

McADOO OPPOSES RAIL FUNDING BILL

Disapproval Voiced in Letter to Senator.

PRESIDENT HELD MISLED

Government Not Morally or Legally Bound to Make Payment, It Is Declared.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Aug. 24.—Disapproval of the administration's railroad funding bill, recently reported to the senate interstate commerce committee, was expressed by William G. McAdoo, ex-director-general of railroads, in a letter presented to the senate today by Senator Stanley D. Dyer, Kentucky, who requested Mr. McAdoo's views after the committee refused to hear him.

The government is not "morally and legally bound," as stated by President Harding, to fund the \$722,000,000 the railroads owe the government for additions and betterments, Mr. McAdoo asserted.

He declared "the president must have been misled into making such a statement," adding that the law provides for the funding only of "the remaining indebtedness of the railroads, which he calculated at \$263,000,000."

Payment of this balance, Mr. McAdoo said, may be deferred ten years by the railroads provided satisfactory security were given and 6 per cent interest were paid.

He urged that before any further advances were made, the railroads be required to abandon the "inefficiency of labor" claims, amounting, he estimated, to about \$800,000,000.

"I suppose you realize that, in addition to the \$144,000,000 the railroads owe the government for additions and betterments, they have received additional loans under the Esch-Cummings bill of about \$200,000,000, making a total of \$1,444,000,000," Mr. McAdoo's letter said.

"Stripped of confusing non-essentials, what is now proposed is that the government shall wait ten years for \$722,000,000 and the railroads shall pay immediately \$263,000,000 to the railroads on account of improvements, etc., taking from the 180 or more railroads involved with their varying degrees of financial responsibility such securities as they may be able to provide, securities which in many instances may not be adequate to protect the government against loss."

"This is not a question of legal and moral obligation on the part of the United States to lend the railroads \$500,000,000 more for ten years. It is a question of policy and should be considered from that standpoint only."

"For the adoption of such a policy the administration must, of course, take the responsibility, but it should be candid about it. The public mind should not be lulled by figures, manipulation of accounts, or securities, or governmental agencies."

IRRIGATION RIGHT UPHOLD

HOOD RIVER VALLEY VITALLY AFFECTED BY DECISION.

Judge Declares Power Companies Must Yield to Superior Claim of Soil Tillers.

HOOD RIVER, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Circuit Judge Wilson of the Hood River today ruled in favor of the Shoenaker memorandum of a decision in an adjudication of rights to the entire watershed of Hood River, indicating that his final decision, which will follow in a few days, will, in a large measure, affirm findings of the state water board, which has been engaged for the past five years in an investigation of contests between irrigation concerns and power companies.

The litigation, which involves practically the valley's entire assessed valuation, first came before the courts eight years ago, when the Oregon Lumber company sought to restrain the east fork of Hood River, the water board, which has been engaged for the past five years in an investigation of contests between irrigation concerns and power companies.

Judge Wilson's memorandum states that the decree will allow the irrigation districts to use the water in the Hood River valley.

One of the outstanding features of the adjudication proceedings was the claim of the Pacific Power & Light company to water rights in the Hood River valley.

It is not intended, Judge Wilson said, to brush aside sweeping legal contentions of the power company.

"It is, however, thoroughly understood by everyone, attorneys and litigants, that this litigation will go to the supreme court upon appeal from this court, and if the law is to be determined differently from what this court thinks it should be, it must be done in the higher tribunal. In view of this certainty of appeal, a discussion of the many legal authorities submitted would be of no avail and would merely tend to prolixity."

Judge Wilson's findings are at marked variance with those of the water board only in the content between the Mount Hood Water company, covering upper valley lands and various other irrigation and power concerns. While the water board allows the upper valley concern an acreage of 1231 acres for irrigation, Judge Wilson cuts this to 433 acres.

The water adjudication has brought before the local court record volume of transcripts. The memorandum of decision fills 27 typewritten pages.

WATER TO BE SURVEYED

Lewiston Valley Orchardists Hold Irrigation Plant Inadequate.

BOISE, Idaho, Aug. 24.—(Special.)—W. L. Gorton, chief engineer of the public utilities commission, will leave Thursday for Lewiston to make an inspection of the irrigation system of the Lewiston Valley Water company and its service to orchardists of the district. He is being sent by the commission as the result of

urgent complaints entered by White Bros. & Crum, who operate 50 acres of orchard and alfalfa land under the system, and who allege that the crops are in a perilous condition due to the failure of the water company to comply with the commission's order given after a hearing conducted early in the year.

Evidence at that hearing showed that the pipe lines of the company were inadequate to meet the maximum demand of growers and that sufficient allowance had not been made for depreciation and upkeep during the 14 years of the company's operation. The present complaint alleges that the situation is now aggravated and will be very much worse next season unless the company is compelled to take steps for the growers' relief at once.

