

U.S. Steel Rail Subsidiary Crews Go Out on Strike

Pittsburgh, Pa. —UPI— About 1,500 nonoperating employees of the Union Railroad went on strike today, cutting off rail shipping at 17 industrial plants, including five big U.S. Steel Corp. facilities.

The walkout, called by the United Steelworkers, official-ly went into effect at 7 a.m., after a last minute mediation effort by a representative of Gov. David L. Lawrence failed to bring settlement of a wage and benefit dispute.

Line Connects Plants
The railroad, a subsidiary of U.S. Steel, connects the plants with main line operations. U.S. Steel had virtually halted steelmaking operations hours before the scheduled walkout and the railroad strike was expected to idle 50,000 workers in the affected plants.

Charles Dowd, chief of the Pennsylvania Mediation and Conciliation Service, huddled with representatives of both sides until early this morning in a desperate effort to avert the walkout.

The USW authorized the strike against the railroad in a dispute over wages and benefits in the new contract.

Serves Other Industries
The railroad also serves 12 other industries in the district, but those companies were not expected to be affected because other transportation arrangements were made available.

The union is seeking a settlement similar to the basic steel contract reached last January. However, URR President F. W. Okie contended that the demands would be too costly.

Oakie claimed the demands would increase employment costs by \$1.20 per working hour. The basic steel settlement price was estimated at 38 to 41 cents per hour.

Salem Shooting Suspect Surrenders

Salem —UPI— Fire of undetermined origin gutted five classrooms and the library of the Hoover elementary school just outside the east city limits here about 1:30 a.m. today. Damage was estimated at about \$50,000.

The school was scheduled to open Sept. 12. The flames were believed to have started in the area of the laboratory. The fire spread through the central section of the L-shaped, one-story brick and frame building before firemen from Salem and the Four Corners rural fire department could control it.

Twelve fire trucks and crews worked on the blaze and contained the fire after it had destroyed about one-third of the building.

Several firemen suffered various minor injuries. Five men suffered from smoke inhalation, but none were seriously hurt.

The school building was eight years old.

Criminal Statutes To Be Considered

Dayton —UPI— More than a score of proposals dealing with major changes in Oregon's criminal statutes will be considered at a meeting of the legislative interim committee in Newport Friday and Saturday, State Sen. Carl Francis, Dayton, said today.

Francis is chairman of the committee.

The proposals to be acted on include new legislation relating to control of obscene literature; broadening the statute on contributing to the delinquency of a minor to a person who gives pornographic literature to a minor; altering the law which defines insanity as applied to criminal offenses and modifying the wire-tap law to permit the use of such devices to catch narcotics violators.

Francis said this would be one of the concluding sessions of the interim committee.

SYRIAN QUILTS CABINET

Cairo —UPI— A fifth Syrian minister Wednesday walked out of the United Arab Republic cabinet, leaving only one Syrian among 13 Egyptians. Health Minister Beshir Elazmeh resigned for unannounced reasons. Thus far in the history of the U.A.R., five Syrians have resigned from the cabinet. Another has died in office. None has been replaced.

POOR SHOT
Midland, Tex. —UPI— A Midland woman, fined \$50 in court Wednesday for shooting out a window in a neighbor's house trailer, explained to Judge Bill Hart: "I apologize, but I was shooting at my husband and missed."

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