

WILSON ORDERS SHIPS ARMED

CARMEN BALK AT AGREEMENT; STRIKE LIKELY

Employees Insist on Recognition
of Union and Full
Pay Demanded.

REJECT OFFER OF BONUS

Capital Traction Hopeful of Amicable
Settlement of All Differences Between
Company and Employees.

At 120 o'clock this morning a
man was pitched headlong out into
the corridor of the Lyceum Theater.

It was said that the roughly
handed person was a "spy," who
had been smuggled by the dozen
men who stood guard at the door.
Carmen declared that they be-
lieved that at least a dozen such
"spies" were in the meeting, and
every one in the theater was
closely searched to detect such
persons.

It appeared at midnight, when street
car employees began to gather at the
Lyceum Theater to learn the result of
the conferences looking toward a new
working schedule and agreement, that
the Washington Railway and Electric
Company's employees may vote to strike.

Negotiations with this company were
deadlocked, while the conferences be-
tween the officials of the Capital Traction
Company and the union representatives
indicated progress.

Proceedings at the midnight union
meeting were confined to speeches until
after 2 a. m. to permit a full membership
of employees to be present before decisive
action was taken.

Would Be Effective Tomorrow.

If a strike is voted it will go into effect
at midnight tomorrow night, it was
stated.

Negotiations between employees and
President Clarence P. King of the Wash-
ington Railway and Electric Company
are at a standstill because of the refusal
of that official to treat with the repre-
sentatives of the men as union officials.

This effort to have the employees sign
individual agreements, some of the men
said.

In the agreement offered to conductors
and motormen nothing is said about
repudiating the union, but an agreement
offered to the employees of the shops and
car houses reads:

"I, the undersigned, agree to accept
employment in the shops or car houses
of the Washington Railway and Electric
Company as an individual, and sever all
relations with the Amalgamated
Association of Street and Electric Railway
Employees of America."

Refuse to Sign.

Employees in the P street shops were
declared to have refused to sign such an
agreement and union officials asserted
last night that a number had been given
a stipulated time in which to sign or be
ejected from the company's properties.

This action and the fact that conduc-
tors and motormen on the Washington
Railway and Electric lines were asked
to sign individual agreements has
brought the situation on these lines to
an acute stage.

Some of the conductors and motormen
signed the new working and wage
schedule presented by the company,
but it is said that most of the union
employees "stood pat."

Garth Calderhead, financial secretary
of the union, said that the organization
has positive information that no mem-
ber had signed the contract.

The proposed contract increases the
scale of wages from a minimum of 23 1/2
cents an hour and a maximum of 27
cents an hour to 24 cents an hour up to
39 cents an hour.

Raises Provided.

It provides a raise of half a cent an
hour for employees of one and two years
service; one-and-a-half cents for three
years; two-and-a-half cents for five,
six and seven-year motormen and con-
ductors; three-and-a-half cents for eight,
nine and ten-year men, and three cents
for employees of more than a decade's ex-
perience.

Further than to refer to the fact that
the contract provides for a smaller raise
for men who have been in the service
more than ten years than for those who
have worked seven, eight, nine and ten
years, officials of the union declined to
discuss the wage scale proposed in sec-
tion 1 of the contract. They said 35 cents
an hour is what the union asks and what
is paid in a number of other cities.

The Capital Traction Company

treated with the committee from the union
consisting of President George A. Wil-
burt, J. H. Cookman and A. B. Pollitt.
President King of the line went over
the situation and the new working sched-
ule presented by the men and agreed to
consider it paragraph by paragraph.
These conferences, which lasted until late
last night, will be resumed today, and
it is understood that the report on these
negotiations presented at the mass meet-
ing early this morning indicated progress
toward an agreement.

With the Washington Railway and
Electric Company, the relations between
men and company approached a critical
stage. The refusal of President King to
treat with the grievance committee of
the employees as union officials brought
an end to the proposal for a conference,
union men stated.

International President Mahon, of the
Employees' Union, will insist upon the
recognition of the union in the new agree-
ment. He is in the city and while tak-
ing a train for Washington.

Continued on page three

The Finest Men's Furnishings
Edward E. Haskins
1345 Pennsylvania Ave. N. W.
"Watch the Window"

President Improved; Will Leave Bed Today

President Wilson's condition was
greatly improved last night and he
probably will be up about his
room sometime today, Dr. Cary
Grayson, his physician, stated,
after leaving the White House last
night.

The President's cold is fast dis-
appearing and his temperature is
normal again. The slight traces of
fever which he had have entirely
subsided. Dr. Grayson said last
night he was very hopeful that the
President would be fully recovered
within two or three days.

