

SUITS AGAINST BIG FIVE PACKERS FIRST GOV ON H. C. L.

Unions for R. R. Control Now, Mills Next; Stone Favors Firing Squad for Gougers

PRESIDENT TO CARRY COSTS CRISIS BEFORE CONGRESS ON FRIDAY

14 LABOR BODIES UNITE IN ASKING RAILROAD GRAB

Frank Morrison Speaks for 'Public Profit' Measure

STRIKE IS SPREADING! WAGE BOARD PLAN OUT

Washington, Aug. 6.—Acting as a unit for the first time in the presentation of wage demands, the fourteen principal railroad unions, today, in expressing to Director General Hines their disapproval of President Wilson's proposal that congress create a commission to consider increased pay, declared that wage questions must be settled immediately.

A general program to meet the present crisis, involving the threat of a nation-wide strike, was submitted to the director general. It suggested that the money to provide increased pay should come from an appropriation by congress, to be followed by appropriate freight rate advances. This "temporary relief" must be accompanied by a determined effort to reduce the cost of living.

Permanent solution of the railroad problem was declared to depend upon the removal of returns to capital as the sole purpose of operation, and the director general accordingly was asked to recommend to President Wilson that he attempt to obtain approval by congress of organized labor's bill to eliminate private capital from control of the railroads and to give the employees a share in the profits. The union heads declared the belief of the workers to be that transportation rates should be sufficient to guarantee just wages, maintain the properties and give equitable returns on money invested.

Unity of 14 Big Feature. Interesting as were the suggestions for removing the menace of a nation-wide strike, the unified action of the fourteen organizations attracted equal attention. Labor leaders declined to say whether the unions would act as a whole in the future, but declared they were going thru with the present situation as one body. The result would be to put the total weight of 2,000,000 persons, virtually the entire rail transportation personnel of the United States, back of the demands, with the possibility, as never before, of the paralysis of the nation's life if a general strike should ensue.

Morrison Demands Sims Bill. Enactment of the pending bill embodying organized labor's plan for reorganization of railroads will re-establish the theory that the roads should be operated for public service rather than for private profit, the inter-state commerce commission was told today by Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. Morrison said he was present to (Continued on Page Two.)

Washington, Aug. 6.—Organized labor's remedy for the high cost of living—a bill that would turn over the railroads to the public, operating officials and labor—was presented to congress today by men high in the council of the organization, who declared with utmost frankness conditions were so desperate it might be necessary to advocate a firing squad for profiteers.

With equal frankness, members of the house interstate commerce committee indicated during the examination of Warren S. Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Railroad Locomotive Engineers, and Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor, that the bill, embodying what has come to be known as the Plumb plan, was too radical, and failed to strike at the high-price evil, against which people throughout the country are clamoring.

For more than a month the house committee has been considering all plans for solution of the problems confronting the roads with their return to private management, and the Plumb proposal was offered with the assurance of labor leaders that it would cut down prices of commodities, because of the reduction in rates which would follow the elimination of private capital from the railroad companies. The two union officials during the five hours stood up in defense of the bill and answered a whirlwind fire of questions from men who must report it out or throw it away.

Labor leaders made strong denial of reports that they were attempting to intimidate congress by threats of strikes or to chop off heads of members voting contrary to their desires. There was a broad intimation that the public ownership plan, if not enacted into law, would be taken to the conventions of the two big parties, next year.

U. S. MADE OPEN DOOR JAP DEAL IN DARK ON SHANTUNG; LIGHT NOW

Wilson Issues Reassuring Statement on Uchida Explanation; Lansing Tells Senators He Didn't Know of Powers Pledged Cession.

Washington, Aug. 6.—President Wilson issued a formal statement tonight saying that the "frank statement" made by Viscount Uchida as to Japan's policy regarding Shantung "ought to serve to remove many of the misunderstandings which have begun to accumulate about this question."

