

Oregon Historical Society
100 S.W. Market

Sherman County Journal

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Official County Paper

**A column of news
About Government,
Politics and People
with especial emphasis
on the Northwest**

What is intended to be and may become a substitute for all existing laws dealing with labor relations, except the railway labor act on the lines of which it is modeled, has been presented to the senate in the form of a bill by Senator Hatch of New Mexico in collaboration with Senator Burton of Ohio and Senator Ball of Minnesota. The undisguised purpose of the measure is to provide procedures by which strikes may be averted while at the same time assuring justice to the claims of both labor and management. It is a large order, but in introducing the bill Senator Hatch expressed confidence in the success of the law in the event of its enactment and the belief that both labor and management would recognize its fairness.

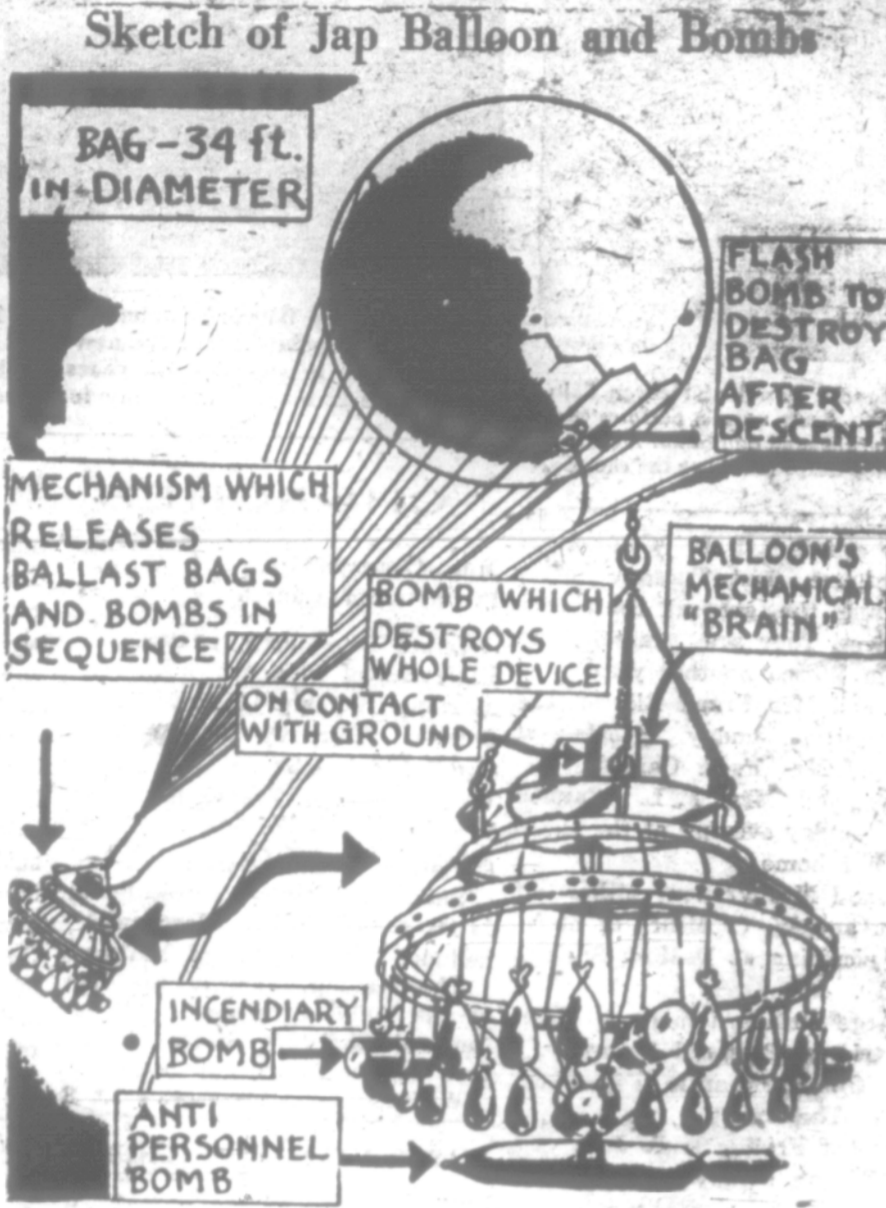
The title of the bill is federal industrial relations act, and the proposed initial procedures are copied from the railroad act. It would apply only to employers and employees engaged in interstate commerce or enterprises which directly or substantially effect interstate commerce, specifically excluding local business and small establishments, agriculture, domestic service and government service. It would apply, however, to local utilities the continuous operation of which is deemed a public necessity.

