

Independence Enterprise

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JOLT IN FREIGHT RATES.

A big, juicy melon has been cut for the railroads by the Interstate Commerce Commission. It is an increase in freight rates and passenger fares which will annually total the staggering figures of a billion and a half dollars. The average increase is approximately 33 1-3 percent in freight rates and all passenger tickets are boosted 20 percent. Pullman tickets will cost 50 percent more and railroads are given the privilege of charging Pullman passengers an additional 50 percent of the cost of the Pullman tickets. The new rates will become effective September 1st. The next move of the railroads will be to get intrastate rates boosted in conformity with the new interstate rates.

There was a time when an advance in freight rates of this magnitude would have caused a commotion. While under government control rates were boosted and passenger fares increased until it really has become a case of "Lay on McDuff and damned be him who first cries hold, enough."

FARMERS GET IT IN THE NECK.

Conceded to be the most essential industry, farming is likewise the most hazardous. The toboggan for farm products is being well lubricated. Wool, wheat, other grains and farm crops are sliding downward in price with a velocity which is becoming somewhat alarming. This downward movement is believed to be the beginning of a readjustment of prices generally. It had to come sometime, and of course, at this particular moment the farmer can be made to hold the sack. His shoulders are considered broad enough to carry any unusual burden, whether it be a spurt to feed the world, raise crops under high cost conditions and then sell them for the prices dictated by manipulators.

The old cry that supply and demand determine prices is all nonsense. With an overplus of copper and the price sagging, there is no recession in the cost of finished copper or brass; so it is with wool and clothing, and many other things.

Until such times as the farmers are in shape to fix the prices on the commodities which they have for sale, they are continually going to be confronted with situations like the present one. In most industries it is the custom of the owner of goods to determine the sale price. Farm products are the one great big exception. With much of his crop perishable, a farmer must sell it for what is offered, irrespective of the production cost.

Gambling with the elements over the destruction or size of his crop, the farmer has to continue the game of chance until the crop has been disposed of. And he never holds any marked cards either.

GULF BETWEEN CAPITAL AND LABOR WIDER

The gulf between labor and capital is getting wider. Both sides are striving to get more firmly entrenched to eventually become masters of the situation. It may result in a big upheaval, yet neither side can submerge the other. The interests of capital and labor are too closely interwoven to ever make it possible for one to become master and the other servant in the true sense of the word.

Members of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, by overwhelming referendum vote, have adopted a platform on industrial relations which declare for the right of "open shop" operation of industry and for making labor organizations legally responsible "to others for their conduct and that of their agents."

Leading provisions of this platform include declarations that limitation of commodity output by either em-

ploye or employer to create an artificial scarcity constitutes an injury to society; that an "adequate" means should be provided for adjustment of industrial relations and disputes; that employer and employe have a mutual interest in the "successful conduct and full development of their particular industrial establishments," recognition of which and co-operation upon which "constitutes the true basis of sound industrial relations"; that municipal, state or national government employes have the right to be heard as to their occupation and its requirements, but no right to enter "combinations to prevent or impair the operation of government," and that "all men possess the equal right to associate voluntarily for the accomplishment of lawful purposes by lawful means."

It is easy enough to guess what would be the result were this platform to be submitted to a referendum vote of the labor organizations. They would turn it down just as hard as the Chamber members have supported it.

Organized labor is continually gaining in numbers. Starting with the craftsmen and skilled laborers it now includes practically all lines of endeavor except farm hands. The scarcity of help during the war period and the adoption of the eight-hour day were important factors in developing unusual strength in the labor unions. With the slackening of industry and an eventual reduction of wages what will be the result? Acceptance of the reduction or strikes and idleness. Possibly both. A financial loss never appears to bother a labor union when it deems a strike necessary for the welfare of the organization.

Theoretically, a strike is all wrong. So is war. Yet until such a time as selfishness and greed can be eliminated we are going to have strikes, and war, too. And it will make no difference which side had right on its side or which one came out victorious, the next step will be preliminary preparation for another battle.

In The Churches

At the Baptist Church

These are days of special efforts and hard work and forward movements. Therefore put forth special effort to come to the Baptists church next Sunday. The Sunday school which has showed a marked increase in the summer is still growing. It meets at 10 a. m. There is a class for everyone. If you do not go to any other school come in with us and we will do you good. At the hour of 11 a. m. Rev. Proppe will preach on the subject you cannot afford to miss—"The Dying Need of the Churches of Independence." The young people's society, which has been growing and having good times meets at 7 p. m. A good leader and an interesting subject. The young people go on a picnic supper this week, Thursday. A good time will prevail throughout. In the evening Rev. Proppe will preach on the timely theme of "The Most Bitter and Brilliant Infidel Converted." There is a hearty welcome awaiting you if you come.

Pentecostal Gospel Meetings

Gospel meetings will continue at the Pentecostal tent indefinitely. Meetings every night except Monday. Also Thursday afternoon at 2:30. The sick will be prayed for without price. Services on Sunday. Sunday school at 10 a. m. preaching at 11 a. m. and at 2:30 and 8 p. m.

POLK COUNTY'S "LIFER" ESCAPES; RECAPTURED

Louis Davis, at present the only man serving time for murder from Polk county, enjoyed a brief hour of liberty Monday evening. Davis, who had been a trusty at the penitentiary for some time, was employ-

ed at the prison barn. Yielding to the temptation to escape, Davis took leave of the institution about six o'clock Monday evening. An hour later he was recognized by a former employee of the prison as he was walking calmly down Commercial street, Salem, carrying a violin under his arm. An officer was called and took Davis into custody and he was shortly afterwards back in the penitentiary with all his special privileges cut off.

Davis was convicted in this county in August, 1913, of second degree murder, having been responsible for the death of his mother-in-law, Mrs. Stewart, of Bailston, who was shot by Davis during a family quarrel. He was sentenced to life imprisonment. The case was appealed and the court granted him a new trial.

THIS BANK encourages the purchase of pure bred stock and we are willing to assist in financing responsible parties who desire to buy livestock exhibited at the Pacific International Live Stock Exposition this fall



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5:00 P. M.	6:15 P. M.	6:30 P. M.

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The second trial resulted in the same either mechanical or chemical verdict and the same sentence.— pulp, either alone or in mixture with other species. It is common in the forest and is estimated by the forest service to form 60 per cent of the chertable stand. This species is extensively used for paper at a number of plants in the Dallas Hemizer.

The most widely distributed commercial tree on the Tongass National forest, southeastern Alaska, is western hemlock. It is a rapidly growing tree and is suitable for umbria.

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