

Move to Mediate Demands of 900,000 Railroad Employees.

UNIONS SEEKING A CLOSED SHOP, WAGE INCREASE

Chicago—(AP)—The federal government, through the national railway mediation board, called in representatives of Class 1 railroads and labor today in an effort to settle amicably wage and closed shop demands of more than 900,000 non-operating employees.

15 Unions Involved
George A. Cook, chairman of the board, planned separate, closed conferences each day with spokesmen for both parties at which he hoped to mediate their differences. The board took jurisdiction of the dispute involving 15 unions on Dec. 22.

Demands for a closed shop and wage increases of 20 cents an hour, with a minimum of 70 cents an hour, were served on the railroad companies Sept. 25, 1942. In settling a threatened strike late in 1941 the non-operating employees received increases of 10 cents an hour. They had been earning from 35 to 85 cents an hour and had asked raises ranging from 30 to 34 cents.



FIRE SWEEPS CHICAGO BOWLING ALLEY—Flames belch from this south side Chicago bowling alley as firemen fight to control a sweeping blaze which brought death to six persons and injured at least 100 more. Two hundred patrons were driven into the street.

Raise Closed Shop Issue
Introduction of the closed shop issue was the first time the subject had been raised in the history of labor relations between the lines and the non-operating groups.

The brotherhoods, it was reported, were encouraged to advance the closed shop proposal by recent awards of the war labor board directing certain individual corporations in other industries to place "union security" clauses into effect.

Intervention of the mediation board is the first move provided for under the national railway act designed to dispose of labor controversies without crippling the nation's transportation facilities through strikes.

Arbitration Next Step
If the mediation board fails to effect a settlement, it is required to attempt to induce the parties to agree to arbitration. Such arbitration is legally binding upon the parties.

If mediation has failed and one or both parties refuse to agree to arbitrate, the mediation board must notify the parties that its efforts were unavailing and for 30 days thereafter there can be no change in the status of the dispute unless: The dispute, in the board's judgment, threatens to interrupt interstate commerce. In that event the board would notify President Roosevelt who could name an emergency fact-finding board to investigate the controversy and report.

The emergency board must report to the president within 30 days from the date of its appointment. For 30 days after it has reported, the status of the dispute may not change.

This procedure or the time limits may be changed by agreement of the parties if they keep within the detailed requirements of the act.

Rely on Public Opinion
The effect of the emergency board's findings upon public opinion is relied upon to influence the disputants to abide by the findings.

The history of the 1941 railroad wage dispute demonstrates the extent of time needed for these various steps. The mediation board began its work Aug. 14 and finished unsuccessfully Sept. 5. The unions refused to arbitrate and President Roosevelt's emergency board began its inquiry Sept. 16. Its work ended Oct. 22 and a settlement was accepted by both sides Dec. 1.

Sharing in the 1941 wage increase settlement were about 1,250,000 non-operating and 350,000 operating workers. Some sources estimated the boost raised rail payrolls from \$300,000,000 to \$325,000,000 annually.

Lauds Role of Railroads in War Effort

Chicago—(AP)—L. M. Betts of the Association of American Railroads said today that railroads and shippers, spurred to new heights of performance in the first year of the war, joined to win "one of the greatest of home front victories."

Reviewing the business by the roads and shippers in the heavy movement of both freight and passenger traffic in 1942, Betts termed it a "tremendously significant record," and said "it is an important example of the triumph of the free forces of American enterprise for the preservation of which this war is being fought."

Betts, in a prepared address before the mid-west shippers advisory board, asserted that "the privately owned railroads and an unregimented body of shippers have voluntarily combined their energy and intelligence to perform a task essential to the preservation of our national institutions."

He said that last year's record of about 41 tons for the average load per car was the direct effect of co-ordinator and co-ignee cooperation, and that the new high in average miles per car of about 49 was aided greatly by prompt loading and unloading of cars.

Where's Hitler's Luftwaffe? Recent Events and Reports Indicate It Is on the Skids

New York—Where is the German airforce or what has happened to it? Events and reports within the past few months but particularly within the last week indicate the luftwaffe is definitely dwindling unless—

Unless Hitler is saving it for some desperate offensive or defensive measure or cooking up a surprise. The reports: The luftwaffe has been reduced to 5,000 first line combat planes—less than half its strength at the war's start in 1939—and has lost air superiority on all three fronts, Russia, North Africa and western Europe.

Token Raids on England
The events: The luftwaffe's raids on Britain have been reduced to token bombings in spite of blinding allied raids on Germany; it failed to crush Stalingrad; it was smashed in North Africa preliminary to the defeat of Rommel by the British Eighth army.

Questions: If Hitler had the air strength to use would he have told the Nazi party in Munich two months ago that his heart was bleeding over allied attacks on Germany and still not strike back at Britain? Would he have failed to use it at Stalingrad which he told the German people was in the bag? Would he have permitted Rommel, so close to the Suez canal and the middle east, to be routed by allied air power?

