

The Weather

Maximum yesterday 64
Minimum today 36
Precipitation .06

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

Predictions

Rain.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1921

NO. 306

LABOR UNIONS MOBILIZE FOR CONTEST

LABOR UNITES IN OPPOSING WAGE REDUCTIONS IN MINES PACKING HOUSES AND R. R.'S

Packing House Workers Vote Almost Unanimously for Strike—John L. Lewis: President United Mine Workers, Announces Resistance to Wage Reductions and Breaking of Contract While Frank P. Walsh Starts Cross Examination of Railroad Heads to Prove Bad Faith Toward Workers—Labor's Bill of Rights Offered to U. S. Labor Board.

CHICAGO, March 18.—Railroad labor unions today presented what they termed their "bill of rights" to the railroad board and then began an attempt to prove the insincerity of the roads in their dealings with the unions by cross-examining high railroad officials who had been summoned by the board at the request of the unions.

Frank P. Walsh, labor attorney, conducted the cross-examination. He read correspondence between labor leaders which was furnished by R. S. Binkard, secretary of the Association of Railway Executives labor committee and which he said would prove his case.

One letter from Mr. Binkard to T. Dewitt Caylor, chairman of the Association, reported that the committee had voted in favor of one or more national boards of adjustment, only W. W. Atterbury, vice president of the Pennsylvania voting against the resolution.

Atterbury Gains Point Mr. Atterbury, the letter said, had submitted a minority report against the plan and this report later was adopted 60 to 41 by the railroads in an individual ballot.

Mr. Walsh said that as a result of this, Carl Gray, president of the Union Pacific resigned as chairman of the committee and Atterbury succeeded him.

Mr. Walsh had announced before the meeting that he would prove that Mr. Atterbury, E. T. Whiter, chairman of the roads' conference committee and a few others dominated the policies of the roads.

The union's "bill of rights" was presented by B. M. Jewell, chairman of the railroad labor department of the American Federation of Labor and outlined eleven points which Mr. Jewell said could not be changed without labor's consent. They deal largely with working conditions.

Mr. Binkard, the first witness called, said the association originated in 1912 and was formed "to deal with the steadily developing railroad problems in the United States."

The present association was the outgrowth of the 1912 organization, he said. He declared it did not have general power over the roads as each road "acted on its own judgment."

"If it has no control over them, why is Whiter here as their representative?" Mr. Walsh asked.

"He's here as a result of a policy adopted by the roads individually through their association," Mr. Binkard replied.

Against Agreements Mr. Walsh read from a file of correspondence brought to the hearing by Mr. Binkard. He read numerous letters, declaring that he wanted to show by them that the executives' labor committee was originally organized to deal with wage matters but had become inter-related with the

conference committee which was formed to deal with national agreements and national rules.

One letter from Mr. Binkard to Mr. Caylor requested a meeting of members of the two committees. It inclosed a memorandum which said Mr. Whiter's object before the labor board should be to eliminate the national agreements and that if the board took the attitude that some uniform rules should be continued, Mr. Whiter should attempt to procure elimination of as many objectionable features as possible. Some objectionable features were said to be rules dealing with piece work, employing men without regard to moral or physical fitness, and the four year apprentice rules.

U. P. Men Oppose Cut

OMAHA, Neb., March 18.—An indication that labor leaders will oppose a proposed reduction in the wages of unskilled workers on the Union Pacific was given in a statement here today by R. R. Butzer of Omaha, general chairman of the Union Pacific system board of adjustment who represented members of the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, in the employ of that company.

The statement made in connection with a wage conference scheduled to take place here March 24 between representatives of the men and Union Pacific officials, said at the coming meeting "detailed facts and arguments would be placed tending to show that the present rates are in every sense just and reasonable." It added that "every effort will be made by the representatives of the employees to adjust this controversy in a just and fair manner."

Bill of Rights.

CHICAGO, March 18.—Eleven basic principles satisfactory to labor and on which labor would be willing to negotiate agreements were laid down before the United States railroad labor board today by B. M. Jewell, president of the railway employee department of the American Federation of Labor.

"These fundamentals, upon which the national agreements are based consist only of those elementary principles and safeguards which enlightened public opinion has sanctioned and officially declared necessary to the well being of the men and women employed not only in the transportation industry but in all basic industries," he said.

