

INJUSTICE CHARGE HEARD IN COURT IN FRUIT HEARING

Montana Comes to Bat at Final Session With Claim Its Shippers Discriminated Against. STATE ISSUES CONFLICTING

Testimony Offered Tending to Indicate California Favored at Expense of Pacific Northwest.

Alleged discrimination in stated refrigeration and heater charges on short haul shipments of perishable freight, constituting a burden to the consumer of such commodities, featured the testimony against the proposed new perishable freight tariffs at the final session of the interstate commerce commission hearing. The hearing ended in Portland at 4 o'clock Saturday afternoon.

The charges were made by the board of railroad commissioners of the state of Montana in a document submitted in lieu of personal appearance of members of the commission. INSULT ADDED TO INJURY.

That "injury" was done Montana producers when the railroad commission ordered a 25 per cent increase in general freight rates on June 25, 1918, and that "insult" is added by the proposed increase in rates of perishable freight, was testified by the Montana body.

At the closing session Northwestern growers and shippers offered some of the most important testimony of the hearing, which started on Tuesday morning before Examiner L. R. Marshall of the interstate commerce commission. J. Curtis Robinson, appearing on behalf of the Northwest Fruit Exchange, resumed the witness chair. He was followed by R. L. Thompson, representing the King Fruit Products company of Portland. Testimony that brought the shippers and producers to attention was presented by E. S. Gill, credit manager and attorney for the Seattle Produce association.

INQUALITIES POINTED OUT

Mr. Gill pointed out what he declared to be glaring inequalities in the proposed tariffs, especially as they apply specifically to refrigeration charges, and criticized the arrangement by which California, except the Imperial valley, is put into one group in originating charges on perishable commodities.

Mr. Gill showed that California growers ship early season apples to Washington during the heated summer months at a stated refrigeration charge of \$55 a carload and that fall apples sent from Washington to California markets during the cooler months, when less ice is needed, carry a stated refrigeration charge of \$60 a car.

ARBITRATION SUGGESTED

James McCabe, representing Wenatchee interests, returned to the witness stand at his own request to suggest the appointment of a commission of three, a shipper, a representative of a carrier, and a third member selected by the first two, to settle claims arising between carriers and shippers.

Commissioner Cleland, the public service commissioner of Washington submitted an amended request for a list of Northern Pacific and Great Northern railway stockholders who are also stockholders in ice companies. The request aroused Attorney Westlake, representing the carriers, to strenuous objections, which resulted in a modification of the request. Examiner Marshall instructed the carriers to furnish only a list of officers and directors, while Mr. Westlake and it was so modified as to apply only to "live" contracts.

