity of embargoes.

FRANK C. BELL DROWNED

Accident Happens at Horseshoe Falls on Lewis River.

VANCOUVER, Wash., May 24.—(Special.)—Frank C. Bell, 25 years old, was drowning when fishing at Horseshoe Falls on the north fork of Lewis river, yesterday. It is thought he started to walk across the crest of the falls and lost his footing on the slippery rocks and was carried into the whirlpool below.

A party composed of Bell, his brother-in-law, C. E. Stirton, and R. C. Wilson, left here Saturday and camped all night at the falls. The latter two started back about noon and called to Bell, who had crossed to the other side to fish. He did not answer but in a short time they saw his hat floating on the water. Wilson got a glimpse of the body in the water and dived in to recover it, but had difficulty himself in getting out. The body was recovered about 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. Bell was a driver of a truck for the Central planing mill, and was born in Hurton, Kan. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Bell, reside here; his brother, Ben D. Bell, in Sharon Springs, Kan., and two sisters, Mrs. C. E. Stirton and Mrs. T. A. Rafferty, in Roseburg, Or.

GUESTS BREAK FURNITURE

Restaurant Proprietor Estimates Damages at $1000.

Jack Kapich and Dan Kirgo were arrested last night and charged with being drunk and disorderly on complaint of Amet Beco, proprietor of a restaurant at 265 Couch street. Beco says the pair got into a fight in his restaurant and broke up $1000 worth of furniture.

The fight, according to Beco, was begun because he told the two customers to make less noise. He says they chased him out of the room and then smashed 15 chairs, the coffee urn, the gas plate and a lot of dishes. The police say $1000 is a very high valuation on the damage. Kapich obtained his release on bail, and later was rearrested and accused of returning to the restaurant and starting another row. His bail on the second charge was fixed at $5000.

At the Theaters.

Pantages.

WILLA HOLT WAKEFIELD towers at the top of a sparkling new bill at Pantages. Long a favorite in eastern vaudeville circles, Miss Wakefield has come occasionally to Portland and invariably she leaves happy memories. She is a wholesome, charming woman who puts meaning into songs. Seated at the piano Miss Wakefield ripples melodies along the keys while she interprets the song words. One of her best is a darky song, a quaint human mother note expressed in fond questionings of a darky youngster. One almost visualizes the ebon mite as Miss Wakefield portrays the mother singing. Another song has a local value, inasmuch as a Portland boy, unknown to Miss Wakefield, composed it. She has sung it widely for four years with great success. It is a memory of a waltz told in beautiful poetry set to good music and Miss Wakefield gives additional values. She still sings her famous "Kiss on the Stairs" and has a clever new treatment of the hired help question. An artistic treat is Willa Holt Wakefield, and would there were more like her in vaudeville.

A very clever maid is Emily Walters, pretty and talented, who makes sounds in her throat so exactly like a crying baby that the youngsters in the audience yelled or crowed responses and almost broke up the keen ventriloquial act sponsored by the charming Emily and her tall husband, Walter Walters. They have departed from the hackneyed in ventriloquial offerings and put across a natural meeting in a park, with the two dummy youngsters amazingly real, not over precocious but just funny. The baby's crying is uncanny in genuineness.

Carlita sings operatic arias in a big dramatic soprano while her partner, Dick Lewis, emphasizes the jazz in happy contrast set to comedy. Carlita's gowns are colorful and smart.

Ada Gordon is a cute little trick who dances nicely while her partner, Charles Nevins, chats or sings. Their act is novel in its scenic arrangement, depicting an old wishing well out of which Nevins draws the acrobatic Miss Gordon, who proceeds immediately to demonstrate her genius.

William R. Abram and Agnes John return with their dramatic comedy episode, "The Unexpected Witness," which is interesting and well acted as originally. They are both clever enough, however, and the lines of sufficient interest to eliminate a display of vulgarity when Miss Abrams takes off her shoe and puts her foot in the lawyer's face while he fights presumably for air. The event is disgusting and won applause only from people who would do the same thing. The sketch is good on its own merits.