DEATH STORY IS REFUTED

FACTS CHANGE ASPECT OF CASE AT PENDLETON.

Statements of Eye Witnesses at Inquest Do Not Tally With Disclosures of Officials.

PENDLETON, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Facts that seem to indicate that Louis Ragains, whose dead body was found at a mountain cabin 40 miles south of Pendleton Sunday morning, did not meet his death at the hands of Jess Brunn under circumstances as told by two eye witnesses of the tragedy at an inquest here Monday were disclosed by officials who investigated the supposed scene of the crime yesterday. The theory is advanced that Ragains was killed at some point outside the cabin and his body removed to the hut and placed in position on the floor. The eye witnesses had testified that Ragains was shot within the cabin when he returned there about midnight following a quarrel with Brunn in the afternoon and that Brunn fired in self defense. Ragains was declared to have fallen in his tracks and from the position in which his dead body was found, it evidently did not move an inch after the fatal shot was fired. It was the case, however, it is declared that the distance separating him from Brunn at the time the shot was fired was close enough that powder burns would be certain to appear on the face, which was not the case.

Testimony was also introduced that Ragains reached for his gun, which stood by a window when the fatal shot was fired. From the position in which the dead man's body was found it is evident that it would have been impossible for him to reach the weapon from where he was lying. The gun was found lying beside the body when the officers arrived. The witnesses declared that Ragains was stooping over in the act of reaching for his gun when he was shot. It is thought that, had this been the case, the man would have fallen forward on his face. He was found lying on his back.

Officials are also investigating the report that stains, thought to be those made by blood, have been found on Ragains' saddle and on the shoulder of his horse, and that attempts had been made to wash these off. Ragains and his skin abrasions were found on the body of Ragains, but it is said this would not be evidence of a fight, as Ragains could receive them in his work. That a mysterious letter in a woman's handwriting might also be part in the crime was hinted today in some quarters. This letter was given to Brunn by Charles Wright as Brunn was being returned to Pendleton for incarceration in the county jail as a witness in the case. Brunn passed that being driven by Wright to the cabin where the body was found. The note is said to have been found by Wright tucked on a sapling on the trail leading to the cabin. The letter was said to be an expression of sympathy for Brunn, the writer evidently having known of the crime and of the circumstances surrounding it. Ragains' murder, it is believed, that the letter may indicate that the crime was committed before early Sunday morning.

FOREST FIRES DWINDLE

Reports Indicate Timber Losses This Season Are Small.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—H. J. Eberly, assistant state forester, left for Jackson county today, where he will pass a week inspecting the work that has been accomplished by the state fire wardens in that section of the state.

P. S. King, also an assistant in the office of the state forester, started today for Wallowa and Union counties, where he will check up on the deputy wardens.

Disastrous timber fires have been less numerous this year than for many seasons past, according to reports on file in the office of the state forester.

Houlihan High Principal Named.

HOULIHAN, Wash., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Appointment of Frank H. Winter, last year's superintendent of schools at Newport, Wash., to the position of principal of Houlihan high school, was announced today by P. E. Schmidtke, superintendent. Mr. Winter graduated from the Illinois state normal school in 1889, received his bachelor of arts degree from Hedding college, Abingdon, Ill., in history and education, and his master of arts degree at Simpson college, Iowa. Later he took post graduate work at Northwestern university and the university of Washington.

Teachers' Salaries at Stake.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Marion county school teachers who neglect to comply with the state law making it incumbent upon them to file their registration papers with the county superintendent, will run the risk of having their first month's salary held up by the directors. This was the announcement made here today, although 23 forest fires have started, the largest one burned over less than two acres. This is in remarkable contrast to the disastrous fires of a few years ago and even of the past few seasons. Almost all of this year's fires have been started by lightning. Only two fires have been left by campers.

Fugitive Gives Up.

DALLAS, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Frank Coan, the young man who escaped from jail here a few weeks ago while acting as a trustee, walked into the sheriff's office today and asked to be locked up. He had 21 days yet to serve on a 30-day sentence for theft.

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DAIL IS EXPECTED TO REJECT TERMS

Chance to Continue Negotiations to Be Left.

DE VALERA WRITES REPLY

Premier Probably Will Get Answer Today or Tomorrow at Home in Downing Street.

DUBLIN, Aug. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—The belief was expressed here tonight that the Dail Eireann answer to the proposals of Premier Lloyd George for peace in Ireland will be a refusal of the terms, but that the refusal will be followed by arguments seeking to induce Mr. Lloyd George to continue the negotiations.

