

# CRISIS FACED BY FRUIT MEN

### Financial Losses Certain Unless Railroads Reduce Freight Rates

## BOX MAKERS ARE HIT

### Banks Extend Generosity to Relieve Situation All Over Northwest

Unless the railroads reduce freight rates on fruit shipments eastward, fruit growers and shippers of the northwest must suffer financial loss, asserts Fred A. Williams, chairman of the public service commission, after attending the conference called by the interstate commerce commission at Yakima, Wash., Tuesday.

Mr. Williams points to the high cost of producing fruit, to the inability of box manufacturers to supply the demand for containers owing to the lack of financial assistance, and to other conditions contributing to the present crisis.

Presentations are thorough. H. H. Corey, member of the Oregon commission, and H. F.

Wiggins, head of the rate and traffic department of the commission, also attended.

"The hearing was entirely informal and all matters pertaining to the fruit and vegetable rate situation in the northwest as well as the dried fruit and canned fruit were discussed," said Mr. Williams.

"The whole matter was thoroughly covered by statements of growers and producers from Yakima, Wenatchee, Hood River, Willamette valley, Umpqua valley and Rogue River valley. It was shown that the average cost of producing a box of apples during the past year varied from \$1.35 to \$1.65, not taking into account the interest on the investment, taxes and depreciation on other buildings or implements, or any other feature of expense excepting the actual cost of cultivating, harvesting and packing the apples ready for cars, and that many of the apples never brought to exceed \$1.25 a box net to the grower, which left him a complete loss of from 10 cents to 40 cents a box.

**Rates Must Drop.**

"While all of this was probably not due to the transportation problem, yet it was shown for the present year that the probable cost of producing apples over last year will be a difference of 20 per cent and it was contended by the growers that the railroads should reduce their cost commensurate with the reduction in cost in other lines if anything in the way of relief is to be accomplished for the growers and producers, and the industry to be fostered.

"The berry industry and the prune industry were particularly emphasized in the presentation because of the fact that the producers are today marketing their

stuff on less than a pre-war price and much of the production is entirely barred from the market in the middle west by reason of the high freight rates.

**Financing Is Difficult.**

"As far as financing is concerned, it seems entirely impossible for the fruit industry to carry that in itself. It was shown at the hearing that covering all the Pacific northwest from 15 to 50 per cent of last year's advances to fruit growers is being carried over in addition to demands from the fruit growers for advances this year to produce their crop. This is not in accordance with the good banking as expressed by the men covering the financial situation at the hearing.

"Owing to the unstable condition of the apple and fruit market it was shown that the bankers were not favorable to further advancing of money necessary for the pre-harvest work of producing and marketing as a heavy percentage of last year's accounts with such banking interests are being carried over from the 1920 season. It was also shown that box factories are not manufacturing the boxes that will be required for the harvest and marketing of the incoming fruit owing to inability to secure such financial assistance and the seriousness of this situation was emphasized through the fact that some 60 or 90 days advance notice is necessary for the requirements as to box shooks, etc., are met.

**Spraying Is Neglected.**

"It was shown also that in a great many instances neglect of early spraying for this season is general, that the tillage and cultivation of the orchards are being neglected to such an extent as to work irreparable injury to the orchard industry as a whole, and that generally speaking the tendency is at the present time, due to lack of necessary financial assistance, to effect economies all along the line, which of themselves are detrimental to the industry as a whole, and no additional assistance employed for the general upkeep of their orchards, through lack of funds.

**Localities Considered.**

"As above stated, practically every phase of the subject of production, preparation for market, transportation and storage facilities, marketing methods, distribution, exportation, prevailing and average prices and returns to the grower, were considered both as to the entire northwest territory and as to the individual state and fruit growing districts.

The Washington commission, having conducted such inquiries and examination on the part of representatives from the Wenatchee, Yakima and Walla Walla districts, while Chairman Williams of the Oregon commission conducted exhaustive examination and inquiry of representatives from Hood River, Willamette valley, Umpqua valley and Rogue River valley. The industry from this latter territory requiring special presentation owing to the greater variety including the pear, berry and prune industries.

**Officials Are Impressed.**

"In conclusion the large number of representatives present did not fail to impress upon the interstate commerce commission the significance of the fact that fruit from the northwest necessarily seeks the far eastern markets, involving a transcontinental haul at rates which, owing to the blanket percentage increases are the heaviest paid by any shippers of the country and that the rail rates should receive early adjustment particularly as to the fruit industry because of its dependence upon this class of transportation not as yet having been able to avail itself of the possibilities which might go with development of water transportation.

