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No. 119

Engineers Elect To Continue Strike

Wage and Travel Clauses Rejected By 6 To 1 Vote

Negotiations With Mediator Slated

Portland —(UPI)—Members of the Operating Engineers throughout the state have voted 6-1 to continue the more than four week old strike against the Associated General Contractors.

The next hope for a settlement in the dispute lies in negotiations today in the office of the federal mediator in Portland.

The union voted to reject the wage offer and travel clauses of the proposal, and accepted the working conditions sections of the offer.

Greater Majority
Portland members of the union voted last week to reject those sections of the contract by an even greater majority.

The strike-lock-out which has halted more than \$400 million worth of heavy construction in Oregon and Southwest Washington brought Navy and Air Force representatives to Portland Wednesday to meet with union officials.

Both the union and the military refused to reveal what was discussed.

Deadline Extended For Entering Fair

The entry deadline for 4-H club members wishing to enter the 4-H county fair has been extended, Glenn Klein, county agent announced today.

Klein said that the extension was necessary because several hundred fair premium books, entral blanks, and identification buttons apparently did not reach potential entrants. Approximately 400 of the packets have been missing for a week, he said.

All 4-H club members who have not received their entry blanks are to contact the 4-H extension office in the county courthouse immediately, Klein said. He also requested that persons having extra premium books turn them in to him.

Boy Treated, Released After Bike Accident

Alonzo Everett Alexander, of 33 South Front st., was driver of a Yellow Cab which struck an 8-year-old boy on a bicycle near the intersection of South Grape and Ninth sts. yesterday, according to city police.

John Darrell Leavens, 610 South Oakdale ave., was treated for cuts and abrasions at Sacred Heart hospital after the accident and released. No citations were issued, police said.

National Guard to Hold Series of Sunday Drills

Both Medford companies of the Oregon National Guard will begin a series of Sunday drill periods Aug. 10, it was reported today.

The units, Company A and Headquarters and Headquarters company, both of the 1st battalion, 186th infantry, 41st division, will assemble for rollcall at the Medford armory at 7:30 a. m., and will spend a full day in the field.

U.S. Broadens Proposal for Emergency Assembly Session

United Nations, N.Y.—(UPI)—The United States today broadened its proposal for an emergency session of the U.S. General Assembly to permit a wide-ranging debate on the Middle East. The session would open formally Friday.

A U.S. proposal submitted previously to the U.N. Security Council called for an assembly session to discuss only the plight of Lebanon. Today's revision suggested the assembly consider the situation in both Lebanon and Jordan.

The Security Council met, at the request of Russia, in the U.N. headquarters to discuss the U.S. resolution. Also on the agenda was a Soviet proposal calling for an emergency convocation of the 81-member assembly to discuss the withdrawal of U.S. and British troops from the Middle East.

The U.S. resolution was to be taken up first, and appeared certain to be approved by the 11-member Security Council. There can be no veto in the voting.

Soviet Premier Nikita S. Khrushchev dumped the Middle East issue into the lap of the General Assembly in a sudden shift in tactics, apparently a result of his talks with Chinese Communist leader Mao Tse-tung in Peiping last week.

In so doing, Khrushchev rejected Anglo-American proposals for a summit meeting within the council which he denounced as a tool of the United States.

But Soviet and Red Chinese propaganda machines were going all out to put the blame on the West for torpedoing the summit talks. The official Communist Party newspaper Pravda asserted Russia "has emphasized that in the present tense situation the swift summoning of a conference of the heads of government at a summit level is particularly necessary."

Red Chinese newspapers supported Khrushchev's opposition to a summit-council meeting and criticized the United States for insisting the assembly should discuss its resolution ahead of the Soviet resolution demanding withdrawal of U.S. and British troops from Lebanon and Jordan.

There were signs, meantime, in Washington and Moscow that the "crisis" atmosphere in the Middle East was dissipating.

The U.S. Navy disclosed it had called off the four-hour "alert" put into effect in both the Atlantic and Pacific fleets immediately after the Anglo-American troop landings in Lebanon and Jordan.

And in Moscow, Soviet newspapers published a report from the Ministry of Defense announcing the conclusion of military maneuvers in the Caucasus and Turkestan which border on Turkey and Iran. The maneuvers began July 18 at the height of the Middle East crisis.

Under United Nations rules, an emergency session of the assembly must be convened within 24 hours after the council votes such a call.

