

They'll Do It Every Time

By Jimmy Hatlo



BUT GET A SHIPMENT OF HIM AT HOME TRYING TO INTRODUCE HIS IN-LAWS...



Positions of Factions in Strike Against King Further Clarified

Further clarification of the positions of the opposing factions in the strike against Austin L. King were given today.

King, a trucking contractor who was hauling logs for Medford Corporation, addressed a letter to all his employees in which he gave his version of the events leading up to the strike on June 25, and in an interview, H. E. Geiger, president of Klamath basin district council No. 6, International woodworkers of America, AFL-CIO, gave the union's position.

King's letter follows: "The situation created by Butte Falls IWA Local 6-221 and its leaders must be completely confusing to you. You are entitled to the facts. You are entitled too, to know your employer's position.

Among Other Jobs
"Among our other jobs, we have trucked logs for Medco. We have contracted with them, on an annual basis, for several years. At first, we had no direct contact with Local 6-221. There was indirect control of our wage rates and working conditions, exercised through Medco, by reason of the Contractors and Sub-Contractors clause in the Medco contract with Local 6-221. There were differences between Medco and the union as to the meaning and intent of the clause, particularly as to the term 'working condition.' Union representatives continually sought to extend the meaning of the words to cover every phase of the Medco-Local 6-221 relationship. The situation was aggravated by a health and welfare clause which Medco and the union adopted.

"This situation was clarified in 1951 by our recognition of Local 6-221 as bargaining agent of King employees working on the Medco job. We made a 1-year contract with them which has never been renewed. We have noted that gypo trucker members of Local 6-221 have romanced our relationship with the union since that date.

"The 1951 agreement recognized seniority of leased equipment as equivalent to that of the employee-owner. We believed this meant only among employee-owners, and then only when leased equipment was used. The employee-owners and the union leaders insisted it meant seniority on equipment over King equipment when employee-owners seniority entitled them to drive for King.

Meets Situation
"We went along—meeting each situation as it arose—until this year because we were able to keep our own trucks busy on other jobs. Because of the severe lumber market slump, however, we have ample equipment of our own now. It was not good business to lease trucks, when our own were idle. A new contract was offered the union. It provided recognition of seniority rights to employee-owners in assignment to King owned trucks, and eliminated equipment seniority.

"Just three employee-owners were affected. They refused assignment to our trucks, and we no longer consider them our employees.

"It appears that these three men, and union leaders, decided to picket. The picket line, manned by these three, was located in a place that stopped Medco employees from working. Union leaders seem to have advised them a picket line was sacred, regardless of its rightness. We understand one of the pickets proudly proclaims he has turned down \$125 a day for the use of his truck so that he could remain on the picket line. All this when so many men are being kept from earning a living. "After nearly a month, the union called a strike against Medco. This, obviously, was desperate attempt to cover up for ill advised union leadership. Now, the union is attempting, by picket lines, to force Medco plant employees to aid them. In addition, our King employees have been threatened with expulsion from the union, and

blacklisting, if they work on other King jobs.

"You know the rest to date. The National Labor Relations Board is considering unfair labor practice charges filed with them.

"What the future will bring, we do not know. It can't be good for anyone. A train of events like this, once started, must run its course if history is repeated. At any rate, it must be apparent to everyone that there are many logging contractors, including truckers, available for use in the Rogue Valley.

Austin L. King"

Arbitrary Cancellation

Geiger said the strike "arose through the arbitrary cancellation of the contract" between the local union and King, which originally was signed in 1951. He added that the union had asked

for no contractual changes, but that King had notified them it had been cancelled.

The contract, Geiger said, provided that trucks owned by employee drivers would have seniority in rental. He added that King "wanted arbitrarily to eliminate such trucks, and replace them with his own."

"We felt at the time, and still feel, that the old contract was in effect, and he had no right to cancel it," Geiger stated.

Observe Picket Line

He also pointed out that Medco employees observed the picket line, and said their contract with Medco provides, in effect, that they would not be required to cross a picket line nor act as a strike breaker. Therefore, Geiger reported, the union feels there is no legal violation involved and that union members were well within their contract-

ual rights to refuse to cross the picket line.

Geiger added that when the King strike occurred, about 36 members of the IWA local employed in Medford and along the railroad were sent home, although there was no picket line involved as far as they were concerned, and that the union considers this to be a lockout by the employer.

Is That So?

By EUGENE BURNS

Ranger-Naturalist

My fellow ranger naturalist, Victor H. Cahalane, has this to say about the Wolverine: He is a lonely, bad tempered animal. He brooks no interference, even from a mountain lion or a grizzly. It can spit in anyone's eye.

It is the strongest for its size of all North American mammals. The only creature not reported to have been attacked by the wolverine is man. Apparently, only a porcupine can damage a wolverine.

If a wolverine finds and takes a notion to follow a trapline, it may drive the trapper to his wit's end and ultimately ruin him. With diabolical ingenuity, it will remove every bit of bait, every trapped animal, and often hide the traps or destroy them, but is usually too smart to get caught himself.