HIGH PRICES FOR ICE

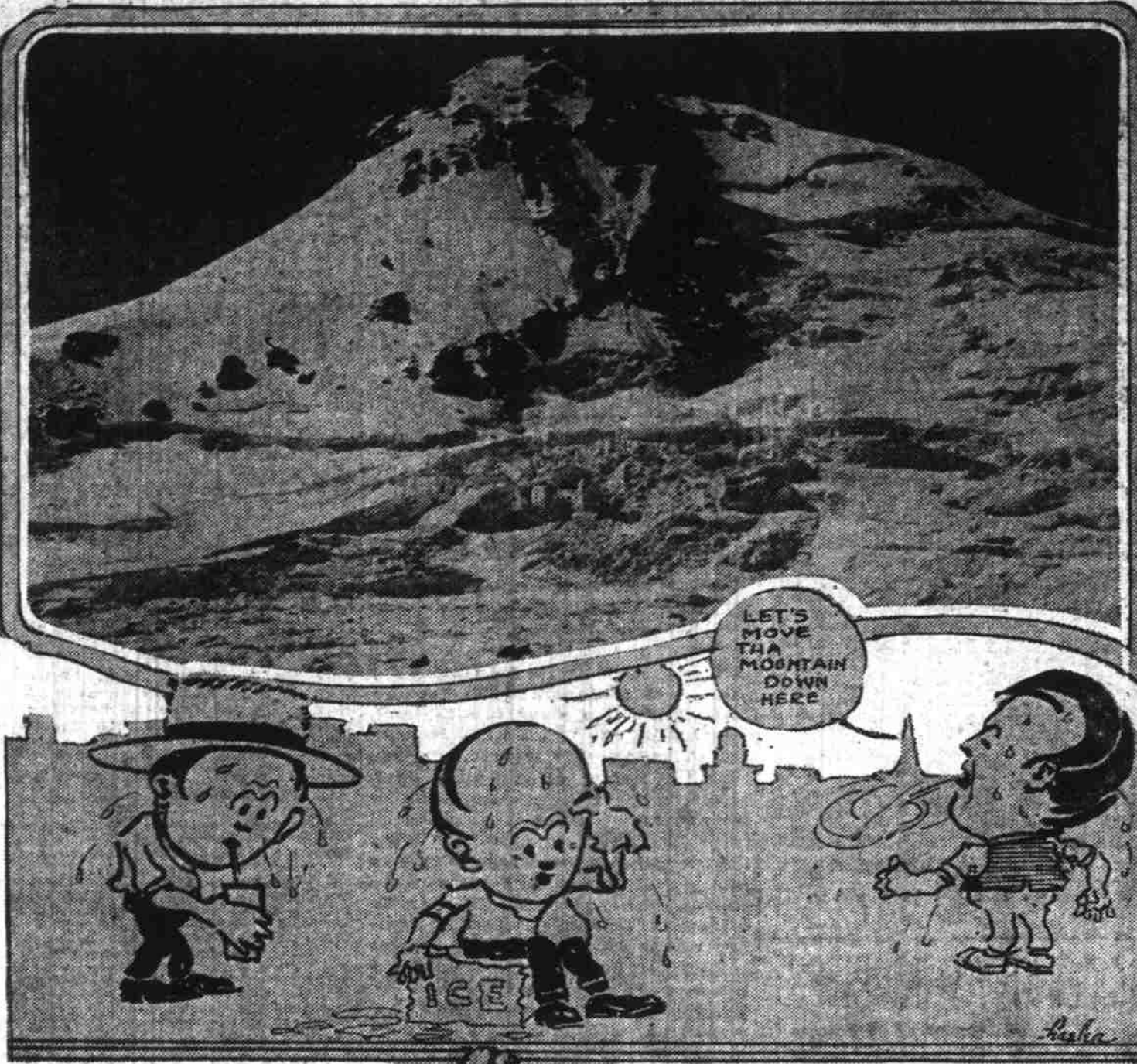
It had been testified early in the hearing that the Northern Pacific company paid \$17.50 a ton for ice in Minnesota when ice in the same quantity and of the same quality could be purchased at hand as low as \$2.50 a ton.

R. C. Dearborn, attorney for the Pacific Fruit Express, which was in the position of joint defendant with the rail administration, was recalled to the stand for rebuttal testimony. He elaborated upon certain points of his previous testimony and criticized the many exhibits submitted during the morning by J. Curtis Robinson for the shippers. He pointed out what he said were the faults of government bulletins covering studies of ice and heating problems and costs. He asserted that much more ice is actually required than the government studies show and pointed out specifically the meagre record at Brawley, Cal., as typical of the errors of government figures.

CALIFORNIA SHIPMENTS FAVORED

The Pacific Fruit Express, he testified, makes no allowance in its charges because of the fact that its ice melts slower in cars traveling in the Northwest than it does in Southern California, and said that, in reality, the icing charge in the Northwest should be higher than in the South. He admitted at the same time that the temperature in Southern California during the shipping season often goes "as high as the thermometer will stand," and that 115 degrees of heat in the shade is not unusual. Icing service in the Northwest costs more than it does in the South, Mr. Dearborn said. The witness was one of the committee which

It's Balmy, Yes Verily, and Then Some Portlanders Lured to Region Out Doors



Sweating Portland looked through the haze from forest fire smoke and upland dust Saturday and saw in fancy the snowy pinnacle of Mount Hood. And there they longed to be.

Not that the day was so frightfully warm—because it was many degrees cooler than last Monday when the temperature reached 100—only 36, in fact, but the air was close and oppressive and the wind was hot—what wind prevailed.

prepared the new tariff to which shippers and producers object.

