

# PHONE INSTALLERS ON STRIKE

## Soldiers, Sailors Unloading Perishables on London Dock

London, Apr. 24—(U.P.)—The harried labor government sent 1,000 soldiers and sailors into the paralyzed London waterfront today to unload foodstuffs tied up by a communist-led wildcat strike of 1,300 stevedores.

Service men swarmed onto the docks for the second time in less than a year after the strike almost doubled in size this morning and Labor Minister George Isaacs saw no hope of an early settlement.

Dubbed "operation springtime," the service intervention began just after noon. Coldstream, Scots and Irish guards and royal navy technicians swarmed from their barracks into waiting vans. They were off to unload rotting tomatoes and other perishable foodstuffs aboard some of the 81 ships tied up by the six-day strike.

The dispute which bottled up one of the greatest ports in the world revolved around three men labeled by the British press as "pocket Napoleons." They were the trio who led the long and costly dock strike last year in sympathy with striking Canadian seamen.

Dismissed from their jobs, they had enrolled half the stevedores in London to aid their

cause. The government said they were pro-communist. When the service men were ordered out, 81 of 110 ships at the Thames pier were tied up. As the troops arrived at the Victoria, Albert and George docks, where the strike started last week, hundreds of additional workers walked out in protest.

**Walkout Spreads**  
The decision to use troops on the waterfront coincided with an announcement by the board of trade that Britain's exports had

reached an all-time high of 184,400,000 pounds (\$516,320,000) last month.

Before the order was issued, the strike spread to almost every section of the sprawling London waterfront. Loading and unloading operations continued on only 29 ships.

Some 13,000 dock workers have not joined the strike but many of them were forced out of work by the tieup.

Labor Minister George Isaacs labeled the walkout "clearly communist inspired."

## Eleven Lose Lives In Week-End Mishaps

**By United Press**  
Eleven persons died and seven others were injured Sunday as Pacific northwest residents took to the highways, air and fish streams under generally sunny skies.

Taxi Driver Ralph Kachelmier, 47, was killed when his cab plunged off the highway south of Grangerville, Ida. Francis O. Schmitz was injured in the accident.

**Fishermen Drown**  
Edward J. Griffiths, 47, Vancouver, B. C., drowned while fishing off West Vancouver.

Bodies of William Mertz, about 21, and Darrell Etzel, about 21, both of Dayton, Ore., and Adam S. Mach, about 21, Aumsville, Ore., were recovered from

the Alsea river near the mouth of Canal creek, near Waldport, Ore.

Charles F. Henne, a commercial fisherman, said the trio launched their craft about 8:30 a. m. Sunday for a fishing jaunt. A Portland detective sergeant fishing in the area reported he heard cries for help but his efforts to save the men failed.

Henne said the river was calm and the capsizing was probably caused when the boat made a sharp turn. It was only 35 feet from shore, he added.

**Auto Crash Fatal**  
Everett, 32, and Lenzie Watson, 36, died in the Moses Lake air force base hospital late Sunday from injuries received when their car went out of control and rolled over three times on the highway between Moses Lake and Ephrata, Wash.

David Watson, 58, their father, was described as in "fair" condition in the hospital.

Willis D. Blackler, about 25, Tacoma, Wash., was instantly killed when a private plane he and Larry Coomer, about 25, Tacoma, were in, crashed in a field north of the Pife, Wash., high school.

Paul Melinger, Pierce county coroner, said Coomer was suffering severe head and chest injuries and a broken leg.

**Two Die in Air Crash**  
The civil aeronautics administration said a Stinson Voyager crashed at Lewiston, Ida., shortly after taking off from the Clarkston, Wash., airport, killing the pilot and one of his three passengers.

None were identified immediately. Kenneth C. Borders of the Dalles, Ore., was killed in a traffic accident at Salem.

## Police Report Five Crimes Here During Week-End

Two cases of shoplifting, two breaks and entries and an arrest on check charges during the week-end were reported by city police today.

They said that Mrs. Leo W. Smith, Pardee court, posted \$50 bail on a shoplifting citation and was to appear in police court this afternoon. She allegedly hid bacon, sausage and cheese in her dress at the Groceria and paid for pineapple and ham at the counter, police reported.

Mable Catherine Meeker, 34, is held in the county jail and is accused of taking a Schick razor at Waincott's pharmacy Friday, according to police. She was to be arraigned this afternoon.

