

Oregon Congressmen Working On Problem of Boxcar Shortage

By A. ROBERT SMITH
Mail Tribune Washington Correspondent



Washington (Special)—Oregon members of Congress are trying to get the government prepared to do what it can to alleviate freight car shortages that are expected to develop this summer.

The car supply is already "tight", according to an official of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and it will get tighter as grain shipments increase this spring and early summer.

The Senate Interstate Commerce Committee has scheduled hearings on the freight car situation April 1 and 2 in Kansas City with Sen. Andrew Schoepel (R-Kan.) in charge.

Rep. Walter Norblad (R-Ore.) has introduced the first bill this year on the subject in either chamber. It would implement the ICC's No. 1 legislative recommendation—give the ICC the authority to penalize railroads when they hold freight cars of another railroad an undue length of time. This would benefit the western railroads generally, because the eastern railroads are usually most frequently guilty of this practice.

Not Repairing Cars
Kenneth H. Tuggle, chairman of the ICC, asserted in a letter to Rep. Charles O. Porter that "eastern lines are not repairing cars and are not returning cars to western ownership." Tuggle added that "if the bad road situation on these (eastern) roads could be brought in line with southern and western roads, the car situation would not present such a gloomy picture."

The ICC reported that there are now about 160,000 freight cars out of service for need of repair. These bad order cars represent about 9 per cent of the total number of freight cars owned by railroads now. An official said this is about 100,000 cars too many—enough to make the difference between a probable shortage and an adequate car supply.

SP Due New Cars
Southern Pacific next month will start taking delivery on 500 new wide door box cars suitable for loading long lumber and plywood, Porter was told by the ICC. Northern Pacific has a building program underway which includes 200 insulated boxcars and 1000 cars with sliding doors.

Tuggle assured Porter the ICC is preparing to do everything in its power to minimize the freight car shortage. It can issue car service orders to direct railroads to move cars as the ICC thinks best. An ICC official credited Sen. Wayne Morse for getting additional funds for the ICC to employ field agents needed to administer car service orders, to find empty cars sitting in yards and get them moving to shippers.

Norblad's bill would give the ICC more power than it now has. At present, a railroad using cars owned by another pays \$2.75 per day to the owner. This figure is supposed to represent the replacement cost of the car, not what it is worth to use it. Many eastern railroads, with financial distress pressing them, find it cheaper to use empties of the western railroads before returning them than to build new cars or even repair their old ones.

Would Be Unprofitable
Norblad's measure would permit the ICC to increase this \$2.75 per diem charge whenever "a shortage or threatened shortage of freight cars exists." The theory behind the bill is that this increase would make it unprofitable for eastern railroads to "rent" western boxcars, the cars would be returned faster and shortages would be reduced or eliminated.

Congress has had similar bills before it in the past but never has enacted one. An ICC official said the eastern railroads fight the idea, and western railroads usually apply to it only to boxcars—not to open cars which they often "rent" from eastern lines.

Norblad said his bill would apply to all types of cars.

STAR GAZER

By CLAY R. POLLAN
Your Daily Activity Guide According to the Stars.

To develop message for Saturday, read words corresponding to numbers of your Zodiac birth sign.

ARIES MAR. 22 - APR. 20	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Taurus APR. 21 - MAY 21	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
GEMINI MAY 22 - JUN. 21	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
CANCER JUN. 22 - JUL. 22	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
LEO JUL. 23 - AUG. 22	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
VIRGO AUG. 23 - SEPT. 22	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
LIBRA SEPT. 23 - OCT. 23	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
SCORPIO OCT. 24 - NOV. 22	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
SAGITTARIUS NOV. 23 - DEC. 22	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
CAPRICORN DEC. 23 - JAN. 22	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
AQUARIUS JAN. 23 - FEB. 19	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
PISCES FEB. 20 - MAR. 21	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Local Man Sentenced Following Accident

Jimmie Howard Day, 417 1/2 King st., was committed to the county jail this week in lieu of a \$55 fine for failing to leave his name and address at the scene of an accident.

He had pleaded guilty to the charges Wednesday and the case was continued until Thursday for sentencing. The accident occurred on South Mountain ave., Ashland when Day's car struck an unoccupied car owned by Velma Louise Stewart, Ashland.

Corporation Chairman To Visit in Area

Don Pruess, chairman of the board of directors of International Swimming Pool corporation, manufacturers of Esther Williams Swimming Pool, is expected to arrive in Medford late tomorrow en route to his home in Grants Pass.