The measure would establish the legal duty of employers and employees to make every reasonable effort to settle controversies by agreement. If this effort fails either party can invoke the services of a national mediation board of five members appointed by the president. If mediation fails, the mediators will propose arbitration. If this is refused, a fact-finding commission may be appointed the findings of which, in case of public necessity, can be given the force of an arbitration award which shall be binding for one year but not for more than two. The right to strike is expressly preserved, but it is assumed on the basis of railroad experience that the need for striking will be practically eliminated.

In introducing his bill Senator Hatch admitted that extreme partitions of economic groups will not be satisfied; that the bill does not offer to employ or employ any aid in advancing purely selfish interests, and does not even insure that the consumer will always be served; but it does provide the ways and means whereby any party to a labor controversy can be assured that his interests will be given careful consideration, and it does insure management and labor a public hearing and public aid in sustaining any well-grounded claims.

Senate committee on agriculture and forestry has been asked to recommend an investigation of the newspaper shortage, though it cannot reasonably be hoped that action can be taken in time to remedy the distressing situation of newspaper publishers. Senator Butler of Nebraska, author of the resolution, intimated that the shortage in part is due to the enormous use of paper by the government which he said, had increased from 124,500 tons in 1941 to 1,054,512 tons in 1944. It is contended that war requirements do not justify such extravagant use of paper and that enormous quantities are wasted in the publication of propaganda by the several agencies of the federal government. Editors have even complained that their desks are littered daily with these releases for the publication of which they have no space and the matter in which is of no public interest or importance.

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Story of Freezing Trip In 1862 Told In Pioneer's Writing

"The winter of 1861-62 was the worst I have seen in Eastern Oregon. There were two freshets in the fall just one week apart. In the first instance about fourteen inches of snow had fallen and then the storm turned to rain and swelled the waters considerably but did not do much damage but the next one had about twelve inches of snow in the Dufur country and then turned to rain, accompanied by a warm wind that took nearly all of the snow off in one night and swelled the waters immensely taking every bridge that I knew of in Wasco county, except one on Ten Mile and it ran over to quite a depth but the bridge was low on the upper side and the water held it down.

"There were not many bridges in Wasco county at that time. This was before Christmas day. There was about three inches of snow and it was very cold and continued cold until New Year's day when it moderated and about twelve inches of snow continued to fall at intervals until late in March and the weather was intensely cold most of the time. I should think that about three-fourths of the stock in Wasco county died. Men had their hands, feet and noses nipped by the frost and on the road to Walla Walla, several perished of the cold.

"Emit Miller & Co. were running a stage from Walla Walla to The Dalles and stage was blocked by the snow at Well Spring 16 miles east of Willow creek in what is now Gilliam county. John Jagers was carrying 36 lbs of gold dust, as reported at that time. He gave out and was afraid to trust anyone else to carry his money. He kicked away the snow and put down a blanket. He sat down on this with his gold between his feet and his hips, then they threw over him what blankets he had. They then packed the snow up around him and over him. They would all have frozen if they had stayed there with him. They went on to Willow creek and came back the next day to find him frozen stiff.

"Stage passengers and other travelers to the number of 16 had collected at Tom Scott's on the John Day river and decided to go on at any risk. Scott warned them that it was dangerous to attempt the passage to Deschutes, twenty-five miles distant but they started and only one of them got through without being in some part bitten by the frost. This fellow was a youth of 18, thinly clad but who did not drink any whiskey as the others did. On his arrival at Graham's just east of Deschutes, he reported the number that had left Scott's the day before. Charles

Pool, who was living at the Graham place, where Deschutes side-track is now, and who had married Jan Graham, started out with John Graham to meet the travelers.

"They found two men at the mouth of Spanish Hollow who had their feet partly frozen. They said that they could make their way through alone and did so. Irvin and Pool went up where Murray Springs are and found two more men who reported that they had been obliged to leave Jonathan Mulkey a short distance further on Irwin went after him and found him frozen to the snow so that he had to cut him loose to get him up. He brought him up and he was so badly frozen that he died a few days later at Deschutesville on the west bank of the old steamboat landing.

"One other man came in later, making seven in all. Irvin continued to hunt for the men until it was certain that they could not have survived so long. They had become scattered. Some were snow blind. The next spring, one was found under the cliffs near Rufus, which has since been built. It was supposed that he had become snow-blind and fallen over the bluff. One was found in the summer of 1862 twenty miles up the Deschutes and half a mile back from the river."

