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"HEW TO THE LINE; LET THE CHIPS FALL WHERE THEY MAY."

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## RAILROAD'S ACCEPT WILSON'S PROPOSAL

### PRESIDENT WINS THEM TO HIS PLAN TO AVOID NATION- WIDE STRIKE.

Convinced that they must accept President Wilson's suggestions as a basis for the settlement of their dispute with their employes, in order to avert a nation-wide railroad strike, the presidents of 60 of the railroads of the United States are now striving to devise a plan whereby the eight-hour day may be put into effect on their systems with the least possible additional expense.

The crux of the president's suggestion is acceptance of the eight-hour day and the settlement of allied questions, such as wages, freight rates, overtime rates and the like, by an impartial commission authorized by congress to conduct an investigation after the eight-hour plan has been in operation some months to determine what changes may be needed. The railroad presidents fought hard for their argument that all the questions at issue should be submitted to a board of arbitration, but the president has insisted from the outset upon the acceptance of the eight-hour day, for reasons advanced in his first statement, and the railroad executives have come to realize the impossibility of pressing their claim any further.

Several conferences have taken place this week between the president and the railroad chiefs on various points at issue and the president also discussed the situation at length with Senator Newlands and Representative Adamson, chairman of the two committees of congress in charge of legislation affecting interstate commerce. They are said to have agreed that the president's position in the present situation is right and to have said that every effort could be expected in congress to put through any legislation which might help solve the present difficulty and provide for the future.

#### First Proposal Saturday.

The president's first direct statement of his views on the situation and his first proposal of a basis for settlement was made last Saturday when he appealed to the railroad officials to abandon their insistence on arbitration of the dispute and to accept his plan of settlement, already agreed to by the employes, because, in his opinion, the railroads are contending for a principle which it seemingly is impossible to apply to the present situation.

In one of the most dramatic scenes known to the White House in recent years, the president declared to the heads of five billion dollars' worth of properties, assembled at his summons:

"If a strike comes the public will know where the responsibility rests. It will not be upon me."

A few minutes later he issued a statement, saying:

"The public has a right to expect" acceptance of his plan.

While President Wilson was still addressing the railroad executives and telling them they faced "a condition, not a principle," his statement to the country, reviewing his plan and characterizing it as "a thoroughly practicable and fair program," was given out at the White House. In this statement he urged the adoption of the eight-hour day because he "believed the concession right," suggested the creation by congress of a small body of men to investigate the results, and urged the abandonment of the demand for time and a half overtime pay by the men and the "contingent" proposals by the railroads.

#### The President's Statement.

His statement is as follows:

"I have recommended the concession of the eight-hour day—that is, the substitution of an eight-hour day for the present ten-hour day in all the existing practices and agreements. I made this recommendation because I believe the concession right. The eight-hour day now undoubtedly has the sanction of the judgment of society in its favor and should be adopted as a basis for wages even where the actual work to be done cannot be completed within eight hours.

"Concerning the adjustments which should be made, in justice to the railroads and their stockholders, in the

#### Candidates to Push Registering.

Each one of the 42 Republican candidates for nomination to the various county offices has been supplied with a list of persons who have failed to register, and been instructed to see that they do register, as the result of a meeting at the courthouse Tuesday, suggested by Committeeman J. L. Peters. Republican County Chairman Ed Sanford presided at the meeting.

## COUNTY IN DEBT SINCE 1874, IS ON CASH BASIS

### Payment of Old Railroad Bonds This Week Clears Up All Obligations.

When the \$16,000 balance of \$75,000 in bonds issued June 24, 1874, was paid the state Tuesday, Thurston county was freed from debt for the first time since territorial days and placed on a cash basis. The bonds were originally issued when Benjamin Harned, James Longmire and A. S. Yantis were county commissioners, and the proceeds were turned over to the Olympia Railway Union for the construction of the railroad from Olympia to Tenino.

The bonds at first bore 8 per cent interest and were to run 25 years, though redeemable at the county's option at the end of 10 years. The contract with the Union was entered into August 13, 1874, and the railroad, a narrow-gauge line, was completed July 31, 1878, its formal opening being made the occasion for a great jollification.

1904 \$38,500 worth of the bonds had been redeemed, and the balance, refunded at half the interest rate, was purchased by the state. In the early nineties the railroad was bought by the Port Townsend Southern when it was in its "boom" days and converted into a standard gauge roadbed, and contract then made with the county required the road's operation for 25 years. Service on it was discontinued last year, when the contract expired, and most of the track was torn up.

Nine friends who motored over from Chehalis were the guests of Mrs. George D. Prigmore at luncheon Tuesday noon.

payments and privileges to which their men are now entitled (if such adjustments are necessary) there is a wide divergence of opinion.