Arguments upon the proposal of the railroad executives to abrogate the national agreements has occupied the attention of the board since January 21, when the request was submitted by W. W. Atterbury, vice president of the Pennsylvania railroad.

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General of Coal Miners, John L. Lewis, Forces for Labor Struggle.

DEFENDERS OF KRONSTADT FLEE INTO FINLAND

STOCKHOLM, Mar. 18.—Reports that the Russian naval fortress of Kronstadt, the center of the revolution against the soviet government, has been taken by the bolsheviks, appear to be confirmed in dispatches reaching here from Finland.

Leon Trotzky, Russian bolshevik minister of war, directed the assault on the fortress, it is said, and hurled upwards of 60,000 men at its defenses.

Advices would seem to indicate that communists within the fortress and town of Kronstadt assisted the bolshevik forces when the latter had broken into the outer forts of the place. The garrison, numbering approximately 15,000, is declared to have become exhausted by the constant bombardment of the place and were poorly equipped in some places.

The defenders of Kronstadt, together with the commander of the revolutionary troops, are reported to have escaped into Finland.

LONDON, Mar. 18.—(By the Associated Press.) The Russian soviet government, in confirming by wire today the capture of Kronstadt by bolshevik troops said M. Kuzmin, soviet commissar of the Baltic fleet, and M. Vassiloff, chairman of the Kronstadt soviet, who were arrested at the beginning of the rising, were released by the bolsheviks on their entry into Kronstadt.

M. Kuzmin participated in the final liquidation of the rising, the wireless adds.

BERNE, Switzerland, Mar. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—The capture of the bolsheviks of Mochlev and Jampol, on the Dniester river, by Ukrainian nationalist forces, was announced by the Ukrainian mission here today.

The Ukrainians shot all the bolshevik commissars and officers, the mission declared.

BERNE, Switzerland, Mar. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—The executive committee of the International Metal Workers union, which claims a membership of 3,500,000, today adopted a resolution declaring against Lenin and the third international of Moscow.

The committee urged union members in all countries to oppose new wars and militarism to the utmost and seek to achieve general disarmament to bring about permanent peace.

PORTLAND, Ore., March 18.—Frank A. Spencer, a wholesale merchant, was late yesterday appointed receiver for the A. Rupert company, Inc., whose announced failure last week involved a number of fruit and vegetable canneries in Oregon and Washington. Heavy cuts in prices made by the California Packers Association, banker and witness at the receivership hearing, to have caused the Rupert failure. The Rupert company he said, was not in position to meet the cut, which amounted from 25 to 50 per cent.

ALLIES PROTEST GERMAN TROOPS UPPER SILESIA

PARIS, Mar. 18.—(By Associated Press.) The council of ambassadors today handed a note to the German plebiscite delegation concerning the concentration of German troops on the upper Silesian frontier.

The communication says Germany will be held responsible for any disorders arising from the entry of armed German forces into the plebiscite area.

A similar note was sent by the council to the Polish plebiscite delegation.

BERLIN, Mar. 18.—(By Associated Press.) The inter-allied plebiscite commission has ordered a suspension of telegraphic and telephonic communication with upper Silesia from Saturday to Monday. A plebiscite will be held in upper Silesia Sunday to determine whether Poland or Germany shall have sovereignty over the district.

Press telegrams are excluded from the commission's order but will be subject to the approval of authorities in Silesia.

21 Gallons Whiskey Seized by U. S. Govt. Labor Headquarters

DENVER, Colo., March 18.—State and federal agents today raided state headquarters of the American Federation of Labor here, confiscated 21 gallons of whiskey and arrested two members of a committee named to provide entertainment for the national convention of the order here next summer on a charge of violating the prohibition laws.

Sixteen gallons of liquor were found at the headquarters and five gallons were confiscated when the two men were arrested in a building near by.

Sugar Goes Up

SAN FRANCISCO, Mar. 18.—The price of refined cane sugar at the refinery increased from \$8.25 to \$8.50 today, the second rise in ten days.

ELENSBURG, Wash., Mar. 18.—James Cotter, 24, former Ellensburg manager for the Western Union Telegraph company, confessed he had forged a telegraphic order on the company for \$1800, cashing it last December at San Francisco. Cotter started for San Francisco last night in custody, to face a charge of grand larceny in connection with the alleged draft.

