

Conversion of Japtown Into Heavy Industrial District is Suggested

Labor Officer

Co-operation Is Greater In States

Labor, management and government co-operation in the lumber industry in the northwestern states is carried to a far greater extent and is working much better than in British Columbia, reports E. E. Benedict of Portland, international secretary of the International Woodworkers of America.

Mr. Benedict, who is here to arrange installation of new I.W.A. chapters, points to the log allocation system set up in the United States to emphasize his contention. As the result of I.W.A. representation, a special government lumber commission now handles surplus logs from any mill to a mill that is in danger of closing for lack of logs.

Loggers at a camp that is forced to close due to weather are now offered free transportation to move to a camp at lower levels that can operate during the winter, he said.

Organization of lumber workers in B.C. has "grown by leaps and bounds" in the past six months and now "we are going to have complete organization of lumber workers," Mr. Benedict said.

The silk that would normally make 100 pairs of silk stockings is required for one parachute.

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TIMES

he spoke of the French fleet at Alexandria coming over to the Allies he touched on a complicated matter. Few officers and men remain with these warships which have been demilitarized by agreement between Admiral Coadre and the British naval commander-in-chief, and French sailors still at Alexandria show no desire to fight, preferring to stay neutral and watch France's varying fortunes.

The Times correspondent hopes a common understanding may be reached between Britain, the United States and the Soviet Union over treatment of Darlan in the future, as the Allies' moral standard is an "asset not to be dimmed."

The British Government, says the Times diplomatic correspondent, has made it clear beyond all doubt it will recognize Albania after the war as an independent state free from Italian control. This recites Premier Chamberlain's refusal to protest against Italian aggression before the war.

Chinese Prices Up 50 Per Cent. Since War

CHUNGKING, Dec. 18.—(AP)—Gen. Chiang Kai-shek, taking the lead in a campaign to combat rising living costs in China, has announced that the prices of food, clothing, medicine, transportation charges and wages will be frozen January 15 at their level at the outbreak of the war.

Economic experts say prices of most commodities in China are about 50 times what they were before the war.

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STRIKE

would pay back to November 15, the date of its first application.

In terms of money, the union sought a retroactive bonus of \$2.50 and finally agreed to accept \$18.80.

The men had threatened to strike at 8 a.m. today.

At 9 p.m. yesterday, R. K. Evin, chairman of the union advisory board, picked up a telephone and reported: "Tell the men they will work as usual tomorrow."

Limiting the union's representation to Ottawa officials, resulting in a further strike threatened, is discounted by all parties concerned.

Street cars carried thousands of extra passengers on Thursday as women conducted their Christmas shopping early in case the threatened strike had occurred today and they would have been prevented from travelling downtown by street cars.

Employees of Pacific Stages will receive just double the amount of bonus paid street railway employees as the railway employees had been receiving a 2½-cent-an-hour pay increase during the disputed period in lieu of cost-of-living bonus.

Pacific Stages men will receive \$30.00 retroactive bonus.

The Advisory Board of Divisions 101, 109 and 134 of the Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway & Motor Coach Employees of America have considered this order of the Regional War Labor Board, and in so far as they have been advised that the order is binding by law we have no alternative but to accept it, recognizing, we do so under the strongest possible protest.

The Street Railway men have not changed their opinion on the cost of living bonus. Why the Regional Board should pay a cost-of-living bonus from February 15, 1942, only, when it is due from October 1, 1941, is beyond our comprehension.

"The Regional War Labor Board ordered the parties to the dispute to get together and bring their agreement into conformity with Order in Council P.C. 8253. Order in Council P.C. 8253 provides for the worker who is not covered by a cost of living bonus. The worker who receives a voluntary cost of living bonus from the company is covered by a cost of living bonus under P.C. 7460 but makes no provision for workers who have a cost of living bonus clause in their agreement such as the street railways have. It would be hard to estimate the number of workers that are entitled to a bonus at the street railways are, but are not receiving it.

"When the parties to the dispute appeared before the Regional Board on November 9, the company argued that they should not pay this bonus at all, but stated that if the Board found they should pay it that it should only be paid from August 7, 1942. The findings of the Regional Board of Dec. 3, 1942, order the bonus paid from August 7.

"Later in the meetings between the company and the union, the company suggested that the bonus should be paid from February 15, 1942. The Board ordered that the bonus be paid from February 15, 1942.

"It is our intention to appeal the difference between us, that is the three months that has not been paid for under the most recent order, to the proper authorities, through all the Central Labor bodies in Canada."

Important B.C. Session To Open February 2

(Special to The Daily Province).—VICTORIA, Dec. 18.—The Legislature will meet on Tuesday, February 2, it was announced at noon today by Premier John Hart following a meeting of the cabinet.

The session promises to be one of the most important in years. Measures to be considered include amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act and the Industrial Conciliation and Arbitration Act, and the completion of the report of the rehabilitation council which made a survey of conditions throughout the province last session. It is probable that legislation will be based on this report.

The session is expected to be long, probably two months.

Mission Farmers Elect Officers

(Special to The Daily Province).—MISSION, Dec. 18.—W. Williams was elected president of the Mission and District Farmers' Association at the annual meeting here. Other officers are:

First vice-president, A. Gibbard; second vice-president, A. T. Watkins; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. V. Ogle; directors, Father Fleury, C. T. Myron, A. Findlay, E. H. Merrill, W. Baylis, M. Jack, A. E. Plummer, J. M. McKenna, A. T. Watkins, E. J. Taylor, P. Hill, W. Penn, G. A. Jones, T. Hunsart, A. Stuart, W. Kunzmann, W. Williams, G. Gerrard, V. Ogle, J. L. Goudrey, H. Berg, Mrs. H. A. Jennings, Mrs. W. Williams, Mrs. V. Ogle.