The closing act is so good that the audience remained seated through the final curtain. Usually the audience is half way up the aisles in the middle of the last act, especially if it's one of those dreary girl musical comedies, devoid of girls, music or comedy.

This act is a satire on the movies with two excellent comedians, Billy Kelly and Boyd Warren, to shoulder and step the responsibilities. It is well put on and full of laughs.

The dozenth episode in the thrilling film life of Jack Dempsey the pugilist is on.

For joy
—relish
—invigoration
VIRGINIA DARE WINE
De-alcoholized
Gives Lasting Satisfaction
MASON EHRMAN & CO. Distributors, Portland.

MR. BUCHTEL APPOINTED

COMMISSIONER HEADS GATEWAY COMMITTEE.

Purpose of Body Is to Relieve Car Shortage; Personnel Is Complete.

SALEM, Or., May 24.—(Special.)—Fred G. Buchtel, chairman of the Oregon public service commission, tonight was named representative of that body on what will be known as the Portland gateway committee, authorized by the interstate commerce commission.

The interstate commerce commission is clothed with emergency powers under the car service section of the transportation act, and the Portland gateway committee will act in an advisory capacity for this district.

An informal conference of the committee was held in Portland late this afternoon, and it is expected that other similar meetings of the body will be held frequently in the future.

A telegram authorizing the appointment of a member of the Oregon public service commission on the gateway committee was received from the interstate commerce commission by Mr. Buchtel today.

Gateway committees have been authorized in all large cities of the country by the interstate commerce commission. In Portland the committee is now complete, consisting of Mr. Buchtel, representing the public service commission; A. Winters, the interstate commerce commission; H. M. Huston, of the Spokane, Portland & Seattle railway, the railroads; J. H. Lathrop, of the Portland Traffic and Transportation association, the general business interests.

The committee will consider means of relieving the car shortage.

SHOE RETAILERS ELECT

Annual Meeting and Dance Is Held at Benson Hotel.

The annual meeting of the Oregon Retail Shoe Dealers' association was held yesterday at the Benson hotel and was followed by a dance for all clerks of Portland stores and their families.

Officers elected were: President, W. E. McIlheny; first vice-president, H. Brock; second vice-president, F. Brazelton; secretary-treasurer, J. G. Caldwell; directors, John Zingelman, J. B. Littler, Salem; T. D. Gordon, Marshfield, and Charles V. Brown, Astoria. Will A. Knight, retiring president, will be chairman of the board of directors.

DUTCH MAID HAS ACT WITH SCENES LAID IN NATIVE LAND.

Ada Gordon.

With her auburn hair, her quaint little accent and her odd personality, Ada Gordon looks quite the part of the Dutch miss she plays in "A Holland HMalloween" at Pantages this week.

Miss Gordon is really a Netherlands maid and the name Gordon is one she has assumed since coming to the United States, where her own might be considered too clumsy for press agent's billing. It was Miss Gordon's idea to use the land of dykes and windmills for the act, and her art is shown in the success of the production.

JOHNSON ANSWERS RADICALISM CHARGE

Attitude Toward Profiteering Defined.

"JUST TAXES" ADVOCATED

End of Extortionate Profits and 100 Per Cent Service From Officials, Among Demands.

NEW YORK, May 24. — Senator Johnson of California, republican presidential candidate, in an address here tonight defined his attitude toward profiteering, urged that wealthy corporations be subjected to "just taxes" in proportion to those of small merchants, and replied to the charge that he is a radical.

"Had I the power I would endeavor to prevent extortionate profits in the necessaries of life, and I would search for means to subject to just taxation the immensely wealthy corporations which by means of stock dividends divide half a billion untaxed as income," he declared. "This is a part of my radicalism.

