

SWITCHMEN ANSWER CHARGES OF RAILWAY TRAINMEN

Jas. B. Connors, vice president of the Switchmen's Union of N. America, read the statement of H. P. Gallagher of the Brotherhood of Ry. Trainmen in The Day Book last night, then he issued a statement flatly denying nearly everything Gallagher said.

In brief, Connors called the B. of R. T. a scab body, accused it of playing in with the railroads and of double dealing.

"The contract which the road management and the B. R. T. put over on us on the Wabash railroad says that not more than 25 per cent of the switchmen employed on the Wabash can be long to our union. Now, notwithstanding Mr. Gallagher's assertion that less than 9 per cent of the Wabash switchmen belong to our union, I right here say that 90 per cent of the Wabash switchmen are in our union right now.

"The B. R. T. got the agreement with the Wabash through trickery, promising the railroad officials that its members would scab the jobs of the switchmen.

"I do not claim that the '75 per cent' agreement is a boycott. I claim it is a lockout.

"The Switchmen's Union of N. A. is the only legitimate union for switchmen to affiliate with. It is declared so by the A. F. of L., with which it is affiliated.

"When the B. R. T. switchmen struck on the Belt Line last December I pulled every one of our switchmen off the job on the Belt Line, though I knew nothing of the B. R. T.'s proposed strike until 8 hours before it was to take place. That was not our strike, but we pulled out 200 men to help 100 of the B. R. T.'s switchmen who went out. If our men had continued to work—as the B. R. T. men are doing now while we are on strike—the trainmen would never have had a chance to have won that strike.

"Right now the trainmen are filling our jobs in the Wabash yards right here in Chicago, under police protection."

ZEPPELIN BOMBS SINK THREE BRITISH WARSHIPS

Berlin.—British cruiser *Caroline* and destroyers *Eden* and *Rice* sunk by bombs hurled from Zeppelins in last raid on England.

London.—German losses in fierce fighting going on for nearly 10 days for Vimy Heights and along Somme, south of Arras, have totaled 60,000, more than British suffered in September offensive at Loos.

Fighting is proceeding with great fury in heavy snowtown. French are counter-attacking near Neuville-La Folle road, where Germans claimed capture of half mile of French trenches in Tuesday night's fighting.

Athens.—Greece's decision to remain neutral was reaffirmed by Premier Skouloudis in addressing parliament. Referring to reports that severe pressure might be brought to bear upon Greek government, prime minister declared that no moves of coercion, however painful, could equal disasters that would follow should Greece enter war.

Vienna.—Disarming of Montenegrin troops by their Austrian conquerors completed.

Paris.—Less than 30,000 Serbian troops now remain in Albania and these are being transferred as rapidly as possible to Island of Corfu and made ready for service in Balkans.

London.—All Roumanian reservists at Salonika ordered home immediately. Dispatch from Switzerland reported Roumanian government appealed to people to board gold and deposit in national bank.

Geneva.—Turks have resumed the massacre of Armenians who escaped previous outrages.

100 narrowly escaped when fire partly destroyed apartment building, 2156 W. 22d.