

LEWIS MUM ON STRIKE QUESTION

The Herald and News

PRICE FIVE CENTS KLAMATH FALLS, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 7, 1947 (Telephone 8111) ** Number 10878

WEATHER

Max. (March 6) 43 Min. 18
 Precipitation last 24 hours .28
 Stream year to date 5.03
 Last year 10.28 Normal 3.78
 Forecast: Cloudy, occasional snow, rate fluct.

Senate Passes Highway Measure

Local Bus Company On Unfair List

Charges and counter-charges in connection with the operation of the Klamath Bus company which employs non-union drivers, were heard today after the Northwest Motor Coach Employees union business agent advised The Herald and News that the company had been put on the unfair list.

On the other hand, Louis Soukup, owner-operator of the bus company, answered with the charge that his men were "satisfied" and on past votes taken had turned down any membership in the union.

T. S. Bequin of Portland, business representative of division 1055, Northwest Motor Coach Employees union, arrived here late Thursday and said that the union had filed charges against Soukup with the national labor relations board, (NLRB), with unfair labor practice on the basis of discouraging membership in the union and interfering with union activities.

"We have taken a vote time and time again and the boys (bus drivers), do not want to join the union," Soukup said in reply.

"We're unfair in their opinion because we've always paid wages equal or in most cases more than the local union wage scale or because some of the drivers have had previous experience with the union and do not care to renew their membership," Soukup continued.

Bequin advised the newspaper this morning that on February 28, he appeared here before the Central Labor council and requested that the bus company be placed on the unfair list and that action was voted by the council.

"This action was brought about by the refusal of Soukup to abide by the written contract that he entered into between the Motor Coach Employees union and himself in 1945," Bequin stated.

In reply, Soukup stated that the \$1 per hour wage scale signed in April, 1945, had been observed and an additional 10 cents per hour granted employees.

Bequin stated that the contract provided for certain working conditions and wage rates and the provision of payment of time and one-half for all hours worked in excess of 8 1/2 hours per day. Bequin also charged that Soukup discouraged employees from becoming members.

(Continued on Page 8, Column 1)

Flat Increase Of 15 Percent Seen In Rents

WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP)—Senator Hawkes (R-N.J.) predicted today that congress will approve a "flat increase" in rent ceilings—probably 15 per cent—despite reports that the senate banking committee has turned thumbs down on any across-the-board boost.

"When this finally reaches us for action I think there will be a flat increase of 15 per cent over rent ceilings of September 1, 1946," Hawkes told a reporter.

The New Jersey lawmaker thus echoed a forecast voiced earlier this week by Senator Buck (R-Del.), chairman of the banking subcommittee which it self voted for a 10 per cent hike. Buck said he believed the general sentiment outside the committee was in favor of a larger increase.

In any event, all parties to the argument agreed that no final decision is likely this month because legislation cannot start through congress—unless leaders change their plans—before some time in April.

Lewis Says Miners Being Blackjacked



WASHINGTON, March 7 — John L. Lewis, United Mine Workers boss, told congress today that the only thing wrong with the coal industry was that the government was "using a black-jack" to beat the miners into submission while the operators were taking all the profits.

Bill Will Go To House For Action

SALEM, March 7 (AP)—The Oregon senate passed 19 to 210 and sent to the house today the bill to permit the state highway commission to build throughways, or express highways with limited access.

The bill applies to new construction, relocated highways, and to existing highways where there are less than 10 commercial establishments per mile.

Sen. Douglas McKay, Salem, chairman of the senate roads and highways committee which gave unanimous endorsement to the bill, said it would reduce accident hazards, and that the bill was amended to meet the majority of objections to it. He described it as the coming plan of highway construction throughout the United States.

Opponents contended the bill would increase highway speeds and thus increase accidents, and that it would put many commercial establishments along the highways out of business.

Voting against the bill were Senate President Marshall E. Cornett, Klamath Falls, and Senators Howard C. Belton, Canby; Austin Dunn, Baker; J. N. Jones, Juntura; Thomas R. Mahoney, Portland; Thomas Parkinson, Roseburg; Paul Patterson, Hillsboro; Irving Rand, Portland; Orval Thompson, Albany; and Lew Wallace, Portland.

The house assessment and taxation committee sent to the house floor today two tax measures which would raise \$5,000,000 during the next biennium, and thus cut the state's \$10,000,000 general fund deficit in half.

One of the bills would levy a cigarette tax of 2 cents a package for the next two years only, and would raise \$4,000,000.