The perjury question arose when McClellan said conflicts between Hoffa's testimony of last fall and that of fighter Davidson today necessitated a Justice Department investigation to "determine who perjured himself."

"Definitely, such conflicts could hardly be any misunderstanding," McClellan said. He also observed that the records appeared to back up the story Davidson gave the committee today.

"Either Davidson perjured himself or Hoffa was not telling the truth when he testified before," McClellan said.

Several members of the legal profession in Medford announced they are sponsoring the movement. It is designed to insure that there will be a legitimate candidate for the post in the event prospective court actions rules out

Information gathered will concern the use of and the need for migratory labor in this area, conditions of employment and working conditions, housing and sanitary conditions, educational opportunities, welfare and health services, community services and any other information of interest to the committee.

Rep. Don Willner is chairman of the group. Committee members who are expected to attend the hearing here include Sen. Truman A. Chase, vice chairman; the Rev. Daniel W. Wessler, secretary; and Dr. Hoyt C. Franchere.

The Roundup is being sponsored by the Young Republican club, Jackson County Republican Women's club and the Jackson County Republican Central committee.

A barbecued chicken dinner will be served at the 6:30 p. m. picnic, with Arthur Van Leeuwen in charge, Ragland said. Those who wish may supply their own dinners.

Tickets for the chicken dinner may be obtained from precinct committeemen and women, from members of the sponsoring organizations, or at Robinson Brothers store, 114 East Main st., Medford.

Dinner music and entertainment are planned.

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Hoffa Promises To Restore Money To Welfare Fund

Pledge Follows Perjury Suit Threat

Washington—(UPI)—Teamster President James Hoffa, threatened with possible perjury action, promised the Senate Rackets Committee today he would restore part of the money paid to a prize fighter from union welfare funds.

Hoffa pledged the repayment after Chairman John L. McClellan (D-Ark.) called for a Justice Department investigation of possible perjury in the testimony Hoffa gave to the committee last year.

Call for Ouster
At the same time, committee members called for the ouster of Teamster Vice President Owen (Bert) Brennan, because of his alleged associations with gangsters and criminals.

Hoffa's original story came into direct conflict today with testimony by former heavy-weight Embrel Davidson who told the committee he received a \$75 weekly salary from the Teamster welfare fund while working for Brennan, who was his manager.

The perjury question arose when McClellan said conflicts between Hoffa's testimony of last fall and that of fighter Davidson today necessitated a Justice Department investigation to "determine who perjured himself."

"Definitely, such conflicts could hardly be any misunderstanding," McClellan said. He also observed that the records appeared to back up the story Davidson gave the committee today.

"Either Davidson perjured himself or Hoffa was not telling the truth when he testified before," McClellan said.

White was taken to Sacred Heart hospital by Medford Ambulance service where his condition was later described as poor.

Migratory Labor Hearing Set Aug. 18

The state interim committee on migratory labor will hold a public hearing at the Jackson county courthouse, Medford, at 1:30 p. m. Monday, Aug. 18, to gather information concerning migratory labor in this area.

Information gathered will concern the use of and the need for migratory labor in this area, conditions of employment and working conditions, housing and sanitary conditions, educational opportunities, welfare and health services, community services and any other information of interest to the committee.

Rep. Don Willner is chairman of the group. Committee members who are expected to attend the hearing here include Sen. Truman A. Chase, vice chairman; the Rev. Daniel W. Wessler, secretary; and Dr. Hoyt C. Franchere.

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'Human Torch' Dies; Suspect in Arson Case

Witness Tells of Seeing Fire Set at Cleaning Plant

Missing Uncle 'Definite Suspect'

Pontiac, Mich.—(UPI)—Human torch Frank Kierdorf died today at St. Joseph Mercy hospital only hours after police produced a witness who saw a Flint arson job on which he was believed to have been burned.

Doctors said Kierdorf's heart apparently stopped beating at 8:25 a. m. (p.s.t.) but he wasn't pronounced dead until 8:30 a. m.

The 56-year-old ex-convict who was business agent for a Flint Teamsters Union local, staggered into the hospital early Monday with burns over 85 per cent of his body.

He said he had been turned into a human torch by two unidentified men who "took me for a ride," but police have been breaking down his story piece by piece.

Witness in Custody
State Attorney General Paul Adams today confirmed that police had in protective custody a witness to the explosive burning of a dry cleaning establishment at Flint.