MONEY LOST IN SOUTH

Confronted with the figures in one of his exhibits showing that his company and the carriers had profited by their business in transporting Northwestern fruit and had lost money in the shipment of Southern California commodities, Mr. Dearborn merely admitted that his company "had to lose money somewhere."

The profit and loss comparison applied particularly to California cantaloupes and Northwestern apples. In objecting to the proposed tariffs, the Montana railroad commission presented the following statement:

"The stated refrigeration charges in section No. 2 of the proposed tariff are very materially increased. For example, the average per cent of increase from California group A points to Western Montana or group 1 points is 24 per cent, and to Eastern Montana or group 2 points, 48 per cent; from California group B points, 28 and 42 respectively, and from Washington, 38 and 44 respectively.

PROPOSED INCREASES LARGE

"It is proposed to advance the present charges from group A to group 1 points of \$30 to \$50 on fruits and berries, to \$40 on apples and vegetables, and to \$55 on melons, or an average increase of 60 per cent, and from group A points to group 2 points from \$30 to \$60, \$50 and \$65, respectively, or an average increase of 93 1-3 per cent.

"These increases, but more especially those between stations in Montana, are unjust and unreasonable, and unwarranted in view of the increase of 25 per cent in freight rates made effective June 25, 1918, under General order No. 28, and the further fact that the present freight rates from and to stations in Montana and between stations in Montana are abnormally high.

100 PER CENT PROFIT NOW

"The present charges appear to be more than adequate to fully compensate the carriers for the service performed. In fact, it would not be unreasonable to say that the present charges afford a profit of at least 100 per cent. It does not require much coal or attention on the part of railroad employees to charge and load after a heater at the point of origin, nor while it is in transit and at destination. Regardless of the increased cost of materials and

labor, an advance in these charges is not justified and wholly unwarranted. "Charges on perishable freight in less than carloads do not appear proper since carriers have always contended that rates on and classification of perishable commodities must of necessity be high on account of the special services rendered in connection with their transportation, namely: Refrigeration and heating and numerous claims for loss and damage.

PREVIOUS INCREASE ENOUGH

"We do not believe that these charges are justified and it is our opinion that the same are already taken care of by the general advance in freight rates of 25 per cent effective under general order No. 28.

"Table No. 104, naming charges for distances of less than 400 miles, is unduly high and discriminatory in its application as regards rates for short distances. Jobbers located at Montana distributing points with but very few exceptions do not reach territory beyond 200 miles, in fact, most of their distributing is done within a radius of 100 miles, and consequently the consumers at such points will be required to pay more than they justly should.

"If such charges are justified they should not be as great for 100 miles and less as they are for 200 miles.

SHIPPING EXPENSIVE NOW

"Perishable fruit, for example, moves largely at first class rates and the distributing rate in Montana for 100 miles is 62 1-2 cents and for 200 miles 90 cents, and taking into consideration the charge for protective service against cold makes an increase of approximately 12 and 5 per cent respectively.

"The increase on first class commodities moving under refrigeration would be 16 per cent for 100 miles and 11 per cent for 200 miles."

The next hearing will open at Denver, Colo., on Wednesday, July 23.

Escaping the heat, the people took to the nearby swimming holes or rowed on the river or went to the parks for the Saturday half-day. Some actually motored out to the foot of Mount Hood with the intent of climbing it today. Still others just motored—anywhere for cooling off the air.

One more "hot day" drew to a close with promise of another sizzler today—that is, sizzling for Portland.

and bathing suits.

City water from ten thousand garden hoses played on lawns throughout the evening and really later than the ordinary technicalities allow—partly for irrigating lawns and gardens, but mostly for cooling off the air.

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STRIKE EPIDEMIC SWEEPING NATION; MONEY IS ASKED

Steel Workers and Mechanics Leading List in Demands for Shorter Hours, Greater Pay.

SEAMEN QUIT ON ATLANTIC

Boston Only City With Street Car Tieup; Building Tradesmen Are Out in Chicago.

Washington, July 19.—(U. P.)—An epidemic of strikes appears to be sweeping the nation, according to reports made to the labor department here and unofficial advices received in Washington. There is no estimate of the total number out. Demands are being made by the strikers for more money, a shorter working day, the right of collective bargaining and the right to organize shop committees.