"If it be radical to demand 100 per cent service from public officials," he said, "and to insist on justice and decency and righteousness in government; if it be radical to preach that humanity should have equal consideration with property and demand that both be equally protected and conserved; if it be radical not only to guard what man has acquired, but to bring whenever possible a little of God's sunlight into the lives of men, women and children; if it be radical to demand that rich and poor, high and low, big and little, alike, obey the law; if it be radical to insist that great corporations pay the same tax as small merchants; if it be radical to fight with all that is in you, that common folks may have the blessing of democracy as well as powerful privilege; if it be radical to scourge the invisible government from government's temple and to make the state, as California was made, a state for all its people; if it be radical to oppose the suppression of legitimate free speech and peaceful, lawful assembly, and to uphold with all your strength the constitution and bill of rights; if it be radical to preserve this great nation from the wiles and pitfalls of European and Asiatic diplomacy; if it be radical to resist with all your power the impairment of the republic's sovereignty, the destruction of its national policy and perversion of its spirit; if finally, it be radical to be just American—then I admit the charge and accept the challenge."

MARION DOWNS MILLAGE

COUNTY VOTES AGAINST BILL FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.

Measure Providing Aid for Ex-Service Men Defeated; Other Proposals Carry.

SALEM, Or., May 24.—(Special.)—Marion country, true to form and consistent with its vote at previous elections on measures carrying financial appropriations or taxes, is believed to be the only county in the entire state that went on record at Friday's special election against the millage measure for the support and maintenance of the higher educational institutions. The vote on this measure was: For, 4369; against, 5020.

The measure providing financial aid for the soldiers, sailors and marines also went down to defeat in Marion county by a vote of 4859 to 4267.

The 2-mill tax measure for the support and maintenance of the elementary schools of the state carried in Marion county by a vote of 5581 to 3843. The success of this bill, it is believed, was due to the efforts of W. M. Smith, county school superintendent, and J. A. Churchill, state superintendent of schools. These men visited practically every voting precinct in the county and the latter official made as many as 40 addresses in favor of the measure.

In Salem a slight majority was given the higher educational tax measure, but this lead was wiped out in the rural districts.

The blind school tax measure, capital punishment, limitation road measure, Crook and Curry county bonding act, and the bill giving the state eminent domain over roads and ways all carried in Marion county.

Because practically all of the state institutions are located in Salem, coupled with the fact that, Willamette university is located here, friends of the university, agricultural college and state normal are disappointed over the vote on the measure providing more funds for these institutions.

GYMNASIUM BIDS OPENED

Astoria School Board to Report to Taxpayers Tonight.

ASTORIA, Or., May 24.—(Special.)—The building committee of the school board today opened bids for erection of the proposed new high school gymnasium. The lowest bids received on construction, heating and plumbing show that the structure will cost $54,562, aside from the equipment, which will cost approximately $10,000. The bids were taken under advisement by the board, which will submit its report with recommendations to the meeting of taxpayers to be held tomorrow night.

Five bids were received on construction, that of C. G. Palmberg, $45,231, being the lowest. The other bids were: Roy O. Powers, Portland, $54,251; Rohoul & Cook., $58,000; Ostrom Construction company, $54,000; Henry Nieml, $47,650.55.

HOTEL ADDITION READY

Housing Problem at Ridgefield Is Rendered Less Acute.

RIDGEFIELD, Wash., May 24—(Special.)—The $10,000 addition to the Hotel Ridgefield is completed. This makes the hotel a modern structure and one of the best in the county and the owner, Mr. Moxen, is justly proud of it. This hotel has been needed for some time past as the housing problem here has been acute. Carpenters and workmen are coming into the town in swarms and heretofore there has been no place for them to stay.

WOOD 'JOSHES' VON PAPEN

General Says Story Told by Former Attache is "Canard."

CHICAGO, May 24.—Captain Franz von Papen, military attache at Washington prior to American entry into the war, was being "joshed" when he was told by Major General Leonard Wood, then commander of the eastern department of the army at New York, that the United States had complete plans of Von Papen's alleged plot to attack New York from U-boats.