Reference in the Uchida statement as to the agreement between Japan and China in 1915 "might be misleading," the president said, "if not commented upon in the light that it occurred in Paris." When the question of the disposal of Shantung was definitely decided on at Paris, President Wilson said, the Japanese delegation in reply to a question from him said: "The policy of Japan is to hand back the Shantung peninsula in full sovereignty to China, retaining only the economic privileges granted to Germany and the right to establish a settlement under the usual conditions at Tsing-Tao."

Washington, Aug. 6.—Secretary Lansing, before the senate foreign relations committee, today, expressed the opinion that the Shantung provision of the peace treaty did not square with President Wilson's announced principle of self-determination, but maintained that the treaty, as a whole, carried out substantially the president's fourteen points.

As his own personal opinion, Mr. Lansing said that Japan would probably have signed the treaty without the Shantung provision; that the Kaiser could not be legally tried; and that the mutual guarantee of territorial integrity from external aggression, as contained in article ten of the league covenant, imposed a moral obligation, but not a legal one.

The secretary said it was true that the 14 points had not been discussed, to his knowledge, in the preparatory stages of the peace negotiations; that the American draft of the league of nations never

was "pressed" before the conference; that the president had asked the peace conference not to lay before the French senate the record of discussions of the league; and that the United States did not know of secret treaties between the allies and Japan, regarding Shantung, when this country by the Lansing-Uchida agreement recognized Japan's "special interest" in China.

Didn't Protest He Says. It was not true, Secretary Lansing said, that he and other members of the American delegation "protested" against the Shantung settlement; that Great Britain "refused to permit" discussion of the freedom of the seas by the peace conference; or that any of the American expert advisers had resigned because they disagreed with the decision regarding Shantung.

When the Lansing-Uchida agreement was made Mr. Lansing said, the department knew of Japan's 21 demands upon China, but added that the demands did not come into the discussion of the agreement.

"And if you had known of those secret agreements would you have likely entered into the agreement with Ishii?"

"Yes I think so," Mr. Lansing replied. "I think I can say that one of the reasons for the Lansing-Uchida agreement was to secure from Japan a declaration of the open door policy, which she gave."

Senator Borah asked whether the Lansing-Uchida agreement had been considered as an endorsement of Japan's 21 demands.

"I know it was in Japan," Mr. Lansing replied.

"Was the secret agreement between Japan and allies brot to the attention of the president before you went to Versailles?"

"Oh yes."

Admits Bliss Protest. Mr. Borah then took up the report that Secretary Lansing, General Bliss and Henry White had filed a written protest against the Shantung provision.

Mr. Lansing stated that General Bliss wrote a letter to the president and that it was signed by General Bliss alone.

"Did it purport to be written by any of the others?"

"Yes Mr. White and myself."

PACIFIC FLEET IN BOLD ARRAY OFF SAN DIEGO

Anchors Los Coronados to Await Review by Daniels Today.

San Diego, Aug. 6.—The Pacific fleet of American dreadnaughts, became a reality, today, when six of the heaviest line battleships in command of Admiral Hugh Rodman dropped their anchors off Los Coronado islands and made ready to receive, tomorrow, a welcome to their new home in the waters of the Pacific from Secretary of the Navy Daniels and the people of the Western coast.

The six dreadnaughts—the largest class of the fighting line of the United States navy—were the flagship, New Mexico, Mississippi, Wyoming, Arkansas, New York and Texas, and with them came over a score of destroyers with their mother ship, the scout cruiser Birmingham. The older warships Georgia and Vermont and the cruiser Montana were already at anchor off Los Coronados when Admiral Rodman's armada arrived. Admiral Rodman's fighting ships, the first dreadnaughts to visit the Pacific shores, had steamed almost steadily for 18 days on a 5000-mile voyage from Hampton Roads, Va.

Four of the dreadnaughts—the New York, Texas, Arkansas and Wyoming—composed the major part of Admiral Rodman's sixth battle squadron, which, as one of the fast wing of Admiral Sir David Beatty's grand sea fleet, pinned the Germans in their holes behind Helgoland.

