

| Weather Year Ago | |
|------------------|-----|
| Maximum | 64 |
| Minimum | 50 |
| Precipitation | .07 |

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE

MEDFORD, OREGON, SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1922

NO. 27

The Weather
 Rain tonight, Cloudy Sunday.
 Maximum yesterday 77
 Minimum today 46

RAIL ROAD STRIKE VOTE CALLED FOR

R. R. Labor Convention, Chicago, Decides to Meet Challenges of Railroad Operators for a Fight to Finish—600,000 Men Involved—Claim Existence at Stake.

CHICAGO, April 22.—Grievances centering about the contract system employed by some railroads in the handling of repair work has resulted in a vote for distribution of strike ballots to the 600,000 members of the railway employes' department of the American Federation of Labor. This department comprises the six federated shop crafts and the switch men's union of North America.

Authorization for the strike ballots was voted at the sixth biennial convention of the department which has been in session here two weeks and which concluded its sessions today. The vote to send out ballots was taken yesterday and officers declared it was a counter move to "an effort to crush our organization completely."

"If there is a strike, and I feel sure our men will vote solidly for it, it will be in protest of the action of railroads in ignoring decisions of the United States railway labor board," said B. M. Jewell, president of the railway employes department.

"The labor board has pending several complaints against the contract or farming out system. It has been expected a decision would be rendered soon after the conclusion of the present wage hearings.

"The carriers have arbitrarily reduced wages in defiance of the board," said Mr. Jewell. "They have restored the piecework system and resorted to the farming out system which is a mere subterfuge by which they dodge labor board decisions."

Fight to Finish

"A year ago our membership was overwhelmingly in favor of war in protest against the 12 per cent reduction already then announced and given effect last July. When the date came, however, we favored peace because of assurances given by the labor board that no further wage reduction would be considered for some time.

"But this time, I am sure, the issue will come to a showdown. So far as we are concerned, it is a fight for existence."

Mr. Jewell said the wording of the strike ballots was not yet determined but that the question was simply whether to strike or not to strike. He added that the ballots would be sent out soon and that the result of the vote should be known within sixty days.

Mr. Jewell charged that the roads are "dodging the board's rulings" by letting out shops to contractors who are not technically within the jurisdiction of the labor board.

"The carriers have been getting away with it thus far," said Mr. Jewell. "We are going to find out whether they can continue to do so. The board, it must be remembered, has no real power to enforce its decisions. It must rely solely upon the influence of public opinion."

There has been a strike for some time on the Western Maryland railway against the farming out of maintenance of work.

Grand Duchess Dies.

THE HAGUE, April 22.—Grand Duchess Marie of Mecklenburg-Schwern died today at the royal palace. She was the mother of Prince Henry of Mecklenburg-Schwern, consort of Queen Wilhelmina.

FEAR FRUIT CROP ON ATLANTIC COAST DAMAGED, SEVERE FROST LAST NIGHT

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Frost occurred last night from the Atlantic coast westward to Indiana and Ohio, and as far south as northern Virginia, reports to the weather bureau today said, but officials expressed the belief that generally little damage was done to fruit.

Temperatures around the freezing point were reported from the whole northeastern quarter of the country, ranging as low as 24 degrees at Northfield, Vt., and Binghamton, New York.

The amount of damage caused to fruit will not become ascertainable by the department of agriculture, officials said, until early next week, when detailed reports will be available from all sections.

Belief was expressed by some officials that considerable damage was caused in orchards on high land.

Another frost, probably as heavy as that of last night, was forecast for the northern Atlantic section, the eastern lake region and the upper Ohio valley. Warm weather, however, is in prospect as shown by higher temperatures in Illinois and to the westward.

Hens Eat Whiskey Mash, Proceed to Cackle Off the Key

SAN FRANCISCO, April 22.—Upon the statement of Mrs. Mary Smith in court yesterday that the chickens of Mrs. Josie Smith, her next door neighbor, fed upon whiskey mash from a nearby still and then ran amuck through her garden, "cackling off key," a continuance was called until a "still hunt" by the police could develop further evidence.

"And I suppose," the court casually remarked as he turned to the next case, "that the eggs are filled with eggnog."

DEATH LIST IN GAS EXPLOSION IS INCREASING

Five Deaths Reported Early Today and More Fatalities Probable—Scores Injured and Burned—Fire at Service Station Cause Disaster.

LOS ANGELES, April 22.—Five deaths were reported early today in hospitals at Downey and Artesia, near here, as a result of the explosion yesterday morning of a gasoline tank and a gasoline wagon, while scores were fighting a fire in a gasoline filling station at Downey. Five others, seriously burned, were reported in a critical condition at hospitals in Downey and here.