**Growers Feel Hopeful.**

"With the close of the conference the general consensus of opinion among the growers and shippers was that their case had been satisfactorily presented in such a graphic manner as to have impressed the interstate commerce commission with the downright seriousness of the situation of the fruit industry of the northwest as a whole, and therefore we confidently expect that the negotiations that are to follow as between the interstate commerce commission and the carriers will bring about the reductions and concessions necessary to the fostering of this vast industry."

# FIVE DEATHS UNDER PROBE

### Twin Falls, Idaho, Woman is Held as Suspect of Several Murders

## ARRESTED IN HONOLULU

### Four Husbands, Brother-in-Law and Child Die in Mysterious Way

HONOLULU, May 12.—(By the Associated Press.)—Mrs. Paul Vincent Southard, also known as Mrs. Lydia Meyer, was held by the police here today on orders from Los Angeles, in connection with the deaths of four of her husbands, a brother-in-law and a child of one of the men she married.

Paul Southard, whom she married in Los Angeles last November, told the police here she tried to get him to take out \$10,000 worth of life insurance. Southard is a petty officer on the U. S. S. Monterey, stationed at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

**Lives of All Insured.**

Insurance of which she was the beneficiary was carried on the lives of all the five men whose deaths are being investigated.

Mrs. Southard, according to the police, has agreed to return, without extradition. Papers for extradition are being prepared.

LOS ANGELES, May 12.—The arrest at Honolulu today of Mrs. Lydia Meyer Southard, who is charged with murdering her fourth husband, Edward F. Meyer, at Twin Falls, Idaho, was the outgrowth of the theft of a diamond, with suspicion pointing at the woman. It was stated here today by V. H. Ormsby, a deputy sheriff of Twin Falls.

**Officer Gives Details.**

Ormsby, who came here three weeks ago searching for Mrs. Southard, said details of the charges were in the possession of Frank Stephen, prosecuting attorney at Twin Falls.

The deputy sheriff said information that Mrs. Southard had come to Los Angeles from Twin Falls was supplied by Mrs. Mary James of Idaho City, who was said to have obtained employment here for the suspected woman and to have lived with her for a time in Los Angeles.

Shortly after he arrived here, Ormsby said he learned the woman, then known to him as Mrs. Meyer, had married Paul Vincent Southard, chief petty officer on the U. S. S. Monterey, now in Hawaiian waters and had gone to Honolulu with him.

**Will Return to Idaho.**

Ormsby said he had cabled Southard asking if he ever knew a woman named Lydia Meyer, and had received in answer a denial that Southard had known a woman of that name but had known "an Ida Meyer, a school teacher in the east."

There is no charge against the woman here. Ormsby, when he cabled the Honolulu authorities, asking that she be arrested, gave his temporary address as the sheriff's office, Los Angeles.

The Idaho officer said he would leave soon for San Francisco, where his wife, also a deputy sheriff, would join him and they would go together to Honolulu to take Mrs. Southard back to Twin Falls.

**Marriage History Given.**

Mrs. Southard's matrimonial history and the dates of her husbands' deaths, as given out by the authorities, follows:

Married Robert C. Dooley, an

Idaho farmer at Twin Falls, on March 17, 1912; died in Twin Falls hospital October 12, 1915; typhoid being assigned as the cause.

Married William G. McHaffie, Twin Falls waiter, at Twin Falls June 17, died at Hardin, Mont., October 22, 1918; death reported to have been from influenza and diphtheria.

**Mechanic Is Victim.**

Married Harlan C. Lewis, automobile mechanic of Billings, Mont., at Denver, Colo., March 10, 1919; died at Billings July 6, 1919; cause of death reported as gastro enteritis.

Married Edward F. Meyer, a foreman on Blue Lakes ranch, Twin Falls county, Idaho, at Pocatello, Idaho, August 19, 1920; died at Twin Falls hospital September 7, 1920. Autopsy revealed traces of poison.

# HOFF TO NAME DEPOSIT BANKS

### Funds of State Will Be Distributed First Month of Next Month

O. P. Hoff, state treasurer, is sending out notices to over 2,000 banks of the state that have applied to be appointed as depositories of state funds, asking them for statements showing their financial condition.

The depositories are appointed by the state treasurer on the first Monday in June, which will be June 6. State funds deposited in the banks must be secured by collateral which is the same as that in which the savings accounts of state banks may be invested. This is bonds of the state, the United States, counties, cities, school districts, ports, drainage districts, irrigation districts, or warrants of the state, counties, or school districts.