**Sparkplugs Stolen**  
Baker's Texaco service station, Jackson street and Riverside avenue, and Hawkinson Tire and Tread service, 204 North Riverside avenue, were broken into last night. Ten cartons of sparkplugs valued at \$75, oil and possibly a flashlight were taken from the service station and pennies and four tires were removed from the other establishment, it was said.

James D. Hampton waived preliminary hearing in justice court this morning and was bound over to the grand jury on a citation of attempting to obtain money under false pretenses. Police said he attempted to pass a bad check at J. C. Penney company.

Police here have been informed of the arrest in Portland of Charles A. Shanafelt on check charges. He allegedly passed spurious checks here to have eyeglasses fixed and to purchase motors, officers said.

**Speeder Crashes Into Passenger Train**  
Kimball W. Va., Apr. 24—(U.P.)—A small speeder car carrying six men to a railroad bridge repair job smashed head-on with a Norfolk & Western passenger train in a tunnel here today, killing five and injuring one.

The motor flatcar and the engine of the Columbus-Norfolk Flyer came together about half way through a quarter-mile tunnel. The train had been switched from the regular eastbound track to an alternate line while the regular track was under repair.

Witnesses said two of the bodies were on the front of the locomotive when it emerged from the tunnel.

No one on the passenger express, Powhatan Arrow, was injured.

The new hospitals include a 200-bed general medical hospital at Klamath Falls, Ore.

**Lions Director To Be Anniversary Speaker**  
Jack Peddycord, Seattle, director of Lions International, will be the guest of Medford Lions when they observe the 25th anniversary of the founding of local Lions club Wednesday.

The anniversary observance will be held at the Y club Wednesday evening when Lions will take over the club for dinner and a social get-together.

**Music Students Slate Benefit Concert Here**  
Some 220 high school music students who received "superior" ratings in recent competitions at Grants Pass will present an "On to Eugene" concert at the high school auditorium tomorrow evening. The concert is to raise funds so that the students can travel to Eugene next month for the state music contest.

Tickets are on sale by music students, and those wishing to give financial aid for the project may do so through school officials.

## Utilities Company Announces Lower Rate Schedules

A reduction in gas rates amounting to 2.2 cents per therm, and applicable to all the company's customers in Oregon, was announced today by the California-Pacific Utilities company here.

The rates have been filed with and approved by the state public utilities commissioner, the company said, under terms of the firm's "escalator" clause in the rate schedules, which reflects price changes in the delivered cost of fuel whether up or down.

The lower rates will apply to all meter readings taken on and after May 15, the company said, and will appear on July bills. It is estimated that Oregon consumers will save about \$115,000 each year.

The reduction is the second downward revision in rates within two years made by the company. The two reductions amount to a total of 4.3 cents per therm, a total savings of some \$250,000 yearly to Oregon consumers.

Beside California towns, the company serves La Grande, Roseburg, Grants Pass, Medford, Phoenix, Talent, Ashland and Klamath Falls in Oregon.

## Range Improvement Talks Set by Group

The Jackson county land classification committee will meet in the county agent's office in the courthouse at 9:30 a. m. Wednesday to consider applications from seven landowners for brush removal, burning and range re-seeding services on their property.

Under the provisions of the Oregon forest land classification act, the state and county stand 50 per cent of the cost of brush removal and the individual landowners the other half, contributed generally in the form of labor and materials.

## State Representative Victim of Assassin

St. Petersburg, Fla., Apr. 24 (U.P.)—State Rep. Charles Schuch was shot to death in his downtown office today.

Police arrested Charley Ross, 71, of Boy City, Tex. They said Ross had admitted the shooting but so far had said only that the result was "a personal fight."

Ross had a cut on his head when arrested.

Schuch was up for re-election from his district. He was not opposed by a democrat although a republican also is seeking his post in the state legislature.

## Central Point Firm Low Bidder for Job

Portland, Ore., Apr. 24—(U.P.)—The state highway commission today took the first step toward construction of a new highway bridge over the Willamette river at Salem when it opened bids for building of five piers.

State Construction company of Portland, Ore., was the low bidder at \$172,899.

R. and M. Construction company, Central Point, was low bidder on improving the Columbia river highway roadside between Troutdale and Multnomah Falls.

## COUNCIL TO MEET

Medford city council will convene at 7:30 p. m. today at the city hall regarding a building setback matter in connection with proposed construction of a seven-story apartment house at 10th street and Oakdale avenue.

