

GREATEST RAILROAD STRIKE THREATENS

EVERY LINE IN IMMINENT DANGER OF GREAT WALKOUT

ENGINEERS, FIREMEN AND TRAINMEN ARE ALL AGREED ON 15 PER CENT RAISE

Officials Decide to Stand Pat—Fear That All Organizations of Trainmen Will Go Out—Demands Will Be Presented on December 11—Conferences Begin on December 15—No Agreement in Sight.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—The United States is threatened with the greatest railroad strike in the history of the nation, according to present indications. Practically every railroad line in the country, east and west, is in imminent danger of being completely tied up by a walk-out on the part of a large number of its operating employees this month.

Officers of the organizations of engineers, firemen, trainmen and switchmen have agreed upon a uniform demand of a 15 per cent increase.

Chicago officials of different railroads here fear that all organizations of trainmen will join the strikers but declare that the roads have come to an agreement not to give in.

Union officials are again in conference tonight. Street railroads in several cities may be included in the walkout as well as several companies handling railroad freight on special interurbans.

That the crisis is approaching rapidly, was indicated by the announcement at New York by officers of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen that they would present their demands December 11. The wage conferences will begin December 15. Although every effort will be made to avoid a general strike, it is impossible to predict what the outcome of the conferences will be.

Both the railroads and the leaders of organizations among the railroad employees are preparing for the struggle, which, when it once begins, will without doubt develop into one of the greatest industrial battles that has ever been fought in this or any other land.

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COUNTING ON UNCLE SAM TO AID

Estrada Wires United Press That He is Certain of Support of United States in Nicaraguan Revolution.

NO NEWS RECEIVED OF THE SITUATION

Cruisers Plowing Their Way Southward—Crook Nearly Ready for Service.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The United Press this afternoon received the following dispatch from Provisional President Estrada, leader of the Nicaraguan revolution:

"Bluefields, Nicaragua. (Via wireless to Colon) Dec. 4.—I know the Americans are in sympathy with us. The United States has always been the upholder and the exponent of liberty and just government. We are striving for this in the name of Nicaragua and send greetings to that noble nation, the United States. (Signed) ESTRADA."

No News Saturday.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—Although the American representatives at all Nicaraguan points have been instructed to render daily reports of the situation in the trouble zone, the state department is without news today. The cause of the failure of the reports to arrive is causing no little anxiety.

The answer to Secretary Knox's scathing note to Zelaya has not been received.

L. D. Harris, formerly one of the most successful orchardists of the valley, now an owner of a ranch near Chico, Cal., is expected to arrive Sunday for a visit in Medford.

STORM KING REIGNS OVER STATE; HEAVY SNOWFALL

MUCH PAVING IN SIGHT FOR COMING YEAR

Many Petitions Are Being Circulated — Committee Goes to California to Look Up Paving Matters.

W. Estelle Phipps of this city holds all long-distance paving records in the city by signing a petition for paving on Riverside avenue along his property—a distance of 2180 feet. And the man who disputes his title will have "to go some."

From present indications many streets are to be paved during the coming summer. Petitions are being circulated and generally signed for the following streets:

Riverside, from north limits to south limits.

Sixth street from Grape to Riverside, if the depot is moved and the street opened, otherwise from Front street to Riverside.

Genesee street in East Medford. East Main from bridge to top of the hill.

Tenth street from Central avenue to Hamilton.

West Jackson to city limits.

Roosevelt avenue from West Main north to city limits.

Front street north to West Jackson and south to Tenth.

About the middle of January Mayor Canon and one of the councilmen, acting as a committee, will leave for Southern California to make a study of street paving. It is thought that the work can be done cheaper in the future, and the committee will investigate. The investigation was authorized by the city council at its last meeting.

