principle of arbitration was to stand or fall.

Although the executives, at the suggestion of the President, delayed their final answer until their visit to the White House to-morrow it was substantially a rejection of his proposal and foreshadows, according to all indications to-night, the formal reply, which is now being drawn up.

Brotherhoods Accept Plan.

Twenty minutes after the railway executives had filed out of the Blue Room, where the conference was held, the four heads of the brotherhoods arrived at the White House with the reply of the employees accepting the President's proposal as a basis for settlement. This had been decided upon by secret ballot at a meeting of the 640 brotherhood delegates in the morning. The vote in favor of acceptance was said to be three to one.

The four heads of the brotherhoods remained with the President, who was on the point of leaving for the golf links, for some time. It was reported that he intimated to them that the necessity might arise for changing his peace proposal. The employees, however, take the point of view that the struggle is over for them until the executives finally reject the terms submitted to them.

When they returned from the White House the railway executives and board of managers went into session behind closed doors to deliberate upon and formulate their reply. This will be presented to-morrow morning, according to arrangements. There was every indication to-night that the railway officials are weighing the problem carefully with an eye to the gravity of a strike, which will affect, as one of them expressed it, 60 per cent. of the railroads of the country.

Reason for Roads' Opposition.

Mr. Holden also called the attention of the President to the fact that large outlays of money would be needed for the changing of terminals and division equipment if the eight hour day were to be put into actual practice.

The railroads, he said, had found it difficult to obtain money for several years because of the public's reluctance to invest in a field where there were so many possibilities of legislative disturbance or wage disputes and until the past year had been forced to exist upon lean revenues.

He intimated that if this prosperity were continued for another year the railroads would be in better position to take up the question of alterations which a change to an eight hour day would necessitate.

There was a suggestion that the Great Northern, the New York Central and the Pennsylvania will to a large extent determine the nature of the reply of the railway executives because of the extent of their mileage control, and a report was current that Louis Hill of the Great Northern had telegraphed the executives proposing the acceptance of the President's terms. This was declared to be without foundation.

The only hope in the situation lay in reports that the railroad officials might suggest a counter proposal, forming the basis of a settlement. The employees' committee of 640 members will remain here at the President's call.

The railroad officials may suggest a counter proposal based on the acceptance of the eight hour day and arbitration of all other points, instead of the investigation by a Federal commission proposed under the President's plan.

It was stated positively, however, that the officials had reached no definite decision on their future course.

Financiers to Be Summoned.

In case the President finds no hope of settlement during his conference with the railroad officials to-morrow he probably will summon to Washington some of the powerful financiers of the country serving as directors of the railroads. Administration officials said to-night he had by no means given up hope of effecting a settlement and was determined that it shall be reached if possible, before the representatives of both sides now here leave Washington.

In their informal statements the railroad officials insisted on arbitration on the ground that if they gave in this time it would mean the abandonment of the principle of abritration, and because they feared that if they granted the eight hour day with its consequent added expenses without resort to arbitration it would prejudice any appeal they might make later to the Interstate Commerce Commission for higher freight rates.

On the surface, the threatened strike appeared nearer to-day than at any time since the negotiations at the White House began, but Administration officials continued to believe some concessions would be made and that eventually there would be an agreement.

Having accepted the President's plan of settlement the committee of employees took no further action to-night and awaited developments. They were expecting summons to the White House again after the conference to-morrow.

Conference Lasts About an Hour.

The group of railroad presidents and officials who came here in answer to an invitation from the President conferred with him less than an hour.

After Mr. Wilson had explained his plan, Mr. Holden, informed the President that the officials present could speak only for their individual roads and that the conference committee of managers was the only body with the power to accept or reject proposals.

The President explained that he had drawn up the plan because he thought it fair, and because he believed a way must be found for averting a strike. He urged the officials to demonstrate a spirit of concession to assist him in settling the controversy. To-night the railroad officials held another long conference at their hotel.

Some of the presidents expressed the conviction to-night that the negotiations with the White House would not be concluded in a few days and that each point involved would be thoroughly considered by the executive heads of the roads before any definite position is taken. While the presidents have kept in touch with the situation as it developed here, it was said to-night their attention had been largely perfunctory and they did not have first hand comprehensive information on the status of the negotiations until they reached Washington and talked with the managers.

As one railroad head pointed out to-night the questions in issue involve the operation of 250,000 miles of railroad, one-fourth that of the entire world and their solution may have a far reaching effect on laboring conditions throughout the United States. With 400,000 railroad men assured of an eight hour basic working day, some of the presidents feel it would be a question of only a short time until laboring men in some of the great industrial concerns of the country would be making demands for an eight hour day also. Echoes of this feeling are expected to reach the White House at this view is spread throughout the country.

The presidents realize that if it comes to a matter of a break with the White House some of the executives may be inclined to subordinate their convictions to President Wilson's wishes, and it has been planned to have votes taken on each proposal made by him, with the understanding that a majority vote shall bind all.