# MEDFORD TRIBUNE

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## RAIL STRIKE DELAY ASKED

### Government Urges Postponement in Scheduled Walkout

### Pennsylvania Lines To Curtail Service

Chicago, Apr. 24—(U.P.)—The Pennsylvania railroad announced plans today to halt all service on a major portion of its system because of a threatened rail strike Wednesday, and the government stepped in with an urgent appeal that the walkout be postponed.

The national mediation board at Washington "urgently requested" the Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen and Engineers to put off for two weeks its strike scheduled for 6 a. m. Wednesday against seven major roads. A union spokesman said in Chicago the union had no immediate reply to the appeal.

The Pennsylvania said that it would start curtailing long distance passenger service tonight west and north of Harrisburg, Pa., and ultimately stop all service in this section of the system.

The union ordered the strike in support of demands for a second fireman on multiple-diesel engines.

The mediation board's appeal was made in a telegram from chairman Francis A. O'Neill Jr., to Ben Robertson, brotherhood chief.

O'Neill said the board would make its services immediately available if the brotherhood would postpone the walkout.

The railroads to be affected, in addition to the Pennsylvania, are the New York Central, Santa Fe, Michigan Central, Southern Railway, Ohio Central and Big Four.

## IOOF To Celebrate 131st Anniversary

Medford Odd Fellows will celebrate the 131st anniversary of the founding of the International Order of Odd Fellows at a party planned for Tuesday, April 25, in the lodge hall at Sixth and Holly streets.

The event is set for 8 p. m., and there will be special entertainment, followed by refreshments. It is open to members of all branches, Patriarchs Militant and the auxiliary, Rebekahs and others.

A. J. Handby, who has held office in the Medford lodge for more than 30 years, is chairman of the committee on arrangements.

## Chrysler Considers Secret Proposal

Detroit, Mich., Apr. 24—(U.P.)—Chrysler negotiators consider a new secret proposal by the CIO united auto workers today in hopes of ending the 90-day pension strike.

Without hinting of the offer's nature, UAW officials indicated they were giving ground in a fresh attempt to settle the nation's biggest current walkout.

UAW Chrysler Director Norman Matthews would not disclose details of the new plan but said:

"The union has stated before that its stand on the issues still in dispute is not an arbitrarily fixed position."

## Bids Due Tomorrow For Sale of Timber

Sealed bids are to be opened at 2 p. m. tomorrow in the office of the Rogue River national forest in the federal building for the purchase of 789,000 board feet of timber in the Baker Flat area 10 miles east of Butte Falls.

The successful bidder will be required to furnish a cash or surety bond in the sum of 10 per cent of the total sale value within 15 days from the receipt of the award notice.

Douglas fir, white fir, incense cedar and ponderosa pine timber is involved in the sale.

## WEATHER

FORECAST: Fair tonight and Tuesday. Warmer tonight.

Highest Yesterday 61  
Lowest this Morning 39



**HOODLUMS**—Members of one of the two "wolf packs" that spread terror and injury in a southside section of Los Angeles, graphically show their guilt after they were arrested and charged with suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon. They are accused of brutally beating two men and throwing a bottle at a mother and her baby. Left to right: Frank Schrober, 22; Ralph Cons, 18; John Morales, 21, and Manuel Schrober, 18. The second gang of hoodlums, whose tactics resulted in the death of one man, is still at large.

## Floodwaters Surge Through Gap In Dam; 300 Homes Inundated

Crookston, Minn., Apr. 24—Floodwaters from a broken dam 30 miles away surged toward Crookston today, where 300 homes were inundated in the worst flood in the city's history.

Some residents moved into the upper stories of their homes, and Polk County Red Cross Chairman Philip Anderson feared they might begin to suffer from the cold. Snow flurries whisked across the flood-ravaged city of 9,000 persons today.

The ice-choked floodwaters of the Red Lake river, which battered a 120-foot gap in a power dam 30 miles northeast of here yesterday, were rising slowly. But as the crest invaded the Crookston area the waters dissipated some of their force by fanning out over the surrounding area. About 200 families had fled from the river flood in this area.

Anderson said that the regular river level had dropped about 18 inches overnight, and he said that "we're hoping to get off lighter from the second crest."

A rescue worker said that "morale is higher than the floods ever will get" here, but it was feared that Grand Forks, N.D., was likely to suffer from the Red Lake river crest. Large scale evacuations already had been started at Grand Forks and at nearby East Grand Forks, Minn. Observers estimated that the Red river, affected by the Red Lake river flood, rose about a half-inch an hour after hitting a 43.24 foot stage last night.

