

# The North Platte Semi-Weekly Tribune.

TWENTY-NINTH YEAR.

NORTH PLATTE, NEB., JULY 28, 1914.

No. 54

## ENGINEERS EXPLAIN IMPENDING STRIKE

### INCREASED RESPONSIBILITIES AND MORE EXACTING REQUIREMENTS PLAY PART

#### With This Increase and the Soaring Cost of Living, Wages Increase About One-third in Proportion.

The attention of the public is respectfully called to some facts in connection with this controversy. Out of every one hundred engineers promoted, exceedingly few enter the cab of a locomotive as a regular passenger engineer, thus indicating the terrible rate at which the work of selection cuts into the great numbers of men who seek employment on locomotives.

This rapid work of elimination is brought about by the exacting physical examinations that men working in engine service are subjected to, together with the large percent that are killed and maimed, and those who find themselves unable to withstand the hardships and exposures of the service.

Increased responsibilities have piled upon the engineer in proportion to the sizes and weights of engines and trains and further exacting by way of improved safety appliances which have also added to the labor and responsibility of the engineer. With the advent of the block signal, and other appliances, many railroads have introduced a system of surprise tests that add materially to the already nerve-racking work of engineering. In this connection it should be understood that engineers do not object to such practical tests as will demonstrate their efficiency and their desire to observe the rules.

These increased burdens, together with the greatly increased cost of living, were the causes that induced the engineers in the western territory to make certain requests upon the managers of the western railroads. These requests carried moderate increases in rates and some improvements in working rules that have for their purpose the standardization of wages and working conditions, which were to be revisions and additions to the present schedule and rules governing engineers in the western territory. When these requests were submitted to the managers of the western railroads, instead of meeting their engineers and handling these requests as had been the custom in the past, they terminated all agreements in the western territory and submitted a counter-proposition that had for its purpose the complete revolution of the system of compensation and the rules governing the handling of men that had required more than thirty years to build up.

The committee of engineers met the committee of general managers in early February and several months of conference followed, in which the propositions of both sides were discussed. In these conferences the general managers' committee was not only unwilling to grant a single request made by the engineers, but were so insistent upon enforcing their obnoxious rules that there was nothing left to do but to break off negotiations and place the whole matter before the engineers and ascertain through their expressed vote their acceptance or rejection of the proposition of the general managers' committee. This having been done, the vote of the men is practically unanimous in their rejection of the general managers' proposition.

Much as locomotive engineers deplore a strike, they gave this unanimous expression in the honest belief that the very life of their organization and the wages and conditions that had required thirty years to build up was at stake, and that this strike vote was their only weapon of defense against an impending disaster in the form of a sweeping reduction in pay by the elimination of rules long in effect, and the introduction of working rules that would make possible abuses that would be unbearable.

The men feel that they are not only entitled to maintain such conditions and agreements as have been demonstrated to be necessary to prevent abuses, but that they are entitled to some relief from the increasing hardships that are constantly coming to them through the introduction of heavier power, and greater exacting on the part of operating officials.

The last general wage movement of the engineers and firemen in western territory was consummated during the year 1910, at which time about a ten per cent increase was granted.

Since 1910 the railroads have made great strides in their facilities for handling business, the most potent of which is the enormous increase in the size of their cars and the power of their locomotives and in the reduction of grades. Their reasons for doing this is to increase the train haul, which they have done to a remarkable extent. Barring accidents, the length and weight of trains, especially in freight service, is the direct index to the length of time on duty of the crew, and the physical and mental strain that must be exerted.

It is a very common thing while riding on a passenger train to meet or pass a freight train containing from sixty to one hundred and ten cars, and the thought at once occurs in the laymen's mind how such enormous power could be invested in one machine to handle such heavy trains and how men can be educated to handle such enormous weight and lengthy trains with sufficient skill to get them over the road successfully.