WILSON IS COMMENDED.

National Association of Manufacturers Praises Anti-Strike Efforts.

The National Association of Manufacturers, through its president, Col. George Pope, yesterday sent the following telegram to President Wilson commending him for his efforts to avoid a general railroad strike:

"On behalf of 3,700 manufacturing organizations, employing 3,000,000 persons, and utterly dependent on uninterrupted railroad service for their continued operation, I beg to express our deep appreciation of your efforts to prevent the threatened destructive stoppage of national railroad service and respectfully to urge that you will, with all the power of your great office and personality, assert and maintain the principle of arbitration for industrial disputes affecting national intercourse. No just demand can fear such a test. No unfair demand can or should survive it. We sincerely believe no man in our history has possessed such an opportunity to fortify this essential principle of public security against future attack by employer or employee."

PLANS MAYOR'S AID TO END BOX STRIKE

Leader of 10,000 Workers Says They Are Willing to Arbitrate.

Striking paper box workers of New York, more than 10,000 of whom are now estimated to have left their jobs in the fight for better wages and working conditions, are considering an appeal to Mayor Mitchel for his aid in bringing peace to the industry.

"The Mayor was instrumental in ending the garment strike," said Morris Waldman, president of the Paper Box Makers Union, yesterday, "and I feel certain that he will be glad to do as much for us. The conditions under which we are working are worse than those that prevailed in the garment trades. We are ready to arbitrate our differences with our employers, while they hire gangsters and gunmen to browbeat and abuse our girls on picket duty."

The State Department of Labor, through Col. M. J. Reagan of the industrial division, entered the situation yesterday by sending Special Agent John J. Beslin to New York to watch developments. The agent conferred with the strike leaders, but later said that the moment for arbitration had not yet arrived. It was intimated the manufacturers are expected to make some move toward peace.

According to Mr. Waldman many independent manufacturers are already seeking a settlement, and their requests are to be considered to-day. Several labor organizations are helping the strikers financially and more than 2,000 new enrolments were made yesterday.

Strong efforts were made yesterday to increase the picket force which the box workers have keeping watch on the factories. Most of the pickets are girls from 16 to 20. There were several clashes between them and strike breakers, in which a number of arrests were made.

Disorder occurred at the Larkin Brothers box factory, 149 Wooster street; the plant of Philip M. Lewis & Son, 39 West Nineteenth street, and on Eleventh street near Fourth avenue.

COAL MEN AROUSED BY 'BUTTON STRIKES'

Say Foreing Workers to Wear Union Tags Violates Old Agreement.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Aug. 18.—An increasing number of "button strikes" in this region has caused mine owners to charge the miners' union with violating both the letter and spirit of one of the awards of President Roosevelt's Anthracite Coal Strike Commission of 1903. The commission adjudged:

"That no person shall be refused employment or in any way discriminated against on account of membership or non-membership in any labor organization; and that there shall be no discrimination against or interference with any employee who is not a member of any labor organization by members of such organization."

This pronouncement, with the ten others made by the commission, has been continued through the agreements of 1906, 1909, 1912 and 1916 between the operators and their employees. It is being largely nullified, in the view of the operators, by the system of "button strikes." Each member of the miners' union in good standing is required by the union to wear conspicuously on his cap a button indicating that his dues for the current month are paid. If a worker shows up minus his button or wearing one not up to date, the other union men in good standing refuse to work with him. The colliery remains idle until the offender either pays his dues or gives up his job.

This is called a "button strike." Since June 5 there have been fourteen such strikes, involving thousands of men. The biggest one occurred on August 4, when 3,000 men and boys at the Loomis, Bliss Truesdale and Auchincloss collieries of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western company stopped work. On the same day there was a strike of 2,000 at No. 5 colliery of the Susquehanna Coal Company for the same reason. On the previous day the appearance of thirty-four employees without buttons caused 1,600 men and boys to strike at the Coal Brook colliery of the Delaware and Hudson company.

At the Seneca colliery of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company 600 employees struck on June 17 to force members of the I. W. W. to wear buttons of the United Mine Workers of America.

The operators are also reminding the union of this sentence in the Roosevelt commission's report:

"The right thus to work cannot be made to depend upon the approval or disapproval of the personal character and conduct of those who claim to exercise this right."

GERMAN GENERAL RESIGNS.

Order of Red Eagle Conferred on Count Eulenburg.

AMSTERDAM, Aug. 18 (via London, Aug. 19).—Count Eulenburg, deputy commanding General of the First Army Corps of the German army, has resigned, according to the *Berliner Tageblatt*, and has been succeeded by Lieut.-Gen. von Holline.

The German Emperor has conferred on Count Eulenburg the Order of the Red Eagle, first class, with laurels.

