

CARS STRIKE ON TONIGHT

MOTORMEN AND CONDUCTORS, STIRRED TO HIGH PITCH, WALK-OUT AT NIGHT MEETING

All City and Suburban Lines Hit By Decree Immediately Effective.

Effort Will Be Made to Plunge City in Darkness by Drawing in Power Company Men

Not a car shall leave its barn on this morning's trips, the new union of street railway employes of Washington voted at 2 o'clock this morning. This means a street railway strike.

If the men are successful they may tie up not only the lines of the Capital Traction Company and the Washington Railway and Electric Company, with which the new union has been contending the past few days. They also may cripple the interurban lines in and out of the District of Columbia as well. Furthermore, there is a serious possibility, the street railway men said early this morning, that the electric lighting system of Washington may be crippled, as the men expressed their intention of endeavoring to cause a strike among the employes of the Potomac Electric Power Company, a majority of whose stock is owned by the Washington Railway and Electric Company.

That the street railway companies will attempt to defeat the effort of the conductors and motormen to tie up their lines was indicated about 3 o'clock this morning when Clarence P. King, president of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, declared that his company had ample number of men to operate the company's cars.

MEN INFORM THEIR ABSENT CO-WORKERS.

The meeting adjourned shortly after 3 o'clock, the final work being to appoint a committee of six men to appear at each car barn this morning to inform men who were not able to be at the meeting of the action of the union and instruct them not to take their cars out.

Mr. Orr was asked if he thought there would be any conflict between men who belong to the union and those who have not yet joined.

"I hope not," he said, "and we carefully instructed the men to avoid trouble."

It was announced that the men will gather this afternoon at 2 o'clock at Typographical Temple for further conferences as to how they shall proceed. They stood around the temple for a long while after the adjournment of the meeting "talking it over."

A report was in circulation early this morning that the street railway companies have made arrangements to bring "strikebreakers" here from out of town. Officials denied the report.

PROMISES REGULAR SUNDAY SCHEDULE.

C. B. Pryor, night superintendent of the Georgetown division of the Capital Traction Company, the division embracing the lines from Georgetown to 17th and Pennsylvania avenue southeast and from Georgetown to 8th and F streets northeast, stated shortly after 3 o'clock this morning:

"I am prepared to tell the public that the regular Sunday schedule will be operative on the division today." He said a good many men were due to report at 5:30 o'clock and that they would be sufficient to operate the cars as usual.

L. D. Follin, night superintendent of the 7th street division, said

HOUSE IN TANGLE OVER THE STATUS OF SHIP WARNING

Vote May Not Be Taken on McLemore Resolution Until Thursday.

With the "armed merchantmen" question unacted upon in the House and promising to spring up again in the Senate, Congress laid down its labors, ostensibly, on the knotty problem for twenty-four hours last night.

A vote of any kind on the McLemore "warning" resolution may not be had in the House before Thursday.

The Senate took a recess last evening until tomorrow, precluding action in that body on the McCumber resolution, requesting Americans to keep off armed merchantmen of belligerent powers, tomorrow, owing to the parliamentary situation brought about by a recess.

Await Senator Stone's Address.

Senator Stone, chairman of the foreign affairs committee, has given notice he will address the Senate on foreign relations of the country Tuesday, and it is expected that the armed ship question will be debated thoroughly before that day is over. If an adjournment is had tomorrow night, the McCumber resolution will be called up, it was said last night. Supporters of the President stand ready to table this resolution, if necessary.

They are confident that they have the situation well in hand, and that the Senate has shown its attitude to be strongly against any interference with the President in diplomatic negotiations on the submarine controversy.

House Is in a Tangle.

A parliamentary tangle worse than that which the Senate had before it on Friday was only one of the reasons why the leaders have put off a vote on the McLemore resolution until Thursday. For into this grave international question, the House suddenly popped the question of partisan politics in Indiana, and also Tammany Hall had a small part in the long-drawn-out discussion. The primary will be held in the Hoosier state on Tuesday, and it was put right into the leaders' heads that the sitting Democrats from that state may be embarrassed, and perhaps defeated, if action is taken on the ticklish matter of supporting the President just now.

Thereby, by devious and intricate devices, a plan is being discovered whereby a vote may be postponed until Thursday afternoon.

It also developed that Representative Kitchin endeavored to get the rules committee yesterday to report something that would allow the House to take a direct vote on the question of warning Americans off armed merchantmen, and that this was not accepted by the administration leaders.

