

## Lights On Labor Problems

It seems appropriate at this time that this column become a trifle more concrete and a little less abstract. Particularly since we evidently are facing an acute situation. I find rumors of the wildest kind floating every where. It seems a pity so little information is given through authentic sources and so much is given through hearsay and gossip.

I am going to state facts as they are from labor's side and also how labor views the situation.

First, the Lumber and Sawmill Workers Union, No. 2770, is an entirely separate organization from the Plywood, Veneer and Shop Workers, No. 2911.

The Plywood has not nor does not contemplate asking the Lumber & Sawmill workers for a sympathetic strike. According to Oregon Law sympathetic strikes are unlawful. The Plywood Union feels they do not need the support of 2770 in that way.

The Lumber & Sawmill Workers have made no direct effort toward a general raise and do not contemplate doing so at this time. Adjustments in wages are continually being made, however.

Should the Plywood Union picket their operations, it will in no way affect the operations under jurisdiction of Lumber and Sawmill Workers.

Second, Plywood Unions called a special meeting last Sunday. Special meetings are always called for one purpose and that alone, nothing else can come on the floor. This special whether this local would go along with the entire Plywood industry within the A. F. of L. in asking for a blanket raise of 7 1/2 cents an hour. The meeting was attended by approximately 80 per cent of the membership. Discussions were presented very ably by both sides. There was ample opportunity for every one to express himself and all were urged to do so.

It should be said here that a strike is the last thing desired by anyone, including officials of the union. This question of increased pay has been thoroughly gone into by unions and employees in the entire industry within the last sixty days. Only after all these conferences and studies, have the local union officials presented to the local members the results of their findings. They have asked each member to read and listen to the facts and vote his conviction. The result of the vote Sunday was an ample majority in favor of a 7 1/2 cent raise. To call a strike at least 55 per cent must be in favor, according to their constitution.

Third, in June practically the entire industry, including employers and unions, met in conference and studied the question thoroughly. The local employer did not participate in these proceedings. The result of these conferences were that labor was entitled to a raise and naturally all unions thought so. Some employers participating in negotiations do not object to a 7 1/2 cents increase providing all within the industry comply. Naturally they want all operations on the same level. One operation in Tacoma has agreed to 7 1/2 cents as of last Monday. Two other operations have caused the boys' next checks to be raised 2 1/2 cents an hour with the stipulation that when a majority portion of the industry pays more they will, too. There are 23 operations in the northwest manufacturing plywood, veneer and shoo.

Thirteen of these are under union affiliation with A. F. of L., ten are under C. I. O. affiliations. Most plants under A. F. L. unions are combined with lumber mills as it is under the local set-up. Most plants under C. I. O. unions are straight veneer plants and not in conjunction with other operations.

Fourth, as the Plywood unions are affiliated with the Oregon-Washington Council of Lumber & Sawmill Workers, a special convention of that organization was called, and held July 19 and 20. The convention was attended by over 200 delegates. They passed a resolution to the effect that the entire plywood industry get the 7 1/2 cent raise. Now when will the picket line be put on if they do not get the 7 1/2 cent? Most unions have signed contracts with their employers in which they cannot go on strike without giving 30 days notice and all means of settling disputes have been tried.

All unions did not serve notice on their employers at the same time. When all the 30 days clauses have lapsed they will act together. No company will be permitted to have a different basic wage.

Labor does not view the situation as alarming. The perspective from which we view any situation is governed by the knowledge we have on the subject. Why should the loss of a week, by the workers, in an effort to increase income, be any more disastrous than the loss of a week, when the employer curtails production in an effort to force the price of his product up.

We are not in the habit of thinking the employee has a right to curtail, in order to force wages up, so he can live at a decent wage.

Labor is willing to put their figures before you if the employer will do the same but by that they don't mean juggled figures. It is labor's sincere conviction that the plywood industry is entitled to the 7 1/2 cent raise.

They believe that the wage of plywood employees should be set as high as possible while the industry is in its infancy, while it is still expanding, while in its period of adjustment and before the field is crowded and competition creates a situation in which a higher standard would be much more difficult to attain.