The Red Cross estimated that more than 5,000 families had suffered in the floods which poured over the table-like lowlands of the Red River of the North and its tributaries.

Flood effects extended into Canada, where 30 persons got out of their homes at Emerson in southern Manitoba and residents of a half-dozen other towns kept a 24-hour watch on the rising water. Highways were closed between Winnipeg and Emerson by floods.

## FBI Probes Wreckage Of Atomic Building

Berkeley, Cal., Apr. 24—(U.P.)—Scores of FBI agents dug into the wreckage of a two-story frame building in the heart of the University of California's super-secret atomic energy plant today in an effort to find the cause of a fire that threatened to destroy irreplaceable research documents and priceless atom-smashing machines.

Federal agents were tight-lipped and refused to talk about the possibility of sabotage. The only public statement the FBI made was a terse announcement saying "We are attempting to determine all of the facts in the case."

The fire raged for more than an hour and a half and destroyed the administration building, which contained engineering and research offices. Nearby concrete structures, housing the cyclotrons, betatrons and other atom-smashers, escaped damage.

Fire precautions at the laboratory are extremely rigid since the project is located high on the Berkeley hills behind the university campus and fire-fighting resources are limited. Water pressure atop the hill is low and there are few mains available.

So complete were security measures ordered by the FBI and atomic energy commission officials that Berkeley firemen who helped control the blaze were ordered not to speak to newspapermen.

The fire broke out at 10:25 p. m. (PST) in building eight, one of a dozen in the atomic project area.

Beginning next Sunday, United will inaugurate regular service north and south from Medford with the four-motored ships and the three courtesy flights offered yesterday were designed to acquaint potential air travelers in this area with the new facilities that will be available here for the first time.

Arrangements for the flight were made by Walter Carson, United's station manager in Medford.

## DC-4 Gives Preview Of Regular Flights

More than 130 Rogue valley residents were guests of United airlines yesterday aboard a Douglas DC-4 United Mainliner on three courtesy flights over the Cascade mountain area north and east of here.

The building was well-known to many valley residents. The Browns had owned the property for about the past six years. It had previously been the Harold Thorniley residence and is said to have been built by the Thornileys in the early 1920s.

The Browns are staying with the Harry C. Phillips at 727 Grant street. The loss was covered by insurance, and they plan to rebuild.

## Fire Destroys Brown Home on Stage Road

Fire of unknown origin razed the Harold H. Brown home on Old Stage road near Bell lane about 4 p. m. Sunday. The Browns were outside the house at the time fire was discovered by their nephew, Spencer Brown, who saw smoke coming from the upper story.

From the attic the fire spread to the entire structure. The walls collapsed about 5:30 p. m.

Ward Bebb, another nephew, and young Brown were able to save some clothing and furniture from the upper story, and nearly all furnishings and equipment were removed from the lower floor.

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## Use of Baltic Incident As War Provoker Is Doubted

Boise, Ida., Apr. 24—(U.P.)—Rear Admiral Ellis M. Zacharias, retired, who broke the Japanese code early in the war and served as deputy director of naval intelligence, doubts that Soviet Russia is using the Baltic plane incident to provoke war.

Here to address the Knife and Fork Club of Idaho, Zacharias said in an interview today that he does not think it suits the Soviet Union's purpose to start war at this time.

Seen As 'Panay Incident'

"The shooting down of the navy privateer in the Baltic," said Zacharias, "might very well develop into another Panay incident."

He was referring to the pre-war sinking of the U. S. navy's Yangtze river gunboat Panay by Japanese airmen, an incident which led to a Japanese apology and the payment of indemnity.

"Russia does not want war—certainly not at this time," Zacharias continued. "As a matter of

fact, I don't think the Russians ever want war if they can reach their objective by other means.

"Of course, if they have illusions that they could be successful by provoking a war, they would find a way of starting it and placing the onus for it on us."

"But I don't think they have such illusions at this time."

Lattimore Guilt Doubted

Questioned about his knowledge of Owen Lattimore, who figures in Soviet spy charges by U. S. Sen. Joseph McCarthy, (R., Wis.), Zacharias said he doubted that the former state department adviser was subversive.

He said he had a slight acquaintance with Lattimore when the latter served with the office of war information.

"I have read his writings and find nothing prejudicial in them," Zacharias added. "My impression is that he has attempted to become the number one sinologist—expert on China—but nothing else."