At times it has broken into cabins and eaten or destroyed a whole winter's supplies in one week. Flour and other food that it does not eat is spoiled by the vile-smelling secretion from its anal glands.

I could go on like this . . . and Ranger Cahalane has studied the animal in its native habitat, Alaska.

But now comes a letter from a sourdough—an Alaskan, Wesley Collins Patterson, who now lives in Albany, Calif. He writes:

Supernatural Wisdom

Many legends and "experiences" relating to wolverines keep going the rounds in Alaska and, I suppose, wherever there are wolverines. This little animal is credited with supernatural wisdom and strength. Our experience with the wolverine is that trapwise, he is not as cunning as a coyote (at least an adult coyote). His strength and endurance, or at least persistence, is not out of the ordinary.

The wolverine is primarily a scavenger and is not therefore too ferocious or aggressive. In our opinion the common ermine or weasel outranks the wolverine several times per size in aggressiveness and ferociousness. (I'll buy this one, E.B.).

This is not to say that the wolverine is stupid or weak—far from it, but he certainly isn't the animal that legend has made him.

We have caught wolverines in traps which were set for coyote but which the coyote would not get into until it had "aged"—that is, until almost all signs of a fresh set had weathered out.

Caught In Mink Traps
We have caught them in traps completely uncovered and in 1½ mink traps at that — the mink traps have held them until they died in the trap. This seems to take care of their extraordinary strength. (And the inhumanity of using traps, E.B.).

On the other hand, we have had them harass the mink lines and repeatedly set off traps. Yet later one such animal stepped into an open trap and was held by it.

We doubt the stories of wolverines "fouling" caches after raiding them — at least deliberately. It may be that they have defecated or urinated while in the process of raiding but that, I believe, is not deliberate. Yes, wolverines will ruin caches and seemingly get into impossible places but it should be remembered that most animals are persistent and being so, can find a way in.

A squirrel will do as much or more damage we believe, and will enter any place that is not lined with metal.

(Frankly, I've only observed two wolverines. I don't know. I'll leave it to you readers experienced to answer. And the best answer will win the weekly award of the 30-volume set of the Encyclopedia Americana, E.B.)

(Copyright 1957, by Eugene Burns)

By special arrangement with the editors of the Encyclopedia Americana, my panel of judges will award each week to the reader who sends me the best true-life nature adventure, the best nature observation, or the best question on nature and wildlife, a complete 30-volume

Elderly Woman In Tub 8 Days

San Francisco—A 74-year-old widow lay paralyzed in her bathtub for eight days because neighbors were unable to hear her cries for help over the blare of the television set.

The widow, Mrs. Betty Schardt, was rescued Thursday night when neighbors noticed the pile of newspapers in front of her door. They called police who entered her house through a window.

Officers found Mrs. Schardt lying in the bathtub, muttering, "Thank God . . . please give me a drink of water."

Her Chihuahua dog Keenie gave a feeble yelp. He had no bark left.

Mrs. Schardt said she turned on her television set on the morning of July 18, then went into the bathroom. She fell into the tub, unable to move.

In the mornings and late afternoons when she knew the newspaper boys would be at the door, she called "Help" with all her might. But they heard only the television set.

The dog ran around the house barking, but the TV set drowned him out too.

Mrs. Schardt was taken to French hospital in "very weak" condition.

Judges' Retirement Fund Said To Total \$104,761

Salem—State Treasurer Sig Unander has notified Chief Justice William C. Perry of the Oregon Supreme Court that the Judges' retirement fund now stands at \$104,761, a slight gain over a year ago.

The fund was created by the 1943 Legislature.

There are 275 wildlife refuges in the U. S. national refuge system.

set of this world-famous reference work in a handsome Sealcraft binding. Each week new submissions will be considered. Sorry, I simply can't answer your many friendly letters. Please address your letter to: Is That So? c/o Medford Mail Tribune, Box 575, Sausalito, Calif.

Art Pieces On Display In SOC Library Room

Ashland—Fourteen water color botanical plates made by Miss Marion Ady, chairman of the Southern Oregon college art department, in 1931 for Dr. Wayne W. Wells, professor emeritus of the science department since spring, and an exhibit of 16 outdoor sketches by members of Miss Ady's summer session class in water color and tempera have been placed in the library reading room until Aug. 2.

Miss Ady explained that the work of the class, though almost entirely beginner's work, nevertheless displayed a surprising degree of spontaneity and individualism and recommended that those interested in these mediums of expression inspect them with these qualities in mind.

Vancouver, Wash.—Mrs. G. W. Philbrook told the sheriff's office someone shot and killed her flock of 24 domestic ducks.

PP&L Practices To Be Investigated

Salem—A general investigation of the practices, services and probably the rate bases of Pacific Power and Light Company was announced Thursday by Public Utilities Commissioner Howard Morgan.

Morgan said formal orders for the investigation would be served on the company within the next few days and that the "formal, general, investigation would begin promptly."

Morgan said his office had been "informed during the past six months of alleged wholesale departures by PP&L from its published tariff rates."

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the tandem's 3-speed power divider—working with 5-speed Synchro-Mesh transmission—you have a range of 15 forward speeds and 3 reverse!

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