Pruess has been on a combination business and pleasure trip to California, and is en route back to the New York office.

Huge Cyst Removed From Girl's Body

San Bernardino, Calif.—(UPI)—A 25-pound cyst the size of a small pillow has been removed by doctors from the abdomen of a 15-year-old, 132-pound girl.

Surgeons at St. Bernardine hospital said the 20 by 12-inch cyst apparently had filled most of the abdominal cavity of Joyce Preston. It was believed to be the largest cyst on record on the West Coast involving so young a girl.

Miss Preston, whose parents said the growth did not seem to interfere with her normal work and play, was released from the hospital Thursday weighing 105 pounds.

Doctors discovered the presence of the cyst last week with the aid of X-rays and performed a 45-minute operation early this week.

TOO MANY PEOPLE
Oxford, Ohio—(UPI)—The Scripps Foundation for Research in Population Problems here, which projects population estimates in various parts of the world by 10, 20 and 30 years, recently received a letter addressed to: "Too many people in the world," Oxford, Ohio."

Electrical Storm Disrupts Radio

New York—(UPI)—One of the most severe geomagnetic electrical storms in years disrupted radio communications throughout the world Thursday night and today.

Communications authorities blamed it on sunspots rather than a possible new "Project Argus" and said it was predicted at 10:30 a.m. Thursday when a huge eruption was noticed on the sun. Solar explosions invariably disturb radio frequencies on earth.

The City of London, the business and financial area of the metropolis, still lies between old Roman boundaries.

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Information Given On Thermometers At Heater Meeting

Basic information on thermometer care and testing and suggestions on proper use of orchard heaters was given this week at a meeting in the county courthouse auditorium by William J. Rogers, weather bureau meteorologist.

Rogers, meteorologist in charge of the frost warning service in the Medford district, stressed to the 75 orchardists, orchard foremen and orchard heating crewmen the importance of cooperating with his office in providing a protection service for the area.

Since the pear industry provides a major source of income, the whole community feels the impact of any loss to fruit, he pointed out. The area should be prepared for the worst eventuality, a freeze year, and have heating equipment and manpower ready to cope with it, Rogers urged.

Exact Temperature
Knowing the exact temperature in every part of the orchard is one of the most important considerations in any successful heating operation, Rogers stressed. Plans made before the first night of firing should include an early start to allow for inexperience of new lighting crews, crew check-out on thermometer location and reading safety checks on use of lighting torches and general familiarization with orchard heating practices.

Heavy protection on borders and an even pattern of heater distribution within the orchard leaving no blank rows or areas was recommended. This is most important in freeze years, Rogers explained, because of the added protection from radiation afforded trees adjacent to heaters.

The dark side of the tree can be damaged during severe freezes while the side toward the heater may be saved, he said. Thirty-five burners to the acre were recommended in isolated orchards.

Orchards Under-equipped
Many orchards in the area are under-equipped for heating, with an average of approximately 20 heaters to the acre, he noted. During a bad freeze the added investment in heaters could mean the difference between a good harvest and a complete loss, he said.

Many heaters at low volume provide better protection than fewer heaters at higher velocities, Rogers said. He recommended the same care during critical temperatures for Red Bartlett as for the regular Bartlett. However, some evidence indicates Red