The cost of living has materially increased since 1910, and as the engineers and firemen in this country are responsible citizens, it is indeed fitting that their earning power should

be sufficient to meet, at least, reasonable demand along this line in order to maintain a fitting standard of living.

It is a fair estimate that living expenses within the last five years have increased practically twenty-five per cent, while the wages of engineers have increased in this corresponding time about ten per cent, and even with this increase, engineers in both instances are not able to earn as large salaries as they did prior to the increase, due to the added hardships brought about by the introduction of larger engines and the tonnage system, which has greatly increased both the labor and the responsibility of the engineer and fireman, and requiring them to lay off in order to secure the necessary rest to stand the added hardship, which time off duty means a reduction in their earning capacity, therefore, it will be understood that the earnings of engineers do not compare favorably with the wages of employes in other classes of labor, and while the railway companies try to make it appear that engineers are a high paid class of employes, the fact remains that their earning capacity has materially decreased, while on the other hand their earning power for the railroads has greatly increased.

## CITY AND COUNTY NEWS

A new lot of midsummer blouses and waists—everything goes at 98c.  
E. T. TRAMP & SON.

Mr. and Mrs. H. V. Hilliker and children left Friday for Hague where they will make a short visit with friends.

A girl was born Sunday to Mr. and Mrs. Allison Wilcox at the home of W. Payne.  
E. Payne.

Lost—Black hand bag in North Platte, on Saturday. Will finder please return to the Tribune office and keep money in it as reward.

Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Meyers returned Saturday to their home in Maywood, after visiting in the city for several days with their daughter, Mrs. A. N. Durbin.

Mr. and Mrs. August Casten returned Saturday to their home in Thornburg, Hayes county, Nebraska, after a visit in the city for several days with County Treasurer and Mrs. A. N. Durbin. Mrs. Casten is a sister to Mrs. Durbin.

The Nichols ladies' aid society held an ice cream social at the Nichols school house Friday evening and realized twenty-three dollars. During the evening a splendid program was rendered. The social was much enjoyed by all attendants.

Rev. Mr. Ives of Ogalalla arrived in the city last week and spent several days here visiting Dean J. J. Bowker and other friends. He remained here Friday for a visit.

Frank Sawyer, who was formerly employed at this office, left last week for Brady where he has accepted a position on the Brady Vindicator.

The baseball teams of the Lutheran and Christian brotherhoods met on Thursday evening at the ball park and played a four-inning game resulting in a score of 4 to 4. The tie will be played off next week as Mr. Knowles will be away this week. The batteries were Richeson, Husband and Clabaugh, Clarke and Johnson.

Contractor Al Tift, of this city, left Saturday morning for Omaha to look after some business matters. Mr. Tift announces that he has recently awarded the contract for some grading work of the Burlington, but that while it is all in Douglas county and that while it is headed this way, he will probably not get as far as North Platte with it this fall.

Dean J. J. Bowker returned Friday from Omaha where he spent several days looking after some matters of church business. He announces that Canon Bell has resigned as president of the Kearney Military Academy, his resignation to take effect September 1st. Mr. Bell has held that position commendably for several years and his many friends regret that he is giving it up at this time.

District Foreman John McGraw announces that over one thousand empty cars were shipped through here last week to western points to accommodate grain shipment that is now starting. About 200 of these were sent from North Platte. With such a heavy yield of grain in the west and the unusual large acreage the railroad companies will be taxed to the limit to accommodate the shipments for the next sixty days.

A fast baseball game has recently been arranged to be played Thursday evening at 5:30 on the local diamond. At that time a game is scheduled between the Episcopal brotherhood team and the Methodist brotherhood team. The Methodists are rather late in getting in the ring, but they have a number of good players and they will undoubtedly put up a good game. Everybody is invited to attend the game and admission is free.

