

Jersey Strike Near Collapse; Morale Broken

Lack of Money, Fear of Losing Jobs and Quarrels Cause the Men to Hunt for an Excuse to Quit

Many Go Back to Jobs

Granting of Hearing by Labor Board Is Expected to End the Walk-Out

Such havoc was played in the ranks of the "outlaw" railway strikers in New Jersey yesterday by the return to work of increasing numbers of men, the spread of quarrels among them, and the fear of losing their jobs and lack of money that it seemed last night those still out are only waiting for an excuse to declare the strike officially over.

Timothy Shea, acting grand chief of the Brotherhood of Engineers and Firemen, declared he was "most optimistic" as to the action his body of men would take as soon as word came from Washington that a prompt hearing would be given by the Labor Board. The meeting of the more radical men at Grand View Hall, Jersey City, was almost broken up by the demand of some of the men that a vote be taken on the question of returning to work at once.

The activity of agents of the Department of Justice in gathering names of the strikers and their leaders for possible prosecution as I. W. W.'s, and the news of the arrest of the Chicago leaders also affected the morale of the men. Attempts to induce others to join the strike failed.

Mr. Shea made his statement after he had addressed a meeting of some 2000 engineers and firemen at the City Hall Auditorium in Hoboken.

Is Optimistic of Outcome

"We are waiting for word from Washington," he said. "The men want to know when the Labor Board will be ready to act. I have every hope that in the near future the President will recommend to the board that it signify at once its intention to take up the railway wage cases.

I expect action by the strikers as soon as the Labor Board makes its demands will be heard. I will not undertake to say what their action will be, but I am most optimistic of the outcome. I do not believe they will take any action until they have that assurance, however."

Representatives of the Grand View

Hall body of strikers were at this meeting, but took no part in it. It is generally expected the action of this group will depend on that of the engineering men.

The discussion at Grand View Hall almost terminated in fist fights. Fewer men than at any time since the strike began appeared in the morning, and one of the first speakers told the men the worst thing for them would be to return to work and leave the question to the Labor Board. This, of course, would restore full control to the regular employees. Many of the strikers fear discipline by the organizations if this happens, and they made a last-ditch fight against men permitting the question to come to a vote.

Lack of Money Pinches Strikers
The demand that a vote be taken started an uproar. Men of the radical wing began calling those who made the proposal "skunks" and "worse than skunks."

"We're going to stay out till we get what we demand!" shouted one man. Fists were shaken and the crowd growled in little knots. The debate, with frequent interruptions for some time, finally broke up. The men went out and the issue was shelved without a vote.

The lack of money is beginning to pinch the end of the strike. Men are unable to get at the big funds in the treasury of the locals, much less to get help from the international organization. The lack of money is the main reason for the strike. Collections have been taken up daily for the relief of the strikers, but this money has come out of the pockets of the other strikers.

The heavy losses from the strike pile on top of the government's loss for the four months, beginning November 1, \$225,000,000, as the following statement by months shows:

Net operating Standard Gov't loss
November \$21,950,000 \$32,500,000 \$61,640,000
December 22,780,000 23,300,000 46,280,000
January 22,000,000 22,800,000 44,800,000
February 22,200,000 22,800,000 45,000,000
Total \$88,930,000 \$101,400,000 \$175,520,000

Without the credit protection pro-

vided by the Hudson and adjacent territory by using the Catskill Evening Line, now running from Coxsack to New York, with five regular stops, and the Troy Line, which starts to-morrow. A quantity of hay and some apples are being carried by the Catskill line.

A tour of the market districts revealed that the city is not entirely cut off from food. A trainload of fruit and vegetables arrived at the Pennsylvania depot, including five cars of lettuce, three of cabbage, five of celery, five of apples, four of oranges, four of grapefruit, three of strawberries and two of miscellaneous produce.

No shipments were received at the New York Central and Erie piers on the North River. Railroad officials have notified commission merchants of the whereabouts of carloads of produce stranded by the strike, and every effort is being made to bring the stuff into the city by motor truck. Some trucks have gone as far as the Potomac in Delaware, a forty-eight-hour journey. Onions arrived from Massachusetts and Florida, and several truckloads of Western asparagus were brought in by truck from the New York Central yards at Tarrytown.

Comparatively small supplies were received at the Seventy-second Street and North River yard of the New York Central. Receipts were only forty-eight cars of perishable foodstuffs, consisting of beans, eggs, onions, apples, potatoes and poultry, and 103 cars of milk. The foodstuffs were brought in by truck from the New York Central yards at Tarrytown.

The section of the North River water front known as the Chelsea Docks, from Twelfth to Twenty-second Street, is lined with material of all sorts awaiting transfer to the railroads.

