

MARINE WAGE CUT NEAR SETTLEMENT

Private Ship Owners Agree on 15 Per Cent. Reduction Adopted by Board.

NOW UP TO THE MEN Companies Assert That Scale Will Still Be Much Too High.

SEAMEN'S ACT ATTACKED

Proposal Made to Give President Authority to Suspend It in Emergency.

Private steamship owners and operators will go into their second conference with representatives of organized marine labor in Washington today in agreement with Admiral William S. Benson, chairman of the United States Shipping Board, demanding that the wage scales of the new contracts be reduced 15 per cent. Until yesterday the private owners and operators had demanded a reduction ranging from 20 to 30 per cent.

Despatches from Washington last night said that officials of the Shipping Board were optimistic over the situation following the agreement of the owners to accept the view of the board. They expressed the opinion that the unions will make some concessions when the conference opens tomorrow, and it is believed that an excellent basis for negotiation has been obtained. Informal conferences were held in Washington yesterday between Darragh Delaney of the board and representatives of the union, and later he conferred with officials of the Shipping Board.

The "compromise" proposal was adopted unanimously yesterday at a general meeting of the American Steamship Owners Association, the Pacific American Steamship Association and the Shipowners Association of the Pacific Coast which took place in the Whitehall Club, 17 Battery place. The action is in direct support of the stand taken by Admiral Benson at the conference Wednesday, when he laid down the 15 per cent. reduction as the one which the marine engineers, firemen, seamen, cooks and stewards would have to accept in the new contracts, effective May 1.

Clinging the general modification of wages and working rules which the Shipping Board is seeking to embody in its new contracts with the seamen, the owners and operators voted "that as a compromise, with full realization of the fact that the proposed scale does not enable American vessels to successfully compete with foreign vessels, but in deference to the views and wishes of the chairman of the United States Shipping Board, the American Steamship Owners Association, the Pacific American Steamship Association and the Shipowners Association of the Pacific Coast will put into effect on May 1, 1921, the wage schedule and classification submitted to them by the United States Shipping Board on April 27, 1921, instead of the 25 per cent. reduction heretofore contemplated by the foregoing association."

Winthrop L. Marvin, general manager of the American Steamship Owners Association, announced at the conclusion of the meeting that a delegation of twenty-five would go to Washington for the conference to-day. The delegation, representative of both Atlantic and Pacific associations, is clothed with full powers. As in the case of the first conference, it will be headed by W. A. Thompson, president of the Texas Steamship Company. It also includes H. H. Raymond, president of the Clyde Malloy Line, and Capt. E. G. O'Donnell of Boston, chairman of the subcommittee on wages and working conditions.

Asked what seemed to be the feeling among the owners, Mr. Marvin said last night that he believed a strike "will be averted." "The engineers will be wise," he added, "if they follow our lead. We expect the meeting in Washington today will be final."

A bill authorizing the President to suspend any part or all of the La Follette act was introduced in the House of Representatives yesterday.

STATE DEPARTMENT ASKED TO INTERCEDE FOR PET DOG

Diplomacy Sought in Case of Miss Corneille's Chow, Which Was Responsible for Uruguayan Officials Holding Up Shipping Board Vessel.

Teddy, a chow dog of no more than the usual proportions and good looks of chow dogs, was responsible for holding up a ship Wednesday, but yesterday he started on his way to become an international incident.

Teddy is the pet of Miss Muriel de Corneille, a young Swiss girl. He was ordered killed at Montevideo when he arrived there with his mistress on the Shipping Board vessel Acadia because the vessel had touched at Rio Janeiro, where a pest affecting animals is prevalent. Miss de Corneille, who values Teddy because he mounted guard over her brother's body when he was killed

in France during the war, refused to permit the Uruguayan health officials to sacrifice the animal, but a result the ship was not permitted to dock. Yesterday the battle over Teddy shifted to New York, where Homer Sullivan, a lawyer of 15 William street, received a cable from Miss de Corneille, his sister-in-law, decided to take a night train to Washington to ask Secretary of State Hughes to intercede for Teddy through the Uruguayan Minister. Meanwhile, the passengers and cargo of the Acadia were being sent ashore via another vessel and Teddy, in a special stateroom guarded by a sanitary guard, napped peacefully all day.

lette seamen's act during war or in an emergency, or when continued operation of the American merchant marine is threatened, was introduced in Congress yesterday by Representative Edmonds (Pennsylvania).