"The railroads which have already adopted the eight-hour day do not seem to be at any serious disadvantage in respect to their cost of operation as compared with the railroads that have retained the ten-hour day and calculations as to the cost of the change must, if made now, be made without regard to any possible administrative economies or readjustments.

#### Experience Only Basis.

"Only experience can make it certain what rearrangements would be fair and equitable either on behalf of the men, or in behalf of the railroads. That experience would be a definite guide to the interstate commerce commission, for example, in determining whether, as a consequence of the change, it would be necessary and right to authorize an increase of rates for the handling and carriage of freight (for passenger service is not affected).

"I, therefore, proposed that the demand for extra pay for overtime made by the men and the contingent proposals of the railroad authorities be postponed until facts shall have taken the place of calculations and forecast with regard to the effects of a change to the eight-hour day; that, in the meantime while experience was developing the facts, I should seek, and if need be, obtain authority from congress to appoint a small body of impartial men to observe and thoroughly acquaint themselves with the results with a view to reporting to congress at the earliest possible time the facts disclosed by their inquiries, but without recommendation of any kind; and that it should then be entirely open to either or both parties to the present controversy to give notice of a termination of the present agreements with a view to instituting inquiry into suggested readjustments of pay or practice.

"This seems to be a thoroughly practical and entirely fair program and I think that the public has the right to expect its acceptance."

#### House Burned to Ground.

A house at Tenth and Adams streets, which had been occupied by Chester Chatfield, a salesman for the Buckeye Extract company and the Olympia Knitting Mills, and family, was burned to the ground about 9 o'clock Tuesday night, all the contents being destroyed. The family was absent at the time, Mrs. Chatfield visiting in the country while Mr. Chatfield and two sons were attending a moving-picture theater. The fire started presumably from crossed electric wires in the attic. Bursting of hose hampered the fire department's efforts to quell the blaze. The building was owned by J. F. Kearney and it and the contents were partially insured.

Members of the Epworth League of the Methodist Episcopal church gave a surprise party Monday evening on Mr. and Mrs. Fred Christopher, at the home of Mr. Christopher's uncle, A. H. Christopher. Fred Christopher has lived in Olympia for the last six years, but he and his wife left for Minneapolis Wednesday, where they expect to make their home.

After spending the past month in this city as the guest of her sister, Mrs. J. V. Yantis, Mrs. Thomas MacKinley went to Portland Wednesday for a visit with relatives in that city. Before returning to her home in British Columbia she plans to visit other towns in Oregon and California.

## COUNTIES MAY AID IN CLEARING LOGGED LANDS

### Committee to Devise Plans Will Meet in Seattle Next Monday.

A meeting of the logged-off land committee selected by the recent conference at the University of Washington to formulate a definite program to deal with this problem will be held at the Frye hotel, Seattle, next Monday, when a sub-committee will present a plan of county aid for land clearing under the direction of the county agriculturist and an expert powder manufacturer.

Another sub-committee has prepared a plan for the creation of a state forest on the logged-off lands worthless for agriculture. Various measures intended to lower the prices of raw logged-off land and to make it more available for settlement will also be discussed. The morning and evening meetings of the committee will be in executive session, but the afternoon session will be open to the public and citizens who have definite constructive suggestions to offer are invited to appear before the committee or else communicate in writing with the chairman, Dr. H. K. Bepson of the University of Washington.

The various measures agreed upon by the committee will become subjects for discussion at a second statewide conference, to be held in connection with the Northwest Land Products exposition in Seattle in October. The other members of the committee are N. B. Coffman, Chehalis; Senator Ralph Metcalf, Tacoma; R. J. Costello, Orillia; E. Shorrock, Austin E. Griffith, and Floyd W. Rader, Seattle.

#### FIND ACID ON FIRE HOSE.

### Chief Barnes Makes Surprising Discovery After Numerous Breaks.

Discovery that in some way an injurious acid, believed to have been sulphuric acid, had been applied in some unknown manner to one wagonful of the hose supply of the local fire department was made Wednesday by Fire Chief B. H. Barnes, following 16 breaks in the hose at the fire at the Chatfield home Tuesday night.

Who applied the acid, when it was applied or what the motive could have been, is a mystery to the city authorities. The hose was in first-class condition at the last previous fire. About 500 feet of it was just recently purchased at a cost of \$400, and considerable of the remainder had just been re-jacketed. Aroused by the city's situation with reference to fire protection, the civic bureau of the Chamber of Commerce, at a meeting Wednesday night, appointed a committee to confer with the city officials.