Few Factors Against Allies
A few factors will prevent the allies from turning the full tide of their airpower against Hitler: Some planes must be diverted to the Pacific war and there are problems of transporting American planes to the European theater and maintaining them there with fuel, men and repairs.

But still the allied airpower against Hitler should be tremendous: American production (49,000) and estimated British production (25,000) in 1942 totaled 74,000 planes. In 1943 British production, believed to have reached its peak, should remain at 25,000 while the American goal is 100,000 planes.

Total German production, granted that allied bombings won't interfere with it and exclusive of the relatively small Italian output, should be for the same two-year period: 48,000 planes.

Bag 10,573 Nazi Planes
And this week the British air ministry said its planes had shot down 10,573 German planes in three years of war in Europe and the middle east.

That total of Nazi planes destroyed since 1939 is near the maximum estimated strength—12,500 planes—of Germany and Italy combined at the war's start when Britain and France were credited with a maximum of 7,700 planes.

But is all this conclusive evidence the German airforce has begun to fall apart to be crushed utterly under the deluge of allied airpower?

Hitler Playing Foxy?
Some observers have suggested that maybe Hitler is playing Foxy and saving his airforce for one of these reasons:
To conserve it; to save it for an attempted all-out knockout invasion attempt on Britain; to have a reserve against the eventual allied invasion of Europe.

But—meanwhile the accumulated reports right now seem to indicate he has lost control of the air and has begun to do the catching in stead of the pitching.

HORSE LOVER
A story goes that King George IV lay dying as the results of the Goodwood races were brought to him in 1830. He had instructed postboys to be stationed at intervals between Goodwood and Windsor Castle to carry him the results of the race. One of his three entrants, Fleur-de-lis, won, so the king died happy.

3 Sons in Service
Mrs. Mary Haumschild, 1240 Second street north, has three sons in the service. Raymond, 25, enlisted in the coast guard in October, 1942,

and is stationed at Dauphin Island, Ala.; Sgt. Norbert, 22, with the air force at Miami Beach, Fla.; has been in the service 14 months; Donald, 20, enlisted in the navy in December, this year, and is training at Great Lakes, Ill.

Ted Anderson, who is stationed at Fort Benning, Georgia, has been promoted to the rank of sergeant and assigned as battalion sergeant major. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Anderson of this city.

Family War Effort
Among families going "all out" for the war effort, that of Lee C. Amundson, formerly of Wisconsin Rapids and now of Powder River, Wyo., deserves a high place. Lee will be remembered as station agent for seven years at Dexterville, prior to which time he worked for the Green Bay & Western here. His wife is the former Grace Powers of Dexterville.

In a letter to his father, Louis Amundson of this city, Lee outlines the family's activities in support of the nation's war effort: Gordon, the oldest son, is about to graduate from officers' training school. Leonard is a staff sergeant in the army, was sent to Trinidad island in April, 1942, and is now somewhere "over there." Harry is a corporal in the army air corps at Boise, Idaho, being crew chief in charge of loading B-17 bombers. The youngest son, married, works in a war plant in Los Angeles and his wife is a riveter in the Douglas Aircraft company plant.

Lee, besides being depot agent

and postmaster at Powder River, puts in his spare time helping a sheep rancher who was a victim of the manpower shortage, thereby helping to solve the meat production problem. Mrs. Amundson has a right to be proud of the job her "men folks" are doing, and she no doubt is keeping busy with Red Cross work and other home front duties.

CLOSE OUT Women's Hats

Lot 1—In felt, values worth \$1.98-2.98. Close out at **98c**

Lot 2—In felt. Values worth \$5 to 7.50. Best colors. Sale at **1.79**

One lot of to \$1 babushkas, in wanted colors. Close out at **59c**

SAVE 1/2 PRICE!

THE ORIGINAL TUSSY Wind and Weather Lotion

Reg. \$1.50 Size **50c**

LIMITED TIME

Special Groups of Remnants 1/3 OFF

Two tables... one of dress fabrics in rayons, cotton and woolen lengths, another of cotton crepes, flannels, linens, crashes, muslins, and white goods. While they last, 1/3 off regular marked prices.

To Save You Money... Use a New 1942 Income Tax Guide 50c

84 pages of helpful information on how to fill your 1942 income tax returns out... correctly... to save you money. Written by a former Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue. Complete information on the new 5% Victory Tax. Get yours today.

NOW SHE SHOPS "CASH AND CARRY"

Without Painful Backache
Many sufferers relieve nagging backache quickly, once they discover that the real cause of their trouble may be tired kidneys. The kidneys are Nature's chief way of taking the excess acids and waste out of the blood. They help most people pass about 3 pints a day.