Paper Needed For Shell Cases

Residents of Sherman county can supply enough waste paper for 7,736 "suits of armor" for 105mm. shells, if they will buckle down and save an average of 10 pounds of newspapers, wrapping paper and boxes a month. The 105's are the big ones that have been helping American forces in their advance toward Berlin and Tokyo.

Last year Americans saved 106 1-2 pounds of paper per capita, or enough for about 35 containers for the 105 mm. shells.

For each ammunition container or "paper suit of armor" used to protect the shells from salt water, dents, nicks and corrosive dirt, approximately three pounds of waste paper are required, according to W. J. Wardell, vice president of the American Can Company, which is manufacturing millions of the containers. Ammunition container board, one of the principal materials used in making the "suits of armor" is made from mixed paper and old corrugated boxes, Mr. Wardell said. Another material used is called "tube and can stock" which is made from all types of waste paper.

Field Day At Experiment Station Today

Friday afternoon, at 1:30 farmers will gather at the experiment station for the annual field day. A letter sent to them by the county agent indicates that information leading to a possible change in wheat varieties may be the important message of the meeting.

Experiments for the avowed purpose of finding a new kind of wheat adaptable to the needs farmers must meet are a part of the agenda of the station and farmers will be interested in finding full information on a subject so vital to their interest.

Farm Storage Loans Continued Again

Extension of the loan program on 1944 wheat in farm storage to April 30, 1946, has been announced by the state AAA committee.

Farmers holding 1944 wheat in farm storage which they have been unable to deliver to Commodity Credit because of limited transportation and storage facilities may extend the loans and store the wheat until April 30, 1946. An additional storage payment of 5 cents a bushel is allowed on extended loans.

On extended loans where the wheat is finally delivered to Commodity Credit, an interest will be charged after July 1, 1946, and final settlement will be made under the parity purchase program.

Non-High Board Appoint Fridley

The non-high school board met June 29 to pass upon its budget and take action on such other matters as came before it. A canvass of the votes confirmed the reelection of Harry Pinkerton of Zone 2. The resignation of Harry Proudfoot was accepted as he has left the county, and Kenneth Fridley was named in his place. Board members now are the above and Tom Fraser, George Wilcox and Ted Ball.

Three Year Budgeteers Named

According to state law budget committees are to be named on a three year basis. Appointed to be budgeteers for the non-high school board were Harold Eakin for the one year term, Donald Martin and Charles Burnet for the two year terms and Wallace May and Paulsen Kaseberg for the three year terms.

Driving Licenses Are Good Until 1947

In the face of continued inquiries as to the validity of drivers' licenses bearing the expiration date of June 30, 1945, Secretary of State Robert S. Farrell again today re-assured Oregonians that their licenses would be good till June 30, 1947.

"All drivers' licenses bearing the prefix '5R' and issued on or after June 15, 1941, are now good till the June 30, 1947 date, by virtue of state legislative action extending the period of validity as a wartime measure," Farrell explained.

Motorists noticing the expiration date, June 30, 1945, and not having heard of the legislature's action in extending the period another two years, have thought they should renew their licenses. Farrell emphasized the point that no action on the part of the motorist is necessary now that the legislature extended the period of the license validity.

NEW DEPUTY HIRED

Mrs. Charles Bothwell is now the deputy sheriff having begun work in that office Monday. She is a daughter of Judge J. M. Wilson and has been living at Kent since the departure of her husband for the army.

Historical Society Formed By 4th of July Picnic Group

Theodore Johnston Made President of Association For History Preservation

Formation of a Sherman County Historical society was started at the end of the program held in the More park the Fourth of July. Such an organization had been contemplated and it met with general agreement among the 75 present.

After a picnic dinner served on the lawn, and after the fried chicken and ice cream had started the contented feeling, Wily Knighten, as chairman, opened the program. Giles French talked on the history of the county and advocated the organization of a society to perpetuate its history. Jay Price told of the first Fourth of July celebration.

Elected as officers after many nominations and almost as many withdrawals were: Theodore Johnston, president; E. D. McKee, vice-president; Mrs. Theodore vonBorstel, secretary, A. H. Barnum, treasurer; Giles French, historian.

The president named a committee of five to act with the elected officers in writing a constitution and by-laws for the organization. Named were G. H. Root, Marie Barnett Cooper, Wily Knighten, Gus Engstrom and T. M. Rolfe.

