

8-Cent Fare Plea Enters Bus Strike Scene Federal Mine Seizure Believed Near, 'Action' Promised by President

By Wendell Webb
Managing Editor, The Statesman

Salem's bus patrons, long used to a 7-cent fare, will have to struggle up 8 cents per ride if Oregon Motor Stages are ever to operate in this city again, it appeared today.

This was the paramount item which appeared through the haze of cross-statements that greeted the Statesman's exhaustive efforts yesterday and last night to find out exactly what had happened and was happening in regard to the bus stop which began five weeks ago.

The answer to what was happening, as of yesterday, was "nothing."

So far as the company was concerned, "we have just come as far as we can; there is only

so much to put out." (This quotes E. Royce, president of Oregon Motor Stages, and B. W. Wilson, comptroller, who visited Salem yesterday.)

So far as the union is concerned — "we have received no concrete proposals from the company recently." (This quotes Ted Begun, motor coach union business agent in Portland, via telephone.)

Both the company and union spokesmen said they were "anxious to get the buses rolling" and that they recognized "Salem is the innocent victim."

The picture in brief appears to be this:

1. The company says all things at issue in the tieup (which affects Salem and Eugene city service and also over-the-road bus schedules out of

Portland) are settled except that (a) the company can pay increased rates to \$1.27 1/2 an hour for over-the-road drivers, whereas the union asks \$1.30, and (b) the company wants drivers to accept standing passengers within a 20-mile radius, and the union will not agree.

2. The union says these differences exist but also that the company has set as a condition of paying \$1.15 to Salem drivers (they previously got 95 cents) the raising of fares in Salem from 7 to 8 cents.

Royce and Wilson, of the stage line, Thursday said they had been assured "by city councilmen" that such a raise could be effected and therefore that the union had no excuse for saying that there was a "condition" to the \$1.15 offer.

The union has indicated the

\$1.15 would be acceptable.

There were reports of an ex-officio meeting between the union, the company and a Salem citizen committee today. And at 5 p.m. the union and company officials will meet with members of the city council.

The 8-cent fare discussion, it was disclosed, reached a climax at a meeting in the Senator hotel one night last week. The details of those discussions are so variable in their telling that to review the meeting would serve little purpose.

The paramount fact was that the matter, it stood today, apparently found both sides plainly ready to resume negotiations but also convinced they had found no common ground on which to resolve remaining issues.

So far as separating the road-driver and stand-up issues is concerned, so that Salem and Eugene service could be resumed, the union cites its long standing charter saying that there should be no specific settlement for any part of the organization, constituting (1) Salem and Eugene drivers, (2) mechanics, (3) over-the-road drivers.

Company spokesmen have insisted there should be separate unions for Portland and elsewhere, (there are about 35 drivers, 35 Eugene drivers, and 170 members in Portland and over-the-road), and that such a plan would permit resumption here.

In the meantime, Salem — except for emergency service — walks.

Federal Mine Seizure Believed Near, 'Action' Promised by President

Dam City For 8,000 Approved

Plans already have been approved for a housing project for 8,000 persons at the Detroit dam, and actual work on the dam itself should begin this year if adequate roads can be constructed, Col. O. E. Walsh, newly-appointed army district engineer for Portland, said here Thursday night.

Speaking at an informal dinner sponsored by Douglas McKay's chamber of commerce committee at the Marion, Colonel Walsh said \$2,000,000 had been allotted to the bureau of public roads for a new highway around the to-be-flooded area.

The Willamette valley, he said, incurred 6 per cent of the total flood damage in the nation last year, and that "the longer (flood control) projects are delayed the more the cost." He added that in regard to other proposed projects "it was not deemed feasible and right that the Sweet Home area be inundated."

The housing project for Detroit is to be on high ground just west of the confluence of the North Santiam and the Breitenbush.

Senators Drop First of Season By 8 to 2 Score

It had to happen some time, and it happened to Salem's baseball Senators last night. The Western International league leaders, after breaking a record with 13 consecutive victories, lost to the Wenatchee Chiefs last night, 8 to 2. It was the first loss of the season for Manager Frisco Edwards' stalwarts.