WARNED OFF SEAS

Teuton Minister Tells Neutrals to Keep Ships Home.

By WILLIAM BAYARD MALE,
(International News Service.)

Berlin (via Sayville), March 9.—"The
greatest service neutrals can render
humanity at this moment is to thoroughly
appreciate the fact that we mean
what we say and to keep their ships at
home."

Foreign Secretary Zimmermann made
the above statement in an interview to-
day. He said, further:

"Our relations with Austria-Hungary
are excellent, thank God! I wonder
whether the understanding between the
allies on the other side of the barricade
is as complete as that which binds the
powers of central Europe together, and
whether it is as animated by identical
aims and determination?"

"In the camp of the entente, the case
is absolutely different, for their interests
diverge in so many particulars. Such
being the circumstances, engagements
between the entente powers can never be
as resolute and determined as is the
alliance between the central European
powers that are threatened on all sides.

"The relations between the central al-
lies and the European neutrals also are
highly satisfactory. These neutrals have
had abundant opportunity to convince
themselves of the probable outcome of
the struggle. They have had plenty of
time to reflect upon the future history
of the commercial relations of the world.
They have noticed the supreme patience
with which Germany and her allies have
sustained the attack of their encircling
enemies.

"It was only because of the refusal
of our sincere peace proffer that Ger-
many was forced to invoke the subma-
rine. Let the neutrals consider the wonder-
ful opportunity of their shipping when
the war ends, when they will be called
upon to carry goods to a half-starved
world."

CUBA IN TURMOIL

Naval Forces Being Concentrated at Santiago.

The situation in Eastern Cuba is ad-
mittedly bad and growing worse, and
the State Department is plainly concerned
over the disorder, the destruction of prop-
erty, and the danger to human lives grow-
ing out of the revolution which still
smoulders.

Following the expressed wishes of the
State Department, naval forces are being
concentrated at Santiago, and the
orders have been to hold as large an
available landing force as possible in
readiness to go ashore to protect the lives
and property of foreigners.

There has been an interruption of com-
munication between the city of Santiago
and the outside world, owing to the ac-
tivities of the revolutionists in the en-
vironments of the city.

The State Department received only an
undated dispatch from United States
Consul Griffith, in which he stated that
the situation in the city was in progress.

Press cables announcing that a larger
force of American bluejackets had been
landed in Santiago were confirmed by
Secretary of the Navy Daniels yesterday.
He said that he did not know the num-
ber of men.

The desire is evident both in the State
and Navy Departments to make it clear
that the naval forces are being used
only for the purpose of protection above
mentioned, and there is an atmosphere of
pessimism clearly discernible in the at-
titude of both. The State Department has
urged upon the navy the needfulness of
having the largest possible force of sail-
ing and marines at hand and ready to
land.

The loss of life thus far is reported as
small, but the property damages, particu-
larly to the growing sugar cane, has
been tremendous.

840,410 SHIP TONS SUNK SINCE FEB. 1

German Official Reports Show Heavy
Damage to Entente Traffic.
(By the International News Service.)
New York, March 9.—The following is
a compilation of German official reports
of tonnage destroyed by U-boats in the
barred zones since February 1. These re-
ports give the total tonnage reported on
certain days to have been sunk during
certain periods.

Reported on February 10—22,000 tons.
February 11—30,000 tons.
February 12—42,000 tons.
February 13—2,000 tons.
February 14—36,800 tons.
February 15—25,000 tons.
February 16—45,400 tons.
February 17—204,000 tons.
February 18—23,000 tons.
February 19—25,400 tons.
February 20—37,500 tons.
February 21—78,600 tons.
February 22—54,500 tons.
February 23—204,000 tons.
February 24—121,000 tons.
Grand total, 840,410 tons.

PLAN TO INDICT INDIA PLOTTERS

New York Grand Jury to Act
in Case of Two Teuton
Agents.

(By the International News Service.)
New York, March 9.—Ernest Chandra
Sekunna, German chemist and Chandra
Chakrabarty, native of India, made am-
plified statements to the Federal authori-
ties today.

Although sought for a year by Sec-
retary of the Navy Daniels, calling the
Washington representatives of the news-
papers of the country together asked
that all definite information as to the
arming of ships, or the movement of arm-
ed ships be suppressed. In a statement
to the nation's newspapers the Naval
Secretary said:

"You have read the statement issued
from the White House and you now
know that the President has the power
to arm American merchant ships mak-
ing trips to the seas on lawful errands,
and is free to exercise it at once. I do
not think you ought to ask what
guns they will be armed or how they
will be manned or exactly when the
power will be exercised. The government
should be trusted fully to carry out the
policy announced, in the best way.