The reply to Great Britain's terms for a settlement of the Irish question will be delivered at Premier Lloyd George's official residence in Downing street Thursday night or Friday morning, it was expected here. The delivery, it was thought, would precede the proposed public meeting of the Dail Eireann.

In preparation of the reply, on which Eamonn de Valera and the others were working today while the Dail Eireann was taking a recess, the cabinet has the benefit of advice from the members of the Sinn Fein executive committee, which is composed of somewhat older men than the average of the Dail membership. These men were participants in the conferences today over the terms of the reply now being framed.

COURIER TO CARRY ANSWER

Reply to Be Delivered to Premier Friday Morning.

LONDON, Aug. 24.—(By the Associated Press.)—A Sinn Fein courier will be sent from Dublin tomorrow night with the reply of the Dail Eireann to the British government's peace proposals, said a Central News dispatch from Dublin today.

The reply, it added, is to be delivered to Premier Lloyd George in London Friday morning.

SOLDIERS TO GET \$24,000

Federal Checks to Pay for Armory Drills Arrive.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—United States treasury checks aggregating more than \$24,000 were received at the offices of the adjutant-general today for distribution among Oregon citizen soldiers in payment for armory drills.

Most of these checks will be distributed in Salem, McMinnville, Silsby, Medford and Portland. Checks for national guardsmen in other sections of the state are overdue. A total of \$115,000 of federal funds have been distributed in Oregon since the first of the year. Adjutant-General White said today. The largest payroll resulted from the compensation held at Camp Lewis and Fort Stevens. More than 2400 Oregonians are on the federal military payroll, and receive regular compensation for services under the national defense act.

Hand Stripped of Flesh.

KLAMATH FALLS, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Mrs. Sarah Gowen, well-known resident, was badly injured when her right hand was caught in a electric clothes wringer this afternoon. Neighbors summoned by her screams were unable to release her and she was held for 20 minutes until a machinist arrived to take the machine apart. The hand was virtually stripped of flesh and the end of the thumb entirely severed. Dr. L. L. Truax said that he was able to replace most of the flesh and hoped with some further later to restore the hand to normal and avoid amputation.

Forest Fires Negligible.

ALBANY, Or., Aug. 24.—(Special.)—So efficient has been the organization and work of the forest service in the Santiam national forest this summer that, although 23 forest fires have started, the largest one burned over less than two acres. This is in remarkable contrast to the disastrous fires of a few years ago and even of the past few seasons. Almost all of this year's fires have been started by lightning. Only two fires have been left by campers.

Portland Suspect Held.

BOISE, Idaho, Aug. 24.—(Special.)—Paul Hayden today entered the state penitentiary to serve from two to 14 years for grand larceny of an automobile from Mrs. Viola Lawless June 15. Hayden, tried with H. Hayden, was found not guilty, but was rearrested immediately upon his dismissal upon telegraphic information from Portland stating that he was wanted there for forgery.

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5 Cloth Dresses
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17 Cloth Coats 104 Garments at \$10.00
4 Velvet Jackets
6 Flannel Jackets
55 Tailored Suits
22 Wool Jersey Dresses
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23 Tailored Suits
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DELEGATIONS TO RETURN

McARTHUR TO LEAVE ON WAY TO PORTLAND SATURDAY.

Senator McNary Plans to Start for Salem About Middle of Next Week.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., Aug. 24.—Several northwest senators and representatives will be moving toward their homes in the next few days. Representative Webster will leave tomorrow night for Spokane. Representative McArthur on Saturday for Portland, and Senator Poindexter will start home Sunday. Senator Jones will start for

Seattle the middle of next week, and Senator McNary will leave for Salem about the same time. Representatives Sinnott of Oregon and Summers of Washington are yet undecided about their return movements. Representatives French and Smith of Idaho also will go to their homes, as will Senator Gooding.

Because of an error of one letter in the name of E. K. Fritts, nominated for the office of state auditor, the register of the land office at Waterbury, Wash., President Harding had to return the nomination to the senate again today. On the previous occasion the president nominated "Elgie K. Fritts." The new nomination today carried the name of "Elgie K. Fritts." Without the correction Mr. Fritts could not have held office or continued to draw salary.

Colonel Charles R. Forbes, director of the veterans' bureau, will leave September 1 for the Pacific coast, spending two days each in Spokane,

Seattle and Portland, inspecting local offices of the bureau and gathering views of the veterans on questions of soldier relief administration.

Authority was granted the Great Northern Railway company by the in-

terstate commerce commission today to issue \$500,000 in government notes. The money is to be used in the purchase of 500 new refrigerator cars. Arrangements already have been made for the cars and many of them, it was understood, will be delivered before

the movement of the northwest fruit crop begins.

It has been estimated that only one person in 15 has perfect eyes.

Read The Oregonian classified ads

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