

The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"
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THE STATESMAN PUBLISHING CO.

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Wage-Hour Change Next Tuesday

The second phase of wage and hour regulation in the United States becomes effective next Tuesday. Casual inquiry suggests that a considerable number of employers are not thoroughly acquainted with the new regulations they are required to meet at that time—provided they are engaged in what the supreme court has defined as interstate commerce and not in one of the exempted occupations.

As far as the general regulations are concerned, there is nothing complicated about the change. Instead of the present 25 cents an hour, the minimum wage will be 30 cents an hour; and instead of the present 44, the maximum hours per week will be 42. Overtime regulations and other matters of detail are not changed, although there have been some recent clarifications.

Just as when the wage and hour law first went into effect, the hour limitation will affect more businesses and industries than the wage regulation. It will increase the wages, nationally, of only 650,000 workers, but it will decrease the basic hours for 1,750,000. The ratio of difference will be even greater here in the northwest where most wages are still well above the minimum. The wage requirement will affect more businesses and more workers when it is eventually increased to 40 cents, maximum hours being reduced at the same time to 40.

In the textile industries, minimum wage will be 32½ cents an hour, also starting next Tuesday. Separate wage regulations also have been made for hosiery mills but they are not of great interest here.

The drop to 42 hours will force some new adjustments in many businesses and industries. Forty four hours fit in well with a 5½-day week, but the new minimum will necessitate a five-day week or a seven-hour, six-day week. Incidentally a "breathing space" for employers is provided next week by an interpretation which delays the application of overtime provisions to the new hours minimum until the first full week's operation after Tuesday, October 24.

The effect of the changes on the national economy will probably not be marked; it will simply be an extension of the original effect of the wage-hour law, and that is still in dispute. In some operations it has increased employment, while at the same time reducing actual wages of the individual worker because there is a greater tendency to avoid overtime. In a few marginal industries it may mean shutdowns and more unemployment; and in a few special instances, the awkward situation created will be more bothersome than any possible benefits could offset. In some industries it will hasten the introduction of new labor-saving devices and thus reduce employment.

It has been indicated that there will be a tendency to permit more liberal exceptions to the minimum wage rate than in the past, but this may not be true under the new wage-hour administrator. As for the retirement of the first administrator, Elmer F. Andrews, its significance is still in dispute but the inside information is that his retirement was due to the displeasure of Secretary Perkins and that in any case, his retirement is to the "balcony," just as in the case of the brain-trusters. There is reported to be another pleasant berth reserved for him, probably in the justice department.

Price Control Issue Looming

One of national politics' few pleasant surprises has been the moderation and the realistic attitude of the TNEC—the Temporary National Economic committee which has been studying the problems of prices and the necessarily related problems of monopoly. When this committee went to work the business community was agitated by the fear that it might develop into another new deal movement to smear business.

But the TNEC has gone about its work on a strictly factual basis and its members are now reported as preponderantly opposed to any rigid controls of the price structure, either by government—which would mean more of socialism—or by industry itself, which would mean condoning monopolistic practices. In other words the committee members have a refreshing faith in the operation of the time-honored laws of supply and demand.

The practical solution which the committee is expected to recommend will consist merely of tightening the anti-trust laws to make them more effective.

While there is nothing in this to give business the jitters, anti-monopoly legislation having been established in principle two-score years ago, a related issue has expanded in recent days to rather large proportions.

Just how much collusion is practiced in the setting of steel prices we are not in position to say. But it is the steel industry's practice to set prices for three months in advance. The price-setting date for the first quarter of 1940 is near at hand. To the lay observer there appears good reason to assume that if present prices, set before war broke out in Europe, were justified at the time, there is justification at present for slight advances at least. One reason for such an assumption is the extreme scarcity of scrap iron and the advance in its price.

There are strong indications that steel manufacturers want to increase prices. But the "new deal economic advisors" are interested primarily in bringing about a greater parity between industrial prices and farm income—and that is a laudable ambition. But they are sending out broad hints that if the steel manufacturers will maintain present prices, the various price-control measures now in the making will be pig-cooled; whereas if steel prices are raised, the control program will be presented to congress. This amounts to political pressure against the steel industry, aimed at coercing its price policy.