NO DAMAGE IS REPORTED; FIRST SNOW IN MEDFORD BEFORE XMAS SINCE 1861

Every Section of the State Reports Snow—Storm is General Over Northwest—Car Service in Portland at Standstill—No Let-up in Sight at Late Hour—Middle West is Severe Sufferer—Heavy Sleet and Snow.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 4.—Oregon tonight is in the grip of the worst snow storm experienced in years previous to Christmas. Practically every section of the state has experienced a fall of snow ranging from two to nine inches. A stiff east wind is accompanying it.

The car service in this city is practically at a halt tonight on account of the snow, which began falling early this morning. Wires are beginning to go down in the city.

Little or no damage has been reported over the state. The Willamette valley is suffering perhaps the hardest fall.

The storm is general over the northwest and reports from the east state that wires are down and that the central states are held in the grip of a terrific blizzard. Much damage is reported.

The thermometer dropped to 21 at 6 o'clock this evening. The storm still continues.

SALEM, Or., Dec. 4.—Salem is in the throes of its first snow storm of the season, which bids fair to rival that of a year ago, when an aggregate depth of one foot was attained and the cold snap extended over a period of two weeks, the record for the valley.

The "beautiful" began falling about 8 o'clock this morning and at 11 o'clock had attained a depth of 3 1-2 inches and is still falling in fine, frosty flakes this evening which indicates an indefinite continuance. The thermometer stands at 3 degrees above at 6 p. m. The snow is of a consistency to permit sleighing and the merry jingle of bells is already in the air.

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ENGLAND'S POPULACE IS MADLY EXCITED

Only Police Stop Mob Who Would Wreck Home of Lord Lansdowne.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Determined work on the part of the police was all that prevented a yelling mob of 3000 persons, aroused by pro-budget mass meetings held today, from charging the home of Lord Lansdowne, the leader of the Unionists.

Following several mass meetings held in Trafalgar square, and adjoining streets, a mob formed and moved rapidly toward Lansdowne's house. Mounted police hurriedly summoned were compelled to charge the mob several times before it dispersed.

Six mass meetings were held simultaneously today in Trafalgar Square and adjoining streets, at which the action of the house of lords in rejecting Chancellor Lloyd-George's budget was bitterly condemned, were attended by more than 100,000 persons.

Socialist and Liberal.

In the vast crowds that surrounded the speakers' stands, and on the platforms, were Socialists and Liberals, in about equal numbers.

This is taken as evidence that the Socialists and Liberals have practi-

CROWDS THROG NATION'S CAPITAL

Opening of Congress Is Awaited by Many—Little Doing Until Tuesday.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 4.—The capital city is thronged with the crowds here for the opening of one of the most interesting sessions of congress in a decade, which will begin on Monday.

The first day's session will be brief. It will consist mainly of the appointment of committees to notify the president that the lawmakers are in session.

After these committees are named each house will adjourn out of respect for the memory of dead colleagues. The reading of President Taft's message will take place on Tuesday and probably will take up the entire time of the day's session.

ocially combined forces to co-operate in the budget fight.

At each meeting resolutions condemning the action of the lords in fiery terms, declaring that "the rejection of the budget was a menace to the people's hard-won liberty," and demanding abolition of the lords' power to veto the bill of the people were presented. In each instance the resolutions were carried with a roar of approval.

PROGRESS PLEASES COMMISSIONER WEST

Railroad Man Makes Tour of Inspection Over Pacific & Eastern and Is Pleased.

State Railroad Commissioner Oswald West spent Saturday in Medford and vicinity and made a tour of inspection over the Pacific & Eastern. He was greatly surprised and pleased at the progress of construction work on the line. Said Mr. West: "I am just taking a run through southern Oregon in order to be informed as to conditions and the needs of the patrons of the railroad. I dropped off here to take a run over the Pacific & Eastern. The commission has always steered clear of this road as we understood it was dead and we didn't want to be accused of disturbing a corpse. But since Mr. Allen has come along and breathed the breath of life into it and made it a live one we are on hand to claim jurisdiction. I must say that I am surprised at the work being done on the P. & E. Those back of the road evidently mean business. I don't know where they are going but they are surely on their way." Men galore are at work along the line digging it out of the mud and lining it up. It is being

well balasted and new ties are taking the place of old; grades and curves are being eliminated or reduced and I understand heavy steel will take the place of the old rails now in use.