With seamen on strike all along the Atlantic coast, 28,000 railroad shopmen on 16 southeastern railroads were threatening to quit, making demands on the railroad administration for more money. Machinists were striking in Chicago and building tradesmen were being locked out. Boston had a street railway strike.

Following is a list of the strikes reported to the labor department and to which mediators have been assigned: CAR MEN OUT

Hegewisch, Ill., 1200 out at the Western Steel Car foundry.

Lebanon, N. H., strike of machinists and helpers. Kendrick Davis company, want shorter hours, higher wages and shop committee.

Macon, Ga., streetcar employees.

Argo, Ill., employees of Corn Products company.

Chicago, employees of the Crane company, also boilermakers, machinists and machine trades.

Five hundred out at Union Drop Forge company. (The building trades lockout has not yet been reported to the labor department.)

Pacific coast, 12,000 employees of Pacific Telephone & Telegraph company on strike.

Peoria, Ill., Keystone Wire company, 700 walked out.

BAKERS DON'T BAKE

St. Louis, bakers' unions declared strike.

Sapulpa, Okla., motormen and conductors out.

Jamestown, N. D., metal polishers' strike directed against four companies.

Centralia, Pa., 500 miners.

Worcester, Mass., 500 leather workers.

St. Louis, telephone operators, linemen and electricians.

Buffalo, N. Y., several hundred linemen, locksmiths and machinists.

Fort Worth, Texas, 500 boilermakers and metal workers.

Sharon, Pa., 150 employees of Savage Arms company, against institution of piece work system.

In addition the labor department has a long list of "threatened strikes" which have not yet reached the strike stage.

More than 100 persons were killed or injured Thursday when a large munition dump was blown up in Lebourg, a suburb of Paris.

Bloodhounds Placed On Convicts' Trail

Boise, Idaho, July 19.—Penitentiary officials, with the aid of dogs, are tracking four convicts who made their escape Thursday from the prison. The convicts are: Fred Morgan, William M. Nelson and Joe Martin, members of the I. W. W. from the northern part of the state, serving terms for criminal syndicalism, and James Edwards, colored.

Eight men have escaped since May 11 and all are at large.

Suspect Gives Back Cash When Accused

Oregon City, July 19.—When the proprietor of George's place, a local restaurant, discovered the place had been burglarized Thursday night his suspicions were aroused. He accused a suspected man, with the result that the \$14 taken was recovered. Goldsmith's confectionery was entered the same night and about the same amount taken.

Discharged Officers Retain Their Titles

Discharged army officers are to be addressed according to their army title. They will be so addressed in all official military correspondence and should be in civilian correspondence. War department circular 37, on file in the general army recruiting office in the Worcester building, specifies that in writing to honorably discharged officers the military title will be used.

SWISS MINISTER IS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER COLUMBIA HIGHWAY

Dr. Sulzer Leaves for North After Much Entertainment Here and Many Side Trips.

"This is just like Switzerland."

Thus did Hans Sulzer, minister to the United States from Switzerland, express his appreciation of the Columbia river highway Friday on the return from a picnic given in his honor at Eagle creek park in the national forest.

He also said something about only the Alps being absent to make the illusion complete. Though his observation from a motor car could not reach over the great overhanging cliffs that shut off the view of the picturesque Cascade mountains—Oregon's Alps—the tribute to the scenic wonders of the highway was appreciated by his hosts.

LEAVE FOR NORTH

The minister and his wife left Saturday for the North, with a vivid recollection of Portland hospitality and the wonders of agricultural, dairying, scenic and commercial—that they had looked upon.

The minister is on his way back to Washington, where he will be called upon to handle many problems affecting the Swiss in America, as well as America's relations with Switzerland.

ing the Swiss in America, as well as America's relations with Switzerland. "He has a fine impression of the Northwest now," said A. Keller, president of the United Swiss societies, who arranged his entertainment. "Oregon will bear from it later when the time comes."

VISITOR MUCH ENTERTAINED

A banquet at Swiss Hall Thursday evening followed the Chamber of Commerce luncheon, and a trip to the big sawmills, the interstate bridge and Vancouver barracks. On Friday occurred the highway trip and the Eagle creek dinner, where Oregon's choicest fruit and fish and typical foods of other guise were set out. In the evening President H. L. Corbett of the Chamber of Commerce entertained the party at his country home.