A fishing party composed of R. L. Baker, A. W. Plumer, H. J. Rebhausen, Chas. Hupfer and son Charley, I. L. Bare and son Leslie, Major White, Arthur Reynolds and Henry Idings, spent an enjoyable week on the North Platte river south of Ft. Steele. The river was a little too high for best results, but the party had no trouble in catching many times the number of fish they could eat and turned them over to a ranchman who salted them down for winter use. Messrs. Plumer, Baker and Idings went from Cheyenne to Denver to spend a day or two, Leslie Bare and Charley Hupfer remained at Fort Steele to spend this week, while the remainder of the party returned home yesterday.

## REPUBLICANS MEET IN COUNTY CONVENTION

### ENDORSE WORK OF PRESENT COUNTY OFFICIALS AND RECOMMEND CANDIDATES

#### Ask that Western Nebraska Receive More Recognition and Endorse Hoagland for Lieutenant Governor Also Endorse Coffert House Project.

The republicans of the county met Saturday afternoon at the court house for the purpose of electing their delegates to the state convention and to transact other necessary business. The meeting was characterized by the supreme harmony that reigned at all times. A large number attended from all over the county and the district court room was comfortably filled.

The meeting was called to order by O. E. Elder and the chairman and secretary were elected. G. S. Thompson of Sutherland was elected chairman and S. M. Souder of this city was elected secretary. Following this the committee on resolutions was appointed and on that committee were O. E. Elder, D. M. Leypoldt and M. H. Me Dermott.

The candidates for nomination at the primary election were called upon for speeches and the following responded: D. M. Leypoldt, George Macomber, W. V. Hoagland, Miss Aileen Gantt, E. H. Springer, C. W. Yost, A. N. Durbin, Geo. E. French, Leslie Baskins, W. H. C. Woodhurst and A. J. Salisbury. The speech of County Treasurer Durbin was especially good. He was asked by one present to explain the raise in taxes and he gave quite a lengthy and exhaustive explanation of the conditions in Lincoln county and they met with the approval of those present.

The delegates to the state convention, which is being held in Lincoln today, were appointed as follows: A. N. Durbin, W. H. C. Woodhurst, W. V. Hoagland, C. W. Yost, North Platte; Geo. L. Swancutt, Brady; William Frisio, Dickens; C. A. Shiley, Fox Creek; J. W. Fetter, Maxwell; William Smith, Medicine; D. M. Leypoldt, Nichols; C. W. Burkland, Sutherland; M. H. McDermott, Somerset; P. L. Harper, Wallace.

The resolutions committee then submitted their report and it was adopted by the convention. In the resolutions they ask that the state republican convention recognize the irrigation interests in western Nebraska and that they try and make arrangements with the federal government for the use of the excessive water now held by the reclamation service and needed along the Platte valley. They heartily endorsed the economic work of the present republican county officials. They also endorsed Senator W. V. Hoagland as a senator and asked that western Nebraska be recognized to the extent that it be given second place, at least, and that Senator Hoagland be the next candidate for lieutenant governor. They also heartily endorsed the project now on foot for a new court house for Lincoln county.

## PERSONAL PARAGRAPHS

New fall goods are arriving daily at Tramp Dry Goods Department.

A girl was born Friday to Mr. and Mrs. B. Ridinger, residing in the Third ward.

Judge H. M. Grimes left Friday for Ogalalla to spend the day on legal business.

A girl was born last Tuesday to Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Kleuk, residing on east Fourth street.

E. J. VanDerhoof spend Friday in the country putting up signs for the Star Clothing House.

David Brooks left Friday for Sutherland to spend a couple of days doing some photographic work.

Mrs. James Flynn left Saturday morning for Quincy, Ill., called there by the sickness of a relative.

Frank Lowe returned Saturday from points in eastern Iowa where he had been visiting for some time.

Mrs. J. N. Siofield and little son, of Lincoln, arrived last week for a visit with her aunt, Mrs. Fred Ginn.

The road angling across Sec. 33, T. 12, R. 31, will be closed after September 1, 1914. O. L. Watkins. 54-4pd

James McNeel and Riley Warren of this city left Friday for Denver where they will spend a week visiting and on an outing.