Representatives from other groups include D. R. Cooper, councillor from the District of Columbia; W. H. Blanchard, Mission Board of Trade; J. Inglis, Canadian League; W. R. N. Sidde, Mission Women's Institute.

Ship Worker Gets Two Years

Sentence of two years' imprisonment in the penitentiary was imposed by Judge Lennox in County Court today on Edward Bordenick, 30-year-old shipyard worker who pleaded guilty to a charge of breaking and entering.

The sentence will be served concurrently with a two-year term imposed by his honor for attempted burglary to which Bordenick, accused also pleaded guilty. The offences occurred at the Rancho Hotel, 119 East Cordova, on the night of October 17, when Bordenick entered one room and stole a radio from a second room.

The judge told him that on account of his youth he was disposed to be lenient, but he sent him to the penitentiary because he thought he required discipline.

Grieve to Run For School Board

Announcing his intention to stand for election to Burnaby School Board, W. E. Grieve, who for the past 20 years has resided in Ward 5, North Burnaby, ran as an independent candidate in the coming Burnaby municipal election.

W. E. (Bill) Grieve, in a statement today on his candidature, avows his purpose, if elected, of working for changes in the present procedure of taxing property to raise school funds.

Mr. Grieve came to B.C. 40 years ago, served overseas in the war with the 2nd Field Artillery and at present operates an automobile exchange in Vancouver.

He was recently appointed A.R.P. transportation officer for Burnaby North.

Westview, Cranberry Elect Civic States

POWELL RIVER, Dec. 18.—(CP)—Nearby Westview and Cranberry incorporated last week as villages, held their first elections Thursday with J. H. Nutt, Robert S. Lyon and George Irvine elected in Westview and James Ford Jr., Norman McLaughlin and R. A. Weaver in Cranberry.

The latter three won office by acclamation but voting took place in Westview with the following results: Nutt, 275; Lyon 273; Irvine 211; Harvey Coombes 133, and C. J. Lawrence 105.

MONTREAL, Dec. 18.—(CP)—Robert Henry Macdonald, 67, Montreal architect who played leading part in the rebuilding of Halifax after the 1917 explosion, died here Wednesday, Mr. Macdonald, a native of Melbourne, Australia, was a member of the firm of Ross & Macdonald.

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City to Consult Ottawa On "Little Tokyo" Scheme

Gradual conversion of Vancouver's former Japanese quarters into a heavy industrial district will be suggested to Ottawa next week at the instance of a special civic committee which today discussed the problem of renaming "Little Tokyo" for white occupation.

The proposal will be carried to Hon. Norman McLarty, minister of state, by G. W. McPherson, deputy custodian of alien enemy property here, who leaves for the capital next Wednesday.

It originated at today's session on a demand by Dr. Stewart Murray, city health officer, to "wipe out the whole damn district, because it is a health menace," and the plea of Ald. George Buscombe, chairman, against allowing Japanese to return there after the war.

CONVERSION UNDER WAY. Mr. McPherson explained the district is being converted for white use as quickly as possible, but he admitted the present policy of leasing and renting Japanese holdings is a temporary, not a permanent solution.

Building Inspector Andrew Haggart suggested the district be made into a general business and heavy industrial zone, as it is close to the waterfront and tracks.

He pointed out that the natural development of industry would gradually eliminate all dwellings in the area, which is zoned for heavy industry and in which houses can not be built without City Council permission.

Dr. Murray branded the district a "veritable place" of health viewpoint and revealed that 14 premises have been placed with the custodian or habitation. He said later that general deterioration of the old dwellings is conducive to disease and poor health.

MANY LEASED. Out of 240 Japanese properties in the quarter, 175 have been leased, Mr. McPherson reported.

He said officials of his department follow a policy of co-operation with city building, wiring and health inspectors in advising the new tenants what repairs must be made.

Repair money must be deposited with the custodian or taken from rent payments, he explained.

Referring to Alderman Buscombe's demands for adoption of a policy under which Japanese houses would be sold outright, Mr. McPherson pointed this would be a matter of Dominion government policy depending on the fate of the Japanese in Canada after the war.

SOMEWHERE IN AUSTRIA. Dec. 18.—(AP)—Destroyed a bridge leading to the old Japanese counter-thrusts against two points in their line at Buna yesterday as the south-west Pacific command's hard-fighting air force helped ground troops tighten their ring around the enemy's shallow beachhead.

After artillery had destroyed a bridge leading to the Japanese-held Buna government station near captured Buna Village, American infantrymen closed in to clear out the Japanese from a coconut grove immediately south of the station.

Then the Japanese attempted to counter-attack under cover of mortar barrage, but were repulsed in a short sharp encounter which cost the attackers 20 killed and one captive.

Air activity included a bombing attack on an enemy-deposited bridge at New Britain Island. Other planes attacked the Japanese town of Mindelo in Portuguese Timor and an enemy cargo vessel was strafed at New Ireland.

Counsel Asks Court For Women Witnesses

Charged with conspiracy in connection with the \$6700 Bata store robbery on October 18, Gnr. Robert D. Wilson, 28, or Equimahl, and Harry Krause, 41-year-old shipyard worker, appeared before Judge Lennox in County Court today and elected for speedy trial, which was fixed for January 13.

W. J. Murdock, counsel for Wilson, applied for bail and also asked the court to allow him to produce Mrs. Helen Trutman and a Mrs. Mitchell as defense witnesses at the trial. His honor told Mr. Murdock to discuss both these matters with S. J. Remnant, crown prosecutor.

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