The La Follette act has long been a controversial point between the seamen and the owners, and has been held to be inimical to the advance of an American merchant marine. Designed to protect American citizens working on the ocean, it is said now to furnish protection mainly to unnaturalized foreigners. Mr. Edmonds said yesterday that an official compilation of figures showed that sixty per cent. of the seamen employed under its operation were citizens of foreign countries. While previous efforts to render the La Follette act less stringent have failed, it is believed the Edmonds measure has an excellent chance since it does not attempt to repeal the law, but simply gives the President discretionary powers to prevent it from working harm to American shipping in the event of an emergency. Advocates of the measure desire a speedy passage at the present time, or even favorable action upon it in Congress, would go far toward bringing the ship owners and marine workers closer together, and probably result in a settlement of their differences.

BLIND EARN ENOUGH TO KEEP AUTOMOBILES

French Soldiers Develop Remarkable Dexterity.

Blind men are learning to operate knitting machines so successfully that they are able to support families and maintain automobiles on their earnings, according to Miss Winifred Holt, who yesterday told a gathering in the Town Hall about the work being done in the Lighthouse in France. Besides becoming expert at knitting, the totally blind soldiers are rapidly gaining a dexterity with the razor; they are learning to make wigs and switches and are now taking up marcel waving.

Miss Holt, who established the Fifty-ninth street Lighthouse, was also responsible for the idea being adopted in France and Italy. The Italian Lighthouse is sponsored by the King and Queen. Miss Holt had shown on a screen a series of pictures illustrating the progress being made with the training of the blind at Severs, France. A new committee on Lighthouses has been formed with President Harding as honorary chairman and Franklin D. Roosevelt as active chairman.

ADMIRAL HUSE URGES ADEQUATE NAVAL FORCE

Calls Pacific Fleet Like Police Giving Up Clubs.

Adequate naval armament was discussed by Rear Admiral Henry McL. Huse, commanding the Third Naval district, and other speakers at the seventeenth annual meeting and dinner of the maritime section of the Navy League of America in the Arkwright Club, 220 Broadway, last evening. The occasion was the first meeting of the local section of the Navy League since the lifting of the ban imposed by former Secretary Daniels.

Rear Admiral Huse declared that the arguments of pacifists calling for the United States to lead in the reduction of armament were like telling a policeman to lay aside his club.

Capt. John W. Timmons urged the need for a "strong" naval reserve force. The officers for the ensuing year, all selected, are: President, Capt. Reginald Fay; vice-president, C. Lynn Bond; secretary-treasurer, Lieut. Ernest Stavey; governing committee, J. Fred Stuart, N. L. Cullen, John F. Dwyer and D. V. Barnes; member of the national council, William Harris Douglas.

ODELL DIES IN CHAIR FOR KNEIP MURDER

Declares to Last That He Is Innocent, but Meets End Calmly.

James L. Odell of Rochester was put to death in the electric chair at Sing Sing last night for his share in the murder of Edward Hugh Kneip in Rochester in January, 1920. He showed little emotion as he was being strapped into the chair shortly after 11 o'clock, and said only "Goodby, boys." Earlier in the day he had declared that he was innocent of the crime for which both he and his wife were convicted. Odell ended the death chamber, walking with the Protestant chaplain, Dr. A. N. Petersen, at 11:05 o'clock, and was dead at 11:14.

Attorneys for Odell made vigorous efforts to persuade Gov. Nathan L. Miller to commute the sentence to life imprisonment. They have presented several pleas to the Chief Executive at Albany during the last few days and an error spent most of Wednesday night in his study reviewing the case. When he reached his office to-day, however, he announced that he would not interfere and that the execution of the death sentence would proceed at Sing Sing. In his memorandum refusing to grant a reprieve or a commutation of sentence the Governor wrote:

"I have endeavored to resolve every reasonable doubt in favor of the defendant, but in determining what justice requires I must be bound by legal tests and standards. I cannot set the executive will above the law to gratify sympathy or to avoid the distress always caused by the infliction of the death penalty. It is not for me to say whether the death penalty is too severe in a case like this. The law prescribes it. Giving due weight to every consideration, giving the defendant the benefit of every doubt I have reached the conclusion after a painstaking examination of the case that it will defer justice for me to commute the sentence to life imprisonment. I have no right to put my hand on the defendant's face unless he asked for it." Magistrate Corrigan declared: "I find you guilty of disorderly conduct."