This strategy is indefensible. If there is actual collusion within the steel industry to maintain unwarrantedly high prices, the attack ought to be direct, under the anti-monopoly laws.

There is of course the further prospect that if the steel industry refuses to be coerced, the "new deal economic advisors" will make good their threat and seek to force through congress measures of price control which are not warranted by the general situation—a situation much improved since the early speculative scare just after war broke out.

In general the war situation appears to be forcing the administration to forego its perpetual assault upon industry and business, to adopt a more cooperative attitude. The mutual benefits of this trend are in danger of being evaporated if there is to be "sniping" by irreconcilable new dealers.

The significant point about the release of Warren K. Billings, second of the two men who were serving life terms for the Preparedness day bombing in San Francisco in 1916, is that it was recommended by the California supreme court, the tribunal which so often had rejected appeals on behalf of Thomas Mooney. The high court would never have freed Billings if Mooney had not first been granted a pardon—that is, unless the court had some day been "streamlined" after the manner of the United States supreme court. Still, in carrying out the dictates of simple justice by seeing that the two whose guilt or innocence must coincide received the same treatment, the California court has unbent a little from its wonted austerity, to the surprise of a considerable number of observers.

Al Landon says the new dealers never have learned that you're supposed to shear sheep, not skin them alive, to get their wool.

Bits for Breakfast

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Sarah Hunt Steeves 10-20-39 did work which will endure: was a Hunt of a clan producing heroes: (Continuing from yesterday): Quoting from the G. W. Hunt book: "In the fall (1850) Henry Williamson of California persuaded me to go on a trading expedition to The Dalles and eastern Oregon. I sold out my part of the store to my father.

"We established ourselves at Fivemile Creek, above The Dalles, on the emigrant road, with a trading post trading with immigrants and Indians. We bought quite a band of horses and cattle, such as could not stand the trip over the Cascade mountains. Among those who came through this year was my uncle, James Hunt, who settled near Sublimity, Oregon. Our traffic here with the Indians was very profitable."

Williamson bought out Hunt, and a cold winter followed, through which Williamson lost all he had accumulated. Hunt bought a mule and started home by the trail (north side) down the Columbia. Soon after his arrival home, his mother died, Oct. 29, 1850. A sad loss, he wrote, to himself, his father and other members of the family.

Shortly afterward, Mr. Hunt wrote in his book, he made a trip to the mines of southern Oregon and northern California, ran into the 1851 Rogue River Indian war, endured many hardships, flirted with death at many points, and arrived back home without having gained much in the search for gold. He wrote:

"Not long after my arrival at home my father married, July 1, 1851, Mrs. Nancy Smith, widow of Doctor Smith, who died on his way to Oregon July 1, 1847, and was buried on the left bank of Green river. He was captain of a company of Missourians, among them the Kimseys, Townsends, Turners and Bensons. (These were all prominent Oregon pioneer families.)

"I found my father had established a mail route from Salem to his farm; postoffice called Lebanon; he was also engaged in burning a brick kiln, the first in the Waldo Hills. August 3, 1851, I married Miss Elizabeth N. Smith, a daughter of Doctor Smith. (So his step-mother was the mother of his wife, so his mother-in-law.)

"I was in my 20th year; my wife was 17. Our union has been blessed with six children. (Among them Sarah Hunt Steeves, the youngest, born April 27, 1871, as hereinbefore stated.)

"A few days after our marriage we moved to our homestead, where the present (1890) post-office of Whitenaker is situated. Here at this homestead I followed farming, fruit raising, stock raising, and for 35 years sold merchandise. I return to the Hunt family:

"As I have known them, they were usually men of their word, and could be trusted. They were very clear of scrofulous diseases, and I never knew of one drunkard, and after reformed; and until 20 years ago I never knew of but very few tobacco users. The family, as I have known them, were not given to vulgar and foolish conversation. . . . The Hunt family during the rebellion were loyal to the government, one of whom was a member of President Hayes' cabinet; though a Southern man he remained loyal to his country.

