

MILK PROBE TURNS FEDERAL CASE

Distributors Adopt "Watchful Waiting" Policy.

LEAGUE CRITICISM HEARD

"Middleman" Said to Be of No Benefit and Adds Unnecessary Cost to Retail Price.

Complete investigation of the alleged control of the milk supply and price of milk is under way under the direction of United States Attorney Humphries. Upon the investigation will determine whether the milk situation will be referred to the federal grand jury.

While this investigation is progressing milk distributors in Portland are "watchfully waiting" and refusing point-blank to continue negotiations, which were under way, with officials of the Oregon Dairyman's Co-operative League. The league officials have demanded an increase in the wholesale price of milk served in Portland from \$2.20 to \$2.50 a hundredweight.

It has long been known that milk distributors in Portland have considered the Oregon Dairyman's League and the new organization known as the Oregon Agricultural Co-operative League, the latter a reorganization effected some months ago, as a sort of new middleman in the milk business.

League Held No Benefit.

Frequently distributors have made the contention privately that the league is of no benefit to the producer and adds unnecessary cost to the retail price of milk sold in Portland.

However, the distributors in most instances have been linked with the league under contract or agreement and have refused to condemn the league openly.

It is said that in some parts of California where the milk producers have been drawn into co-operative leagues these same milk producers are now returning to the old plan of handling their milk independently. In Portland it is said that about 40 per cent of the milk commission, who will be league members, and it is freely predicted that regardless of the outcome of the present case, the distributors are prepared to conduct their business in the future with non-league members.

Conference Is Held.

A. M. Work, president of the Portland-Damascus Milk Company, was called before Mr. Humphries yesterday afternoon. Mr. Work refused to comment on his conference with Mr. Humphries, although it was said that he was quizzed on his knowledge of the conduct of league affairs.

Mayor Baker explained yesterday that he would refuse to appoint any further milk commissioners who will raise prices and place the responsibility of the increase upon the city. "Commissioners to be appointed have done excellent work with the material at hand. It is too much, however, to ask business men to give up valuable time for the purpose of probing milk situations," said the mayor. "I concluded that it was a matter for the government to investigate. The United States attorney's office has all the facilities with which to gather facts, and I am certain that Mr. Humphries will go to the very bottom of the present situation."

The mayor explained that he had assured Mr. Humphries of active cooperation from the city and its officials.

FAIR TODAY'S FORECAST

PRECIPITATION FOR PORTLAND IS .85 OF AN INCH.

Downpour Is Welcomed by Fruit Growers; Grain Helped; Ripe Cherries, Cut Hay Suffer.

Generally fair weather will prevail throughout the state today, according to the forecast of the weather bureau. After 5 o'clock yesterday morning little rain fell in Portland, which was practically the center of the rain storm which continued intermittently for 24 hours.

The total rainfall here was .85 of an inch with .99 registered at Oregon City and less in the valley towns. Salem had .49, Albany .38, The Dalles .07, Roseburg .38, Marshfield .49 and Medford only a trace of rain.

The rain, which is not at all uncommon at this time of year, was welcomed by fruit growers whose crops are not ready and by owners of growing grain. Cut hay and ripe cherries were about the only crops to suffer from the downpour.

CAPTAIN I. M. HOWELL DIES

Political Leader Secretary of State of Washington 12 Years.

TACOMA, July 13.—Captain I. M. Howell, secretary of the state of Washington since 1908, and one of the best-known political leaders in the state since 1908, died here today shortly after noon.

Mr. Howell was two times elected secretary of state, and before that served as county auditor in this county. He was among the old settlers in Washington, having arrived in Tacoma with his parents in 1866 when two years of age. He was a member of the Tacoma club, the first military organization here, and for many years was prominent in the national guard, in which he rose to a captaincy.

He was born in Iowa in 1864. He is survived by a widow and son. Death came after a short illness from appendicitis.

DISORDERLY ACT CHARGED

Duo Said to Have Run Man Off Farm With Pitchforks.

Alex Zarthus and Gus Zarthus were arrested yesterday afternoon in St. Johns on a charge of committing a disorderly act by Patrolmen Billie and Roberts of the St. Johns force. The two are said to have threatened the life of H. Simmons, owner of a small farm on which they are located, with pitchforks.