Long Lee Fallin, Salem right-hander, was the losing pitcher when the Chiefs approved six runs in the second inning. The Senators move to Spokane tonight to open a four-game series ending Sunday. They return home next Tuesday night against Yakima.

Electric Walkout Settled

By the Associated Press
Civilian Production Chief John D. Small called last night for government seizure of American railroads if the stoppage necessary to keep them running.

Mr. Truman didn't amplify his remarks on the railroads.

The Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and Locomotive Engineers have scheduled a nationwide strike for May 15, unless their negotiations with the carriers have been broken off.

1,000,000 Out of Work
Small reported 1,000,000 have been thrown out of work by the coal strike and that the wheels of industry soon would "grind to a rude stop."

Mayor Edward J. Kelly of Chicago told newsmen, after a conference with the president, that Mr. Truman had a program for ending the strike of 400,000 United Mine Workers and "going to be more militant" if the program does not bring results.

President Truman, asserting the coal strike was slowly and gradually approaching the stage of a strike against the government, told his news conference that various methods of coping with the situation were under consideration.

Cheerful Note
The day's one cheerful note in the chorus of gloomy labor reports was settlement of the 115 day old strike of 75,000 Westinghouse Electric Corp. production workers.

The strike, longest major dispute in the postwar period, was settled on the basis of an 18 cents hourly wage increase.

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IT SEEMS TO ME

By Charles A. Sprague

Our state constitution contains this provision:

"The legislature shall provide by law for the establishment of a uniform and general system of common schools."

Our school friends frequently cite this section of the constitution and assert that it is being ignored by the state. For instance the Oregon Education Journal refers to this section and asserts its mandate is "still far from fulfillment."

It comments:

"While it is true that Oregon does have a 'general' system of common schools, it does not meet and probably never will have a 'uniform' system."

The O.E.J. pictures the schools of the state as ranging from shacks to palaces, from grubbiness to grandeur, from ineptitude to efficiency.

We think the pedagogues put a strain on language when they infer that the word "uniform" in the constitution binds the state to furnish identical schools for all the people. Equalitarianism never got that far in the thinking of the fathers in 1857 when the section was phrased.

The state does have a general and uniform system of schools, as far as the framing of the law can create the same. The differences lie in the economic conditions, the population density, etc., among the various school districts. The state ought to assist the weaker communities in maintaining good schools, but that burden is not implied in the constitutional provision the school people are forever quoting. Their case for state aid is strong enough to supplement their own merits and not on a very shaky definition of a word in the old constitution. Let's have done with throwing this provision of the constitution in our faces, and get down to the practical question of how the state can supplement the income of local districts. Even the proposed initiative for \$50 per school child doesn't tackle that question.

Housing Subsidies Win Vote

WASHINGTON, May 9-(AP)—Reversing its position, the house today approved \$400,000,000 in housing subsidies, giving President Truman a victory in his program for construction of 2,700,000 houses by private enterprise in two years.

The vote was 187 to 158.

Wilson W. Wyatt, housing administrator, immediately declared: "This throws the veterans housing program into high gear."

Chairman Spence (D-Ky) of the house banking committee said this means the housing bill will be on Mr. Truman's desk "in a day or two." Today's action broke a month's old stalemate on housing legislation.

The house a month ago rejected 161 to 92 a proposal for \$600,000,000 in housing subsidies, but some southern democrats who teamed with republicans in the earlier vote sided today with the administration.

Future Atom Bomb Victims



SAN FRANCISCO, May 9—J. O. Ruedd (left) of the concern which purchased the animals in the vicinity of San Angelo, Tex., shows off some of the shipment of 200 goats to be sent to Bikini atoll for the atom bomb tests. They are to be used to determine the effect of bombs on living creatures. (AP Wirephoto)

Bill Adds 45 Days To Draft

WASHINGTON, May 9-(AP)—A stopgap resolution to continue the draft 45 days beyond May 15 was dashed off with a pencil by Senator Johnson (D-Colo.) today and passed unanimously by the senate in five minutes.