Banks are now paying interest of 2 per cent on state deposits on

created taxation in the days to come?

—A Taxpayer of Polk County.

**Cameron Coffey, The World's Greatest Boy Diver Is Seen in "The Little Clown" With Mary Miles Minter**

the daily balance, payment being made monthly. On the last day of June the state treasurer fixes the amount of interest which cannot, under the law, be less than 2 per cent.

Hurrah, things are coming down! New prices have been named on spikes. We may be happy yet, you bet.

—Use Statesman Classified Ads.

# Spring Medicine Hood's Sarsaparilla Purifies the Blood



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We cannot worship God and the Devil We must choose.

But he who plays with fire has

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\$50 Worth of Merchandise Free

## BLIGH THEATRE

Monday, Tuesday, May 16, 17

"JOLLY DICK LONSDALE CO.'S"

## COUNTRY STORE

This merchandise is absolutely free and the price of admission is unchanged. COME EARLY.

MONDAY—TUESDAY, MAY 16-17

## VAUDEVILLE

Today and Tomorrow

RUTH PAGE & CO.

The novelty girl with banjo, assisted by

LOU RUBEN

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Two Ginger Snaps

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"Eileen Sedgwick in The Diamond Queen"

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See the thrilling leap from a flaming

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"THE DIAMOND QUEEN"

The Most Unusual and Daring Wild Animal Scenes Ever Embodied In a Picture

Today and Tomorrow Children's Free Matinee Saturday 11 a. m.

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Coming Sunday



D.W. GRIFFITH

His Latest Super-Production

The Love-Flower

LIBERTY

## IF KIDNEYS AND BLADDER BOTHER

Take Salts to Flush Kidneys and Neutralize Irritating Acids

Kidney and bladder weakness result from uric acid, says a noted authority. The kidneys filter this acid from the blood and pass it on to the bladder, where it often remains to irritate and inflame, causing a burning, scalding sensation, or setting up an irritation at the neck of the bladder, obliging you to seek relief two or three times during the night. The sufferer is in constant dread, the water passes sometimes with a scalding sensation; again, there is difficulty in voiding it.

Bladder weakness most folks call it, because they can't control urination. While it is extremely annoying and sometimes very painful, this is really one of the most simple ailments to overcome. Get about four ounces of Jad Salts from your pharmacist and take a tablespoonful in a glass of water before breakfast, continue this for two or three days. This will neutralize the acids in the urine so it no longer is a source of irritation to the bladder and urinary organs which then act normally again.

Jad Salts is inexpensive, harmless, and is made from the acid of grapes and lemon juice, combined with lithia, and is used by thousands of folks who are subject to urinary disorders caused by uric acid irritation. Jad Salts is splendid for kidneys and causes no bad effects whatever.

Here you have a pleasant, effervescent lithia-water drink, which quickly relieves bladder trouble.

## EDITORIALS OF THE PEOPLE

### Is Against Bill.

Editor Statesman:

As you have kindly invited your readers to express their opinions as to the measures to come before the people soon for their acceptance or rejection, permit a reader of The Statesman for more than 25 years to say to the voters through your columns: Don't vote for that impending legislative salary grab. No; don't do it. Just think, you are paying for more time—60 days—and paying \$5 per day instead of \$3. The taxes are high enough, everybody knows; The Statesman has said as much once or twice lately. Why vote to send them higher?

The Bible tells us to not revile the gods nor curse the rulers of the people. Now, while the Oregon legislator is not a god nor exactly a ruler, this does not give me liberty to say anything unkind about him. But, brothers and sisters of the electorate, listen: Not many years ago you paid \$3 a day and mileage to have a measure put through making it a misdemeanor for a hotel keeper to send a man (or a woman) to bed where the sheet was less than nine feet long! Do you remember? Don't it make you laugh? No! Now, the average Webfoot lawmaker is a good fellow though sometimes he is a Democrat. When he gets into the state-house something seems to hypnotize him—maybe 'tis the tobacco smoke with which he fumigates the chambers—he gets stiff and reckless and the governor has to blue pencil some of his work. Still enough gets through to make you feel sore come tax paying time.

Now think: Is it worth \$5 a day for 60 days and mileage, to pay out this money which means in

# HAMILTON'S

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HOUSE FURNITURE

### Readjustment

# SALE

WILL OPEN

# SATURDAY

MAY 14th

9 A. M.

## DON'T MISS IT