The parliamentary situation is a most difficult matter to explain to the mere layman who has no daily interest in the "previous question." Plainly told, however, after considerable discussion in all corners of the House by the administration leaders, it was discovered that the foreign affairs committee had already tabled the McLemore resolution. Therefore, to ask for a special rule to table it again was rather a ludicrous matter; something like bringing forth the "previous question" drive it back again to its lair. Some of those opposed to the administration were most much surprised to find that the McLemore resolution was picked up when it may be found to contain a red-hot poker.

Expected the Rule Yesterday.

When the House met yesterday many members believed the rules committee would bring in its authorization to take up the McLemore resolution and allow a request to vote on tabling it. However, the delaying tactics got in their way, and the fact that many New York members—indeed, all Tammany Hall members—were out of town was responsible for the first determination to put off a vote.

Tammany men are supposed to be waiting to vote against the administration. This was rumored abroad in the Capitol, and administration men got to work to force an immediate vote. At this time, Representative Kitchin put up his suggestion that



PAST RULINGS POINT TO BORLAND DEFEAT

Although the House speeded up on the consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial bill yesterday, the Borland rider providing for an added hour of work for government clerks without compensation was not reached, and the complicated state of affairs surrounding the international situation as related to the House points to a delay in reaching the matter. However, parliamentarians of the House who have been looking into the precedents expressed themselves yesterday as confident that the rider will go out of the bill on a point of order.

Representative Mondell of Wyoming, a member of the committee on appropriations, has prepared an elaborate defense of his point of order, and it is believed that what Representative Mondell says will have great weight with the whole. Mr. Crisp said yesterday that Representative Crisp of Georgia, who is chairman of the committee of the whole, had not had a chance to study the rider closely and that his mind was entirely upon the subject of the bill.

H. M. McLarin, temporary president of the Federal Civil Service Employees' Union, organized Friday night in the National Rifle Hall as the result of a mass meeting of protest of 1,500 clerks and other government employes, meeting with organized labor leaders, issued a statement last night in which he said that the new union will have headquarters in the building, the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor. The statement is as follows:

"The purpose of the formation of the Federal Civil Service Employees' Union, a temporary organization, which was formed last night under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor, is to secure to government employes the protection and influence which are inseparable from the united action of a large number of people.

"The first object is the defeat of the Borland rider on the legislative appropriation bill now pending in Congress, which will increase the number of working hours of government employes.

"In this age of organization it is logical for government employes to unite, that satisfactory working conditions may be secured, and I am quite sure that our position is more thoroughly understood our efforts will be indorsed.

"The affiliation with the American Federation of Labor will give to this organization a strength and power far beyond and above any which it could have as a separate association. Government employes should show their appreciation of the action of this federation in coming voluntarily to their defense in opposition to the Borland rider, without which action the working hours of government employes would undoubtedly have been increased and the hardships of this class of employes made more difficult without a protest from anybody. The best method of showing the gratitude of the government employes toward this federation is to join the union which has been formed and affiliated with the federation; before a part of this large, influential body.

"For the present the headquarters of the organization will be maintained in the offices of the Federation of Labor, 311 Oursay building. These headquarters will be open after office hours and during the evening. All persons interested in the furtherance of the cause and having ideas for its advancement are invited to visit these headquarters.

TURK PEACE AGITATION STRONG; SUDDEN CAPITULATION POSSIBLE

LONDON, March 4.—The newspapers feature dispatches from Athens which declare that agitation in Constantinople in favor of peace is becoming so pronounced that it would surprise no one if Turkey suddenly capitulated to the entente allies.

It is reported also that Rashid Bey, governor of the Vilayet of Smyrna, is trying to arrange separate peace terms with the entente.

Advices from a diplomatic source in Constantinople, adds the dispatch, are that an attempt has been made to assassinate Enver Pasha, the war minister, who was wounded. The Duke of Mecklenburg, "in view of the gravity of the situation," has telegraphed the German emperor, urging him to send reinforcements to Constantinople.

The Siva powder magazine at Constantinople has blown up in consequence of a fire.

Fall of Bagdad Nearer.

The fall of Bagdad is now nearer. For the second time in a trifle over a fortnight the Russians have broken through the Turkish front. The importance of the taking of Bagdad, officially announced last night, is, in the opinion of military authorities, twofold, inasmuch as it notably increases the security of the Russian left flank in the Caucasian operations and also the south of the British front.