#### E. W. Ferris Critically Ill.

E. W. Ferris, former state fire warden and well known locally, is reported to be critically ill with typhoid fever at his home in Mt. Vernon, and word received by local friends is that he is not expected to live. Mr. Ferris resigned an fire warden to become postmaster at Mt. Vernon.

As the result of the breaking of a scaffold ladder upon which they were standing, two local painters were quite painfully injured Wednesday morning, F. E. Farrington sustaining two broken ribs and Andrew Ahde two sprained ankles. They were working on Dr. N. J. Redpath's house at the time.

Injured Wednesday morning when he was struck by a falling tree at the Simpson Logging company's camp near Shelton, Emil Hendrickson, 37 years old, died that evening at St. Peter's hospital. He was a Finn and had no relatives in this country.

Mrs. Hugo Van Normann and little son Victor of Seattle are spending the month as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. George Davis. Mr. Davis is superintendent of the county poor farm.

Mrs. Mary Ashley, formerly of Bucoda, is now making her home with her son, W. G. Ashley, and family in this city.

## TEBBETTS STOCKHOLDERS PROBING FIRM'S AFFAIRS

### Promoter Charged With Arson— Company in Hands of Receiver.

Olympia stockholders in M. C. Tebbetts, Inc., a company operating the Olympia Groceries, a store in Tacoma, and groceries elsewhere, are investigating the company's finances and management, now that a charge of second-degree arson has been filed in the Pierce county courts against M. C. Tebbetts, promoter of the concern, and the company has been thrown into the hands of a receiver.

This turn of affairs came as quite a surprise to the local stockholders, numbering about 60, and at a meeting the fore part of this week they appointed a committee consisting of A. S. Alfred, A. A. St. Laurent and D. W. Gules to go to Tacoma and investigate. They attended a meeting of Tacoma and Spokane stockholders Wednesday, and are to report to the local stockholders at a meeting at the Knights of Pythias hall Saturday.

Tebbetts was first arrested in Tacoma last Saturday night, on a charge of arson, in connection with a recent fire in the company's store in that city. After an investigation the fire marshal declared the blaze was incendiary and, prompted by various clues, preferred the charge against Tebbetts. The latter is now free on \$1,000 bail.

The local store has been operating as usual this week. Local people have invested from \$15,000 to \$18,000 in the concern, the minimum for each being \$250, while there was one for \$1,250 and another for \$1,000.

July this year was the coolest July the state of Washington had known for 22 years, the weather bureau says, and it was also the wettest. It has been different this week, however, with the thermometer hovering around 90 for several days.

Several complaints about the valuation of land in the neighborhood of Tenino resulted in the members of the board of equalization making a tour of inspection through that district Thursday.

L. H. Darwin, state game warden, notified the members of the local game commission this week that within the next few days his department will be ready to ship this county's proportion of the first lot of Chinese pheasants raised at the State Experimental Game Farm at the Walla Walla penitentiary. Sixty-seven birds have been allotted to this county.

Mrs. Myrtle Briggs of Los Angeles spent several days recently with her friends, Mrs. W. C. Meacham of Brighton park.

#### Patriotic Picnic Tuesday.

Members of various local patriotic orders, including the G. A. R., Women's Relief Corps, Milroy circle, Spanish War Veterans and auxiliary, and the Sons of Veterans, will picnic at Priest Point park next Tuesday. A program of sports has been arranged for the afternoon, and in the evening there will be speaking and singing. Picnic dinners will be served at noon and in the evening.

## GOVERNOR TO SPEAK AT BIG W. C. T. U. MEETING

### All-Day Session of County Organiza- tion at M. E. Church Tuesday.

Governor Lister will be the principal speaker at the noon luncheon which is to be a feature of a big all-day meeting of the Thurston County W. C. T. U. at the Methodist Episcopal church next Tuesday, while Mayor Geo. A. Mottman, Chief of Police A. S. Eaton, Rev. N. M. Temple and Mrs. Margaret B. Platt will be among the other speakers.

Beginning with devotions at 9:30, the morning session will be given over to reports of officers, address by the county president, Mary L. Page, reports of superintendents, election of officers for the ensuing year, and memorial services. The important speeches of the day will be delivered during the noon luncheon, starting at 12:30.

"Law Enforcement" is the subject to be discussed by Governor Lister, following a short symposium by all present on "Pleasing Prohibition Pointers," and an address of welcome by Mayor Mottman. Mrs. Margaret B. Platt will talk on "Evanston and Washington"; Rev. Mr. Temple on "The Church in the Campaign," and Chief Caton on "Olympia Under Prohibition." President Mary L. Page will be toastmistress.