The others, which would raise \$1,000,000, would have the state tax commission pay its expenses out of income tax receipts, and thus cut the state's \$1,000,000 deficit in half.

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School Bill Fund Giving Undecided

SALEM, March 7 (AP)—The senate education committee, which must decide whether to apportion the \$16,000,000 basic school support fund under house bill 9 or the senate congressional district bill, was still undecided today after hearing Portland school officials declare that house bill 9 would bring disaster to Portland and some other districts in the state.

S. Eugene Allen, Portland school board member, said the senate bill to distribute the money by congressional districts is more realistic because it takes into account regional and geographical differences. This plan would give Portland around \$5,000,000 or about \$2,000,000 more than would house bill 9.

He denied that house bill 9 equalizes. Other Portland speakers said that since Portland has about a third of the population and a third of the state's school children, then Portland should get a third of the money.

Ronald Jones, State Farmers union president, was the leader of groups supporting house bill 9.

Taft Sees July Strike Possibility

WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP)—John L. Lewis told the senate labor committee today that he has no suggestions "at this time" on how to prevent another nationwide coal strike.

The United Mine Workers leader made that statement in answer to a question by Chairman Taft (R-Ohio). Lewis suggested to the committee that the miners' differences with coal operators be settled if the government "would cease using a black-jack."

After Lewis completed his testimony, Taft told reporters the next coal strike "apparently" will occur July 1.

Act Expires

He said he based his opinion on Lewis' reply to a question whether the mine-leader thinks the Smith-Connelly act will expire April 1 or July 1. This is the act under which the government seized possession of the coal mines.

Taft said he asked the question "because I wanted to know when the next strike would come. He (Lewis) said he thought it expired July 1. So apparently if (the strike) is not going to be April 1 but July 1," President Truman recently announced the Smith-Connelly act will expire June 30. This means that the coal mines return to the private owners July 1 unless congress passes some form of legislation that will permit the government to continue operating them.

Taft's reference to April 1 evidently was an allusion to Lewis' instructions to his miners last December to return to work through March 31. Until yesterday's supreme court decision, there had been wide expectation that Lewis might call another mine shutdown April 1.

In answer to Taft's query whether he has any suggestions for preventing a miners' strike, Lewis said:

"No, I don't. That's a matter of litigation before the court. I doubt if I can make any contribution at this time."

The mine leader referred to an action pending in federal court, as to whether he has the right to terminate his union's contract with the government, which has been operating the mines.

Taft asked what would happen to the mines and production when the government relinquishes control of the pits June 30.

"I don't have to answer to that, senator," Lewis replied, "because I don't have power of attorney." He did not elaborate, although presumably he meant he lacks authority to speak for the miners without specific instructions.

Lewis said the coal operators "are very happy with things as they are." He said they are clearing 5 cents a ton after all charges.

Two Injured In Accident

Two persons were injured in a two-car crash early Thursday afternoon and driver of one of the cars, Quincy Amos Hawes, Keno road resident, was charged with inadequate brakes by state police.

Injured were Mrs. Hawes, 35, who suffered severe cuts to the head and a bad knee injury, passenger in her husband's car, and Jess H. Richardson, Weyerhaeuser camp employee, passenger in the second machine driven by Jean Arval Houston, Weyerhaeuser Timber company office employee.

State police said Hawes was driving toward Klamath Falls about two miles west of the Lenox junction, when he cut in front of Houston's car. Both machines were badly damaged and towed into town.

Hawes and Richardson were given first aid by the state police officer investigating the crash and later moved by ambulance to Hillside hospital where they were treated and released. Richardson received minor injuries and three cracked ribs.

Hawes appeared in justice court late Thursday afternoon and was fined \$5.50 and costs. Neither Hawes nor Houston was injured.

Security Council Agrees On Pacific Islands Plan

LAKE SUCCESS, N. Y., March 7 (AP)—All appeared to be sweetness and light today for the United Nations security council, where the United States Pacific island trusteeship plan was up for discussion.

The big-happy-family atmosphere, representing a sharp contrast with the recent bitter debates on atomic control, was engendered principally by Russia's surprise acceptance of the terms of the Japanese mandates under the U. N. with the United States as sole administrator.

Most of the 11 delegates had speeches ready for the meeting (3 p. m. EST), but it was generally expected there would be no major conflict.

The apparent trend of this new-found unanimity was toward early approval of the American plan or at worst merely a delay for legal reasons. As for any postponement, the United States has made it clear it will stay on the islands regardless.

Any objections appeared centered around technicalities and the time. Russia also had three modification proposals in the hopper.