The dead:

William C. Jarvis of Lancaster, Cal.
 Walter L. Pulley, druggist, 25, Downey.
 Lester E. Johnson, student, 16, Downey.
 Edward Vandegriff, retired, 58, Downey.
 Clyde Wierbach, clerk, 30, Downey.
 W. E. Henry, grain dealer, Downey, aged 34.
 Basil Cummings, student, Downey.
 Herbert Hughes, student, Downey.
 Fred Robinson, student, Downey.
 Clyde N. Palmer, painter, Downey.

A score or more other persons were burned in various degrees. A fire started in the gasoline filling station at the edge of Downey yesterday while a gasoline tank wagon was filling the large buried supply tanks.

A fire alarm brought scores, high school students and townspeople joining in the effort to extinguish the flames. Suddenly one of the tanks exploded followed quickly by explosion of the gasoline truck. The fire fighters were hurtled in all directions.

ELECT MEDFORDITE TO STATE AGENCY

PORTLAND, Ore., April 22.—The Collection Agency association of Oregon today announced election of officers and delegates to the California Association of Collection Agencies convention May 19 to 21 at San Jose. O. A. Perry and D. T. Short will represent Oregon at San Jose. Officers elected were: President, Floyd C. Lynch, of Portland; first vice president, E. P. Hawkins, Astoria; second vice president, Carl Neib, Portland; third vice president F. M. Redden, Medford; secretary treasurer, C. B. Roades, Portland.

NO WAR IF CONFERENCE DOES FAIL

Russians Declare Force Is Not Considered—Expect Second Conference if Present One Breaks Up—Another Crisis Averted When Russians Back Down to France

MOSCOW, April 22.—(By the Associated Press)—Even if the Genoa conference should break up, soviet Russia does not expect war as a consequence, but considers that a new conference will follow, probably within six months, declared Leo Karameff, president of the Moscow soviet and acting premier, in an interview today with the Associated Press.

Whether the conference fails or not, he said, now rests entirely with the allies, especially France and Great Britain.

BERLIN, April 22.—(By the Associated Press)—An official statement issued today, declares positively "in view of the constant dissemination of reports to the contrary" that a Russian-German military convention does not exist.

Russians Back Down.

GENOA, April 22.—Another crisis in the Genoa conference caused by French objections to the German and Russian replies to the allied communications was apparently passed this afternoon.

The French experts withdrew from the committee on Russia at the opening of today's meeting, the dispatch adds, owing to an alleged conflict between the soviet memorandum and the conditions laid down in the Cannes resolutions regarding the holding of the Genoa conference. Their withdrawal was followed by that of the Japanese delegates.

Presiding Officer Evans of the committee thereupon declared the meeting adjourned. At this the Russian delegates declared there had been a misunderstanding regarding their intentions, and said they would abandon the memorandum.

France Protests Again.

GENOA, April 22.—(By the Associated Press)—The French delegation to the economic conference has submitted a protest against the German reply to the allied note in which the Germans stated they would refrain from discussing Russian questions settled in the Russo-German treaty. The French contend that the Germans, under their reply, may instigate upon discussion of other Russian questions.

An English spokesman said a meeting of the entire British delegation this morning decided to consider the incident that had arisen out of the Russo-German treaty as definitely closed. Since Germany had accepted the decision barring her from discussions concerning Russia, the British spokesman said it would be unparliamentary to insist on further concessions.

HALT INCREASE APPLE FREIGHT

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Increases in through rate on apples from the north Pacific coast to eastern consuming points which would have become effective April 24 under railroad alterations in existing freight schedules were prevented today by the inter-state commerce commission which ordered the railroad proposals suspended until August 22. An investigation will be instituted in the meanwhile to determine the responsibility of the advances.

The increase in the rates would have resulted in the cancellation of through rates now in effect, which in most cases are lower than a combination of local or joint rates.

The time for the hearing has not yet been set.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OREGON CITY BURNS

OREGON CITY, Ore., April 22.—Fire early today destroyed the First Presbyterian church here. The blaze was believed to have started from above the furnace. The church was built thirty years ago and was extensively altered twelve years ago. The loss was estimated at \$4000 of which \$2400 was covered by insurance.

Fair Weather Predicted.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Weather outlook for the week beginning Monday: Rocky mountain and plateau regions and Pacific States—Generally fair and normal temperatures.

Champion Sails for Europe



Left to right, Jack Dempsey, his lightweight stablemate Joe Benjamin and Manager Jack Kearns.