"A canard" was General Wood's characterization today of Von Papen's story as told in Associated Press dispatches from Berlin last night, that he had been called to Governor's Island to be told about the "discovery" of his plot.

"I never called any attache to Governor's Island and had no authority to do so," General Wood said. "I don't remember the incident Von Papen refers to, though it is possible he may have been 'joshed' about the numerous spy plot stories that were circulating at that time."

HIGHER RATES GRANTED

ELECTRIC COMPANY WILL GET INCREASED REVENUE.

Corporation Furnishes Power in Three Counties, Serving Cities of La Grande and Baker.

SALEM, Or., May 24.—(Special.)—The Oregon public service commission, in an order issued today, granted in part the application of the Eastern Oregon Power company for the establishment of a new rate schedule for electric current, with cancellation of all contracts not now conforming to these charges, and reduced the prompt payment discount on lighting bills from 10 to 5 per cent.

"This rate," says the order, "will cause but little change for the general power customers. Those of long hour use will obtain a lesser average rate per kilowatt hour, while those using energy for a period shorter than the average will pay correspondingly increased rates.

A special irrigation rate is provided lower than the industrial power rate, upon the basis that irrigation service, as long as it does not require plant capacity in excess of that required by the normal winter load for industrial service, is a by-product service.

The new rates will return the corporation only a slight increase in its revenues. The corporation furnishes electric power in Baker, Grant and Union counties, serving among others the cities of La Grande and Baker.

PRICE WARNING ISSUED

New York Banker Says Rapid Drop May Prove "Painful."

CLEVELAND, O., May 24.—Current price reductions are not due to over production, in the opinion of F. H. Sisson, vice-president of the Guaranty Trust company of New York, who warned against too rapid deflation of credits in an address before the eighth annual convention of the Association of Reserve City Bankers today.

"Those who are clamoring for a rapid fall in prices," he said, "should bear in mind that drastic deflation will mean painful economic adjustment, of which widespread unemployment and business distress would be features.

"The average man should remember that there is not much advantage in being able to buy twice as much for a dollar if he does not have the dollar."

JOHNSON IS IN LEAD

(Continued From First Page.)

Hotchkiss		39,775
Lockwood		37,633
Robb		35,857
Hendee		30,029
Ivanhoe		28,670

Incomplete Figures on President.

Counties—	Johnson.	Wood.
Baker	650	369
Benton*	602	1,570
Clackamas	3,057	1,758
Clatsop	1,843	909
Columbia	700	477
Coos*	1,292	677
Crook	85	153
Deschutes*	518	449
Douglas	850	987
Gilliam	68	83
Grant	60	31
Harney	42	22
Hood River	201	591
Jackson*	891	1,389
Jefferson*	221	99
Josephine*	617	423
Klamath	559	173
Lake	101	30
Lane	2,004	2,656
Lincoln*	395	565
Linn*	1,124	1,350
Malheur	67	218
Marion*	3,102	3,148
Morrow	188	208
Multnomah	16,922	15,800
Polk*	538	1,050
Sherman**	152	283
Tillamook	615	805
Umatilla*	878	1,342
Union	701	474
Wallowa*	452	393
Wasco	830	777
Washington*	1,321	1,246
Wheeler	159	156
Yamhill*	859	1,435
Total	42,864	41,911

*Complete unofficial; **official.

Refinery Plant Damaged.

CUSHING, Okla., May 24.—Damage estimated at $200,000 was caused by fire today at the plant of the Inland Refinery company here.

RATE RISE HELD NO LIVING COST LIFTER

Advances in Freight Argued Before Commission.

REVENUES ARE CRITICISED

Request for Billion-Dollar Increase in Income Declared Not for Likely Pay Rises.

WASHINGTON, May 24.—Belief that advances in freight rates to provide the more than a billion dollars additional revenue asked by the railroads would not increase the cost of living was expressed by spokesmen for the carriers in opening their case today before the interstate commerce commission.