Soviet Delegate A. Andrei A. Gromyko wants to make these changes in the text of the agreement:

Drop the provisions that the islands would be administered as "an integral part of the United States"; add the word "or independence" after the words "toward self-government" in the section guaranteeing political development of the natives; and give the council the right to alter the agreement instead of providing that no changes could be made without American consent.

The United States was understood to be ready to accept the first two Russian suggestions if the council so decided. On the third, Delegate Warren R. Austin was balking, but American sources insisted there would be no difficulty.

President Cancels Trip

WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP)—President Truman today postponed his Caribbean trip indefinitely and summoned congressional leaders of both parties to a White House conference Monday on the international situation.

Charles Ross, presidential secretary, announced the delay in the proposed trip with this statement:

"The Caribbean trip has been indefinitely postponed because of developments."

While Ross declined to elaborate, Senator Taft of Ohio, chairman of the senate republic policy committee, told a reporter he and other congressional leaders had been asked to talk at the White House Monday about the situation presented by prospective British withdrawal of economic aid to Greece and the Greek appeal to this country for financial help.

Colds Empty Local Schools

Influenza and severe colds continued to lay low much of the Klamath basin population and 21 per cent of the total enrollment of the city schools was absent today from the classrooms.

The epidemic reached out from the grade and high school group into the older brackets and not only were many teachers home ill, but parents were on double-duty shift, one doctoring the children while the other remained sick in bed.

According to Supt. Arnold Gralapp's office, 707 youngsters, 202 more than yesterday, were absent from school. Conger reported 11 absent, Fairview 69, Fremont 102, Mills 113, Pelican 30, Riverside 32, Roosevelt 64, Klamath Union high school 286; total in grades, 421; grand total in the school system, 707.

Sacred Heart academy reported 80 students absent out of an enrollment of 325.

Flames Sweep City Of Tacloban

MANILA, March 7 (AP)—Fire today destroyed two and one-half blocks in the heart of the business district of Tacloban, Leyte—known to thousands of American veterans.

There were no reported casualties. Origin of the fire was not determined.

General MacArthur's sixth army made a successful landing at Tacloban in October, 1945. The city was the site of a major U. S. army supply base until last week, when the property was turned over to the Philippine government.

British Arrest 21 Terrorists

JERUSALEM, March 7 (AP)—British troops arrested 21 more persons suspected of terrorism and uncovered at least two arms caches in seaches of three small Jewish towns outside the martial law areas today.

The arrests brought to 46 the total number of suspects detained since martial law was imposed Sunday upon a large section of the Jewish population.

Isolated acts of violence were continuing.

Marshall To Be In Berlin

PARIS, March 7 (AP)—Secretary of State Marshall today placed flowers on the tomb of France's unknown soldier under the Arc de Triomphe and then departed for Berlin, en route to the Moscow meeting of the council of foreign ministers.

At Berlin he will get a first-hand account from occupation authorities of conditions in that country—further preparation for his part as United States spokesman in drafting German and Austrian treaties at the Moscow four-power foreign ministers' meeting.

Foreign Minister Georges Bidault of France, Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin of Britain and others in the U. S. delegation also were Moscow bound.

Spark Set Fire Destroys Plants

SEATTLE, March 7 (AP)—Sparks from an arc welder set off a spectacular three-alarm fire on Lake Union yesterday, destroying two industrial plants and leaving a loss estimated by Assistant Fire Chief Robert B. Rogers at more than \$100,000.

Nine engine companies, three truck companies and many off-duty firemen fought the flames at their height.

The destroyed plants were the Union Paper Box Manufacturing company and the Northwest Wire Works plant.

Snow Causes Slick Roads

New snow fell throughout the Klamath basin this morning and motorists who are crossing the Cascade summits with roadbeds slick and wet.

Two inches of new snow "and still snowing" was the morning report from the Oregon State highway department at Odell lake on the Willamette highway, and snow plows and sanding crews were operating. An equal amount of fresh snow fell on the Sun Mountain pass of the Dalles-California highway to the north, and it was continuing. Green Springs highway reported a similar condition.

At Crater Lake national park skiing was reported good as a light, powdery fall covered the 112 inches of packed snow. Roads are open into the park but chains are advised. It was 19 degrees at the park this morning.

The week-end forecast was for continued snow, light rains and overcast skies.

Crowd Attends Safety Meet

A banner crowd of business men, labor leaders, and industrialists attended the opening sessions of the First Southern Oregon Safety Conference at the city library Friday morning.