He also disclosed that Kierdorf's missing uncle, Herman Kierdorf, was a "definite suspect" in the arson job.

Adams said that a half hour before Kierdorf died the victim apparently roused from his coma and tried to raise his arms and speak.

But he was not able to talk. "I don't think Kierdorf made an honest statement at any time since he arrived at the hospital," Adams said.

Davidson, billed as a mystery witness, told the committee he drew \$75 a week from the teamster welfare fund while working for Brennan.

Committee Counsel Robert F. Kennedy quoted from the transcript of Hoffa's testimony last fall in which the Teamster leader said Davidson got no money from the union.

"Then that wasn't true, was it?" Davidson was asked. "Like I said, I got a check every week for \$75," the former Negro boxer replied.

Kennedy said Hoffa testified that he and Brennan owned Davidson's contract in 1952-53 and that most of his fights were in the Detroit area.

Council To Approve One-Way Couplet

The Medford city council is expected to give official authority to the Main st. Eight st. couplet at its meeting tonight.

The couplet is scheduled to go into effect tomorrow morning, but a prior city ordinance is required.

Other business on the council agenda for tonight's meeting, scheduled for 7:30 p. m. in the city hall council chamber, includes a report on the City Sanitary Service rate increase request; and consideration of declaring the necessity of acquiring property for the eighth st. extension between Riverside ave. and Bear creek, in case current negotiations with property owners fail.

Accident Victim Taken to Portland

Donald Glenn Schrag, 27, of route 4, box 447B, Medford, was taken to the Veterans Administration hospital at Portland at 10:30 a. m. today by Portland Air ambulance.

Schrag, who was injured in an automobile accident July 11, has been at Rogue Valley hospital in critical condition since that time, it was reported. Schrag was still unconscious at the time of his transfer to the Portland hospital, officials said.

The patient was the driver of a car involved in an accident on Culver rd. a half mile from Phoenix. Four other persons were injured in the accident.



'TORCH' DIES—Frank Kierdorf, Teamster Union official who was burned over 85 per cent of his body Monday, died in a Pontiac, Mich., hospital today. He is shown here being questioned in the hospital. Police believe Kierdorf might have been involved in the burning of a dry cleaning plant. He had claimed that he was set upon by two mysterious men and his clothes ignited. Police have found numerous loopholes in his story.

Couplet To Open

City officials received final word from the state highway department today authorizing the Main st. Eighth st. couplet to be opened tomorrow at 7 a. m.

Effective at that time traffic will be routed, on Main st., one-way west from Riverside ave., to Elm st.; on Eighth st., one-way east from Elm st. to Riverside ave.; on Elm st., one-way south from Main st. to Eighth st.

Traffic signs and signals have been installed to control the couplet's operation. City police plan to patrol the streets closely, according to Lt. Rollie Pean.

Seasonal Increase Noted in Area Jobs

Some seasonal increase in employment was noted during July, according to John J. Patton, manager of the Medford office of the state employment service.

Job openings increased over June, he said, but did not reach the level of a year ago. There were more clerical and professional job opportunities but the demand for unskilled help was somewhat lower than usual, he added.

Employment in Jackson county at the end of July had declined from the June level when large numbers of students were entering the labor market. There were an estimated 878 unemployed at the end of July, compared to 920 at the end of June. The estimated unemployed July 31, 1957, was 800, and at the end of June a year ago, there were an estimated 1,150 unemployed in the county.

Unemployment estimates are based on those who are regularly on the labor market, Patton noted, and do not include transients or those seeking temporary employment in the fruit harvest.

A labor dispute involving operating engineers halted construction work on the Talent project, Patton noted, but men involved in labor disputes cannot draw unemployment compensation benefits while the dispute is in progress. The shutdown caused layoffs of persons not directly involved in the strike, and some of those filed claims for compensation keeping the total higher than usual this time of the year.

Pear and peach thinning were completed during July, and picking started the last couple days of the month. The main harvest will not get under way until this month, Patton noted. All state employment offices are cooperating in a program designed to recruit sufficient domestic help to complete the pear harvest.

No Mexican Nationals
No Mexican nationals are in the area at this time, Patton pointed out, and none will be used as long as the supply of domestic help proves adequate to do the job.

When the harvest gets into full swing he noted, the local unemployment is expected to go to a low level. Not everyone will be able to work in the harvest, since ladder work is too heavy for most women and teenage youths.