From Bagdad to Bagdad, a distance of slightly more than 400 miles, there are two routes, one through Diarbekir, 125 miles southwest of Bagdad, and the other through Serit, which is almost due south of Bagdad and about fifty miles distant. Over these roads the Turks were rushing reinforcements.

suffered a number of hardships under the civil service system, last night described some of the alleged hardships in the following statement:

"I entered the government service approximately eighteen months ago. Why? Because I was fool enough to believe there was some truth in the representations made in the literature distributed by the civil service commission, and was led to believe that one's compensation would be commensurate with the services rendered; and I was then, as I am now, willing to cast my lot with my fellows on those terms. But I am finding no fault with the civil service. I believe it would be a fine thing if we were put into use. Its only function now is in going out into the highways and byways and securing new recruits. After appointment made the principles upon which this civil service is presumed to operate cease to obtain.

"Congress is so niggardly in its appropriations for salaries of the employes of the various departments it is impossible for the department heads to advance the employes in accordance with the principles of the civil service, and so the promotion in large measure are awarded not to the most deserving, but to those who have become favorites with their respective chiefs or who can bring the greatest political influence to bear. Talk about sinecures! I have found none in my limited experience in the government service except such as were a direct result of political influence—it was to the interest of some congressman that the particular individual be taken care of."

"I entered the service at \$900; after nine months I was promoted to \$1,000. I have a wife and three children. Any one who has tried it knows a family of that size cannot live in Washington in

Point of Communication.

Bagdad also served the Turks as a point of communication between the troops operating in the Mush district and those about Lake Urumiah, over the border in Persia. With the command of the whole Lake Van territory in their hands the Russians now effectively separate these forces.

Bagdad is now a fortress, but its location in the narrow valley of the Tigris (chai river), with the country on both sides extremely difficult to negotiate, gave it a strong defensive advantage.

In addition it had been fortified by the Turks on the approach of the Russians, with whom during the last three days they had fought numerous rearguard actions preliminary to a desperate stand at Bagdad.

Russian observers estimate the strength of the Turks opposing them in the Bagdad district as two divisions of infantry and artillery, with a strong admixture of German troops.

Enver Pasha in Jerusalem.

BEHLIN, March 4, by wireless to Sayville, N. Y.—Dispatches from Constantinople report the arrival at Jerusalem of Enver Pasha, Turkish minister of war, accompanied by Djemal Pasha, commander of the fourth Turkish army. The ulemas (interpreters of the Koran) of Palestine, sheikhs of societies, Freres were held for the victory of Islam. The whole population greeted Enver Pasha with enthusiasm.

OUT ON POINT OF ORDER

Provision for Lease of Building for Department of Justice Stricken From Bill.

The provision in the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill providing for the leasing of a new office building for the Department of Justice was stricken from the bill yesterday on a point of order raised by Representative Mann of Illinois.

The point of order was made near the end of the day, and accomplished the only change of consequences in the bill during the day's discussion, which was devoid of interest to the many government employes and others who thronged the galleries, many of them waiting for the fight against the Borland added-hour rider.

Representative Cooper backed up Representative Mann, and although Representative Byrns of Tennessee, in charge of the bill, explained the necessity for a new building, Chairman Crisp of the committee of the whole sustained the point of order, as the paragraph did not come within the rules of the House.

GERMANS TAKE REFUGE BEHIND PILES OF DEAD IN BATTLE OF VERDUN

French Guns for Days Pour Death Into Ranks of Enemy Advancing in Masses at Douaumont.

PARIS, March 4.—The German armies at the gates of Verdun are hammering them hard with heavy artillery. Infantry fighting also continues.

The German thrusts in the new phase of the titanic struggle are being delivered with heaviest force at present on the salient to the northeast of the fortress, in which lies the Douaumont plain. Here the French last week were driven out of Fort Douaumont and just now from Douaumont village, to the west.

In and around the village the battle has been raging with violence and with heavy losses on both sides. Unofficial accounts assert that there has been nothing on the western front to equal the ferocity of the attacks delivered by the Germans, while the French infantry is declared to be disputing every inch of ground and in their latest effort to have forced the Germans to rest on the laurels so far won and leave the continuation of the battle to their artillery.

The fire of French machine guns and rifles has been pouring death for days into the ranks of the Germans attacking in mass the village of Douaumont. The French hold the summit of the knoll which dominates the village from the south. Parts of the town had been taken and retaken repeatedly, and each time that the fortune of battle has changed more dead from the thick masses of German assaults have been added to the piles behind which their surviving comrades have sought brief protection.

Ground Strwn With Bodies.

Each time remnants of regiments already cut to pieces were pushed ahead by other bodies of troops surging on the field of battle until the ground was strewn with bodies. Eyewitnesses assert that nothing at Charleroi, on the Marne, along the Yser, or in the Champagne equaled the sacrifices which the troops of the German crown prince already have made for the village of Douaumont alone in the battle of Verdun. The attack is no longer the subject of speculation whether it is intended for a rectification of the German front or perhaps as a demonstration for the sake of the moral effect upon the people of Germany and neutrals.