Odell was convicted of helping his wife, Pearl Beaver Odell, now in Auburn prison, kill Kneip in Rochester on the night of January 7, 1920. Kneip had been intimate with Mrs. Odell before marriage, according to the defence at Mrs. Odell's trial, and had tried to blackmail her character after she was married to Odell.

MAY DAY RADICALS DISTRIBUTE CIRCULARS

Two Women Arrested Accused of Criminal Anarchy.

A heavy shower of radical May Day literature began falling yesterday in several parts of the city, and detectives were sent out to visit suspected headquarters of anarchists, communists and left wing socialists in an effort to stop the distribution of the literature. Two arrests were made. Miss Fannie Rudnikoff of 112 Sutter avenue, Brooklyn, was arrested last night by Patrolman Pollock at Delancey and Orchard streets and locked up on a charge of criminal anarchy. She said she was born in Russia. Her occupation was given on the police blotter as a shipping clerk. The police said that she was distributing circulars headed "May Day, Red Letter Day."

Mrs. Anna Kennin, 35 of 38 North Third street, Brooklyn, was arrested yesterday morning while putting circulars in a letter box in the Bronx, was arrested in Morrisania Court on a charge of criminal anarchy, and at the request of the Department of Justice an adjournment was taken until May 2. Bail was fixed at \$1,000.

HELD TEMPORARY JOB FOR 50 YEARS

Edwin Adams Sent to Shipping Post in 1871. Will Sail To-morrow.

TO RETIRE ON PENSION

Order to Return Home Comes as Surprise to Cashier of White Star Line.

Edwin J. Adams was assigned by the Liverpool office of the White Star Line in July, 1871, to a temporary job in this city incidental to the opening of the line's transatlantic service. He arrived in the steamship Oceanic, one of the giants of her day, although only 422 feet long, with four square rigged masts, picturesquely suggestive of a combination of sail-steamship when carrying canvas. Capt. Hyde Sparke, the first White Star agent in America, came with Mr. Adams, who hoped to get back to Liverpool, his birthplace, in a few months.

Somehow or other the main office overlooked Mr. Adams. Then it made him cashier here. That was half a century ago. The other day he was surprised by being told that he might go back to Liverpool as he would not be needed here any more. So he is sailing to-morrow aboard the White Star liner Celtic to see how the port of his boyhood looks after an absence of fifty years, and more than fifty-six years' service with the White Star Line.

Mr. Adams said sadly, yesterday, that there surely had been a few little changes since the old Oceanic brought him here. There came a mighty Oceanic, sunk in the war, and now the White Star fleet has the mightiest liner of all, the Majestic, formerly the Bismarck, about 55,000 tons bigger than the first Oceanic.

The head of the Liverpool office fifty years ago will not be there when Mr. Adams lands, so he cannot have the pleasure of saying, as he enters, "I have the honor to report that I've just finished that little job you gave me in 1871. What shall I do next?" The answer of the manager's ghost will be: "Just take a little vacation for the rest of your life at our expense." And that is what Mr. Adams is going to do.

MUD LAVA MASSAGE EXPENSIVE TO BARBER

City's Highest Priced Barber Again in Trouble.

Harry Rose, one of the city's highest priced barbers, who a fortnight ago was sentenced to a five day jail term for charging \$6.15 for certain operations on a customer of the barber shop of Joseph Blood at Seventh avenue and Thirty-third street, was arraigned in Jefferson Market court yesterday and fined \$25 with the alternative of five days in jail.

This time the check was \$2.20. Manager of the barbers' union stepped into Rose's chair and asked for a shave "in a hurry," and when he got out found he had been given a "mud lava massage" at a price of \$1.50, and other incidents which made up the balance of the bill.

"You had no right to put mud on the defendant's face unless he asked for it," Magistrate Corrigan declared. "I find you guilty of disorderly conduct."

