

The Weather
Maximum yesterday 40
Minimum today 42
Precipitation .01

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Predictions
Rain Tonight and Sunday.

Forty-eighth Year. Daily—Thirteenth Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 1919

NO. 272

SEATTLE STRIKERS BEGIN TO WEAKEN BEFORE FIRM ATTITUDE OF OFFICIALS

TROOPS SENT BUTTE TO KEEP STRIKERS QUIET

I. W. W. Element Blamed for Trouble as Miners Union Men Are Prepared for Wage Reduction Under Scheduled Scale—Eleven Arrested for Disturbances.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 8.—Following plans agreed to at a mass meeting held last night at the call of the local I. W. W., hundreds of striking miners, some of them armed, turned back men who started for work this morning with the result that mining in the district is practically suspended this morning.

The pickets gathered at the I. W. W. hall at 6 o'clock this morning and left for the various mines in detachments large enough to picket the various avenues of approach. Miners in several instances were waylaid and beaten. Mechanics whose unions have taken no action in respect to a strike were held up and sent back from the mines by the strikers. A particular effort was made to prevent hoisting engineers from going on the job. No arrests have been made by the police or members of the sheriff's force.

Soldiers Sent Mines

Soldiers of the 14th regular infantry were later sent to the mines and are now guarding the approaches to the various properties. Their assistance however came an hour after the morning shift was to go to work and by the time they were patrolling the streets leading to the mines the pickets had succeeded in turning away the miners who wanted to work. The force of United States soldiers stationed at Butte is small. The strike inaugurated by the I. W. W. here has no connection with the controversy between the city and the police and fire departments. The policemen and firemen were about to quit their positions because they could not cash their salary warrants and in anticipation of this the council late yesterday afternoon ordered patrolmen and firemen discharged dating from next Monday. Last evening local bankers and business men arranged to cash salary warrants of firemen who have been notified of council will rescind its action in that action and it is expected that the spect to that department.

I. W. W. Move Says Haywood

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 8.—Engine men, firemen and pump men at Butte, Mont., where a strike of miners prevails, will remain at their work, according to a statement of Charles H. Moyer, president of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelting Workers today. They are the only men at Butte who are members of the international union. "Butte is the home of a nest of I. W. W. who have remained there and flourished during the war," said Mr. Moyer. "The miners on strike are practically unorganized. This is not an American union movement. It is a move of the I. W. W. and the government must play a strong hand immediately."

The engineers, firemen and pump men are not dissatisfied with the cut in wages, Mr. Moyer said, as they work on a "sliding scale." When copper is selling at a high price their wages are high and when copper declines the wages of the workers decline.

ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL COMPLETED

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Work on the army appropriation bill for the year beginning July 1, 1919, has been completed by the house military committee and Chairman Dent expects to formally present it to the house Monday. It carries an appropriation of approximately \$800,000,000 for the maintenance of an army of about 500,000 men, but includes no provisions for reorganization.

Society of Nations an Actuality

PARIS, Feb. 8.—The peace conference commission on a society of nations expects to finish its work at the session to begin at 10:30 o'clock a. m. today. At a long session last night the committee completed two-thirds of the draft of the project. The commission, it is added, is of the opinion that certain clauses of the draft should be referred to a sub-committee for clarification.

ASK CONGRESS TO ESTABLISH COAST MARINE

SALEM, Feb. 8.—Oregon has taken the first steps in joining the other Pacific coast states in urging upon congress the establishment of a merchant marine on the Pacific coast. A joint memorial has been introduced by Senator Eddy, asking congress to get into action and a conference was held in the governor's office between Secretary Quayle of the Oregon Chamber of Commerce, President Vin-ton of the senate, Speaker Seymour Jones of the house, Senator Eddy, chairman of the senate reconstruction committee and Ben Sheldon, chairman of the house reconstruction committee. Data was submitted to show that 400 ships are necessary to carry to the markets of the world the lumber output of this state, aside from the marine needs of other industries. Washington and California are participating in the movement and Governor Withcomb believes that joint action by the three coast states will awaken congress to the knowledge that action is imperative. "If we are to do our utmost for reconstruction," said the governor, "it is necessary that foreign markets be reached and the only way this can be done is through a merchant marine. Our network of railroads halts at the shores of the Pacific, hence the railroad do not build up a foreign trade. Congress must act if we are not to fall behind Japan, England and other foreign countries."

ALL TROOPS NEEDED PROMISED LISTER

OLYMPIA, Wash., Feb. 8.—Governor Ernest Lister has the promise of the secretary of war that all necessary co-operation will be given him in coping with possible strike troubles at Seattle and Tacoma, and the situation is unchanged in that regard," a statement issued from the governor's office today said. It was said that under the peculiar conditions existing the governor could make a direct request for federal control in the cities affected and secure immediate action. No such request has yet been made from municipal authorities of either Seattle or Tacoma, it was said.

OAKLAND SHIPYARD LABORERS TALK STRIKE

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 8.—At its meeting last night the Oakland shipyard laborers' union with a membership of approximately 3000, voted to declare a holiday on Monday for the purpose of taking a strike vote. The balloting, according to Secretary Carroll, will be for a wage of six dollars a day and access to the shipyards for the business agent of the union.