Following the opening ceremonies conducted by L. O. Arens of the state industrial accident commission, the group was welcomed by Mayor Ed Ostendorf and then listened to an open forum on "Cause Analysis" conducted by Commissioner T. Morris Dunne.

During the afternoon session, the entire gathering broke up into groups discussing individual problems such as logging, sawmill, manufacturing, electrical, and agricultural safety.

In the late afternoon "Selling Safety" will be discussed and this evening at a 7 p. m. dinner meeting at the Willard hotel the group will hear Otto R. Hartwig, safety supervisor of the Crown Zellerbach corporation of Portland. From 8 to 8:30 p. m. the dinner group will conduct a radio forum broadcast over KFLW.

The safety conference is under the direction of Robert M. Eversden, director of accident prevention division of the state industrial accident commission.

Besides accident commission representatives, 63 were registered at the opening meeting.

Krug Endorses Statehood For Hawaii And Alaska

WASHINGTON, March 7 (AP)—Statehood for Hawaii and Alaska was endorsed today by Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug at a congressional committee hearing.

Krug was one of the first witnesses to testify before the house public lands committee as it began consideration of legislation to make Hawaii the 49th state. The group will open a similar hearing on statehood for Alaska on April 16.

After the interior secretary had urged statehood for Hawaii, Rep. Crawford (R-Mich.), a committee member, asked him how he felt about the general policy of admitting offshore areas to statehood, a question Crawford said congress will have to face.

Krug replied he supports statehood for Alaska as strongly as he does for Hawaii. For Puerto Rico, he said he endorses the recommendation of the late President Franklin D. Roosevelt and

British Troops Enter Punjab

LAHORE, India, March 7 (AP)—A brigade of British and Indian troops moved into the Sikh cultural center of Amritsar today as a continuing wave of rioting, arson and looting took a heavy toll of lives throughout troubled Punjab province.

At least 19 were reported in Amritsar, a new core of the trouble. This morning at Multan, 50 miles west of Lahore, more than 90 bodies have been dug from the ruins of burned homes and buildings. Hundreds have been injured in the four days of disorders.

The situation in Amritsar had deteriorated steadily since the outbreak of the rioting Tuesday, but "the strong force of troops had a quick effect and this afternoon the situation quieted down considerably," a communique said.

think about—unification of the four occupation zones and a strong central government.

Still strongly nationalistic, he refused to accept the idea that Germany's eastern frontier will well be on the Oder-Neisse line, that the Saar may go to France or the Ruhr be internationalized. As for a Germany without a central government and without territory that is "historically German," the average German's attitude was summed up thus by an office manager:

"We're finished. We're a dead nation of slaves. And there is nothing. So we don't talk. We can only wait and hope."

Pinned down to a definite set of questions concerning their feelings the Germans answer readily enough. A survey showed that many pin their hopes for the peace conference on a negative feeling that the allied foreign ministers must give Germany a "fair deal" or there will be another war. A "fair deal" to many Germans means almost no change in Germany's pre-Hitler frontiers.

Dog Leads Lost Boys To Home

PORTLAND, March 7 (AP)—Patrolman E. W. Anderson concluded that even though Tim Anderson, 3, and Guy Barker, almost 3, didn't know where they lived, their dog might.

So, after picking the boys up on Sandy boulevard yesterday, he turned the cocker spaniel loose and followed it with the patrol car. The dog trotted along for several blocks, turned onto a side street, then home.

The boys' parents were starting a frantic search.

Tim said they'd been looking for Santa Claus.

Founder's Day Banquet Tonight

The twelfth annual Founders Day banquet of the Klamath Junior chamber of commerce will be held tonight, Friday, at 7 o'clock in the armory.

Among the honorees awarded following the dinner will be the announcement of the Jaycees' choice for the outstanding young man of Klamath county, and the presentation of distinguished service awards.

E. C. Sammons, president of the United States National bank of Portland, will be the speaker of the evening.

Germans Apathetic About Coming Peace Treaty Meet

FRANKFURT, March 7 (AP)—The average German in Frankfurt is doing little talking these days about the approaching Moscow peace conference, despite its possible importance to his own future.

Instead, most Germans appeared to be sitting by and waiting for the results with a sort of desperate feeling that they can do nothing and are mere pawns "between the east and west."

You could go into a bar or a cafe, or into the average German's private home and never hear the peace conference discussed once in an afternoon, unless you brought up the topic.

It is not that the German doesn't care what happens at Moscow. He is well aware the conference is about to take place and thinks it is "about time, too." But he feels that discussion is useless and so the lack of food, heat and housing dominate his conversation.

"Waiting for the results, there is only one outcome he dares