Count Carl zu Eulenburg is the son of Prince Philip zu Eulenburg, who was indicted in connection with the Round Table scandals in 1908. The Count married an English music hall favorite in that year.

Lighter Captain Saves Boy's Life.

Capt. John Campbell of Interstate Park lighter No. 3 jumped into the North River yesterday evening and rescued two and a half year old Patrick Burke, 323 Tenth avenue, who had fallen off the dock at the foot of Twenty-seventh street.

CONGRESSMEN SEE N. Y. HARBOR NEEDS

Rivers and Harbors Committeemen Feel Disturbances Amidships on Boat.

UNUSED TO SEA VOYAGE

Commissioner Smith Urges Clearing of Hell Gate and Corlears Reef.

It was deep sea day for the visiting members of the Rivers and Harbors Committee of the House of Representatives yesterday afternoon on the police boat Patrol. For some of the inland Congressmen, accustomed to the placid rivers of the South, it was something of a venture. The Patrol took them through Buttermilk Channel, past Governors Island, then around the whole of Staten Island and out into the lower bay.

It was one of the quietest days you could ask for on the bay, with "Mother Carey's chickens" skimming the surface of the waters and hardly a ripple of air to stir the municipal flag aloft. But the Patrol, riding high in the water, responded gently to the ground swell. This was an insidious movement that drew anxious looks from the Representatives. Chairman Stephen M. Sparkman of Florida sat in the bow and gazed straight ahead at Jamaica Bay, where the ocean stays flat and doesn't make trouble. The Patrol tilted skittishly from starboard to larboard and the guests felt disturbances amidships. As soon as the boat nosed into the quiet waters of Jamaica Bay conversation became more animated and everybody cheered up.

Notables to Visit Troy Dam.

After cruising past Barren Island the Patrol went about and took the party back to Manhattan, where they embarked later in the day for Albany. The Chamber of Commerce of that city had invited them to inspect the Troy dam, and a boat will be waiting to take them from Albany to Troy and back. On their return to this city the committeemen will journey back to Washington.

The Representatives are taking with them a comprehensive idea of the needs of New York harbor, as emphasized by R. A. C. Smith, Commissioner of Docks and Ferries. They also had a look at the site the city picked out for the garbage disposal plant on Staten Island.

Representatives of the vigilance committee which fought against the plant in Richmond appealed to the Rivers and Harbors Committee to prohibit its establishment there on the ground that navigation would be held up by scows.

The committeemen, who went up into Fresh Kills yesterday, found plenty of sea room. The site for the plant is on the salt marshes miles away from residences and with factories on all sides.

The trips taken by the Congressmen and their hosts, the Chamber of Commerce members, on Thursday and yesterday showed them the improvements being made by the city and Federal Government and the changes that Commissioner Smith thinks should be made.

Rock Dangers to Liners.

He has pointed out that a rock off Pier A in the North River is dangerous to transatlantic liners. He believes also that the channel from the Battery to Canal street should be widened to 2,000 feet at 40 foot depth. In the East River the channel between the Battery and Governors Island is not so deep as required by the latest type of battleships. The Commissioner said that funds have been provided for this purpose.

The removal of Coenties reef, under joint contracts of the city and the Federal governments, is going on at present. Corlears reef, near Jackson street, lying outside Piers 44 and 45 in the East River, not only prevents access to these piers at times but also endangers passing vessels. Mr. Smith said this reef could be removed at an estimated cost of $450,000. The Commissioner also made this plea to the committee:

"No work is so urgent as that of clearing Hell Gate of all obstructions and increasing the width and depth of channels with all possible speed."

The East River, from Lawrence Point to College Point, has many obstructions which should be taken out at once, it was urged. The improvements favored by Commissioner Smith would cost many millions and suggestions from private citizens would augment that total considerably. The Rivers and Harbors Committee has given New York $1,100,000 for this year. This is about one-fortieth of the total appropriated by the committee.

CZAR DRIVES THREE MILES INTO HUNGARY

Continued from First Page.

When the French had finished the task mapped out for to-day they were able to report that a "notable" part of Maurepas had been taken together with 200 unwounded German prisoners.

Besides clearing out most of the village, the French took Calvary Hill, to the southwest, along the Clery road. South of the Somme the French got four machine guns from captured trenches south of Belloy-en-Santerre.

During the day the British, whose line joins the French not far from Maurepas, pushed on their gains near Guillemont and Ginchy, so as to threaten those two villages. Here they pushed forward south of the Delville Wood and at Waterlot farm. The British took more than 200 prisoners in the day's fighting.

In the Verdun region the French also had success. They threw the Germans out of the part of Fleury in which they had a foothold. Virtually all of the German troops except a few groups who hung on in a small group of ruins in the eastern edge of the village were killed.

Between Thiaumont and Fleury the French took fifty prisoners, including one officer, and a machine gun.