"Nothing I know of," said Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, "would reduce the cost of living so much as the prompt and speedy transportation of goods." He added that the revenues asked as necessary to provide the 6 per cent return guaranteed by the government in the transportation act would enable the carriers to purchase sufficient equipment to move commodities now unable to reach a market.

Wage Rises Not Considered.

Frederick Strauss, New York, declared a 50 or 60 per cent increase in freight rates would have no appreciable effect on the movement to bring down living costs.

Questioning of Howard Elliott of the general rate committee of the Association of Railway Executives, who presented the introductory testimony for the carriers, developed that the additional billion dollars requested is not regarded by the railroads as covering wage increases estimated at more than a billion dollars annually, included in demands presented to the railroad labor board.

Mr. Willard made the initial presentation of testimony for the eastern group of railroads, which are asking an increase of 30.4 per cent in rates to produce about $550,000,000.

Weak Securities Are Cited.

Mr. Strauss contended for higher rates as necessary to bolster up the weakened market for railroad securities.

Cross-examination of the carriers' witnesses was conducted by representatives of the shippers.

Asked regarding the advisability of raising passenger rates, Mr. Willard declared it his opinion that the public would rather have the increase in freight.

Opposition to any rate increases was expressed by C. H. Cowan, representing the Texas Cattle Growers' association. Cattlemen are against any rise in rates for profits, he declared.

Revenues of the eastern railroads must be increased by approximately $550,000,000 annually as a minimum if they are to be placed on anything like a sound financial basis, Mr. Willard told the commission. He argued that the commission should consider the property invesement accounts of the railroads as the basis for determining the valuations of the roads to authorize rates to yield 6 per cent. He declared that even with increase rates this country would have the lowest rates in the world.

Rise in Income Held Needed.

Gross earnings of the railroads in the eastern group for the year ending October 31, 1919, were in excess of $2,575,000,000, he said, but it cost the roads about 88 per cent of the gross earnings for operation, which left a net income of $220,000,000. But, he said, if the roads had been obliged to pay during the entire year the wages and prices now in effect they would have had a net income of only $18,000,000, or barely more than expenses on properties representing an investment of over $3,365,000,000.

"If we may assume that the railroads ought to operate on a basis not higher than 75 per cent," he continued, "if they ought as sound business concerns to have a net income equal to 25 per cent of the gross earnings, to apply for capital purposes and other corporate obligations, then on the basis of last year's business and operating with the same measure of efficiency, the eastern roads would require an increase in income, to be derived from higher rates, of about $544,000,000, and that is the amount the eastern carriers have asked the commission to grant in the shape of increased rates."

LABOR DEMANDS ALL DATA

Copies of Statistics Presented to Commission Wanted.

CHICAGO, May 24.—A demand that the committee representing the railroads in the hearing being conducted by the railroad labor board on the employes' demands for increased wages be compelled to furnish employes with copies of all statistics presented was made today by the employes' representatives.

The demand was made, it was said, "to prevent inaccuracies concerning the wages now received from creeping into the minutes." E. T. Whiter, chairman of the committee representing the Association of Railway Executives, which is presenting a reply to the demands of increased wages, agreed "to furnish the employes' representatives with copies of all testimony presented and to inform them of the source of such information."

The demand came after Mr. Whiter had attacked demands of the railroad clerks for higher wages on the ground it would be unjust to many men and to the roads to grant a blanket increase.

"While many of these men merit consideration, it would be unfair to grant a geenral increase affecting all of them," he said. "Fully one-half of these clerks are from 18 to 23 years of age and receive good pay considering their age and experience."

Mr. Whiter said the average pay for junior clerks was $87.50 a month, that the proposed wage increase would bring their pay to an average of $128.30 a month. During the past five years they have received increases of from 74 to 130 per cent, he said.

Mr. Whiter also raised the question of the board's authority to grant increases retroactive to any date prior to March 1, when the transportation act creating the board was effective.

CHILD SERIOUSLY INJURED

Collision Occurs Because Driver Turns Car Wrong Way.