It is labor's plan to see that all within the industry are on the same scale. They intend to make it plain, to any capital, entering the plywood field, that the standard of wages must be maintained within the industry by any new operations.

Capital has always deplored the action of any local union in trying to force a raise of their standards as an individual unit.

Now we have concentrated action by all the industry. Labor believes they are right in this case.

—Noble H. Chowning.

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**BUHACH**  
PRONOUNCED BUHACK

## Free Canning Clinic Opens Today---Special Invitation To 4-H

Vivian Freeman, famed home canning lecturer and research specialist from the Kerr Mason Jar Company said today that she wished to extend a very special invitation to all 4-H club members and leaders to attend the two-day Canning Show to be held Thursday and Friday afternoons, July 25 and 26, at the Roxy Theatre in Coquille. "I look forward with great pleasure," she said, "to again meeting those 4-H club members I so enjoyed in my canning classes at the Annual 4-H Club Summer School this spring, and to making new acquaintances among the members in this and adjoining counties."

Newest canning methods, featuring the most up-to-date information and procedures of home canning to insure success (with half the work!) as developed through research work in one of the nation's leading experimental kitchens, will be presented in the two-day free canning show.

Co-operating in the show will be John Hodgkins of the James Graham Manufacturing Company, to show you the Wedgewood gas range. The streamline appearance of this sparkling new CP gas range has been an important factor in making heretofore dull and uninviting kitchens one of the brightest, most cheerful spots in the home.

Helpful to homemakers will be the informal round-table discussions at the show, at which people will be invited to ask questions and present their individual problems.

Simple, direct answers will be given by Mrs. Freeman, who understands homemakers' problems and can give ready solutions as a result of experience. "The Canning Show will hold a special significance to

those housewives who find home canning a necessity instead of a hobby," said Mrs. Freeman. "Come prepared to ask questions—the show will be informal—we'll show you how to take the work out of your canning, also the guess-work. Modern homemakers need no longer be strong enough to 'seal' their jars—they need no longer stand over a hot stove on a hotter day—well, just come and see!"

## Enlistments Open In Coast Guard

Battery F, 249th Coast Artillery, Marshfield, is accepting applications for enlistment in the local National Guard units. There are quite a number of vacancies at the present time.

This is an opportunity for young men, without dependents, to enlist in a regiment which has a very high standing among coast artillery anti-aircraft requirements in the United States.

One may enlist for active duty, which is one drill a week, Monday evening, or on the inactive list, which does not require drilling. In case of mobilization those on the inactive list would be called for active duty.

Any one interested in obtaining information regarding enlistment may contact Capt. Morgan at Bandon, Lt. Owens, Marshfield, or Lt. Brodie, Coquille, or call at the armory in Marshfield.

Just home from that vacation? Why not send your hosts a piece of Oregon Myrtlewood from Bergen's large and unusual selection.

Calling cards, 50 for \$1.00.

## Must File For FSA Loans By Aug. 15

All Coos county tenant farmers desiring to be considered for tenant farm purchase loans, must file their applications in the local Farm Security administration office at the Laird building, Coquille, on or before August 15, announces FSA Supervisor Norman Fletcher. Application blanks may be secured at 201 Laird Building between 8:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. on weekdays except Saturday when the office closes at 12:30 p. m.

Those eligible to apply include tenant farmers, farm laborers or sharecroppers, who are residents of the county, have qualifications for successful farm ownership and need the opportunity to improve their status. Preference will be given to applicants with dependent families and some

livestock and equipment to carry on farming operations.

After applications have closed, Fletcher explained, a county tenant purchase committee made up of three local farmers, will review applications, appraise farms intended for purchase and make final recommendations as to those best qualified for participation in the program. Families applying for the program will indicate the farms they wish to purchase.

Primary emphasis will be placed on the purchase of family-sized diversified farms. Land owners in the county who have such farms for sale at reasonable prices may list them at the county FSA office for consideration by applicants or the committee.

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