Later in the day the French dashed forward on the right of the Meuse, taking two fortified redoubts and with them 100 unwounded prisoners, 5 officers and 3 machine guns. East of Vaux Chapitre wood the French also made progress.

The German official statement telegraphed here from Berlin admits the British gains yesterday near Martinpuich and is noncommittal about gains in other regions. The Verdun fighting, it says, is going on with "indeterminate results."

BULGARS TAKE GREEK TOWN.

Serbians Yield Florina in Counter Attack Against Allied Offensive.

BERLIN, via London, Aug. 18.—The Teutonic troops in the Balkans, mostly Bulgarians, have counter attacked against the allied offensive there and have captured the Greek town of Florina from the Serbians.

Florina is five miles from the Serbian border and fifteen miles southeast of Monastir. The War Office here and the Bulgarian War Office deny that the Allies have captured four towns in their new offensive, as they have reported.

HONOR FRANCIS JOSEPH AT 86.

Americans at Berlin Service for the Aged Emperor.

BERLIN, via London, Aug. 18.—The eighty-sixth birthday of Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary was celebrated here to-day on a large scale in military and diplomatic circles. The Germans attending the birthday service were headed by Dr. von Bethmann Hollweg, the Imperial Chancellor, and Dr. Karl Helfferich, the Minister of the Interior. Others present were the Turkish Ambassador, Hakki Pasha, and the Bulgarian Minister Rizow. The neutrals attending were the American Ambassador, James W. Gerard; the American naval and military attaches and the Swedish and Chinese diplomatic corps.

The city of Berlin as well as many other cities and towns throughout the German Empire was gay with flags and bunting. The German press is warm in its expressions of congratulations.

Autograph to Penfield.

AMSTERDAM, via London, Aug. 19.—Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria-Hungary, has presented his autographed photograph to Frederick C. Penfield, the American Ambassador, says a despatch from Vienna.

PORTUGAL TO HELP ALLIES.

Minister of War Says Republic Soon Will Enter Conflict.

LISBON, via Paris, Aug. 18.—Major Norton Mattos, the Portuguese Minister of War, announced to-day that Portugal soon will participate in the war, fighting on the side of the Entente Allies.

The Portuguese Congress voted to join the Entente Allies in the war in November, 1914. A Portuguese naval commander seized thirty-six German and Austrian vessels in the Tagus River in February, 1916, and the following March Germany declared war on Portugal because of this action. The Portuguese troops were called to the colors on March 16.

ARMY BILL VETOED AS JOKER IS FOUND

Continued from First Page.

over retired officers has been further extended so as to make them subject to his call in time of war for any kind of duty without any restriction whatever. Courts and Attorneys-General have in a long line of decisions held that officers of the army on the retired list hold public office.

"It thus appears that both the legislative and judicial branches have drawn a sharp distinction in status between retired officers, who are regarded and governed at all times as an effective reserve of skilled and experienced officers and a potential source of military strength and mere pensioners from whom no further military service is expected. Officers on the retired list of the army are officers of the army, members of the military establishment distinguished by their long service and as such examples of discipline to the officers and men in the active army. Moreover, they wear the uniform of the army, their education and service hold them out as persons especially qualified in military matters to represent the spirit of the military establishment, and they are subject to active duty in time of national emergency by the mere order of the Commander in Chief.

Still Members of Army.

"They are, therefore, members of the army, officers of the United States, exemplars of discipline and have in their keeping the good name and the good spirit of the entire military establishment before the world. Occupying such a relation, their subjection to the rules and articles of war and to trial by general court martial have always been regarded as necessary, in order that the retired list might not become a source of tendencies which would weaken the discipline of the active land forces and impair that control over those forces which the Constitution vests in the President.

"The purpose of the articles of war in times of peace is to bring about a uniformity in the application of military discipline which will make the entire organization effective and to engender a spirit of cooperation and proper subordination to authority which will in time of war instantly make the entire army a unit in its purpose of self-sacrifice and devotion to duty in the national defence. These purposes cannot be accomplished if the retired officers, still a part of the military establishment, still relied upon to perform important duties, are excluded upon retirement from the wholesome and unifying effect of this subjection to a common discipline.

"I am persuaded that officers upon the retired list would themselves regard it as an invidious and unpalatable discrimination which in effect excluded them from full membership in the profession to which they have devoted their lives, and of which, by the laws of their country, they are still members.

"So long as Congress sees fit to make the retired personnel a part of the army of the United States, the constitutionality of the proposed exemption of such personnel from all liability under the Articles of War is a matter of serious doubt, leaving the President, as it does, without any means sanctioned by statute of exercising over the personnel thus exempted the power of command vested in him by the Constitution.

"Convinced as I am of the unwisdom of this provision and of its baneful effect upon the discipline of the army; doubting, as I do, the power of Congress wholly to exempt retired officers from the control of the President, while declaring them to be a part of the regular army of the United States, I am constrained to return this bill without my approval."

APPEAL FOR RUBBER GOODS.