The echo of the anchor chains had scarcely been lifted at dawn as the big ships came to anchor, when scores of jacksies went over the sides on ladders and began the task of painting the ship's sides. The turrets and the big guns, as well as masts and hatchways, all came in for a bright coat of gray. Decks were hoisted and bright work was polished and nightfall found the war vessels in readiness for the review.

ALLIED TROOPS ARE IN BUDAPEST; PARIS WARNS RUMANIANS

Peace Delegate Informed Conference Cannot Recognize Ultimatum to Hungarians

Copenhagen, Aug. 6.—French troops arrived at Budapest Tuesday and British troops under General Gordon and American forces under Capt. W. G. Adams, arrived there today, according to dispatches received here from Vienna, quoting the newspapers of that city.

HIGH-RANDED ULTIMATUM DEMANDS BY ALLIES. Paris, Aug. 6.—(By The Associated Press.)—Nicholas Misu, of the Rumanian peace delegation, was summoned before the supreme council, today, which gave him a communication for his government, saying that the Rumanian ultimatum to Hungarians cannot be recognized by the peace conference and calling upon Rumanians to live up to the armistice terms.

When the heads of the British and American military missions in Budapest were advised by the Hungarians of the Rumanian ultimatum, they sent a protest to the Rumanian command-in-chief. The protest said the terms of the ultimatum were in violation of the armistice and of the pledges to the Hungarian people by the allies when they induced them on August 1 to establish a new government.

ENGINEER CHIEF SEES ANARCHY IN PINCH OF LIVING

Backs Sims Bill as Solution of R. R. and Costs Problem

URGES REDUCED PRICES RATHER THAN HIGH PAY

Washington, Aug. 6.—Some sharp views of leaders of organized labor on economic problems were developed at the hearing today, before the house Interstate Commerce committee on labor's plan for the relief of high cost of living.

Warren Stone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers said labor might appoint a firing squad for profiteers and declared that, until congress found a solution of the high cost of living problem, within a few months America would see its worst period.

"The people are not going to starve," said he, "they are going to die fighting."

Frank Morrison, secretary of the American Federation of Labor told the committee if labor's plan for operation of the railroads proved successful they proposed to have it applied to other industries.

Mr. Stone appeared before the commission at a hearing of the Plumb bill for railroad control by the public, the operating managements and labor.

Lower Costs Whole Solution. Mr. Stone said the railway brotherhoods are bitterly opposed to the old system of railway control. If the Plumb plan is rejected, it will be the policy of labor, he added, to create enough sentiment in and out of congress to force its adoption. "We have not and do not make any strike threats," the witness said. "We have not demanded an increase in wages, preferring a reduction in the cost of living."

"I do not believe any labor organization will strike simply to force the Plumb plan," Mr. Stone continued. "I think some organizations will strike unless something is done immediately to increase wages or cut down the living cost. When you reduce the latter, you solve the entire problem of industrial unrest."

Congress Fiddled. Mr. Stone said from 18 to 20 carloads of fruit and vegetables were dumped at Cleveland every day, simply to keep up prices.

Representative Winslow wanted to know what Mr. Stone thought congress should have done. "Congress should have seen what was coming months ago," the witness replied, "congress was so busy playing its politics it could not think of the common people."

Answering Representative Sanderson, Indiana, Mr. Stone said the time was coming when the price of coal would be fixed by the government, "so men won't have to get rich while others freeze."

Labor now demands that America be (Continued on Page Two)

Recommendation for More 'Teeth' in Laws Dealing With Gouging and Hoarding of Food Expected in Wilson's Message; Licensing System May Also Be Urged; One Arrest, So Far, in Pittsburgh, for Profiteering in Sugar.

Washington, Aug. 6.—Developments in the government's drive on the high cost of living popped out so fast, today, that they tumbled over one another.

Attorney General Palmer announced the bringing of anti-trust suits against the five great packing concerns—Armour, Swift, Wilson, Morris and Cudahy.

At the same time, the attorney general ordered all agents of the department of justice to arrest profiteers, hoarders and other contributors to soaring food costs.

The first arrests came in Pittsburgh, where a concern was wholesaling sugar at 14 cents a pound.