House leaders immediately made plans to pass it quickly in that chamber and speed it to the president for his signature. It would continue the draft, just as it is, until July 1 pending congressional action on a longer extension.

Paradoxically, the hurried action puts the armed services in better shape than they might have been if considered legislation were adopted, for draft boards now will continue their present induction practices until July 1 at least.

The house, in voting a nine-month extension, had ordered induction suspended for a five-month "holiday" to give the recruiting program a trial.

SP Unaffected By Restricted Rail Service

WASHINGTON, May 10-(Friday)-(AP)—A sharp cut in railroad freight and passenger traffic went into effect last night because of the coal strike.

Peterson stated that connecting railroads which extend the SP system eastward have informed the Southern Pacific that main through trains to Chicago and St. Louis will be continued. Eastern routes will continue to operate principal trains from Chicago to New York, but may curtail some second sections, he said.

Portland Students 'Skip' Classes to Protest Cuts

PORTLAND, Ore., May 9-(AP)—Hundreds of shouting Portland high school students milled through downtown streets today in a demonstration against expected budget cuts which would curtail sports and other activities.

School Supt. Willard B. Spalding estimated that about 20 per cent of the city's 15,000 students were absent from classes. He said those not in school tomorrow would be suspended for the rest of the term.

A second parade was staged to-night after an ineffectual downtown rally.

The demonstration was a large-scale continuation of yesterday's, when students ranged through town shouting "Down with Snell." Gov. Earl Snell's refusal to call a special legislative session to enact a law enabling the Portland school district to vote on a \$1,700,000 tax levy led to the demonstrations.

First Fights
At Washington high school fist fights broke out this morning when students from other schools appeared to urge that school's participation in the "strike." Principal S. E. Smith reprimanded the demonstrators, and prevented disturbances.

As students marched down city streets, motorcycle police held their lines in order. Two students were slightly injured, one falling from an overloaded car and the other suffering a foot bruise when a car struck him.

Mass Meeting
George A. Haskell, candidate for the republican nomination to the state senate, distributed handbills to the students, urging a mass meeting Friday night. He said he did not intend to incite them to strike but "I want to form a committee of school students to deal with Snell."

Snell Asked to Act in Poultry Feed Crisis

PORTLAND, Ore., May 9-(AP)—The Oregon Poultry Council asked Gov. Earl Snell today to send Ervin L. Peterson, state agriculture director, to Washington in an attempt to obtain badly needed poultry and livestock feed.

Oregon's poultry industry is threatened with "complete liquidation" unless the commodity credit corporation releases enough wheat to meet requirements until the new crops come in, the council executive committee declared.

Snell was asked to seek Gov. Mon C. Wallgren's cooperation in dispatching the Washington state agriculture chief to Washington also.

Air Line Pilot Strike Averted

CHICAGO, May 9-(AP)—David L. Behncke, president of the Air Line Pilots association, announced late tonight that a scheduled strike against Transcontinental and Western airline (Trans World airline) had been "indefinitely suspended."

Behncke's statement followed a two-day session here of the TWA pilots master executive council which studied President Truman's May 7 executive order appointing an emergency board to study the wage dispute.

Decision to suspend strike action involving 1,000 TWA pilots before the board was telegraphed to the president today, Behncke said.

Willamette Flight Course Approved

Willamette university faculty has voted to offer a pilot training course beginning with the fall semester, President G. Herbert Smith announced Thursday.

Willamette will be one of the few universities in the Northwest to offer such an aviation course.

Details of the course remain to be arranged, but it is expected at Willamette that it will be similar to the Oregon State college course in which students take two hours of ground training and one of flying per week through three semesters, with academic credit for two hours per semester.

Truman to Hold To Foreign Policy

WASHINGTON, May 9-(AP)—President Truman today discounted the possibility of a major change in American foreign policy toward Britain and Russia as a result of imminent collapse of the foreign ministers' conference at Paris.