American Red Cross Needs Them to Help French Wounded.

Rubber goods are the chief need of the American Red Cross in looking after the requirements of the French wounded. Mrs. Lathrop of the American Fund for French Wounded has sent an appeal to the organization on this side for more rubber bottles, pillows, boots, sheeting and other goods.

During the past week the American Red Cross shipped to the Russian Red Cross 3,456 pairs of rubber gloves, 150 rubber sheets and 120 cushions. The British Red Cross received about $1,000 worth of hospital supplies and the Serbian Hospital Fund got about 1,000 suits of pajamas and 500 pairs of slippers.

KAISER'S KIN FOUND BURIED.

Prince Maximilian, Long Missing in War, Died in Monastery.

PARIS, Aug. 18.—The body of Prince Maximilian of Hesse, son of the Kaiser's youngest sister, is buried in the small cemetery of Hazebrouck, says the *Petit Parisien*. His relatives had asked the Pope's aid in finding the body after his disappearance early in the war.

The newspaper says the Prince was shot during a patrol engagement between Saxons and English near Godewaersvelde, in northern France. He was found by Trappist monks and died at their monastery, which the monks were forced to leave soon afterward. The body was buried by peasants in a thirty franc coffin that one of them bought.

MOVE IN SENATE TO DELAY DANE TREATY

Borah Questions Paying $25,000,000 for Islands Once Offered at $5,000,000.

LANSING IS QUESTIONED

Secretary Promises to Give Foreign Relations Committee Full Details.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations heard Secretary Lansing to-day on the treaty submitted to the Senate for the purchase of the Danish West Indies. Senator Borah of Idaho, Republican, was the chief inquisitor for the committee. He wanted to know why the Government finds it necessary to pay $25,000,000 for islands that were offered to the United States a few years ago for $5,000,000. Mr. Borah also asked for the details of the concessions granted from time to time by the Government of Denmark which the United States under the terms of the treaty will assume, and whether any grants in perpetuity have been made.

As to the details of these concessions Secretary Lansing admitted his lack of information and asked for at least two days in which to obtain additional information from Copenhagen.

There is a growing feeling in the Senate that this treaty will not be ratified at this session of Congress. The opposition in the committee has not grown to formidable portions. It is led by Senator Borah and Senator McCumber, but there is a disposition manifested on all hands to learn more about the details.

Lobby Is Hinted At.

Secretary Lansing told members of the committee the State Department had decided to pay $25,000,000 for the islands, or five times the price at which they had been offered heretofore, because it was deemed necessary to make the offer so attractive in Denmark that there would be no doubt about its acceptance. Some unfavorable inferences were drawn from this statement by the Foreign Relations Committee and curiosity was manifested as to whether a lobby was being encouraged to promote sentiment in Denmark.

The only explanation offered by the Secretary for the immediate acquisition of the islands was that it was a part of the policy of the State Department to preserve the Monroe Doctrine against any possible invasion.

Senator Borah asked Secretary Lansing whether it would not be a violation of the Monroe Doctrine for any other Government to try to acquire the islands and wether he believed any foreign Power would so wilfully affront the United States as to seek to acquire territory in the Western Hemisphere. The Secretary replied the State Department believed it would be in a stronger position to maintain the Monroe Doctrine if it held title to the Danish West Indies.

Silent on Other Islands.

It has been hinted that the Administration was moved to buy the islands through fear Denmark might dispose of them to Germany, and might raise a serious question for the United States, involving an infringement of the Monroe Doctrine. Mr. Lansing's statement was the first official acknowledgment that possible complications involving the Monroe Dictrine figured chiefly in the decision of the United States to buy the islands.

It was suggested to the Secretary that there were several other islands in the immediate vicinity now under foreign control, and Mr. Lansing was asked if it was the policy of the Government to enter upon a general plan of acquiring all of these foreign possessions. Secretary Lansing replied this was a matter for the future, but that it was within the range of possibilities.

It was learned an issue of bonds is contemplated to raise the money to pay for the islands, and the fact was also brought out, much to the discomfiture of members of the committee, that the new possessions in the West Indies would prove a liability rather than an asset, for they are now running behind each year.

"The committee wants all the facts it can get regarding harbor and wharfage, telephone, lighting and other concessions granted on the islands by the Danish Government," said Chairman Stone of the Foreign Relations to-night. "When all the facts are obtained by Secretary Lansing I will call the committee together again. I think the committee will report the treaty some time next week. I hope to get it ratified at this session, but some of the Senators say they have heard things which would lead them to doubt our ability to get the treaty ratified before adjournment."

DANES CAUCUS TO-DAY.

Outcome of Negotiations Uncertain Until Result Is Known.