It is the opinion in all quarters that the crown prince has determined to pay the price necessary to capture Verdun, if possible, drive the French from the right bank of the Meuse and establish a front along that river if he is unable to pierce the lines and open up the way to Chalons and Paris.

Ultimate Cost Problematical.

All information thus far received indicates that the Germans already have paid a very heavy price and that Verdun itself has not yet been shaken. The ultimate cost of the drive is problematical. Paris remains confident that the Germans will find it impossible to achieve eventual success. This feeling has been made still more pronounced by the recitals of the wounded and of German soldiers.

French infantry is disputing every inch of the ground with persistent courage, and last night once more compelled their adversaries to suspend efforts, leaving artillery alone to keep up the pressure on the fortress. Whenever the German assault on the French line reached the danger point the blue-clad troops leaped forward with fixed bayonets to the strains of the national battle hymn. Accounts of this fighting from French sources say that on each occasion the soldiers of the republic got the better of their opponents, pushing back the enemy who did not fall under the cold steel.

Strategic Advantage.

The determination of the German attacks on the village of Douaumont are explained by the strategic advantage of the height to the south held by the French barring the way to the bastion and fort. The village itself, composed of about fifty houses, now is only smoking ruins. It is dominated together with the ravines at the foot of the advanced bastions of the fort, by the French batteries massed on the plateau and heights in the rear, so that the instant the Germans come to the clearing from the woods and ravines they are immediately exposed to a galling fire.

There is no official news this afternoon regarding the issue of the struggle for the village, but there are indications that the French have it under control. It is explained that after the furious onslaught of the night, the possession of the village itself being of no advantage without occupation of the heights to the south, which command it and make it untenable for hostile forces.

Plateau Is Essential.

Possession of the plateau of Douaumont is essential to the Germans in view of operations seemingly projected in the region of Vaux, but it is pointed out that even with the line from Peupler Hill (Cote du Poivre) to Douaumont in their hands, the Germans would again find the French solidly fortified from Froide Terre to Souville and Laux, where sacrifices equal to those made in the assaults upon Douaumont would be necessary to gain the slightest advance.

Rain on Battlefield.

Rain is falling over the battlefield today, turning into snow, "as was the case on the fourth day of the battle."

Firmness of French bonds on the bourse yesterday and today reflects the confidence which is felt here in the outcome of the great struggle.

French Communication.

The French official communication issued by the war office tonight reads as follows:

"In Artois an attack by the enemy, with the object of driving us from the crater, which we occupy, near the road from Nashville, to La Folle, was repulsed.

"In the Argonne we cannonaded in the region to the southeast of Vauquois the German organizations and demolished several shelters.

"In the region of Verdun a very violent bombardment has been in progress all day on the left bank of the Meuse at Hill 204 and Cote de L'Oie. On the right bank the enemy, after an intense bombardment, directed on the Hadromont wood, east of Cote du Poivre, launched against our positions an attack which was stopped by our machine gun and infantry.

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Apprehension Disappears.

The apprehension caused in Paris by the ground given up to the Germans in the first battle has disappeared under analysis; the public being reminded that field strategy sometimes requires that forces retire in order to advance, as in the case of the battle of the Marne. The military critics hold that with a heavy loss of men the original French line might have been maintained, and economy in the strength of the defending force, through sagacious recoil, has counted heavily in the check of the Germans after their twenty-six infantry attacks. Forces so important as those launched against Verdun, it is urged, must have lost spirit when stopped after so many courageous assaults.

"The French public, looking at the situation in this way, attributes to that fact the early interruption of the second battle and shows remarkable confidence in the eventual outcome.

Decisive Phase of Campaign.

"Verdun," says the Temps, "marks the beginning of a new and decisive phase of the campaign. It will be a formal and incontestable demonstration that the entente allies' front in France and Belgium cannot be broken, and that the imperial armies are incapable of operating effectively by the lightninglike methods that succeeded with them in Belgium and France before the battle of the Marne, and in Russia in 1915. It is from that point of view that the battle of Verdun presents so considerable an interest. It furnishes us with precise elements for a sincere appreciation of the wastage of the German forces. It will teach us at just what point is the strength of the enemy, and what effort, energetically sustained, we must still make, finally, to vanquish him."

"After a few fluctuations inseparable from a struggle like that in the region of Verdun, it should finally end in a check that would be impossible for the Germans to conceal, the moral and political consequences in Germany would be profound."

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