It is presumed that the meeting of the committee will be delayed until after harvest and that the acceptance of the constitution will be an event of the fall or winter. Such matters as determining the name, the place and date of meetings, the procedure as to gathering historical data, membership and allied topics will be in the constitution and those with ideas about them may confer with any officer or member of the constitution committee about them.

Wes Fuller says he will start harvesting next Monday and probably he will again be the first to deliver wheat to the elevator. On the field on the point where he will start he expects 20 bushels per acre.

Labor Committee Meeting Today With Director

The county labor committee will meet Saturday July 7 at 9:30 when a representative of the War Food administration will be on hand to tell them what they are supposed to do. A similar meeting will be held at Condon for Gilliam county that afternoon.

Questions that may have arisen will be explained and ceilings now in effect will be also explained. Members of the Sherman county labor committee are: Paulsen Kaseberg, O. G. Hilderbrand, G. H. Wilcox, J. M. Wilson and A. B. Christianson.

Hunting Season Rules To Be Made Openly

The 1945 hunting seasons, bag limits and other regulations affecting large and small game will come up for consideration when the Oregon State Game Commission holds its annual hearing for this purpose at ten o'clock, Saturday morning, July 14, at its Portland offices.

Until the regulations are formulated by the Commission there is no information available as to whether or not special deer or cow elk tags will be issued this year.

The hearing is open to the general public.

County Court Rules On Petitions

The county court had several delegations and plenty of business to transact before it got down to the bills and regular monthly grist of work.

The plea of School district 21, for permission to hold school three this fall was refused. The recent one bought on approval gravel loader was turned back as unable to handle the job wanted of it. The request of several voters of the Rutledge precinct that that precinct be incorporated into the county was favored by the court.

County Needs To Buy \$20,743.50 More E Bonds

Sales Made and Promised Indicate That Success Yet Possible

As the Seventh War Bond campaign draws into its final day there is hope that Sherman county may reach its \$190,000 quota of E bonds. The hope is based on statements by numerous fine citizens, who have come forward and said they would make extra purchases of E bonds to see that the county does not fail.

Sales up to ten o'clock Thursday morning were as follows:
First National Bank \$87,112.50
Wasco Post Office 37,462.50
Moro Post Office 1,687.50
Grass Valley Post Office 42,993.75
Total \$169,256.25

This leaves \$20,743.75 yet to be sold.

The county is over in its total quota although the state headquarters has not yet compiled enough bonds to make it. Its total is \$231,700 while the total quota is \$233,000. Corporation purchases are usually made as soon as the market for them opens and little more can be expected from that source.

Seventh Loan Biggest

This is, however, largely an E bond drive. It is deliberately done by the Treasury department in order to absorb funds to prevent inflation. Ted Gamble said when in Oregon last week that this will be the largest drive of them all—the one we need the most to make in order to prove to the Japs that we are not letting down because the European war is over.

Sherman county can still offer its part of that proof. Sales that are made Saturday will count if they are relayed to state headquarters so to reach there Monday. The county needs six men who will buy a \$5000 bond, or ten who will buy \$3000 in bonds, or 30 who will buy a \$1000 bond, or 60 who will buy a \$500 bond. Surely there are such men.

Representing 220 Years Work



Each of these members of the Pacific Power & Light company in the front row are Ralph Brisbane, Stanley Heckman, Harold Milby, and Robert Doane; back row are Leonard T. Snider and G. L. Corey, district manager. The picture was taken as P.P.&L. employees here observed the 35th anniversary of the founding of the company.

Members of the Pacific Power & Light company organization met in The Dalles Tuesday with George T. Bragg, vice-president and general manager, and Charles M. Sanford, assistant general manager, to observe the 35th anniversary of the founding of the company and to honor its veteran employees. G. L. Corey, district manager, Ralph B. Brisbane, local manager at Moro, and Frank M. Jahn, line superintendent, have each had more than 25 years of service with the company.

Where electricity from small, inefficient systems once sold for as high as 25 cents a kilowatt-hour, 35 years of electrical progress here by the company has brought rates so low that Pacific Power & Light company now receives an average price of only 1.86 cents per kilowatt-hour for residential electric service, Bragg pointed out. Electric rates here are now 46 per cent below the average for the nation.

Where in 1910, electric service rarely extended beyond larger towns, the company's lines today serve the agricultural territory of 21 Oregon and Washington counties and supply electricity to more than 13,000 farms.