J. E. McDonald left yesterday morning for Columbus where he will attend the democratic state convention today.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Eil returned home Friday from Denver where they made an extended visit with relatives and friends.

Miss Nora Jeffers of the Telegraph office has returned from her vacation of several weeks which she spent visiting relatives at Victor, Colo.

W. C. Hutchins left Friday for Indiana where he will visit friends and relatives for a few weeks. Mr. Hutchins formerly lived in Indiana.

Mrs. C. J. Perkins and daughter Gladys left Saturday morning for Omaha to visit relatives and friends for a few days and to do some shopping.

Miss Edna Sullivan returned the last of the week from Denver where she spent two weeks visiting relatives and friends on her vacation.

Mrs. A. E. Huntington and daughter Mrs. Jackson, returned Saturday morning from Denver where they visited for several days with relatives and friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas O'Neill of Lincoln arrived in the city yesterday morning, called here by the death of Mrs. O'Neill's father, Michael J. Walsh.

Dr. W. T. Pritchard left Saturday morning up the branch road to inspect some cattle for shipment. He expects to bring about four hundred down with him for inspection.

H. Scoonover of the Scoonover clothing store left Saturday evening for Chicago on a buying trip. He expects to be gone about two weeks, and he will buy his fall stock. He will also visit other points.

Paul G. Meyers left Friday for the Platte Valley school house to spend the day surveying an acre tract of land which was recently donated to that district. The land was donated by the old North Platte Land & Water Company.

Mrs. Keeney left Saturday morning for her home in Indianola, Iowa, after visiting in the city for a few days with her brother, Postmaster E. S. Davis. Mrs. Keeney is returning from Ft. Lupton, Colo. where she was called by the death of her brother.

Joe Fillion, Jr., Platt White and Fred Ginn returned Friday evening from their automobile trip of several weeks in Wyoming. They report a fine time. They also report a heavy rain Friday evening west of here. At Paxton, they stated, they were obliged to drive through water nearly up to the hubs on the wheels.

Mrs. H. G. Knowles and children left Friday evening for Fairbury where they will visit Mrs. Knowles parents. Mr. Knowles left yesterday for Lincoln to attend the state convention of the Christian churches and Mrs. Knowles will join him there. The children will remain in Fairbury to visit their grandparents while Mr. and Mrs. Knowles attend the convention.

Mr. and Mrs. Marion Carrier of Central City arrived in the city Saturday morning in their car and remained for a visit of a few days with old friends. Mr. and Mrs. Carrier were old settlers in North Platte but they removed to Central City several years ago. They were en route home from an extended automobile trip through Kansas and stopped here for a visit.

Notice  
Sealed bids will be received up until Friday evening, August 7th, 1914, for the removal of the log school house in district No. 3. Removal must be made at once. Address bids to D. E. McDONALD, 5444

Farade is at Noon Tomorrow  
In order that the country folks can have as much time at home on circus day as is possible, also that incoming excursionists can have the opportunity of witnessing the immense circus and wild west parade of Yankee Robinson and Texas Bill, the event does not take place until high noon tomorrow. Promptly at that time the parade moves, then all the outside free exhibitions are given at the show grounds. For those who come in early there is plenty of amusement, however, and it is advisable when convenient, to come in as early as possible.

A Correction  
In our last issue it was stated in regard to the Parmlee case that the two parties were both working at the Henry Hansen place at the time of the crime. This was a mistake as his young lady has never been employed at that place.

For Sale—Two good outbuildings. Apply to A. Fenwick, 693 West Sixth street.