"The improvement and extension of the road will be a great thing for Medford. If it goes no farther than to timber it will be a big thing for you and should it cross the mountains and connect up with some other road it will give Medford and southern Oregon a competitive line to the east which will mean better

CHRISTMAS NUMBER OF MAIL TRIBUNE

Sunday, December 12, the Mail Tribune will issue its Christmas edition, which will be from 24 pages up, according to the volume of advertising.

The Christmas number is issued this early in order to give shoppers the benefit of early selection of Christmas goods as advertised in the Christmas number, and merchants the advantage of reaching patrons in ample time to avoid the final rush.

Advertisers are requested to prepare and bring in their Christmas ads at once, as the earlier ads are received, the more attention and the better position they will receive.

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JOHNSON BUYS RADER PLACE FOR \$50,000

Splendid Tract Near Eagle Point Changes Hands—Will Plant to Orchard.

W. E. Johnson, formerly manager of the Hotel Nash, has purchased the Joe Rader place near Eagle Point, the consideration being \$50,000. The place consists of 530 acres of choice land, of which 240 is bottom land. The foothill land is red loam and is some of the finest in the valley.

The place is near the famous Tronson & Guthrie place, which grew the Spitzenbergs which recently won for their growers the title, "Apple Kings of America."

Mr. Johnson will take charge on March 1, and will set the place out to apples and pears. After planting orchard he may decide to cut it into small tracts and place them on the market, but as to this he has not determined.

William S. Smallwood of Seattle is a recent arrival in Medford in search of a location.

freight rates which in turn will mean cheaper supplies and better prices for your fruit. I can assure Mr. Allen that he will have the prayers of the commission."

\$55,000 PAID FOR TRACT NEAR "401"

Newcomer From Seattle Shows His Faith by Heavily Investing in Valley.

Arthur D. Coulter of Seattle on Saturday purchased 296 acres of land, comprising the Gilman and Andrews tracts, between the Villas and "401" ranches, northeast of Medford, paying \$55,000.

The tract is as fine as lies in the valley and its worth is amply vouched for by the excellence of the large places which adjoin.

On the place there are 26 acres of six-year-old Newtowns, ten acres of four-year-old Newtowns and at present 80 acres are being planted to pears.

Mr. Coulter states that he is more than satisfied with his buy. He plans to make a large orchard tract of it. The sale was made by W. C. Green through J. A. Torney.

RED BLUFF SUFFERS HEAVY LOSS BY FIRE

RED BLUFF, Cal., Dec. 4.—Damage aggregating \$50,000 was done in an early morning fire that destroyed four buildings in the business section of the town, including the Prince theater.

WOMAN IS NEARLY DROWNED IN ROGUE

Mrs. Lee Watkins of Agate Has Narrow Escape From Drowning in the Rogue

Mrs. Lee Watkins, living on the desert near Agate, had a very narrow escape from drowning recently while returning from visiting friends on this side of the river. She started for home in her buggy, believing the water was not very deep on the road. Just before reaching the bridge the buggy went off the grade and upset, throwing Mrs. Watkins into deep water. She was carried by the current against the wire fence, which she clung to, and made her way along it to the bridge and was there met by the people living near by and taken care of until Mr. Watkins took her home. The horse was drowned.

MITCHELL TRACT IS SOLD FOR \$6000

The Mitchell tract, consisting of 55 acres, situated near Jacksonville, was sold this week to Murphy & Daniels of Medford for \$6000. It is reported that the purchasers will immediately set out a large orchard. The land is specially adapted to fruitgrowing and considered a great bargain at the price paid.