STRIKE BROKEN IN TACOMA; MEN PLAN RETURN

Street Car Service Resumed In All Parts of City—Longshoremen Call Meeting to Rescind Strike Vote—Ship Workers Modify Tone and Are Willing to Enter Negotiations.

TACOMA, Wash., Feb. 8.—With street car service resumed both on the municipal line across the tide flats to the shipyards and the different lines of the Tacoma Railway and Power company in all parts of the city the strike situation was greatly cleared this morning. Officers of the street railway reported everything running fine with cars going out on the early runs on time and no appearance of strikers or trouble-makers at any place. The interurban and other short lines have been able to maintain their schedules during the past two days. Automobile omnibuses and large trucks of the department stores fitted up with seats to carry their clerks were taken off the streets after the street cars made their appearance. There is increasing dissatisfaction among the longshoremen at the action taken in going out in view of the large vote against and the sympathetic strike. The vote stood 246 to 161 in carrying the union men out. The people are doing their Saturday marketing and all stores are open. Barbers are working as usual and restaurants are feeding their patrons, but some have signs indicating they are operating under the cooks and waiters union on the "permit" plan.

Modifying Terms Sentiment grows that the message sent last night by the trades union to Charles Piez, director-general of the Emergency Fleet corporation in which the council denies being under agreement with the government, and that a return to work could only be considered if some assurance of a just settlement is made, is a material modification from the radical position taken at the outset of the strike and shows more of a disposition to enter into negotiations. O. S. Larson, representing the war labor board at Tacoma, held a conference this morning with C. R. Barrett, secretary of the Metal Trades Council. He stated that he gave three reasons why the strike could not be maintained and that it could be settled only in a decent manner. He expressed the belief that the strike here would be but a question of hours.

SALEM, Feb. 8.—A record is being made by the Oregon legislature in curtailing the number of bills introduced. Up to the present time 220 measures have been introduced in the senate against 305 at the corresponding period of the 1917 session, while in the house 427 bills have been introduced against 529 two years ago. With the exception of special orders the introduction of bills was stopped in the house last Monday, Senator Pierce's resolution to make yesterday the final day for introduction of bills in the senate has not been acted upon.

ONLY 525 BILLS OFFERED AT SALEM

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—New credits of \$75,000,000 for Italy and \$40,000,000 for Belgium were established today by the treasury. This raised the total credits of all the allies to \$8,674,824,000, including \$1,385,000,000 for Italy and \$290,145,000 for Belgium.

NEW CREDITS GIVEN ITALY AND BELGIUM

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—With the object of inducing the government to appropriate a sum of money sufficient to eliminate debris left in Oregon forests by spruce gnaws, a committee appointed by the spruce production division and the state department of forestry is now making an estimate of needs in the several counties where gnaws were located. It will be necessary to remove the debris as a precaution against forest fires.

STRIKE COMMITTEE MEETS TO PASS UPON DECLARING SYMPATHETIC STRIKE OFF

NOT A STRIKE, BUT REVOLUTION

SEATTLE, Feb. 8.—In a statement issued today by Reverend M. A. Matthews, a local pastor, and J. W. Spangler, banker, who formed the committee which met with Mayor Ole Hanson and a strikers' special committee yesterday, it was made clear that the conferences were solely due to the strikers' efforts to have Mayor Hanson rescind his ultimatum. "Mayor Hanson," the statement said, "told these men (strikers' committee) the city government was in charge of affairs." Mr. Spangler and Rev. Matthews, the statement adds, "told the men that the so-called 'general strike' is not a strike but a revolution and so regarded by the community."

The statement says Rev. Matthews and Mr. Spangler later consulted members of a citizens' committee representing all interests and were directed to meet the strikers last night, but were instructed "to state positively that the business interests and general community looked upon the so-called 'general strike' as a rebellion against the government." "The citizens' and business interests have not entertained and will not entertain any proposals relating to the so-called 'general strike.' We request the people of America be informed of this fact and be notified that Seattle is not treating with the revolutionists and is not in the hands of revolutionists."

ELECTRIC WORKERS ORDERED BACK FOR SEATTLEITES

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Feb. 8.—J. P. Noonan, acting president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, with offices in this city, in a telegram today directed all electrical workers of his organization on sympathy strike at Seattle, Wash., to return to work. The telegram of Mr. Noonan said: "The responsibility of the electrical workers is too great to permit darkness in Seattle which enhances the possibility of lawlessness. All members should go back to their jobs."

Two representatives of the International Electrical Workers' union are on the ground, Mr. Noonan stated to insist that the members of the organization observe the contract under which they are working.

BELLINGHAM VOTES GENERAL STRIKE

BELLINGHAM, Wash., Feb. 8.—The allied unions of the Metal Trades Council have gone on record in favor of a sympathetic strike by vote of 340 to 160. It is reported, however, that the final decision is contingent upon the action of the Portland Metal Trades Council, with which the local council is affiliated. The electricians' union voted down a strike resolution by 27 to 13.