At the afternoon session, Miss Elvie B. Page will report on "Registration and Petitions," Mrs. Rose V. Sprague on "White Ribbon Recruits," Mrs. Platt on "Methods and Literature," and Mrs. H. M. Wallace on "Who's Who." There will be special music in the afternoon and also in the evening, when Mrs. Platt will deliver an address.

#### Tenino School Budget Cut.

The Tenino school board has made up its budget for next year, a total of \$3,286 being required, of which \$2,500 is for teachers' salaries. The estimated income from the state and county school fund is \$1,500, leaving \$1,786 to be raised by taxation.

Attorney E. N. Steele of this city, his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Steele, and sisters, traveling in one car, and his brother, Dr. G. M. Steele of Tacoma, and family, in another car, composed a party of 10 that spent from Friday to Monday on a tour of the Olympic highway.

Clarence L. Gilman was granted a divorce by default from Mary Gilman by the local superior court Tuesday, and also the custody of their three children, while Fred I. Ensign of Maytown was legally separated from Zode Ensign who, he charged, deserted him in July, 1914, and went to Oakland, Cal.

The paved portion of the Pacific highway east of the city is practically completed and will be opened to traffic within the next two weeks, according to the county commissioners. A portion of the pavement between the city limits and the South Bay road, was opened to traffic this week.

Donald McFadden, who just returned from service in the hospital corps of the Washington National Guard at Calexico, and Mrs. McFadden returned to their home in Seattle Tuesday. Mrs. McFadden visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Max Findelsen of this city, during her husband's absence at the border.

Master C. B. Kegley of the Washington State Grange has been spending the past week in Olympia and vicinity, as the guest of Fred W. Lewis of Brighton park, the state secretary. They plan to go to Renton Friday afternoon by auto to attend a picnic of the King County Pomona Grange Saturday.

## COUNTY CONTRACTS FOR FARM EXPERT

### COMMISSIONERS TUESDAY UNANIMOUSLY SIGN TWO-YEAR AGREEMENT.

Contract to re-employ a farm expert in Thurston county beginning November 15, at a salary of \$1,800 a year and an additional allowance for expenses, was signed unanimously by the county commissioners Tuesday, after two days' conference with R. B. Coglon of Pullman, state supervisor of county agriculturists. The action is in line with a petition recently presented by the Pomona Grange and endorsed by practically every subordinate Grange in the county, and other farmers' organizations.

The contract is for two years and the first signer was Commissioner A. M. Rowe, who last winter led the opposition to the renewal of the contract under which O. C. Van Houten had been employed as agriculturist during 1915. The commissioners and Supervisor Coglon failed to agree on the amount the county should allow for expenses, and consequently the contract contains the provision that if the commissioners and expert cannot agree on an expense account, the contract shall be terminated.

#### Terms of Contract.

Half of the \$1,800 salary is paid by the government and half by the county, while the expenses are to be paid by the county. The county also agrees to furnish the agriculturist an office in the courthouse and the use of an automobile to make his trips around the county. In return, the man employed must be satisfactory to the commissioners, must make weekly, monthly and yearly reports, and must file a monthly expense account. He also must spend every day in the week but one, in outside work among the farmers, and the sixth must be spent in the office where farmers may call to consult him.

Who the State college will recommend to the commissioners to be employed as an expert has not been decided, but it is probable, according to Supervisor Coglon, that D. C. Howard, assistant professor in the dairy department of the Oregon Agricultural college, a man who had been a practical farmer all his life until employed by the college, will be suggested. However, if the commissioners have a man to recommend, the State College will consider his qualifications before making any other recommendations.

#### Reverses Former Action.

This action by the commissioners completely reverses the course they pursued last winter when, after a three months' wrangle and several exciting meetings, they refused to renew a contract. Referring to that, Commissioner Dodge is reported to have said this week: "I realize that there were many good people in the county who wanted the agriculturist retained last January when we let Van Houten go, but it seemed that those demanding Van Houten wanted him or nobody and that seemed impossible."

In contrast to this, the commissioners stated, at every public hearing last winter, that Mr. Van Houten was entirely satisfactory, and did not ask to have another man recommended for the place.

#### Postoffice Surplus \$5,200,000.

A surplus of \$5,200,000 from the postal service during the fiscal year ended June 30 was reported to President Wilson this week by Postmaster General Burleson, who announced that he had sent a check for that amount to the treasury.

The Olympia Trades Council this week announced plans for the annual Labor Day dance at Central hall on the evening of September 4, for which special orchestral music is being arranged and various novelties are promised that will make it an interesting and enjoyable affair. The local lodge of Foresters, which had previously planned to hold a dance that evening, postponed it when the Trades Council's announcement was made.

Miss Margaret Blackwood of Mud Bay and Jacob Wendling of Klobber, were married Monday by Justice of the Peace Walter Crosby.