COPENHAGEN, via London, Aug. 18.—The situation with regard to the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States is still at an uncertain stage pending the caucuses to be held to-morrow by the various political parties. Newspapers of all the political parties agree the situation is a difficult one, and that if the project for the formation of a coalition cabinet fails, general elections must precede the ratification of the sale of the islands. The *National Tidende*, the principal organ of the Conservative party, in an editorial to-day says it is virtually certain no coalition ministry is possible.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE GAINING IN BRITAIN

Many Political Leaders Converted to Cause Following Asquith's Support.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—Premier Asquith's announcement in the House of Commons on Monday that any new bill for franchise reforms must give the vote to women is accepted on all sides as meaning women will have suffrage before another general election is fought, except in the unlikely event of an election being forced upon the country before the end of the war. Before the war Premier Asquith had been one of the leading opponents of suffrage for women.

According to the *Nation*, there have been other similar conversions among men of great influence, and although Earl Curzon still remains a strong opponent of the women's cause, with some other Ministers, men of all parties realise the capacity and willingness to help in the national cause as displayed by the women during the war has removed the last obstacle to their receiving political recognition.

Liberal papers are urging the Government to grapple with the problem of adult suffrage without delay on the ground that the coalition Government is able to smooth the path of reform and calm the fears of the House of Lords as no Liberal Government could.

SWISS AND GERMANS CONFER.

Kaiser's Delegates Modify Threat to Cut Off Supplies.

PARIS, Aug. 18.—Conferences between German and Swiss delegates have been resumed in the attempt to solve the difficulties caused by Germany's demand that Switzerland permit exportation of cotton and other products collected by Swiss agents. Unless this were done, Germany threatened that she would prohibit exportation to Switzerland of coal, iron and other products essential for Swiss industries.

It now appears that the German delegates have withdrawn the threat to hold up shipments of coal and iron. This, however, is not regarded in Entente quarters as anything more than the carrying out of an existing agreement between Switzerland and Germany.

CREWE SUCCEEDS HENDERSON.

Marquis Named President of British Board of Education.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—The Marquis of Crewe, Lord President of the Council, has been appointed President of the Board of Education in the British Cabinet, in addition to his other duties.

The Marquis of Crewe succeeds Arthur Henderson, labor leader, who resigned the post August 8. It was announced the following day that Mr. Henderson would be retained as labor adviser to the Government.

Mr. Henderson has been appointed Paymaster-General in succession to Baron Newton, who has resigned that office and has been appointed an assistant Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. Mr. Henderson's new position carries with it the presidency of the Commissioners of the Royal Hospital at Chelsea, who have charge of all military pension matters.

POPE IS 'NEUTRAL,' DECLARES FARLEY

Cardinal and Other Churchmen Doubt Order of Prayers for Allies.

Roman Catholic prelates of New York city are aroused by Pope Benedict's reported order for prayers in Italy in behalf of the Allies. While stoutly maintaining the strict neutrality of the Vatican and claiming the Pope is the "father of all the faithful," they do not doubt the Italian Cardinals and Bishops have prayed for the success of Italian arms in the war, which, they say, needs no defence or explanation. But that the Pope so ordered they unanimously doubt.

Cardinal Farley at his residence, 450 Madison avenue, yesterday authorized the following statement through his secretary:

"As to the statement that the Holy Father has ordered prayers throughout Italy for the success of the allied armies we can only say we do not believe there is any truth in it. The correspondent who sent out such a report ought to send the official statement with it. There is nothing official to corroborate the statement, therefore we do not believe it. The Pope is the father of all the faithful. It is nothing more than a rumor.

"It is altogether probable that the Cardinals throughout Italy are giving prayers for the success of Italian arms, just as the Cardinals in France, Belgium and Germany are for their respective nations. The church of each country is autonomous, even as the church in this country, and may offer prayers for their success even as we in America would offer prayers for the American armies if we were at war. The Vatican, however, is not only strictly neutral but also is extraterritorial."

Mgr. Lavelle, of St. Patrick's Cathedral declined to discuss the despatch from Rome yesterday.

The Catholic press of the city had not made any editorial comment on the report yesterday, but the Rev. John J. Whelan, editor of the Tablet, when the subject was brought up at the meeting of the Catholic Press Association yesterday at the Catholic Club on Fifty-ninth street, said: "It is a palpable lie." Later he said: "The Holy Father is neutral. He is the father of the universal church. He could not have issued such an order."

The Rev. Francis C. Kelley, editor of the *Extension Magazine*, organ of the Church Extension Society, said:

"The Pope has been neutral. He is the spiritual father of all. The Bishops of Italy doubtless are in sympathy with their own armies, the same as it would be in the United States."

With regard to the allegations that Pope Benedict showed pro-Allies leanings when he sent back to Austria his Austrian private chamberlain, Mgr. Gerlach, and the charge that the alliance of Catholic and Italian political interests was at hand in the representation for the first time since 1870 of the Catholic Church in the Italian ministry, the Cardinal's secretary said:

"This is not the first time since 1870 that a Catholic has been a member of the Italian Cabinet, and the banishment of Mgr. Gerlach was merely a war measure. All Austrians were asked to leave Italy when war was declared, even the professors in colleges with the rest."