Chicago Aldermen Ask Portland How To Spend Their Cash

PORTLAND, Ore., March 18.—Thirteen aldermen of Chicago, comprising the committee on local transportation of the Chicago council, a number of traffic experts and newspapermen, were here today on a tour on which they are seeking pointers on how to expend \$29,000 which Chicago has in its traction fund, an accumulation of several years from the gross earnings tax paid by surface traction lines. They will leave for Seattle at 11 tonight.

H. C. L. DROPS NINE PERCENT IN FEBRUARY

Government Report Shows Marked Decline in Food Costs Last Month Over January—Buffalo and Butte Lead in Reductions—Decline in Portland 6 Per Cent.

WASHINGTON, March 18.—Food costs of the average family declined nine per cent in February as compared with January, the bureau of labor statistics announced today. All of 44 articles reported, except hens, decreased in price, the figures showing hens having increased less than 5-10th of one per cent.

Strictly fresh eggs were down 29 per cent; storage eggs 25 per cent; potatoes 13 per cent; rice 12 per cent; pork chops 9 per cent; plate beef and sugar 8 per cent; chuck roast, lamb, butter, lard and prunes 7 per cent; round steak and fresh milk 6 per cent; sirloin steak, ribs roast, oleomargarine, crisco and onions 5 per cent; nut margarine and cornmeal 4 per cent; bacon, flour, rolled oats, navy beans, cabbage, baked beans, coffee and oranges 3 per cent; bread, canned corn, canned peas, canned tomatoes and bananas 2 per cent; canned salmon, evaporated milk, cheese, corn flakes, macaroni, tea and raisins, one per cent.

All articles of food combined decreased 21 per cent during the year but five articles which increased during the period were raisins 25 per cent; macaroni 7 per cent; rolled oats 3 per cent; cream of wheat 2 per cent; tea less than 5-10th of one per cent.

During the eight year period from February 1913, the increase in all articles of food was 63 per cent. The greatest decrease in average family expenditure was in Buffalo and Butte, Mont., at 11 per cent for the month. Other decreases were:

Chicago, Denver, Dallas, Kansas City, New York, Omaha and Washington 9 per cent; Los Angeles, Portland, Ore., Salt Lake City and San Francisco 6 per cent; Seattle 4 per cent.

For the year all of the 51 cities reported showed a decrease in food costs, Memphis and Minneapolis leading with 26 per cent.

BAKER BASKETBALL COACH RESIGNS

BAKER, Ore., March 18.—The resignation was announced yesterday of G. G. Dewey, coach of the Baker high school basketball team. Withdrawal of the Baker team from the Oregon basketball tournament at Salem last week was forced after the team had attained the semi-finals, on the ground that an ineligible player was a member of the team. Dewey said today that he felt his resignation was in order because of this circumstance and so had tendered it. The resignation was accepted.

CLARA SMITH HAMON MAY FILE SUIT AGAINST HAMON ESTATE FOR SERVICES SHE RENDERED

Pretty Defendant Undecided As to Future Plans, But Friends Urge Her to Present Claims for Services in Building Up Millionaire's Estate—Other Charges Against Principal in Murder Trial to Be Dropped—Charge Against Ketch as Accessory After the Fact Is Still Pigeon Holed—Said to Be Considering High Salaried Contracts.

ARDMORE, Okla., March 18.—There probably will be no aftermath to the trial of Clara Smith Hamon, acquitted yesterday on a charge of having murdered Jake L. Hamon in the matter of prosecution on the statutory charge filed against her and Hamon two days after she shot him November 21 last, according to information obtained in the office of the county attorney of Carter county today.

Such action, following the young woman's acquittal, probably would be regarded as persecution, it was said.

An information charging Frank L. Ketch, Hamon's business manager, and now administrator of the Hamon estate, with being an accessory after the fact in that he gave Clara Hamon \$5,000 and told her to leave Ardmore after the shooting, still was pigeon-holed in the office of Joseph H. Mathers, county attorney, today.

It still was undecided whether the information would be filed formally. Clara Hamon and her staff of attorneys held a conference this morning. It was said that she was considering a number of "business propositions," some of which involved high salaried contracts.

It also was said that nothing had been decided as regarded suits against the Hamon estate under claim that a great part of it was built up under cooperation of Clara Hamon in Mr. Hamon's business, but friends are urging her to take action.