"After my father's second marriage he moved to Salem, Ore., and embarked in the hotel business; he kept the noted pioneer Bennett House, and afterward bought the Cooke hotel, North Salem, where he died in November, 1860.

"My Sabbath school teacher was Middleton Burnside, a brother of General Burnside. My conversion occurred in the town of Liberty, Indiana, where my father was operating a wagon and carriage factory." (It was at 13.)

After their marriage, the wife of George W. Hunt took up a donation claim of 320 acres of land, and he bought 320 acres adjoining, of Paul Darst. That section of 640 acres is still in the Hunt family, one of the finest farms in the Waldo hills.

Melancthon Wright Hunt, third child of the George W. Hunts, was named for Rev. (afterward Bishop) Wright, father of the Wright brothers, inventors of the airplane. The Wrights were at the time of his birth at Sublimity, about three miles distant, where Rev. Milton Wright had charge of the Sublimity Institute, school of the United Brethren church, as its first president.

Melancthon Hunt was a popular man of Salem in the 1830's and '40's, dubbed "Lincy" Hunt, and taking much interest in the local militia company; was its captain. In her manuscript, (in the state library) Sarah Hunt Steeves wrote of her parents:

"After 38 years of happy married life, these good folks, George W. and Elizabeth E., his wife, left the homestead in the care of their son, Jephth T., and moved to Salem, where in after years they both died and are buried in the Odd Fellows cemetery. . . . George W. Hunt imported the first Shropshire sheep into Oregon; kept a country store on his farm . . . to 1836; . . . had a postoffice (Continued on page 12, col. 5)

STATE

Wally BERRY Jackie COOPER
"The CHAMP"
Continuously Show - 11:30 P.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Evolution of the European "Powder Keg"



"Knight Errant"

By JACK McDONALD

Chapter 13
Heather stepped up to the secretary's desk and was flushed and stammered. "Knight Errant?" Everett said, glancing at the registration papers Heather handed him. And he thought, "Never heard of him."

Call Board

- ELSI-ORE Today—"The Women" with Norma Shearer, Joan Crawford, Rosalind Russell. March of Time, "The Battle Fleet of England."
- Thursday—"Espionage Agent" with Joel McCrea and Branda Marshall. All color feature, "Ride, Cowboy, Ride" and short subjects.
- Saturday—Mickey Mouse matinee, stage show, two features and chapter three of "The Phantom Creeps."
- GRAND Today—"Hollywood Cavalcade" in technicolor with Alice Faye, Don Ameche and Stuart Erwin.
- Saturday—"Here I Am a Stranger" with Richard Greene, Nancy Kelly, Richard Dix.
- STATE Today—"Maidie" with Ann Sothern and Robert Young. "On Borrowed Time" with Lionel Barrymore and Bobs Watson.
- Thursday—"The Champ" with Wallace Beery and Jackie Cooper. "Banjo on My Knee" with Joel McCrea and Barbara Stanwyck.
- Saturday midnight show—"Winter Carnival" with Ann Sheridan and Richard Carlson.
- CAPITOL Today—"Everything on Ice" with Irene Dale and Edgar Kennedy. "One Hour to Live" with Charles Bickford and John Litel.
- Saturday—"Rio" with Basil Rathbone and Victor McLaglen. "Desperate Trails" with Bob Baker and Fuzzy Knight.
- HOLLYWOOD Today—"Five Came Back" with Chester Morris, Lucille Ball and Wendy Barrie. "The Girl and the Gambler" with Leo Carrillo, Tim Holt and Steffi Duna.
- Friday—"The Kid From Texas" with Dennis O'Keefe and Florence Rice. "Undercover Doctor" with Lloyd Nolan, Heather Angel and J. Carroll Nash.

like one he had seen before. "Knight Errant was born the same month Coronado died," Heather explained. And when she related how she had just arrived, that Knight Errant was outside in the van, and asked for stable room, Everett told her she should have waited weeks ago for stall space. "There are 1200 horses on the grounds," he told her, "and Knight Errant is just one of four hundred 2-year-olds to be accommodated with stalls. Who's your trainer?"