MAY BAR VISITS TO IRELAND.

New Order in Council Affects All Except British Subjects.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—By a new Order in Council the Government is empowered under the defence of the realm act to "prohibit from entering Ireland any person not a British subject or who being a British subject has since 1st of March, 1916, come or may hereafter come to the United Kingdom from parts beyond the seas."

Any such persons as described in the order embarking for or found in Ireland will be regarded as guilty of a summary offence, says the order.

Ban on Australian Visits Also.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—No person more than 15 years old will be permitted to land in Australia after September 1 without a passport issued or approved by British authorities, it was announced to-day. Persons sailing from foreign countries must have passports vised by a British Consul.

9,000 TURKS TAKEN OR KILLED.

London Issues Report on the Egyptian Campaign.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—A report on the Egyptian operations given out by the War Office this evening says:

"It is now possible to form a more accurate idea of the enemy's strength and losses. The enemy force amounted to probably 18,000 men. We took prisoner 49 officers and 3,871 men; the known killed amounted to 1,251 and the wounded are estimated at 4,000, aggregating in round numbers about 9,000.

"The following war material also was brought in: One Krupp seventy-five battery of four guns, complete with accessories and 4,000 rounds of ammunition; 2,500 rifles with 1,000,000 rounds of ammunition; nine German machine guns with thirty boxes of ammunition; large quantities of material and equipment of all kinds; 500 camels and 100 horses.

"During the retreat the Turks burned a large quantity of stores at Bir-el-Abd and abandoned two field hospitals."

OFFICIAL REPORTS IN THE WAR FIELDS

French Drive Germans From Important Part of Maurepas.

WIN 2 MEUSE REDOUBTS

Russians Destroy Hangar and Fire Buildings in Baltic Air Raid.

PARIS, via London, Aug. 18.—The statement issued to-night by the War Office says:

North of the Somme our attack, directed on a part of Maurepas occupied by the Germans, enabled us in the course of a brilliant assault to carry a notable portion of the village, together with Calvary Hill, situated to the southeast. In this operation we took 200 unwounded prisoners.

Between Maurepas and the Somme we extended our position to the east of the Maurepas-Clery road.

On the right bank of the Meuse we continued our offensive action, driving the enemy from two fortified redoubts northwest of the Thiaumont work, taking 100 unwounded Germans, including 5 officers, and also 3 machine guns.

East of the Vaux-Chapitre wood we made appreciable progress in the vicinity of the road from Vaux to the fort.

The customary cannonades took place during the day on the rest of the front.

French Gain at Fleury.

The French statement issued this morning says:

North of the Somme several attempted counter attacks by the enemy against our new positions southeast of Maurepas failed under our fire. We took some prisoners.

South of the Somme we recovered four machine guns in trenches taken by us south of Belloy.

On the right bank of the Meuse (Verdun front) an attack by our troops enabled us after a violent combat to drive out the Germans from a portion of the village of Fleury which they were occupying.

Some enemy troops are still maintaining themselves in a small clump of ruins on the eastern edge of the village. Between Thiaumont and Fleury our troops also made an appreciable advance. Fifty prisoners, including an officer, remained in our hands. We also captured a machine gun.

Everywhere else the night was relatively calm.

British Fight on Whole Front.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—The statement issued to-night by the War Office says:

Fighting took place this afternoon over the whole front from Pozieres to the Somme. As a result we captured several strong enemy positions and gained ground toward Ginchy and Guillemont, taking more than 200 prisoners during the day.

On outright the French also made progress.

To-day a German aeroplane was brought down aflame in our trenches after an air combat, and a second machine by our anti-aircraft guns. Enemy billets have been successfully bombed at various places by our aircraft.

British Make Small Gain.

The British official announcement of this morning follows:

Last night the enemy's artillery generally showed increased activity. Northwest of Hazentin-le-Petit by a small local enterprise we further extended our gains in the enemy's lines. German trenches in this area were found to be greatly damaged and full of the enemy's dead.

A further hostile attack from Martinpuich last night was repulsed as completely as were his former attempts yesterday.

Germans Admit Reverses.

BERLIN, Aug. 18.—The statement of the German War Office follows:

North of the Somme the enemy is continuing his energetic efforts regardless of heavy sacrifices. For these efforts the British brought forward several fresh divisions. Southwest of Martinpuich they succeeded on a narrow front in pressing backward our first line into one situated close behind. On the other hand, they have been completely repulsed north of Pozieres and due west of Foureaux wood.

The French again deferred their attacks to nocturnal hours and with strong forces advanced against our positions between Guillemont and Maurepas about midnight. They were repulsed with the most sanguinary losses. On the salient portion of our line northeast of Hardecourt bitter fighting has taken place, so far without a decision. The activity of the artillery on both sides continues especially violent.

