

Court Asked to Force County Welfare Pay

SALEM —(AP)—The state supreme court has been asked to force Malheur County court to pay \$43,901 to the state public welfare commission.

Attorney General George Neuner said the mandamus suit will test the 1947 law requiring counties to share the welfare expenses on the basis of the division set by

the commission under the law. The commission had certified \$43,901 as the Malheur County share of welfare costs in that county, but the county court refused to pay more than \$39,879. Malheur officials argued this was enough to meet the county needs. Malheur officials are expected to answer the suit July 6. The supreme court is expected to hear arguments in September.

One cubic foot of helium will lift a little more than one ounce.

Federal Lumber Safety Code Proposed by CIO Woodworkers

PORTLAND —(AP)—A federal safety code for the lumber industries will be proposed by the CIO International Woodworkers of America at a national safety conference called by President Truman.

The union's executive board announced Wednesday that its delegation to the September meeting in Washington, D.C., will be authorized to work for a safety inspection law similar to that for the coal mining industry. In a formal statement, the IWA board said the lost-time accident rate in the woods industries is

higher than in coal mining. It said logging has a rate of about 100 lost-time accidents per million man-hours. The rate for sawmill workers is 50 to 70 on the same man-hours. This was compared with the over all industrial average of 14.

To Ask Meeting
The safety conference delegation was ordered to meet with government agencies on a safety program policy and to seek endorsement by the conference.

In another resolution, the IWA criticized what it said was "disgruntled individuals" who are disrupting the will of the union majority in refusing to sign non-Communist affidavits required under the Taft-Hartley law.

The board also instructed its officers to confer with the justice department on possible agreements to stabilize lumber prices.

Supports Wage Demands
The board voted a resolution supporting the wage demands of the British Columbia members. It criticized the operators' wage offer of eight per cent or ten cents an hour. The board said this would make the basic minimum in Canada

\$1.05, compared with \$1.45 per hour for identical work in western Washington and Oregon.

The board said that with the lifting of Canadian price controls, the Canadian workers need from 13 to 15 cents an hour more to adjust their real wages to the level of June, 1946.

WHEAT PRICE SET
WASHINGTON —(AP)—The Agriculture Department said Thursday it will support a base rate of \$2.19 a bushel for 1948 crop wheat stored at terminals in Portland, Seattle, Vancouver, Tacoma and Longview.

Food Index At Record High

NEW YORK —(AP)—A jump in food prices brought the cost of living to a new all-time high in May this year, according to the "consumers' price index", made public Thursday by the national industrial conference board.

(Figures released recently by the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated a further rise in prices since May.)
The board's index is based on

retail prices for food, housing, clothing, fuels, housefurnishings and sundries. The board reported that the weighted average of all these items rose 0.6 per cent from mid-April to mid-May, bringing the index to the all-time high of 163.1.

An increase of 1.3 per cent in food prices during the period and 0.8 per cent in fuel prices offset slight decreases in the other items, the index showed.

Compared with June, 1947, the May, 1948, index showed increases of 11.2 per cent in food; 5.2 per cent in housing; 4.6 per cent in clothing; 8.3 per cent in fuels; 5.8 per cent in housefurnishings and 5.2 per cent in sundries.

The board reported that the index rose from April to May, 1948, in 58 of the 62 cities included in the survey. Largest increases were registered in Denver and Seattle, each up 1.6 per cent.

COURTESY VISIT
NICE, France —(AP)—The U. S. aircraft carrier Coral Sea, the battleship Missouri, and other American naval vessels anchored Wednesday in Riviera ports on a

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