The following survey of the arrival of foodstuffs was given out at the Department of Health last night:

"The New York Central Railroad received sixteen cars of butter and buttermilk, the Erie Railroad, at Pier 20, received fourteen cars of oranges and apples. The Baltimore & Ohio, at Pier 22, received one car of eggs.

"No produce or other foodstuffs were received at Washington Market, but eight carloads of live poultry, averaging about 20,000 pounds to the car, will reach the market in trucks to-day.

"The New York Central, at its Thirty-third Street station, received seven cars of meat and eight cars of potatoes. No shipments were received at the stockyards at Sixth Street, and the slaughter houses on the East Side received practically nothing. In consequence, many kosher meat shops will be closed to-day. Some individual merchants succeeded in trucking in limited supplies of food from Washington, Baltimore and other cities."

A full milk supply is assured the city this morning, but authorities declared that difficulties are likely to develop if the transportation tie-up continues much longer.

Edwin J. O'Malley, Commissioner of Public Health, announced that he had completed arrangements with the armament and some large dealers in meat for the handling of 2,000,000 pounds of government army frozen beef now in refrigeration places in this city. The wholesalers will get it for 7 1/2 cents a pound. The price of the meat is determined later. The beef will be on the market within a week or ten days, the Commissioner said, the delay being caused by the necessity of refrigeration, which ordinarily takes about a week.

Representing that thousands of tons of produce are going to waste in Virginia and the Carolinas because of the lack of dock facilities in this city, a delegation of produce and market men called on Mayor Hylan to urge that a pier be assigned to a company which the Virginia planters contem-

plained that he had been in any way connected with the railroad strike. "To the best of my knowledge, I have not seen one of the railroad strikers," Foster continued. "Neither have I written to any of them or addressed any of their meetings. In short, I have had nothing to do with the strike in any way, shape or form, and I wish to state most emphatically that the author of the statement intended to indicate that I am in any way connected with the strike is a deliberate falsifier."

"Mr. Palmer, it seems, is making a bid for the support of big business in his campaign for the Democratic nomination for President, and he probably figures this is an excellent way to get that backing.

"I don't know where Palmer or the Department of Justice agents got their information. Certainly if these efficient agents say I have been attending these railroad meetings they know more than I. Only once in four months have I been out of this city, and that once I visited the grave of Fannie Sellins, organizer of the United Mine Workers, who was killed in a fight with deputy sheriffs, to obtain material for my book."

In one case thirty-five strikers caught up with the horse-drawn wagon of the Guidekeeper Company, produce merchants at 21 Jay Street. They slashed the harness at Reading and Hudson streets, but fled upon the arrival of the police.

Following is a resume of the fruit and vegetable situation given in the report issued by Commissioner Porter:

"There were practically no arrivals of fruits or vegetables at piers or docks. A steamship from Denmark with 31,000 bags of potatoes is being unladen, with sales at \$10 to \$11 a bag of 150 pounds. A vessel loaded with Bermuda potatoes arrived yesterday; also, a small quantity of spinach from Virginia and lettuce from California was brought in, but practically no other produce. Some dealers have had trucks bringing goods from other markets and surrounding country as far as Philadelphia. Apples are very scarce in spite of the large quantities in storage elsewhere. Some relief may be found for ship-

Strike Costs U. S. Millions In Rail Deficits

Government Loss Under Guaranty to Roads for Six Months Ending in April Put at \$300,000,000

Lines Facing Bankruptcy

Demands for Wage Increases Now Pending Aggregate \$90,000,000 a Month

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, April 15.—The "outlaw" railroad strike is cutting deep into railroad earnings and is thereby cutting the government many millions of dollars. Freight revenues were running \$10,000,000 a day before traffic began to be paralyzed in the heart of railroad operations—the great switching yards of city terminals. Passenger revenues amounted to \$3,000,000 a day. A very considerable part of this traffic has disappeared.

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3 Arrested as Profiteers in Danish Butter

Resale of 672,000 Pounds Here Involved in Charge of Excess Gain at 69 Cents as Wholesale Price

One Awaits Grand Jury

Other Actions Expected Soon to End Soaring of Rates in Commodity

Three men were arrested yesterday by the "Flying Squadron" for alleged violations of the Lever act in charging an unfair price for Danish butter. They were arraigned before United States Commissioner Hitchcock and released in \$1,000 bail each.

Nicholas Eschenbrenner, vice-president of Lewis, Mears & Co., wholesale butter and egg merchants, of Boston, and general manager of the company's branch office at 127 Reade Street, was arrested about noon as he was leaving the New York Mercantile Exchange, 6 Harrison Street. He waived examination and awaits the action of the grand jury.