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 - LA MER; ESCALES (Ibert), Munch, Boston Symphony, LSC-2111
 - SYMPHONY IN D MINOR (Franck), Munch, Boston Symphony, LSC-2131
 - PIANO CONCERTO No. 5 ("Emperor") (Beethoven), Artur Schnabel, Pianist, LSC-2124
 - MARCHES IN HI-FI—Fiedler, Boston Pops, LSC-2229
 - SPAIN—Reiner, Chicago Symphony, LSC-2230
 - BILLY THE KID; RODEO (Copland), Morton Gould Orchestra, LSC-2195
 - THE RITE OF SPRING (Stravinsky), Pierre Monteux, The Paris Conservatoire, LSC-2085
 - CONCERTO FOR ORCHESTRA (Bartok), Fritz Reiner, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, LSC-1934
 - SYMPHONY No. 7; FIDELIO OVERTURE (Beethoven), Reiner, Chicago Symphony, LSC-1991
 - CONCERTO No. 2 (Saint-Saens); SYMPHONIC VARIATIONS (Franck), Artur Schnabel, LSC-2234
 - BOSTON TEA PARTY—Fiedler, Boston Pops Orchestra, LSC-2213
 - GOOD MUSIC TO HAVE FUN WITH—Fiedler, Boston Pops, LSC-2235
 - "ITALIAN" & "REFORMATION" SYMPHONIES (Mendelssohn), Munch, Boston Symphony, LSC-2221
 - STARS AND STRIPES; CAKEWALK—Fiedler, Boston Pops, LSC-2240
 - SYMPHONY No. 3 ("Eroica") (Beethoven), Munch, Boston Symphony, LSC-2233
 - THE NUTCRACKER (Tchaikovsky), Fiedler, Boston Pops, LSC-2052
 - HI-FI FIEDLER—Fiedler, Boston Pops, LSC-2100
 - PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION (Boussorinsky-Ravel), Reiner, Chicago Symphony, LSC-2201
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 - THE KING PLAYS SOME ACES—Xavier Cugat, LSP-1882
 - MUSIC FOR DINING—Melachro Orchestra, LSP-1000
 - MUSIC FOR READING—Melachro Strings and Orchestra, LSP-1002
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House Education Group Recommends Basic Support Bill

Salem—(UPI)—A target date of April 18 was set Thursday by Democratic legislative leaders for the wrapup of the current session. Both Senate President Walter Penate and House Speaker Robert Duncan said the 18th was the day they hoped the Legislature could adjourn. That would mean a 97-day session.

Salem—(UPI)—The House Education Committee has recommended out "do pass" a bill increasing basic school support from \$105 to \$120 per census child in Oregon.

The committee amended the bill so that the money would be distributed under the present distribution formula rather than on a flat grant basis suggested by Rep. Shirley Field (R-Portland), sponsor of the bill.

Miss Field's original bill called for a raise to \$125 per census child with the money to be distributed on a flat grant basis rather than under the current formula.

Similar to Ziegler Bill
Another basic school bill sponsored by Sen. Francis Ziegler (R-Corvallis) would have raised school support to \$120 per census child to be distributed on the current formula. So in effect, the House committee just amended its bill to correspond to Ziegler's.

The bill probably will result in fireworks on the floor of the House both from the viewpoint of where the money is coming from and its method of distribution.

Vote on the measure in committee was 5-2 with Rep. Stafford Hansell (R-Athens) and Miss Field opposing it.

Largest Hearing
The two bills were the subject of the largest hearing to date at the state capital this session when about 2,000 teachers and parent teacher group members descended on the capital Monday night.

The Local Government Committee tabled a bill that would have made all meetings of public commissions, bodies and agencies open to the public.

The bill provided that such

YMCA Sets Dance For HS Students

A dance for senior high school students will be held at the Young Men's Christian association Saturday, March 28, at 8:30 p.m.

Sponsored by the Theta Tau Alpha Tri-Hi-Y club, the dance proceeds will help finance representatives to the YMCA Youth and Government program in Salem. Chairman of the dance is Miss Pat Bigham. Adult advisor is Mrs. Thomas Ball, Chaperones will be Mr. and Mrs. Ball, Miss Jo Culbertson, Mrs. Bigham and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Spence.

Dance activities will get underway at 8:30 p.m. and end at 11:45 p.m.

4-H Club News

Gold Hill Livestock Club
The first meeting in March of the Gold Hill Livestock club was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jones.

Each member of the club said what projects he planned to take and if he had obtained his animals yet. For entertainment, Norman Gail had some pictures of animals for us to judge.

Greg Schmidt was a new member at the meeting. The meeting was adjourned and refreshments were served. Dennis Cornutt, Reporter

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Patrolman Finds Blood on Fender

A Medford patrolman investigating an abandoned automobile Wednesday at Office Park, South Riverside ave. at Barnett rd., was disturbed by finding the right front fender was damaged and bore a smear of what appeared to be human blood.

It was human blood. But not, he was subsequently informed, from a collision.

He said the owner, William Butler Henderson Jr., 429 Berrydale ave., told him he had cut his finger while trying to tow the vehicle to Grants Pass Tuesday evening. The fender damage, Henderson was quoted as saying, was from a previous incident.

ASKS FOR SUPPORT
Washington—(UPI)—Chairman Hubert H. Humphrey (D-Minn.) of the Senate Disarmament Subcommittee has asked the Senate to put itself on record in support of the U. S. negotiators at the Geneva nuclear test ban talks.

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