Features of the visit were a trip to the heart of the dairy industry at Newberg and inspection of the Jack Luescher dairy farm at Fairview.

Legs of Sexes All Same in Windy City

Chicago, July 19.—(L. N. S.)—"What's the difference between the exposure of a man's leg and a woman's leg, anyway?" inquired Alderman Armistead while the Chicago city council was discussing the pressing problem of bathing beach clothes. The council could not see the difference and as a result refused to pass rules requiring women bathers to wear stockings.

Bruce Dennis Sells Home

La Grande, July 19.—L. C. Smith has purchased the home of Bruce Dennis.

Our Store Will Close at 1 P. M. on Wednesdays During July and August.

In Order to Enable Our Employees to Enjoy a Weekly Half-Holiday During These Hot Months. Help to Make This Movement Universal by Arranging to Do Your Shopping in the Forenoon on Wednesdays.

Special Showing and Sale of

The Prettiest of Summer Waists

At the Lowest Prices Ever Asked



Wonderfully Attractive Styles to Select From

At \$1.19 At \$1.45 At \$2.45 Up to \$13.95

An extensive—almost unlimited—variety of styles and materials to select from—dainty cool waists for warm days—others elaborately trimmed for evening wear—others in sport styles and economy of individual models—all from regular stock lines and all at prices quoted for this sale. This is your best opportunity to get one or more fashionable waists at a worthwhile saving. Don't miss it.

Capes and Dolmans on Sale at \$18

HALF-PRICE AND LESS!

Choice from our entire stock at this attractive price reduction to insure immediate clearance. Included are all fashionable materials and colors—with navy blue predominating.

Summer Laces

At 25c Yard

An assortment so extensive and so varied that every taste may be suited. Narrow Venice Edges, Net Top Laces, Imitation Crochet Laces, Flat V Laces, 34-inch Shadow Allover Laces, etc.—all priced for this sale at 25c a yard.

New Embroideries

At 35c Yard

Dainty New Embroideries especially desirable for the trimming and making of summer garments—9 to 12 and 17-inch widths in Skirtings, Edges and Flouncings of fine Swiss cambric and longcloth. All priced for this sale at 35c a yard.

White Canvas

Pumps

For Children

Sizes 1 to 5 at 99c

Sizes 5 1/2 to 8 at \$1.19

Women's White

Shoes at \$3.35

Broken Lines

Fashionable high-cut models in most all sizes and widths. Every pair a bargain at the above price.

Surprising Values In

New Novelty Silks

Taffetas, Louisines and Messalines at \$1.25

Beautiful high-grade Novelties in light and dark colorings—particularly pleasing are the new styles in plaids and stripes—you have choice from many exclusive patterns in taffetas, Louisines and Messalines. It is a showing that every woman will enjoy and few women will care to miss. Values are really remarkable at the above sale price.

"The STORE THAT UNDERSELLS BECAUSE IT SELLS for CASH"

Store Opens at 8:30 A. M.

Saturdays at 9 A. M.

Store Closes at 5:30 P. M.

Saturdays at 6 P. M.

The Most in Value—The Best in Quality

Roberts Bros.

The Most in Value—The Best in Quality

DANCING

Guaranteed in 8 Lessons Ladies \$2.50, Gentlemen \$3.50

AT DE HONEY'S BEAUTIFUL ACADEMY

TWENTY-THIRD AND WASHINGTON

Beginners' classes start Monday and Thursday evenings. Advanced class Tuesday, 8 to 11:30. Plenty of partners and practice. No embarrassment. Separate step room and extra teachers for backward pupils. My latest book, describing all dances, ball room etiquette, etc., free for pupils. We have large and select classes, and the social feature alone is worth double the tuition. Private lessons all hours. Call afternoon or evening. Learn from Professional dancers in the leading school. Phone Main 7658.—Adv.

Announcement

We will accept orders for the style H Knabe Baby Grand during the July piano sale, subject to fall delivery, at the present price of

\$975

Even though the price on this style advances, we guarantee delivery at the present price. Terms.