Cable Companies Muzzled.
"I do not think you ought to ask when
the ships will be armed or to print when
they will sail. I have requested every
cable company in America not to send
out any news about ships sailing to or
from Europe. The wireless stations are
under the direction of the Navy Depart-
ment and no news of sailings will go out
by radio.

"I am going to request you and every
newspaper and every news agency in the
United States not to print any news about
ships being armed or about the power
to arm them."

Continued on page three

PERUVIAN RIOTING BREAKS OUT AFRESH

Several Persons Killed in Disturbance at City of Cuzco.

(By the International News Service.)
Lima, Peru, March 9.—Serious rioting
broke out in the city of Cuzco, capital
of the ancient empire of the Incas, early
today, and several persons were killed
in street riots.

The situation in Peru resulting from
the resignation of some of the ministers
and the assassination of three deputies,
is growing more serious. The govern-
ment today placed a censorship over all
telegraph lines.

President Pardo will meet the consti-
tutionalists in the next 12 hours to dis-
cuss their demand for the dismissal of
the entire cabinet. The eleventh regim-
ent was sent to Arequipa today to
maintain order.

During the funeral of Deputy Grau,
one of the trio assassinated, troops were
on constant guard to prevent distur-
bances.

Cuzco, center of the latest outbreak
in what appears to be a constitutionalist
movement against the Peruvian govern-
ment, lies in the interior of Peru on a
mountain plateau, 11,380 feet high.

COMMERCIAL VETERANS TO CHECK ARMY GRAFT

Business Men of U. S. Name Commit- tees to Aid Military.

Secretary of War Baker was advised
yesterday that the country's business
men, in response to his call, had per-
fected organization of committees of veterans
in the business world to co-operate with
the district depot quartermasters of the
army in the purchasing of supplies now
authorized by law.

Through these special committees, the
War Department will have the aid of
highly-specialized men in matters of com-
merce and will rely upon this corps to
prevent any form of war profits in case
of war.

Committee chairmen for the various
depot cities are:
Edward D. Page, New York; H. B. Ply-
ford, Chicago; Calvin M. Smith, Phila-
delphia; W. A. Layman, St. Louis; James
L. Richards, Boston; Milton S. Ebers,
San Francisco; Leon C. Simon, New Or-
leans; Fred L. Dickey, Kansas City; W.
D. Norford, Omaha; William D. Wheel-
wright, Portland, Ore.; and Luther B.
Clegg, San Antonio.

SUICIDE IN AEROPLANE?

Tokio, March 9.—Lieut. Sawada,
a military aviator, fell in his machine
to death today. Investigation has been
started to confirm reports that he took
this means to commit suicide.

EXTRA SESSION OF CONGRESS CALLED, TO MEET ON APRIL 16

DECISION BRINGS NATION TO WAR PRECIPICE EDGE

President Wilson's decision to arm ships does not necessarily mean
war, but it brings the nation to the edge of the precipice.

Boiled down, it means that the Navy Department has been in-
structed to supply guns, probably mainly of 3-inch caliber, to all mer-
chant ships that request them; also expert gun pointers from the trained
naval reserve.

Actual orders to the navy yards were sent out by Secretary
Daniels last night. All the trans-Atlantic liners and a number of others,
whose names have not been and will not be divulged, will be armed
immediately.

Secrecy will enshroud the actual details of the arming and the
press has been urgently requested not to publish anything which might
percolate to Germany and be of military value. Not even the sailings
of vessels will be published hereafter.

Instructions to the naval gun pointers probably have already been
prepared by the Navy Department. While the offensive intent of a
submarine approaching a merchantman is to be presumed, the first in-
structions probably will be for the gunners to wait for attack before
undertaking defensive measures.

It is possible that a definite code will not be framed until German
policy toward American ships in the blockade zone is fully developed.

BAN OF SILENCE URGED ON PRESS

Daniels Asks that No Facts
About Ship Sailings
Be Printed.

With the government launched on the
policy of arming American merchantmen
to defy the risks of the German war-
zone, the newspapers and all other news-
dispersing agencies of the United States
last night were requested to place them-
selves under a self-imposed censorship.
Secretary of the Navy Daniels, calling the
Washington representatives of the news-
papers of the country together asked
that all definite information as to the
arming of ships, or the movement of arm-
ed ships be suppressed. In a statement
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THREATENS HEIRESS' LIFE IF SHE DOESN'T DISCARD FIANCE

Chicago, March 8.—Detectives expect to
arrest today a man believed to be respon-
sible for sending a letter to Miss Ruth
Wilberforce, of Philadelphia, threatening
her with death unless she gives up her
fiance.