On the right bank of the Meuse the enemy attacked in the evening on a wide front between the Thiaumont work and the Chapitre wood. He also attacked repeatedly in the western sector of the mountain wood. At Fleury village the fighting still continues; otherwise the enemy assault has been frustrated everywhere.

A French biplane was forced to descend on Wednesday near Nesle by our anti-aircraft guns.

Turks on East Front.

Eastern Front—Apart from a minor but lively engagement west of Lake Nobel (sixty miles northeast of Kovel), which has not yet come to a conclusion, only unimportant advance post encounters took place.

Front of Archduke Charles Francis—Turkish troops of the army of Gen. von Hothmer repised Russian attacking detachments.

In the Carpathians we furthered our success on the Starawipezna Hill. About 200 prisoners and several machine guns were captured.

German aeroplanes attacked Russian destroyers and one submarine northeast of Kara Burnu with success.

The official Russian communication of August 11 mentions the destruction of a battalion of the Third German Reserve Infantry Regiment by machine gun fire near Monasterzyska. It is ascertained to the contrary that the battalion lost only 200 men on this occasion.

Austrians Repulse Italian Attacks.

The Austrian official statement says:

The Italians continued their attacks on the front from Salcano to Merna and against the heights east of Gorizia and the sector south of Vippach as far as Lokvica, assaulting uninterruptedly with large masses while holding the adjoining sectors under strong artillery fire. Our troops repulsed all the storming attacks and held their positions along the entire front, inflicting heavy losses after violent hand to hand fighting.

Hostile advances near Piava and Cagora and on the Dolomite front on Creda Delancona were repulsed.

Balkan Front—After the fruitless attacks of the Entente Powers in the last few days the allied (Teutonic) troops proceeded to deliver a counter attack. Florina has been captured after a fight with the Serbian Danube Division.

Russian Air Raid.

PETROGRAD, via London, Aug. 18.—The official communication issued by the War Office this evening says:

The situation on the western and Caucasus fronts is unchanged.

On the Baltic Sea the night of the 16th a squadron of our seaplanes, commanded by Naval Lieut. Lichine, made a successful flight over the enemy's aviation station near Lake Angern (off the west coast of the Gulf of Riga). The bombs dropped apparently caused great damage, destroying one hangar and setting fire to buildings at many points. Our aviators were subjected to a violent anti-aircraft fire, including rockets and shrapnel, but this did not prevent them accomplishing their task and safely regaining their base.

Russians Near Stanislau.

The Russian official morning announcement follows:

On the front from the Zlota Lipa west to Podhaytse the enemy resumed the offensive with considerable forces without success. The enemy sustained great losses.

On the River Bystritza Bolotvina we occupied Lysiets (seven miles south west of Stanislau), on the western bank of the river. In the direction of Ardselus our troops occupied a series of heights.

In the region of Korosmezo (Carpathians), our troops continuing their advance approached the summits of the mountains in the vicinity of Korosmezo.

On the Caucasian front, the Turkish offensive in the region west of Lake Van was repelled easily by our troops. In Persia, in the region of Kala Passova, encounters took place with considerable Turkish forces.

Italians Beat Back Austrians.

ROME, via London, Aug. 18.—The Italian War Office to-day issued the following statement:

On the Trentino front the enemy made persistent demonstrations, with an intense bombardment, on our positions. During the night an enemy raid against our trenches on the slopes of Monte Sperone was promptly repulsed by a counter attack. In the Rio Freddo Valley, on the Posina torrent, the enemy yesterday attempted to surprise our positions at Scatolari. The attempt was frustrated.

Bombardments by hostile artillery are reported in the Adige and Posina valleys and at the head of Rio Costeana. Yesterday our batteries shelled the station at Sillian. A train was struck.

On the Upper and Middle Isonzo the artillery on both sides was active. The situation in the Gorizia area and on the Carso is unchanged. We raided Villanova and Nova Vas, breaking down the hostile defense and taking some prisoners.

SAYS GERMANY GARBLES NEWS.

Lord Robert Cecil Declares British Censorship Is Misunderstood.

LONDON, Aug. 18.—The British reply to the American inquiry in regard to the operation of the censorship in transit of news cabled from Germany by way of London will be sent to Washington in the course of a few days. Discussing this subject Lord Robert Cecil, War Trade Minister, said to-day:

"Considerable misapprehension evidently exists in regard to our censorship of transit matter. There is no question that such a censorship on our wires and cables is necessary as long as Germany continues absolute control of all information from that country. If Germany should abandon the censorship we would not interfere with despatches from unbiassed American correspondents.

"Another reason we now censor such matter is the fact that Germany circulates in other countries despatches sent to American newspapers as the comment of these papers."

You have until twelve to dive into the nearest one of our stores for all you need over the week-end.

Everything men and boys wear; sporting goods in all