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"Trainer? Why, I guess I am," she stammered, wondering if Everett thought she had a circus or something out in the van. "I've just brought Knight Errant from the farm. Must he have a trainer?"

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News Behind Today's News

By PAUL MALLON

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19—Another Hitler peace move is in the making. Advance feelers have reached here. This one will emerge through a third party, Mussolini or Scandavia, and will take a more definite form than the vague bait Hitler tossed out in his speeches and press.

Yet there is apparently no one in authority here who believes the move can be successful. Hitler has come only partly to a realization of the folly of his Russian deal, if inside advisers are as accurate as usual. He knows he needs peace, but not as badly as the allies think he needs it. He has not yet arrived at the point where he will offer what the allies consider essential. Conversely, the allies are more confident of their superior position than Hitler is able to understand. It's the same old story of wars.

This peace move is therefore likely to founder early in two or three weeks and then war in earnest can be expected. It has not started yet. When it does, there will be no doubt in the mind of anyone that it is here. Instead of having 10,000 men in actions on the western front (largest number either side have used in Europe) you will have 75,000 to 100,000.

Communism and censorship will not conceal its coming. Instead of sporadic artillery fire disclosed so far, you will have 12 to 15 hours of terrific bombardments. Squadrons of 4 to 12 planes such as have appeared out of the eastern horizon of England so far will then fly in specks compared with swarms of death-dealing birds of prey, which will then strike not only at naval bases, but air fields, rail and junction centers.

This has just been a sniping war so far.

Rumors and reports of the extent of peace sentiment in Britain and Canada are bombarding officials' ears here. Some truth and some sense can be discerned in them, but not enough to arouse much interest on high. It is apparently true the Scottish miners trade union of 20,000

men and two railway worker organizations in Scotland voted against continuation of the war, and probably other unions also. Even censorship has let pass British poll results indicating a formidable but not overwhelming majority of 75 per cent for war in the form of a more definite peace demonstration. There is apparently developed in Canada. . . . There is likewise some soundness in the argument that Britain and France need a strong government maintained in Germany as an entrenchment against the westward encroachments of communism. . . . That their victory may destroy a strong German government and perhaps all the world (Continued on page 9, col. 5)

CAPITOL
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The World's Greatest Young Ice Skater
EVERYTHING'S ON ICE!
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DORIS REID • LYDIA ROBERTS • CEE LEE

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Tragic! Told Against the
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Stark Horror of a Jungle
Prison Camp!

BASIL RATHBONE • VICTOR McLAGLEN
RIO
ROBERT GUERRE • CUMMINGS • CARRILLO
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JOHNNY MACK BROWN
DESPERATE TRAILS
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THE SCREEN'S MOST DARING SPY EXPOSÉ!
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"RIDE, COWBOY, RIDE"
In Technicolor
DENNIS MORGAN
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Tonite! **CAPITOLA** 7:30 to 12:00
Roller Rink
★ **19 GLAMOUR GIRLS** ★
FROM IMPERIAL RINK, PORTLAND
★ Fancy Skaters from Oaks Rink, Portland
★ Al Kenfeld Derald Burrigh - Spinning -
★ Raymond Cook Harold Burrigh - Comedy Act -
Happy Collier - Bill Deschner
• Fancy Waltz Routine
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A New Program Featuring Herb Johnston as Commentator
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The Show of Shows
FAYE-AMECHE
L. EDWARD BROMBERG CURTIS STUART ERWIN DARI GUSTAF KEATON
Last Times Today **GRAND**

UNDERCOVER DOCTOR
Naish Lloyd Nolan J. Carroll
— Edgar Hoover's PERSONS OF INTEREST —
And Second Feature
KID FROM TEXAS
DENNIS O'KEEFE FLORENCE RICE
Also News, Colored Cartoon and Chapter 8 of New Serial
"Buck Rogers"
WAY DOWN SOUTH
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