WRIT HALTS CASES OF WENDELL AND TRAVIS

Jurisdiction Passes to Supreme Court Criminal Branch

After listening yesterday to argument on a motion for Judge John F. McIntyre of General Sessions to show cause why he should not be prohibited from passing upon the request to dismiss the indictments against State Comptroller James A. Wendell and former Comptroller Eugene M. Travis, Supreme Court Justice McAvoy granted an alternative writ of prohibition and announced that the order will be signed May 6.

The decision prevents definitely any action by the General Sessions Court in the cases, which have been transferred to the Criminal Branch of the Supreme Court.

AVIATRIX COMPLAINS OF HUSBAND TO COURT

Took a Chance, She Says; Now Charges Desertion.

"Flying" Miss Jane Herveus, French aviatrix, observed on her wedding day last February, "is a great deal safer than getting married, but I'm going to take a chance."

She did, and became the wife of Filippino C. Catalano, whom she now charges with desertion and non-support. Yesterday she appeared in the West Side Police Court to get a summons for her husband to explain his alleged misdeeds to Magistrate Silberman. She had already tried to serve one, and told the Court that Mr. Catalano, who lives at 130 West Forty-seventh street, tore it to pieces, forcibly took from her the key to the apartment, put her out and told her never to come back. Magistrate Silberman issued another summons and told Mme. Catalano to take a policeman with her when she served it.

The aviatrix, who is 33, ten years older than her husband, met him only two or three weeks before the marriage license was filled out. The license was obtained January 21, but was not used until February 7. In the interval Miss Herveus asked the police to find her fiancée, who had disappeared.

DETECTIVE CAUGHT AFTER TAXI CHASE

Agency Employee Charged With Taking Two Sheets From Hotel Register.

Arno Hinrichsen, who is a private detective and lives in 1950 Madison avenue, walked into the Hotel St. James in West Forty-ninth street yesterday afternoon shortly before 5 o'clock and in a mysterious whisper asked the clerk if he might see the register for January 15, 1921. The clerk got the book from the safe, opened it and the private detective began poring over the entries. Another customer came along about that time and the clerk turned to the key rack. He told the police later that no sooner was his back turned than he heard a ripping sound. He first looked at himself, but seeing nothing wrong he looked at Hinrichsen and he saw the private detective tearing two sheets from the register. The next instant he told the police, Hinrichsen had put the sheets into his pocket and started running from the hotel.

The clerk shouted to two guests seated near the door to go after the man and they went after him. As they ran through the door each of the two guests drew a police whistle and blew alternate blasts for the next block, which brought the trio to Broadway at the height of the evening traffic rush. Large crowds joined in the chase, but Hinrichsen jumped on a taxicab and went north, followed by another machine which bent beneath the weight of Patrolman McGrath.

At Forty-seventh street Hinrichsen jumped for the subway, but Patrolman McGrath grabbed him before he could reach it. He was taken to the West Forty-seventh street station and locked up, charged with petit larceny. He declared he was employed by the Becker Detective Agency and that he was searching for divorce evidence, but he wouldn't give any particulars.

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WIRE TAPPING GANG CLEANS UP MILLION

Buffalo Officer Gives List of French Canadians Fleece Out of Large Sums.

BROOKLYN MAN ON TRIAL

Said to Be Leader of Crew That Capped Snares With Fake Police Raid.

Special Despatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD, Buffalo, April 25.—Charles Drucker, 1918 Newdirk avenue, Brooklyn, whose trial on a charge of swindling Michael Connelly, wealthy Montreal man, out of \$125,000 in a fake wire tapping scheme is nearing an end here, is one of an international gang of swindlers whose activities have netted them a million dollars from French-Canadian residents of the Province of Quebec, according to District Attorney Moore.

Drucker, who says he is proprietor of a wholesale clothing company in Eighty-seventh street, New York, with branch stores in Cleveland, Detroit, Dayton, Youngstown and Erie, is also the financial backer of "Broadway Beauties," a musical show. On the stand today Drucker denied having swindled Connelly and said he was in Cleveland at the time of the alleged crime, in 1918.

According to the District Attorney, Drucker and his aides would gain the confidence of their intended victim, let him on a deal in which he would win a few times and then fleece him for his entire fortune. This was done with Connelly, the fleeing coming after two winnings, a loss and a wager of \$125,000. Part of the affair was a fake police raid just as the time came for paying off. In the excitement Drucker and the rest of his layout disappeared.