STATE TAX MEETING IN MEDFORD IS POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER PRIMARIES

Ben C. Sheldon, who had been representing the state tax investigation commission in making arrangements for hearings here in Medford at which citizens of this and neighboring counties could present their views to the commission on advisable tax legislation, received a telegram this morning from I. N. Day, chairman of the commission to the effect that the series of hearings planned for Western Oregon has been postponed until after the primaries, May 15th. The telegram gave no reason for the postponement but as one member of the commission is a candidate for office at the primaries and was being criticised because of the exceptional opportunity these meetings gave him to discuss tax reduction with the people, he asked that the hearings be postponed as a matter of fairness to his opponents.

The telegram stated that due notice would be given of the hearings when held.

CALKING HOLDS OREGON MOTOR LAW IS VALID

The case of State vs. Merriman was decided this morning. Judge Calkins overruled the demurrer that had been filed against the information, which in effect upholds the constitutionality of the Oregon motor law. Judge Calkins announced that he had made an exhaustive investigation of the law in the case and would give a written opinion in a few days. He announced that the chief reasons for upholding the law was the fact that a Circuit Court as a rule does not find a law unconstitutional unless it is so beyond all doubt and he would prefer in this case passing it to the Supreme Court for a final decision on that point and secondly, because he considers the law constitutional for the reason that it was the payment for the use of a privilege; for the privilege of using the roads, and was a payment for the damage done to the roads. He also stated that his idea of the law was that taxes did not have to be assessed according to value.

The case will be immediately appealed to the supreme court. E. F. Lindas appeared for Merriman, and will carry the case upward.

REAR BRAKEMAN S. P. IS HELD UP

When south bound passenger train, No. 15, pulled into the Southern Pacific depot at 10:50 last night and Rear Brakeman Kelnan went to the end of the train as usual to put out the flag warning, he was accosted there in the dark by a footpad who leveled a revolver at him and demanded his valuables.

Details of the affair are meager, but it is known that the robber did not obtain money or watch from the brakeman. One story is that the latter threw up his arm against the gun, whereupon the robber fled away in the darkness and Kelnan ran as fast as he could to rejoin the train. Another story is that the robber searched Kelnan and failed to find anything on him of value.

Rear end brakemen have been very cautious since one was held up at night at Grants Pass recently by a robber.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

| | |
|---|----------|
| At Pittsburgh: | R. H. E. |
| St. Louis | 2 8 4 |
| Pittsburgh | 14 16 0 |
| Haines, Bailey and Clemens, Ainsmith; Morrison and Gooch. | |
| At Boston: | R. H. E. |
| Philadelphia | 9 8 1 |
| Boston | 3 8 2 |
| Ring and Honline; Marquard, Goechger, Watson and O'Neill. | |
| At Brooklyn: | R. H. E. |
| New York | 3 9 0 |
| Brooklyn | 5 6 2 |
| Ryan, Shea, Causey and Smith; Grimes and Miller, Taylor. | |
| At New York: | R. H. E. |
| Washington | 2 2 6 |
| New York | 4 8 1 |
| Gloason and Gharitty; Bush and Schang. | |

American

| | |
|--|----------|
| At Philadelphia: | R. H. E. |
| Boston | 7 13 3 |
| Philadelphia | 1 7 1 |
| Batteries: Karr and Walters; Harris, Moore and Perkins. | |
| At Detroit: | R. H. E. |
| Cleveland | 2 7 1 |
| Detroit | 3 12 1 |
| Batteries: Uble and O'Neill; Olson, Pillette and Basser. | |

Musical Juryman Plays Fiddle in Phonograph Court

SAN FRANCISCO, April 22.—A few days ago Police Judge Sylvian Lazarus introduced a phonograph into his court and said he would start off each session with some appropriate selection. Yesterday he added a violinist.

The violinist had really been called for jury duty. Hearing the phonograph, he hurried back for his violin and returning, told Judge Lazarus that he wanted to help out. Court officials are wondering if Judge Lazarus will employ music to calm hectic tries as well as angered prisoners hereafter.

GOOD YEAR FOR FRUIT MEN IS EXPERT'S VIEWS

Kenneth Day, Sales Manager for Sgobel and Day, Pays Annual Visit to Valley—Good Crop Certain—Market Conditions Improve.

Kenneth H. Day, sales manager of Sgobel and Day, fruit distributors of New York City, spent Friday in the valley on his 17th annual trip to this section, on a tour of inspection of the fruit districts of the northwest, improving general conditions throughout the world, according to Mr. Day, promises much for the fruitmen.

"Money is easier in the east now than it was in 1921," said Mr. Day. The financial situation has improved wonderfully. Basic industries like the steel mills, auto factories, and kindred lines are now employing 75 to 85 per cent of their working force, where last year they were using but 35 to 45 per cent. Business is getting on a sound footing, slow but sure, and this means a better demand, and ready money with which to move the crop.