"I cannot say anything as to my plans for the future, for I have none," Clara Hamon said. "I am just relaxing today and want to get a good

rest. I expect to visit my father in El Paso soon and it is quite probable I shall leave here within the next week or ten days for El Paso and go from there to California to be with my sister who lives there."

She apparently was in high spirits today and had doffed the rather somber blue tailored suit and blue tailored hat she wore all through the trial for more colorful garments.

ARDMORE, Okla., Mar. 18.—Freed of the charge of murder for the shooting of Jake L. Hamon, by the jury's verdict yesterday, Clara Smith Hamon today was planning to leave Ardmore, the scene of her ten years association with Hamon which culminated in the shooting last November. She probably will go to Wilson, Okla., for a short visit with her sister and later proceed to El Paso, where her father is seriously ill.

After a trial lasting a week, the jury in the Hamon case debated its verdict only forty minutes, agreeing upon acquittal on the first ballot.

"I am the happiest woman in the world," Clara Hamon said, with tears streaming down her face when she heard the verdict. Mrs. Jake L. Hamon, the widow, who attended nearly all sessions of the trial, left the courtroom when the jury retired, and members of her family said she had not been told the verdict.

The state's final plea attacked the theory of self defense on which Clara Hamon's case had been built, but less than an hour after Attorney General S. P. Freeling had made the final address in the trial, the defendant was receiving the congratulations of scores of the attendants at the trial.

GOV. HART VETOES BLUE SKY BILL

OLYMPIA, Wash., March 18.—Governor Louis F. Hart, today announced the veto of the blue sky bill passed by the recent session of the legislature. He found the bill unsatisfactory because it eliminated from supervision stocks in mining and oil companies.

"There is perhaps no class of stocks and securities sold in this state in which there is as much chance of fraud as in mining and oil stocks," the veto message said. "Millions of dollars are taken from the state annually by 'wild cat' oil companies. It would be difficult to imagine a more obnoxious provision than the section eliminating this class of stocks."

LIBERTY BONDS. NEW YORK, Mar. 18.—Liberty bonds closed: 3 1/2's \$96.34; first 4's \$87.20; second 4's \$87.00; first 4 1/2's \$87.40; second 4 1/2's \$87.04; third 4 1/2's \$90.20; fourth 4 1/2's \$87.24; Victory 3 1/2's \$97.24; Victory 4 1/2's \$97.22.

STILLMAN DIVORCE CASE IS UP AGAIN

WHITE PLAINS, N. Y., March 18.—The possibility of indefinite postponement of arguments on two motions in the divorce suit of James A. Stillman, president of the National City bank of New York against the former "FBI" Potter, was ended today by John F. Brennan, counsel for Mrs. Stillman. He obtained from Supreme Court Justice Morschauer an order directing that next Wednesday morning arguments shall be made on the motion of Mrs. Stillman to require Mr. Stillman to show his financial status and on the motion for \$10,000 a month alimony and \$25,000 counsel fees.

SALEM, Ore., March 18.—The state land board at a meeting held here yesterday authorized loans to farmers of Oregon in the amount of \$164,000. This money was derived from the sale of school district bonds out of funds belonging to the state industrial accident commission.

RETIREMENT OF BONAR LAW SHAKES HOLD OF LLOYD-GEORGE GOVERNMENT

LONDON, Mar. 18.—A political crisis of the first magnitude has been created by the retirement of A. Bonar Law from the British cabinet, it is declared by the London Times. Other newspapers while less emphatic agree in saying that Mr. Law's resignation is certain to have considerable political effect and that it probably will materially weaken the coalition government.

It is pointed out that no successor to Mr. Bonar Law is likely to work so well with Premier Lloyd George and the Graphic even suggests that if Mr. Lloyd George is called upon to face a prospect of unsympathetic association he may find the strain of office

intolerable and will follow Mr. Bonar Law into retirement.

There are many forecasts relative to the new unionist leader whom the party will elect Monday. Austen Chamberlain, chancellor of the exchequer; Sir Robert Horne, president of the board of trade and Sir Edward Carson are given most prominent mention as being probable successors to Mr. Bonar Law.

Suggestions have been made in some quarters that Mr. Lloyd George, himself, take command of the unionist party. The London Times remarks that the unionists as a whole, while willing to make every use of him, are most jealous of his power.