One witness for the prosecution was Geoffrey Alexander Rousseau, private banker of Sainte Anne de Beaupre, who said he lost \$75,000 in the same way as Connelly did. Reading of Connelly's swindling in the papers, Detroit, Dayton, Youngstown and Erie, is also the financial backer of "Broadway Beauties," a musical show. On the stand today Drucker denied having swindled Connelly and said he was in Cleveland at the time of the alleged crime, in 1918.

The list of victims given out by the District Attorney follows, all residents of Quebec: Eugene Desmarais, \$65,000; R. Tourville, \$50,000; S. P. Champlain, \$40,000; O. Martineau, \$35,000; L. S. Dupuis, \$25,000; A. Dionne, \$35,000; the Rev. L. E. Paquet, \$60,000; Theodore Valiquette, \$30,000; D. Boucher, \$27,000; C. Dufresne, \$50,000; G. A. Rousselle, \$25,000; the Hon. S. N. Parent, \$17,000; T. Bastian, \$100,000, and Michael Connelly, \$125,000.

WIFE OF HEAD MEMBER SUES GWATHMEY FIRM

Seeks \$97,000 She Admits Broker Once Gave to Her.

Trial of an action by Mrs. Isabella C. Gwathmey of 9 West Eighty-first street to recover \$97,000 from A. B. Gwathmey & Co., brokers, of which her husband, Archibald B. Gwathmey, is senior member, began yesterday before Supreme Court Justice Lehman. She asserts the sum is due her on an account in her name, which she asked her husband to close in June, 1919, after it had been running for seven years.

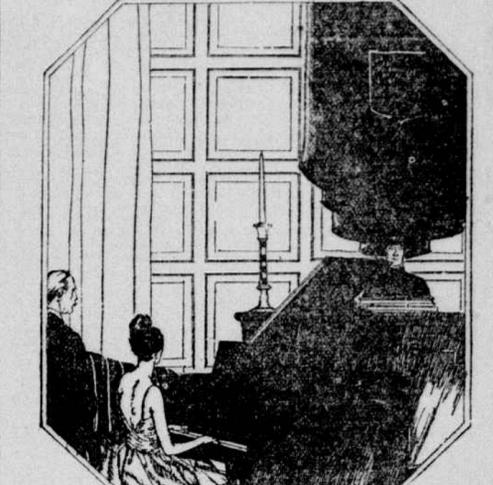
The reason she wanted it closed, she testified, was that her husband was growing nervous because of the speculating he was doing with her securities. She admitted that the securities were gifts from her husband.

Justice Lehman ruled out any reference to the Gwathmey's marital affairs, including a suggestion for a Reno divorce. Mr. Gwathmey's father once elected Mrs. Gwathmey from their home in 49 West Seventy-second street.

NEGRO EDITOR DROPS DEAD

Edward Warren, 50 of 49 West 134th street, negro editor of the New Amsterdam News, national organ of the negroes in America, collapsed last night as he stepped from a street car at Lenox avenue Hospital said death apparently was due to heart disease.

SOHMER FOR TONE



The SOHMER CUPID GRAND

NEW YORK CITY has set its seal upon the Sohmer. For there are more Sohmer Pianos in use in New York than any other piano of artistic worth. This is the natural result of the Sohmer tone—for the Sohmer tone is a rich and warm thing, a tone that was conceived for a home piano and which fulfills absolutely its conception.

Allowances made on used pianos and periodical payments planned.

SOHMER

31 West 57th Street

VICTROLAS & VICTOR RECORDS

Advertisement for Ovington's mirrors, featuring a large illustration of a mirror and text describing the move uptown and price reductions.

Large advertisement for Stern Brothers, featuring a sale of men's spring and summer shirts. Text includes 'Stern Brothers', 'West 42nd Street', 'West 43rd Street', and 'Men's Spring and Summer Shirts'.

Advertisement for B. Altman & Co. featuring women's spring dresses. Text includes 'B. Altman & Co.', 'MADISON AVENUE - FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK', and 'Special for To-day Women's Spring Dresses'.

Advertisement for The Anderson Galleries featuring art collections. Text includes 'The Anderson Galleries', 'PART THREE OF THE ART COLLECTIONS OF MR. LOUIS V. BELL', and 'An Advertisement in the Lost and Found Columns of THE NEW YORK HERALD'.