REMOVE DEBRIS OF SPRUCE PRODUCTION

SALEM, Feb. 8.—With the object of inducing the government to appropriate a sum of money sufficient to eliminate debris left in Oregon forests by spruce gnaws, a committee appointed by the spruce production division and the state department of forestry is now making an estimate of needs in the several counties where gnaws were located. It will be necessary to remove the debris as a precaution against forest fires.

MAYOR STANDS PAT AND REFUSES TO WITHDRAW ULTIMATUM AND STARTS OPERATION OF TRACTION LINES

Breaking of Backbone of General Strike Believed to Be a Matter of Hours—Hanson Regards Strike as Revolution—Puts On Auto Jitney Line and Starts Street Cars—Pulls Off Union Exemption Signs and Says Operation Will Be Conducted Regardless of Union Permission—Offers Protection of Troops to Business Houses and Industries.

SEATTLE, Feb. 8.—At 2:15 o'clock this afternoon the strikers' general conference committee, representing a majority of the 130 unions affected by the general strike, was still in conference. Unofficially it was intimated that a formal vote on whether or not to declare the sympathetic strike off would be taken late today. Should the vote end the strike, it was said, the time for ordering the men back to work would then be fixed.

Backbone Breaking

SEATTLE, Feb. 8.—Officials of the Puget Sound Traction, Light and Power company, said this afternoon they believed it was a matter of hours when the backbone of Seattle's general strike would be broken. Their street car employees, they said, were then congregating at the various car barns, evidently preparing to return to work. Officials of the carmen's union were still in the general strike committee's conference. Company officials said they believed the order to the car men to resume work would be given when the conference ended.

No cars have yet been operated over the company's lines, said the officials. They declared it would be impracticable for them to attempt to give service with strikebreakers, and added that the mayor was welcome to operate the city's cars over the company's lines if he wished, provided the street car employees decided not to resume work.

SEATTLE, Feb. 8.—City directed "automobile jitney" service was inaugurated in Seattle today to break the strike in compliance with the mayor's ultimatum that the strikers would have to call off a sympathetic strike at 8 o'clock this morning or he would operate all essential industries. Mayor Hanson, who gave out the statement that the "jitney" service had been started, said plans were under way to extend it. He said cars on all city lines were operating and that unless the private car companies began operations he would order the city cars run over the private lines "with or without their consent."

Pulls off Union Signs

"I furthermore," Mayor Hanson said, "have ordered all union exemption signs on trucks or cars of any kind torn off. We're going to operate without the consent of any labor union."

Mayor Hanson's ultimatum to the strikers' committee, issued yesterday went into effect at 8 o'clock this morning. He ordered that either the sympathetic strike be called off, or he would operate essential industries with the use of federal troops if necessary. After a strikers' special committee failed to get him to rescind that ultimatum late last night,

the committee reported back to the general strike conference committee this morning. What action was taken was not announced.

No Interference Attempted

In the meantime the municipal cars began operations on all lines, without reported interference. One of the two private companies was planning to operate today with volunteer crews. Unless both companies attempted to resume operations, the mayor said the city's cars would use the private lines without asking consent.

Several more restaurants attempted to resume business today. Wholesale firms and produce dealers announced they would attempt truck delivery of goods. The strikers' 21 "soup kitchens" resumed work. All city electrical workers returned to their work, international union sanction of the strike having been refused. Engineer and janitors of the public school system were to meet late today to decide whether they would return to work Monday or forfeit their positions, according to a school board ultimatum.

No Disorder

Up to 10 o'clock today virtually not one case of strike disorder had been reported to the police during the entire strike to date. The city's streets present the unusual appearance, however, of being guarded by some 600 soldiers in uniform, wearing special police stars, and by more than 400 regular policemen, a large number of whom are equipped with carbines. The general strike conference committee continues to keep its own men on police duty, with the announced intention of cooperating with the regular authorities.

Newspaper offices, city utilities, shipyards and federal government offices are under heavy guard of police or regular army troops, 982 of whom were sent here from Camp Lewis. The Post-Intelligencer issued early today a four-page paper minus advertisements, its first edition since Thursday morning. It was believed that at least one other Seattle paper would publish today under guard of police. Up to the present all papers published have been distributed by the police about the city's business districts free of charge. The Star published from its own plant yesterday and was expected to publish today. The Post-Intelligencer issued from a job printing office during the night. No attempt has been made to distribute the papers to regular customers on circulation routes.

Traction Effort

The Puget Sound Traction, Light and Power company at 9 o'clock had not operated any cars, and officials

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AVIATION EXPERTS PLAN ATLANTIC FLIGHT

WASHINGTON, Feb. 8.—Navy aviation experts are planning a flight across the Atlantic. Commander John H. Towers was ordered today to take charge of the "development of plans and assembly of material and personnel for the proposed trans-Atlantic flight."

EVERETT TO VOTE ON SYMPATHY STRIKE

EVERETT, Wash., Feb. 8.—The Everett Trades Council, holding special session at the Labor Temple last evening, voted in favor of a referendum to the various unions of the city on the question of a general sympathetic strike in Everett to aid the Seattle strikers. The returns of the referendum will not be known until Wednesday, February 19.