The other men, Harry Walton, president of Hunter, Walton & Co., 164 and 186 Chambers Street, and Frank D. Shea, a member of the same firm, will be examined on April 22. J. J. Price, the Federal agent who made the arrests, charged that Eschenbrenner in disposing of Danish butter on April 13 sold it at 69 cents a pound.

Books of Firm Seized
Shortly after this arrest the firm's books were seized and brought to the office of Assistant United States Attorney Joseph Mulqueen jr., where they were examined.

Mulqueen said that during February, Eschenbrenner negotiated the purchase of 672,000 pounds of Danish butter to New England, that he has information to show that it was sold for \$425,000, giving the firm a profit of \$67,150.

Mr. Mulqueen cited an order from the Boston bureau to the New York branch to sell in this market 672,000 pounds of butter which had been shipped from Denmark and consigned to New England. The price of the butter at the time of this order is alleged to have been 59 cents.

The price of the butter, which had then advanced to from 61 to 69 cents a pound, and is said to have been sold in the New York market at that price. Most of it is said to have been sold to the outlay of about \$200,000 and left a gross profit of about \$18,000 to the company. The net profit on the transaction will be probably less than 6 per cent.

While waiting for Eschenbrenner to appear before the Assistant United States Attorney, Mr. Price, with Federal agents, B. Walsh, went to the office of Hunter, Walton & Co., at 164 and 186 Chambers Street, and arrested Frank D. Shea, Harry Walton, president of the concern, was absent at the time, but he is expected to appear before Mr. Mulqueen later in the afternoon.

Both men are charged with making an unfair profit on Danish butter. Their books have not been examined yet, but the firm is said to have sold 360,000 pounds of Danish butter at 68 cents a pound, giving 10 cents a pound profit.

A. W. Riley, head of the "Flying Squadron" and in charge of the government's investigations of profiteering, said yesterday that these arrests were only a beginning, and that the main boosters in the butter market would be apprehended in a day or two.

Hero Cross for Brooklynite
From The Tribune's Washington Bureau
WASHINGTON, April 15.—For extraordinary bravery within the enemy's line three days before the armistice was signed, Sergeant Frederick C. Barth, of 21 Cornelia Street, Brooklyn, to-day was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross by the War Department. Barth was a member of Company G, 305th Infantry, of the Camp Upton Division, serving as corporal at the time of his heroic exploit.

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Excursion announced for SUNDAY, APRIL 18, has been ABANDONED on account of labor trouble and will not be operated.

Pennsylvania System

WAR TREATMENT QUICKLY RELIEVES BURNED FIREMAN
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Although the fireman's burns ordinarily would have sent him to a hospital, he declared after the treatment that the pain had gone entirely.

Dr. Archer said the preparation was the discovery of a professional army surgeon had been used successfully in cases of gas burns and gunfire injuries in the war. While a large crowd stood about he whittled shavings from a stick of paraffin, put them into an alcohol heater and after they melted he poured the liquid into an atomizer. Then he sprayed it over the burns.

The fire was discovered by Patrolman Riley, of the East Twenty-second Street Station. Three alarms were turned in. The firemen were assisted by fireboats and crews in a two-hour fight. The flames, lashed by a stiff wind, were making headway toward Eighteenth Street when they were checked. The damage was estimated by Chief Kenlon at about \$50,000.

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Railway Board Is Confirmed; Meets To-day

Asks \$7,500 Year Each for Two Boys Because of H. C. L.

Cannot Train Young Sons to Handle Father's Estate on \$6,000 Allowance, Says Mrs. Leonie M. Scott

Science has recently given a high place to woody fiber as an element of the human diet.

In petitioning the Surrogate's Court yesterday for an allowance of \$7,500 a year for each of her sons, Robert A. and Harold Scott, Mrs. Leonie M. Scott, of 483 West End Avenue, said that with the present cost of living the boys, who are eighteen and fifteen years old respectively, cannot live or be educated in a manner becoming their station in life on less.

Mrs. Scott is the widow of Robert A. Scott, who left an estate of more than \$1,000,000, from which she receives \$10,000 a year. The balance is kept in trust for the sons, who will divide the principal when they reach the age of twenty-one. Mrs. Scott has been defraying the expense of educating them at the Taft School and maintaining them.

At first the Surrogate's Court allowed her \$8,000 for the two boys. This amount was increased to \$12,000. Even with this latter allowance, said Mrs. Scott, there was a deficit last year of \$6,123, which she had to make up from her own funds. Besides the estate of her father, the brothers have an interest of \$200,000 in the estate of their grandfather, William Scott.

"Realizing the vast estate they will inherit," said Mrs. Scott, "I am desirous of educating them in a manner so that when they become of age the change in their mode of living will not be so drastic as to cause the possibility of imprudent use of their inheritance."

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