The president declared that he had not heard of any change. He added pointedly that he is the one who makes the policies.

Animal Crackers



Churchill Pleads for 'United States of Europe', Lauds 20-Year Friendship Pact with Russia

THE HAGUE, May 9-(AP)—Winston Churchill urged today formation of "The United States of Europe, both of the east and the west," and declared this would unify the continent and bring "prosperity, justice and peace."

In a half hour speech before the Netherlands parliament which ended in a tumultuous ovation, the former wartime British prime minister said:

"I see no reason why under the guardianship of a world organization there should not arise the United States of Europe, both of the east and west, which will unify this continent in a manner never known since the Roman empire.

"It will give you prosperity, justice and peace."

Churchill expressed the hope that Britain's 20-year friendship treaty with Russia "will prove one of the securities of world peace, and that it will help to avert conflicts with other treaties."

At another point, speaking of nationalism, Churchill assailed "that type of nationalism which would reduce us all to one uniform," and criticized countries whose nationalism is expressed "in a senseless urge to be the biggest in the world."

Now leader of the conservative opposition in the British government, Churchill declared that Britain "welcomes the proposed treaty of friendship with France"

\$857,373.16 County Budget Wins Approval

A tentative county tax levy of \$857,373.16 for the 1946-47 county budget committee as it completed its work on the 1946-47 budget Thursday noon. This total is \$541.54 less than the maximum allowed under the six per cent limitation amendment.

Items totaling \$17,458.46 were added to the original budget estimates. Money for these were taken from the \$50,000 allotted to postwar projects and the residue placed in the road fund.

Pay Raises
Pay raises of \$15 a month were granted all county employees except for the probation officer whose salary was raised \$300 a year to \$2700. Two extra clerks were approved for the clerk's office and a full time school supervisor at \$2100 and a 10 months supervisor at the same salary, as contracted by the education board, were approved.

Resolution
Recommendation to the legislature of a new pay scale for county elective officials was made with the adoption of a resolution submitted by Leo Childs. The scale includes: county judge, \$3840; commissioner, \$3600; sheriff, \$3600; clerk, \$3600; treasurer, \$3300; assessor, \$3600; school superintendent, \$3600; recorder, \$3300; justice of the peace, \$3300; and constable, \$2700.

Approval was also given for the purchase of a loose leaf system for the assessor's office to aid in maintaining the tax rolls. (Additional details on page 2)

Garbage Men Praise City for Lack of Waste

Take it from the garbage company which should know, Salem is not a waster of food.

Asked regarding a Portland story that garbage in that city was showing a marked decrease in edible waste, William Schlitt, operating Sanitary Service, Inc., said Thursday:

"Salem has been very conservative for several years in throwing away food material. There was a time when half and whole loaves of bread were tossed out, but not recently. Most things thrown away now are not fit for consumption and food waste here is at a minimum."

Committees in charge of helping conserve food to aid famine-stricken nations have been urging every effort to conserve edibles that might otherwise be carelessly thrown out.

British Loan Vote Today

WASHINGTON, May 9-(AP)—The senate agreed tonight after a stormy debate to vote at 3 p.m. (EST) tomorrow on final passage of the \$3,750,000,000 British loan bill.

The unanimous agreement came after Democratic Leader Barkley (Ky) previously had failed to obtain such a pact and had urged senators to remain in session in an attempt to pass the measure tonight.

Senator Morse (R-Ore), who blocked the first attempt, later withdrew his objection and the hour was fixed.

Cyclist Hurt In Car Wreck

Clarence Munding, 1740 Berry st., was under observation at Salem Deaconess hospital last night for lacerations and bruises incurred in a collision of his bicycle he was riding and an automobile driven by Clinton G. Kuhn, box 55, Ratcliff dr.

Munding was thrown to the pavement and his glasses broken, causing an eye cut, investigating police said. Both the bicyclist and the auto were going south in the 100 block of South Front street shortly after 5 p.m. yesterday when the accident occurred.

The injured man is the father of Police Detective Erel Munding.