## Medical Service Units Training Session Topic

A training meeting for the 6310th logistical division at 8 p. m. today will cover the staff principles involved in the selection and functioning of medical service units in the theater of operations, according to Maj. Walter Fingerhut, ORC instructor here.

The instruction team is composed of Medford's city engineer, Capt. Edward N. McKinstry of the medical sanitary corps reserve, and Capt. William F. Kennedy Jr., mathematics and science teacher at the Gold Hill high school.

Lt. Col. Walter W. Abbey and Maj. Gregory H. Swick, from the office of the senior army instructor, Portland, will attend the meeting to inspect the status of training of Medford's logistical division, Colonel Abbey, a former Medford resident, for many years operated the Nash automobile agency in town, leaving to report for active duty shortly before Pearl Harbor.

## The Dalles Autoist Killed in Accident

Salem, Ore., Apr. 24—(U.P.)—Kenneth C. Borders, The Dalles, Ore., was killed Sunday in a two-car crash which hurled him beneath the wheels of a third on Pacific highway 15 miles south of here.

State police said Borders' car sideswiped one driven by Frank Husted of Salem and the impact threw him into the path of a northbound auto driven by Theodore H. Beeman Sr., of Portland.

## Dr. Ralph Thompsen Opens Medford Office

Dr. Ralph Thompsen today announced the opening of his office here for the practice of orthopedic surgery and treatment of fractures. He will be temporarily located at 301 Fluhrer building.

A graduate of Willamette university in 1937, Dr. Thompsen attended the University of Oregon medical school beginning in 1940, and graduated in 1944. He served in the medical corps during the war, practicing orthopedics at Madigan General hospital at Ft. Lewis. His experience also includes work at the University of Oregon hospital and clinic, Emanuel hospital and the Shriners' Hospital for Crippled Children, all in Portland.

Dr. Thompsen is married and the father of three daughters. He and Mrs. Thompsen are making their home at 2130 Capitol avenue.

## School District Vote Today on Bond Issue

Central Point, Apr. 24—Residents of consolidated school district No. 6 are revoting today on a \$500,000 bond issue for new high school construction at Central Point.

## 43 States Hit By Union Action As Deadline Nears

### General Walkout Scheduled Tuesday

New York, Apr. 24—(U.P.)—Western Electric installation workers walked off their jobs in 43 states today, but refrained from disrupting telephone service by picketing exchanges.

Federal mediators pushed conferences between management and labor, hoping still to head off an industry-wide, coast-to-coast telephone strike set for midnight Tuesday when President Truman's 60-day truce expires. They acknowledged that the outlook was bad.

11,000 Leave Jobs  
United Press survey showed that the 11,000-man membership of division 6, representing the installers, of the Communications Workers of America (CIO) obeyed the strike call when the 6 a. m. (local time) walkout hour moved across the nation's time belts.

More than 1,600 installers were employed in New York state, of whom 600 were assigned to New York City. Union officials in Cleveland said none of the 800 installation workers in Ohio was at work. An equal number were idle in the Illinois, Wisconsin and northwest Indiana area.

Local union headquarters in Atlanta, Ga., said 700 members were out in nine southeastern states.

Similar reports were received from other cities throughout the country, with the exception of four New England states and Montana. Central office installations—the work done by division 6 members—are not handled by Western Electric employees in those states.

## Two Legs Lost as Man Falls Under Moving Train Here

Amputation of both legs was necessary yesterday when Bernard P. Kruse, 47, of 520 South P. street, apparently lost his balance and fell beneath a moving box car on the railway siding near Medford Feed and Seed company, city police reported.

According to the police report, Kruse, sleeping in the car, was awakened as a switch engine was coupling the car. He evidently tried to jump, hit the embankment and rolled under the car, police said.

Kruse's right leg was almost severed above the knee and his left leg was badly mangled. He also suffered a scalp cut, it was said. Police stated that five blood transfusions were given Kruse at Community hospital.

Jack and Frank Morris reported the accident to police. It occurred about noon. Conger-Morris took Kruse to the hospital where an attending physician said his condition was satisfactory today.

Kruse reportedly came here recently from Livermore, Cal., and was employed as a tree topper.

A car operated by Mrs. Nona Warren, Medford, and a Southern Pacific company engine were involved in an accident at the 11th street railway crossing this morning. Both vehicles reportedly were moving slowly and the engine stopped within a few feet after the impact.

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Polis at the Central Point high school gymnasium and Gold Hill school gymnasium will be open until 8 p. m. The bonds were approved in November, but a revote is necessary because of Portland bonding attorney's interpretation of law.