"The unemployment situation is vastly improved. Outside of the striking coal-miners, there are now only an estimated 1,500,000 idle men in the east. Last year at this time there were in the neighborhood of 6,000,000. They all eat fruit, and increase the demand for it.

"The rise in foreign exchange recently has also helped the fruit business. Today I received a cablegram from London asking for 100,000 boxes of apples. Last year such an order would have been unheard of. South America is also opening up as a market for Pacific northwest fruit.

Fears Car Shortage

"I am fearful of a car shortage this year," said Mr. Day. Traffic is increasing on the railroads with the revival of manufacturing. I look for it to come in September, which will be the crest of the summer business. The Santa Fe has promised to build 2500 new refrigerator cars, and the Pacific Refrigerator Express has promised to construct 3300 new refrigerators. If they get this 5800 cars on the track it will help. Many refrigerators were diverted to Florida last winter by West Coast railroads, and the Southern lines have promised to reciprocate by sending some west this year.

"Conditions indicate a bumper crop in all fruit sections this season. I have just come from the Sacramento valley, and they have a wonderful set in the 30 Bartlett orchards I visited. They start shipping about July 4th, and if they escape frost and wind, will enjoy the largest crop in years.

"My message to the growers is to increase the pack and quality,—the extra fancy brands. There is al-

ways plenty of poor fruit, and a little extra care in packing gives a decided advantage. The Rogue river Bose is known favorably and sought all over the world. The Comiso and D'Anjou are also headliners. Irrigation, at last realized in this valley, will enable orchardists to secure a better size and grade, and bring the small fruit down to the minimum."

Sgobel and Day hold the price record for local fruit, before the war selling a carload of Hillcrest Comices on the London market for \$4588.

Mr. Day left today for Hood River, accompanied by J. Arthur Siggers of Hood River, and Paul McKeeher of White Salmon, representatives of his firm in those two districts. C. C. Lemon has been named representative for the concern in this valley.

CHICAGO GRAND JURY FOR RELEASE MURDERER BECAUSE HE WAS DRUNK

CHICAGO, April 22.—Recommendation of a coroner's jury that a confessed slayer be released because he was intoxicated and therefore not criminally responsible was to be investigated today, Coroner Hoffman announced. The verdict of the jury returned yesterday recommended the release of Fritz Meinshausen, who had signed an affidavit acknowledging the slaying of Mrs. Anna Peters.

"The law makes no allowance for intoxication in killings," said Cor-

POLITICS IS CAUSE OF TAX DELAY

I. N. Day Issues Formal Statement Explaining Why Meeting in Medford Was Postponed—Walter M. Pierce, Candidate for Governor, Member of Commission.

PORTLAND, Ore., April 22.—The state tax investigation commission which had planned a trip to southern Oregon next week, with hearings scheduled for Medford, Roseburg, Eugene, Albany, Salem, McMinnville and Oregon City, today announced postponement of the tour until after the May primaries.

Chairman I. N. Day of the commission in a formal statement, said: "The reason for the postponement is that the commission does not wish to seem to be implicated in politics or have its final report subject to any sort of direct or indirect implication that it has been influenced by the fortunes of any candidate for office."

"One of the members of the commission, Walter M. Pierce, has lately announced his candidacy for the democratic nomination for governor and he has formally expressed his opinion on the tax issue which is now uppermost in the minds of the voters and of which the commission as a whole is now making a survey."

"Pierce has had under consideration the matter of withdrawal from the commission but in view of the earnest desire to assist in a readjustment of taxation has decided, for the time being at least, to continue as a member of the commission."

"The effect on the minds of the voters of a tour of a populous part of the state at public expense and the holding of public hearings by a commission, one of whose members is a candidate for high office and running on a tax platform is so obvious that with the agreement of Mr. Pierce the commission has decided to postpone the scheduled hearings."

"The policy of the commission in regard to this tour after the primaries will not be determined at this time."

RECALL KLAMATH MAYOR GIVEN UP

KLAMATH FALLS, Ore., April 22.—Collapse of the movement to recall Mayor W. S. Wiley of Klamath Falls came yesterday when J. T. McCullum candidate for the Klamath county civic league issued a statement declaring he had been against the move from its inception and was convinced that the business men of the city also were opposed. Lack of prohibition enforcement was charged to Mayor Wiley by the league.

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"The law makes no allowance for intoxication in killings," said Cor-

oner Hoffman, so this verdict easily becomes the most astonishing any coroner's jury ever brought in during any period in office."

Deputy Coroner Seese, who conducted the inquest, suggested that the jury was actuated by a "sense of protest against prohibition and the moonshine liquor, which has followed its so-called enforcement."

Police say that they will recommend that Meinshausen be held to the grand jury on a murder charge.