Molotov, Byrnes Stage Verbal Battle

PARIS, May 9-(AP)—James E. Byrnes, U. S. secretary of state, and Russia's foreign minister, V. M. Molotov, battled verbally for two hours today on an American proposal to call a 21-nation peace conference June 15.

The conference adjourned without agreement until tomorrow.

Molotov sought to require a four-power accord on all treaties as a preliminary to opening a peace conference, American sources said.

James Thompson Presumed to Be Dead

James Thompson, AMM1/c, who left high school here during his sophomore year to enlist in the navy, is now presumed to be dead, the navy has notified his mother, Mrs. Margery Lee Drake, who now resides in Centralia, Wash.

Thompson was a passenger on a transport plane which left Morotai, Molucca Islands, for the Philippines on March 19, 1945, and is believed to have crashed into the sea.

Salem Water System Reported in Danger

Denied the \$50,000 channel-clearing project sought from the federal government, Salem's water commissioners indicated Thursday the city might have to depend on prayers to a higher authority than congress to keep its water supply during flood periods the next four winters.

The Detroit dam, now scheduled for completion in 1950, may materially change the situation, they believe.

A visit to the Stayton Island reservoir assured the commissioners, they said, that disaster was averted "by a hair" during the past winter's high waters. Without the channel-clearing, only nature can save the water supply, Manager Carl Guenther said. As in other years, he declared, water system personnel will make every effort to keep the flood from the reservoir by makeshift walls and whatever clearance they can manage.

Col. O. E. Walsh, district army engineer, in Salem yesterday, reiterated that the channel-clearing project would have provided only temporary relief because of the low elevation of the island, and because of that, apparently, the engineers did not recommend it.

Water commissioners indicated they would start all over again with an application for even temporary relief to save the city's million-dollar investment.

War Veterans Show Scholastic Prowess

CORVALLIS, May 9-(AP)—The 2000 veterans attending Oregon State college topped the men's scholastic average last term 2.56 to 2.43, the registrar's office reported today.

The vets' average, slightly better than midway between B and C, was .02 below that of the coeds.

Meat Market Closes 'Due to OPA Controls'

One downtown Salem meat market, the Midget at 351 State st., closed its doors Friday with the promise of Manager Harry Levy that it would reopen when OPA rulings would permit it to somewhere near meet the demands of its customers.

Levy emphasized that quota restrictions and not any violation on the part of the market were forcing him to close. Other meat merchants in downtown Salem their quotas also cut, intimated they would like to follow suit.

But bread was back at least on afternoon bakery shelves, albeit much of it was cornbread. No increase in baking allowances made the feat possible, clerks declared.

One grocer thought perhaps the woman who Tuesday bought 15 loaves to guarantee a bread supply for her household of two persons was among those who did not buy bread Thursday.

Community-type grocery stores began to show butter in refrigerated cases, and there apparently was once again an ample supply of margarine.

City Stores Get 'Face-Lift' Job

Postwar face-liftings brighten Salem's downtown business streets today.

Whether or not lumber is available (and two major remodeling jobs are in process now), paint has flowed freely the past two weeks, a Statesman survey reveals. Every store front but one on the east side of the 200 block of North Commercial street has had its "face lifted," while 10 other similar improvements have been completed or are well under way.

State Milk Board Hearing Finished

PORTLAND, May 9-(AP)—The state milk control board's hearing on milk prices closed here today and the examiner, Samuel B. Weinstein, said testimony would be reviewed by the director, then presented to the board.

Milk producers asked that the new OPA ceiling of 14 1/2 cents a quart be made the minimum. The present minimum is 14 cents, established by the board in 1941. The higher minimum was opposed by the League of Women Voters, the OPA and Safeway Stores.

Weather

	Max.	Min.	Rain
Salem	68	49	0.00
Portland	69	49	0.00
Corvallis	69	49	0.00
Seattle	67	47	0.00

Willamette river 1.6 ft.
FORECAST (from U.S. weather bureau, McNary Bldg., Salem): Partly cloudy today and tonight, highest temperature 70 degrees.