EUGENE, Or., May 24.—(Special.)—Eleanor, the 2-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Hayes, living on a farm west of this city, was badly injured in an automobile collision on the highway just out of Eugene Sunday and Charles Lubbe of San Francisco, whose automobile collided with the one being driven by Mr. Hayes, was today sued for $10,000 damages on account of the child's injury.

The little girl is said to be near the point of death at the Mercy hospital here. It is alleged that as Mr. and Mrs. Hayes and their children were driving to Eugene, Mr. Lubbe in meeting them turned to the left, while they turned to the right and the cars came together with great force. Both cars were put out of commission and while Mr. Lubbe was here getting his car repaired summons in the damage suit was served on him.

HIGHWAY ENGINEER TALKS

Commission Will Refuse to Lay Pavement on New Grades.

SALEM, Or., March 24.—(Special.)—Hereafter the state highway commission will refuse to lay pavement on new grades, according to a statement made by Herbert Nunn, state highway engineer, in the course of an address at a luncheon of Salem business men here tonight.

Mr. Nunn reviewed the road programme in Oregon from its inception and deplored the fact that many truck owners were attempting to conduct a railroad business on paved highways. This, he said, should be prohibited by legislation.

PLANE PICKED UP AT SEA

Air and Sea Boat Found Upside Down Off Scotland Lightship.

NEW YORK, May 24.—A hydro-airplane marked "Number 826" was picked up at sea today off Scotland lightship by the steam pilot boat New York.

The hydro-airplane was upside down and there were no traces of any occupants.

Contract Let for School.

THE DALLES, Or., May 24.—(Special.)—Contract for a $19,800 modern school building for Mosier has been let to the Baldwin-Swope Construction company of Hood River. The new school building will be one story with basement. It will have six rooms and will be equipped with the most up-to-date fixtures.

"Tom says he doesn't know which he likes best—me, or the candy I make with CRIMSON RAMBLER MELOMAR SYRUP

You save sugar and invariably improve your recipe by substituting Melomar—
—*you'll be surprised!*

You can get the Crimson Rambler Recipe Cabinet by sending us a Crimson Rambler Label and 10c.

Conner & Co.
Portland, Or.

Every drop POWER-FULL

"Red Crown" is all-refinery gasoline—with full power in every drop. It is made to meet the requirements of your engine.

"Red Crown" has the full and continuous chain of boiling points necessary for ready starting, quick and smooth acceleration, steady, dependable power and long mileage. Look for the "Red Crown" sign before you fill.

STANDARD OIL COMPANY
(California)

RED CROWN GASOLINE

Demand for Gasoline Increasing Faster than Supply

Owing to the increasing use of motor cars, trucks, tractors, motor boats and other devices operated with gasoline engines, the demand for gasoline is growing faster than the supply. Do what you can to conserve gasoline; waste none.

The Gasoline of Quality

Every Woman

Be she working in factory, shop, office or at home, is often a sufferer from pains here or there, from worry, despondency, and frequently suffers from backache. Very often the trouble is in the organs essentially feminine. Worry, sleepless nights, headaches, pains, disorders, irregularities and weaknesses of a distinctly feminine character in a short time bring the dull eye, the "crow's feet," the haggard look, drooping shoulders and the faltering step. To retain the appearance of youth, a woman must retain health. Instead of lotions, powders and paints ask your druggist for Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. This is the woman's temperance tonic and nervine which has had the approval of thousands of women for the past 50 years. It comes in liquid or tablet form, or send ten one-cent stamps to the Invalids' Hotel, Buffalo, N. Y., for trial package of the tablets. The "Favorite Prescription" is made without alcohol, and will dispel the pains and the weaknesses common to most women in different periods of life.

ANACORTES, WASH.—"I had organic trouble for a long time. I suffered from backache and those heavy bearing pains, and my blood was in bad condition. I had no appetite and was generally run-down. I used Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription in connection with the 'Golden Medical Discovery' and Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets, and was completely cured. I always recommend Dr. Pierce's medicines to all my friends."—MRS. A. KEESE, General Delivery.