"If you do not discontinue your ac-
quaintance with Herman von Neckel you
will be poisoned in a way that you can-
not foresee. Your precautions will be
useless," was the substance of the letter.
Miss Wilberforce, said to have been a
guest at a fashionable hotel here last
summer, kept the letter to herself for
some time, but finally became panic-
stricken and hired private detectives. She
said she suspected a former suitor.

SITUATION WANTED—ADDETS FOR DISTRICT GUARDSMEN.

GUARDSMAN DESIRES A POSITION OF ANY
sort—teacher, salesman, door man, etc. Address
B. F. TILLMAN, Company B, Third District of
Columbia Infantry, Fort Myer, Va.

DO YOUR BIT.

The Washington Herald is printing
advertisements for the
District National Guardsmen who
are looking for positions.
Give them all the co-operation
possible in securing work.

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DEFIANCE HURLED AT GERMAN 'SUBS' FROM SICK ROOM

President Abed with Cold, Takes
Reins of Government from Con-
gress and Makes Coup.

STEP BRINGS WAR NEARER U. S.

Nation Now Practically On War Footing.
First Clash with U-Boats Likely
to Start Conflict.

From his White House sick bed President Wilson yesterday hurled de-
fiance at German submarines, took the reins of government away from Con-
gress and himself ordered the immediate arming of all merchant ships to re-
sist Germany's ruthless submarine warfare. At the same time he called an
extra session of Congress, to convene April 16.

Official Washington agreed last night that the President's action places
the United States practically on a war basis. The taking of the fateful
"next step" is believed to make an armed clash with Germany merely a
question of weeks—days, perhaps.

PROBABLY WILL LEAD TO WAR.

Arming of ships, it was pointed out, probably will mean, sooner or
later, that some United States merchantman will take a shot at a German
"sub." This, it is admitted, would mean war.

The President's decision to disregard Congress and take individual re-
sponsibility for the arming of ships came shortly after 4 o'clock yesterday
afternoon, after Attorney General Gregory had assured and reassured him
that he had full authority to take such action. State Lansing had told him that
the taking of such a step was necessary not only to protect American com-
merce, but also to "save the face" of the United States with foreign nations.

COMES LIKE THUNDERBOLT.

Announcement of the President's action came like a thunderbolt, at the
close of a placid day throughout which it was persistently reported that the
Chief Executive had decided to "wait."

Orders immediately were dispatched to every navy yard in the country
to provide guns and gunners for all ships requiring them. Confidence was
expressed by Navy Department officials that all the machinery of the govern-
ment will be mobilized and "ready" within six weeks.

Then a strict censorship was clamped down. But at both the State and
Navy Departments officials openly were jubilant.

TUMULTY MAKES STATEMENT.

The President's order to the Navy Department to place naval guns and
gunners aboard merchant vessels, and the proclamation calling the new Con-
gress to meet, Secretary Tumulty outlined the President's views
both as to arming ships and as to the need for an extraordinary session of
Congress in this statement:

"Secretary Tumulty stated in connection with the President's call for an
extra session of Congress that the President is convinced that he has the
power to arm American merchant ships and is free to exercise it at once.
But so much necessary legislation is pressing for consideration that he is con-
vinced that it is in the best interests of the country to have an early session
of the Sixty-fifth Congress, whose support he will also need in all matters
collateral to the defense of our merchant marine."

HOOT AT YARDAMAN AS HIS EFFIGY BURNS

Cotton Brokers Resent Filibuster of
Mississippi Senator.

Special to The Washington Herald.
Memphis, Tenn., March 9.—Senator
James K. Vardaman, once known as the
"Mississippi Fire Eater," was burned in
effigy here tonight.

The burning took place in the cotton
exchange with a group of brokers, all
prominent citizens as participants.
Rage over Vardaman's course in join-
ing the filibuster against President Wil-
son's proposal to arm merchantmen to
protect American shipping against Ger-
man submarines was the cause.

Vardaman was one of the eleven Sen-
ators whom President Wilson charac-
terized as a "little group of willful men,
representing no opinion but their own."
First reports that the Mississippi Sen-
ator had joined the filibuster were gen-
erally discredited throughout this entire
section. Known ever since his entrance
into political life as a "fire-eater," and
a man whom his supporters loved to de-
clare, "would rather fight than go to
heaven," his refusal to stand by the
President because the proposed course
might mean war, was deemed incredible.

Today a group of brokers set a carti-
cature of the Senator, stuffed with straw
and cotton, on the floor of the exchange,
and set it afire, hooting and jeering as it
burned.

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Fire-Automobile-Liability-Burglary.
RALPH W. LEE
INSURANCE
500 Colorado Building.