Simmons told the police that he went to the farm to pick some cherries and that the two men ran him off the place.

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The police efficiency board yesterday exonerated E. B. Willard, O. A. Powell and A. W. Smith, patrolmen who had been accused by Lanka Collich, 723 Wilson street, of the theft of \$25.00 from the basement of his house during a liquor raid there on June 28.

The liquor raid was under the direction of Joseph Beeman, United States revenue officer, accompanied by the policemen, and his son, J. Horton Beeman, also a revenue officer.

No Evidence Is Found.

Following the hearing yesterday afternoon members of the board declared that there was no evidence that any of the members of the raiding party had taken the money, which was concealed beneath a step of the staircase leading into the basement. The district attorney's office was represented by Chief Deputy Hammerley. Following the hearing Mr. Hammerley said there was no evidence which would warrant his office in making a further investigation with a view to placing the matter before the grand jury.

Colich told the efficiency board that he couched his money on June 27 and that the liquor raid was on June 28. On Sunday, July 11, he said he missed the money for the first time. He immediately made a report to Chief of Police Jenkins.

Twenty Thousand Dollars Hidden.

Six men of the same nationality live in the house with Colich and each man is said to have had money concealed in the basement in various places, the aggregate amounting to about \$20,000.

The police efficiency board is composed of Chief-of-Inspector Clark, Captain Moore, Lieutenant Thatcher, Sergeant Sherwood, Inspector Graves and Patrolman Endicott.

SCHOOL TO CLOSE FRIDAY

Knights of Columbus Institution to Have Vacation.

Re-Opening to Be Shortly Before Labor Day—Civilians to Be Admitted With Veterans.

After being open for more than six months, during which time nearly 800 former soldiers, sailors and marines registered for instruction, the Knights of Columbus free evening school at 220 Grand avenue North will close its work on Friday of this week for the summer vacation period. During the rest of this month and during August there will be no classes, but those in charge will be engaged in rearranging class rooms and providing additional equipment for the school, and shortly after Labor day in September the school will again be thrown open to the ex-service men. Civilians will be admitted to the classes this fall, upon the payment of a small fee, according to the announcement of Frank J. Whalen, registrar, who returned Monday night from Chicago, where he attended a conference of registrars, principals and supervisors.

The "Classy" school system for ex-service men will be greatly enlarged throughout the Pacific coast this fall. Mr. Whalen stated, it being decided at Chicago that schools would be established in Yakima, Boise, Bellingham and eight or ten more of the middle-size cities along the coast.

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Mr. Hatfield visited more than 45 cities and towns in June, July and August, 1918. After his return to the United States he again was sent to Siberia to investigate agricultural and social conditions.

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Mr. Hatfield will leave for Seabeck Friday and will return to Portland July 26 to speak to the members of the Chamber of Commerce.

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Pickets Unmolested as They Try to Keep Patrons Away From Picture Show Houses.

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Picketing, which started Monday evening, has not made any difference in attendance at these theaters, according to box-office receipts, it was stated. Dopeman report that men and women wearing union buttons are frequently seen among those who attend the theaters. Practically all of the union organizers are back at their regular posts of duty, it was stated. Although the pickets are reported given out by union members that pickets stationed on duty before the theaters, Majestic or Columbia theaters have been annoyed by employees of Jensen & Von Herberg are arrested according to the theater managers, who announced that they had conducted an investigation.

Orders were given by Jensen & Von Herberg that the girls placed on picket duty were to be ignored by all theater employees in the event that affairs were to go on just as if the picket girls were not there. Police have been stationed near the theaters and at different times talked with both theater and union employees, but they were not called on to act as far as can be learned by the management.

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The inborn craving for sweets should be satisfied only by candies made in clean, sanitary factories, of the best and purest materials.

A visit to any of Portland's candy factories is a pleasure. Light, sunny rooms, immaculately clean; attractive workers, garbed in white; the finest of nuts, candied fruits, sugar and fresh eggs. You know then that Portland candies couldn't hurt either the kiddies or you.

Several new and delicious kinds of candies reforged in Portland are fast coming into demand the country over. Do your share to make Portland candy popular by eating it yourself, and sending boxes of it for gift purposes.

LADD & TILTON BANK
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