## ATHLETIC TESTS BEGIN NEXT FRIDAY.

### BADGE TRIAL TEST AT PLAY GROUND AT TWO O'CLOCK SHARP, FRIDAY

#### Director Smith Has Everything in Ship Shape for the Different Contests.

The first individual athletic trial test or as it is often called, efficiency test, given by the North Platte Playground Association is to be held at the city's playground Friday, July 31st, at 2 o'clock sharp. The purpose of these tests is to bring the growing child up to a physical standard, this standard being determined by averaging hundreds of children and taking the mean record of their efforts. Every boy and girl in good health living in the city of North Platte between the ages of ten and eighteen are eligible to take these tests. The test Friday is simply a trial test to show the children in what events they are weak, allowing them two weeks to practice and increase their efficiency for the official tests which comes Friday, August 8th. On this date a gold, silver, or bronze playground badge will be given to each contestant who equals the standard records in five events on this date. Every healthy child in the city should possess a playground badge for the summer of 1914 and this will be their opportunity to do so. A dressing tent will be provided and everything will be in readiness for this event. The high and broad jumping pits have been put in good condition and the new hundred-yard running course is smooth, hard and fast. Cards with the events to be held on this day have

## THE INDEPENDENTS AGAIN DEFEAT WILLOW ISLAND

### The Independents defeated the Willow Island aggregation for the third time on the local diamond Sunday.

#### The game started out in good style and for a time it looked rather doubtful for the locals. In the second inning the visitors scored on a passed ball and no more scores were made until the fourth when the locals tied the score. In the sixth the visitors came over for three scores on two hits and two errors, but in the seventh the locals came back with two and in the eighth they ran across for three.

Score  
R H E  
North Platte 0 0 1 0 0 2 3 \* 6 11 4  
Willow Island 0 1 0 0 3 0 0 4 8 3  
Stolen bases, Sandall, Rincker (2), Jones (2), McKee, Bohner; sacrifice hits, Rincker; sacrifice flies, Sandall; two-base hits, Pass, Duncan, Sandall, Halligan, Carrig, Kennedy; struck out by Rasmussen (9); by Bailey 7; bases on balls, off Bailey 2; passed balls, Pass 3; Taylor 2. Batteries, Bailey and Pass, Rasmussen and Taylor.

Yesterday morning a strange, small white dog entered the sanctum of our long friend the Telegraph reporter and proceeded to tear things up in general. Said reporter, however, was equal to the occasion and, armed with a mallet, he proceeded to rid the office of the pest. The dog was evidently mad or crazy as it ran all over the office yelping and foaming at the mouth. Armed as aforesaid our champion soon succeeded in persuading the little animal that a newspaper office was no place for dogs in that condition.

## HE'S COMING

### Omar E. Garwood of Denver.

#### WILL SPEAK ON SUFFRAGE, AUGUST 3rd.

#### In big Outdoor Meeting at North Platte.

## Old Wheat Flour

WE HAVE SECURED SUFFICIENT STOCK OF OLD WHEAT TO RUN US UNTIL SEPTEMBER, AND YOU CAN AVOID THE USUAL TROUBLE WITH YOUR BREAD MAKING BY BUYING OUR CELEBRATED PURITAN AND ORIOLE FLOUR MADE FROM OLD WHEAT, AND EVERY SACK GUARANTEED.

## RUSH MERCANTILE CO.

## Hardware and Agricultural Implements

Thomas & Johnston Mowers and Rakes, Boss and Champion Spacker and Sweeps, Samson, Aermoter, Monitor and Fairbury Wind Mills, R. & O. Canton Plows, Cultivators, Wagons, Etc., Pumps, Well Pipe and Fittings, Waterloo Boy and Glade Gasoline Engines, Sawyers Gandy endless and other Belting, Rubber Belting, Rubber Hose any desired length, Alfalfa, Cane, Millet and Garden Seeds. Chick Food, Oyster Shells, Charcoal Etc., Blatchford's Calf meal

## Binding Twine.

Acrotom Paint, Cattle Dip and Fly Spray, Casoline and Oil Ranges.

## Jos. Hershey,

5th and Locust Street, Opposite Postoffice

PHONE 15