When disorder of kidney function permits poisonous matter to remain in your blood, it may cause nagging backache, rheumatic pains, leg pains, loss of pep and energy, getting up nights, swelling, puffiness under the eyes, headaches and dizziness. Frequent or scanty passages with smarting and burning sometimes shows there is something wrong with your kidneys or bladder.

Don't wait! Ask your druggist for Deane's Pills, used successfully by millions for over 40 years. They give happy relief and will help the 15 miles of kidney tubes flush out poisonous waste from your blood. Get Deane's Pills.

JOHNSON HILL'S

Vesper
Calvin George Andre and John Elenbass, who are attending Calvin college at Grand Rapids, Mich., are spending their vacation at the home of the Rev. and Mrs. G. Andre.

The Misses Tina and Sadie Overzet of Chicago and Clarence Overzet of Kalamazoo, Mich., spent Christmas with their parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. Overzet.

Mrs. Peter VerHage and children of Sheboygan are visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. Gunst.

Mrs. Merle Gates accompanied Mr. and Mrs. Harry Bassuener of Sherry to Wausau to visit Mrs. Gates' son.

Word was received here by Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Trickey that their son Earl is stationed at Miami, Fla. He is with the air corps.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Drake and

son Emery and Mr. and Mrs. Herman Sonnenberg and daughter Shirley attended the funeral of Mrs. Drake's father at Stevens Point.

Word was received by friends that Sgt. Edward Wittig jr., a former Vesper resident, was married at Green Bay Saturday.

Mrs. George TerMatt is a patient at the Riverview hospital at Wisconsin Rapids.

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer McNamee and children spent New Year's day with her father at Granton.

Miss Sylvia Ladick, who is employed at Waukeaha spent the holidays at her home here.

Glenn Tesser of Eight Corners, spent Saturday calling on friends in Vesper.



FIRST INSPECTION MUST BE MADE BY JAN. 31st

Bring your car in early for the first Official Tire Inspection. There are only a few days left—the Tire Inspection Records of every car and motorcycle owner in the country must be signed by an authorized OPA inspector by January 31, 1943! Remember — your cooperation is vital in the war against the rubber shortage! Tire care cannot be left to chance... that's why tire inspection is COM-PULSORY. Drive in today!

JOHNSON HILL'S

Service Station Hours
WEEK DAYS 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday — 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Sunday — 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

CASH and CARRY

Cream Style Golden Bantam
Corn 20 oz. cans each **12c**

Golden Treat June
Peas 20 oz. cans each **12c**

For Better Feeding
Milk Libby, 14 1/2 oz. **3 cans 31c**

Floating Hardware
Soap Cello Wrap **4 bars 21c**

Apple Keg pure apple juice, half gallon jar39c
Armour's Pantry Jar Peanut Butter, 2 lbs.59c

Kraft or Wilson Amer. or Pimento
Cheese Loaf Form lb. **39c**

Wis. Nippy BRICK CHEESElb. 34c

Ex. fcy. Jumbo Arizona Crisp
Head Lettuce 3 heads **28c**

Ex. fcy. Fresh Top Sweet
Calif. Carrots 3 lg. bun. **25c**

Ex. fcy. or fcy. Delaware Hard
Delicious Apples 4 lbs. **33c**

Cloth Bag U. S. No. 1
Idaho Bakers Potatoes pk. **67c**

Tex. Seedless Jumbo GRAPEFRUIT11 for 45c
Calif. Med. to Lge. SPANISH ONIONS5 lbs. 37c
Ex. Calif. Jumbo Bleached TABLE CELERYea. 19c

Cauliflower, Jumbo pinkstem grapefruit, mushrooms, grapes, avocado pears, peas, green onions, radishes, tomatoes, etc.

Extra Jumbo Calif. Sunkist
Navel Oranges doz. **49c**

JOHNSON HILL'S

January \$SAVINGS\$

Save \$5 to \$25 on High Grade

Women's Winter Coats

14.95 22.95 49.95

Luxurious fur trimmed coats... of good f for the duration quality woolsens... right in style... best in color... and best of all in real genuine savings. Save \$5 to \$25 on a quality winter coat... by buying yours now.

Untrimmed Winter Coats

With quilted and zip out linings. Bargains at

19.95 24.95 \$35

Fleeces... tweeds... camelshair... with warm quilted and zipout linings... in fabrics that will last for the duration. It's an opportunity to buy a high type winter coat... many in colors and fabrics good for year round wear. Save... but hurry.

Dramatic savings for juniors... women... misses

Women's Better Dresses

In Three Money Saving January Savings Groups.

\$3 \$5 \$9

Dresses of wool, spun rayons, velvet, velveteen, fine rayons, and combinations in a galaxy of style and color for now and early Spring wear. Sizes for women, misses and juniors.

A priced of Budget group frocks... in a Special January Group at **2.98**

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