The lumber and plywood industries increased activity last month, and with wholesale prices increasing employment in the lumber industries should remain steady at least for the immediate future. Work opportunities in general, he said, should increase steadily throughout August, and are expected to remain at a high level until the second half of September.

White was taken to Sacred Heart hospital by Medford Ambulance service where his condition was later described as poor.

Nine Entombed Below Decks in Blazing Vessel

Crash Occurs at Entrance To Bay

Newport, R. I.—(UPI)—Two tankers, one loaded with a million gallons of gasoline, crashed in flames in thick fog today, killing at least 15 men and injuring 36.

At noon (8 a. m. p.s.t.), five hours after the collision, nine bodies were found entombed below decks in the larger of the two ships. Six other men died when they leaped into the fiery sea after the collision off Fort Adams.

Of the injured, 31 were held in hospitals for treatment and five were released. Several of the hospitalized were reported in critical condition from burns.

The ships, the 10,000-ton S. S. Guilford out of Philadelphia, and the coastal tanker S. S. Graham, collided in a half-mile channel at the entrance to Narragansett Bay. The collision occurred within sight of the still-beached wreckage of the Norwegian freighter Veetville, which ran aground last September.

Captain Dies With Ship
The Guilford skipper, Capt. M. Eden, Port Arthur, Tex., perished with his ship, which later went aground off Fort Adams. Flames and smoke spewed from both vessels five hours after the collision, punctuated by a rocking explosion.

The Graham burned fiercely at the southern tip of Rose Island in Newport harbor. At one time, the heat was so intense that fireboats could not get near the vessel and it had to be towed off the shore.

The Graham carried a crew of 12. Engineer Melvin J. Wroten, aboard the fully-loaded Graham, said "it was like a stick of dynamite. It was awful and it was beautiful and, oh my God, I lived through it."

Wroten was the last to leave the Graham with Capt. Karl Anderson, Chester, Pa. He said the fire flashed along the port side of the ship, the gasoline-fed flames licked to the starboard side where the men were attempting to launch a lifeboat.

"We all ran forward," he said "and dove into the water. By the time the lifeboat hit, it was all aflame. But most of the men were calm and all but one boy wore lifejackets. I got to him a few minutes after we were in the water. Fire everywhere. I didn't even see the other ship."

Wroten said it was "like watching my home go boom." He said after he was picked up by a coast guard boat, "I sat down on the deck and just shook. There was nothing else to do."

Geysers of Water Comes from Break

A 40-foot geyser of water burst from a broken main at the intersection of Mae and Stevens sts. early this morning, city police reported.

The city water department reported that service was restored shortly after 10 a. m. The eight-inch pipe served approximately 15 customers along Stevens st., according to Robert L. Lee, water superintendent.

"We believe the break was caused by defective pipe," Lee said. He described it as a "watermelon split," six to eight feet in length.

Donors Needed to Give Blood for Operation

Six more donors are needed for blood for a 4½-year-old girl who will undergo open heart surgery in Portland next week, the Jackson county chapter of the American Red Cross said today.

The local chapter is sponsoring the operation, and 30 pints of blood will be needed, Red Cross officials said. Blood will be flown to Portland immediately after drawing at 12:15 p. m. Tuesday, Aug. 12.

Persons who have B positive type blood, and who have donated within the past year may register as donors, the Red Cross said. A total of 40 donors are needed to assure 30 pints, officials said.

The blood will be drawn just prior to the regular visit of the Bloodmobile here Tuesday. The Bloodmobile will be at the Red Cross office, 60

Hawthorne ave., between 1 and 6 p. m., with a quota of 290 pints.

Those who have thus far donated blood for the special drawing include John Flagg, Douglas Gordenier, Mrs. Lester Harris, Mildred Main, Dale Flowers, John Hensen, Francis Kirk, Mrs. Oscar Nordstrom, Mrs. Ethel Schulz, Bert Staats Jr., Milton Acker, Mrs. Nelda Bristlin, Sam Colton, Victor J. David, Thomas W. Dugan, Joan Driscoll, Leon F. Offenbacher, Anne Palmer, C. A. Rasmussen, Allen Sterton, Thelma Tolles, Lindsay Vinsele, Patricia Watson, Mrs. Thelma Williams, Robert Stevens, Elinor Cheney, J. V. Marshall, Charles Offenbacher, Mary Moffett, Kermit Greenwood, Vernetta Brainerd, Gale Culy, Thelma Edison, and Darrell Davis.