Food hoards may be confiscated by the government. President Wilson declined a suggestion of Republican Leader Mondell in the house, that he postpone his address to congress on the high cost of living from Friday to next Tuesday. The president went ahead with plans to speak at 4 o'clock Friday afternoon.

The president wrote Mr. Mondell that the situation is as acute as it was last week, when he requested congress not to adjourn, and that he felt it his duty to present his views to congress at the earliest possible moment. Mr. Wilson also sent letters to Speaker Gillette and Vice President Marshall, informing them of his intentions to address a joint session of congress Friday.

Probable Recommendations. That one of the president's recommendations for a modified licensing system under which margins of profit could be controlled so as to bring an immediate reduction in prices was suggested.

There was no intimation from the White House as to the nature of the recommendations the president will make in addressing congress. From the trend of the government's activities in an attempt to solve the living cost problem, however, in the view of several officials, the president probably will deal with the subject.

Enlargement of the provisions of the Lever food control law, to make it operative after the proclamation of peace and applicable to shoes, clothing and all life necessities in addition to food.

Legislation to reach the smaller individual profiteer, as well as "big business" extortion.

Legislation to define profiteering thereby making easier prosecutions under existing laws.

Laws to make speculation in necessities a crime.

Legislation limiting the margin of profit on necessities.

Special Attorney on Job. All federal district attorneys in the United States were ordered by Attorney General Palmer to proceed immediately in the prosecution of all persons guilty of hoarding foodstuffs and to libel the foodstuffs for condemnation.

The evidence in hand, Attorney General Palmer declared, indicated a clear violation of the anti-trust laws.

Whether the prosecutions would be civil or criminal, the attorney general declined to state, merely recalling that the law provide for both.

The history of all the government's anti-trust prosecutions in 25 years does not show a single individual ever serving a jail sentence for a violation. There are evidence that the government hopes for some in the present campaign.

"This is the most important business since the country today," Mr. Palmer said in announcing his action. "I propose to have the law enforcement forces of the government sidetrack everything to this job."

Isidor J. Kresel of the New York law firm, Jerome, Rand and Kresel, will have charge of the case, and Mr. Palmer said he would give such assistance from the department of justice "as the case seems to warrant."

DISABLED SOLDIERS SAY U. S. GETS THEM JOBS WITH LEADEN-HEELS CELERITY

Philadelphia, Aug. 6.—Hundreds of war cripples throughout the country are registering serious complaints against the ineffectual results obtained by the federal board for vocational education, the government agency by congress with the responsibility of re-training disabled soldiers for lives of usefulness, according to a statement, today, by the Association for Disabled Soldiers, Sailors and Marines.

Cases of wounded soldiers who have been made to suffer untold delay in justice and actual hardship because of the faulty administration of the federal board, are said to have come to the attention of the association, which is an organization of over 5,000 disabled ex-service men bent on getting a square deal for themselves and for the thousands of their fellows who are badly in need of encouragement and constructive assistance.

The federal board for vocational education, with headquarters at Washington, is under the chairmanship of

WHEAT DICTUM SETS GRAIN PIT WILDLY BUYING

Unloading Tuesday Followed by Scramble to Purchase Again

Chicago, Aug. 6.—Scenes of wildest excitement prevailed again, today, at the board of trade, where corn prices jumped up ten cents a bushel after having suffered an equal drop Tuesday. Rushes to sell Tuesday were almost surpassed in the wild scramble to purchase, today. Even in the hectic days of the war ten cent fluctuations in grain in a single day were rare.

All transactions on exchange here, today, turned on the news from Washington that the government, contrary to the outlook Tuesday, would not adopt sacrifice selling of wheat as a means of attacking the prevalent high cost of living. The decision, although unexpected on the board of trade and notwithstanding the giant rebound in corn prices which resulted did not elicit much, if any unfavorable comment.

At most, the cut in four prices which would have been the consequence of the government sacrifice of wheat, was popularly estimated at \$2 a barrel. The actual cut of \$1 a barrel that was announced simultaneously with the decision to maintain the guaranteed price on wheat appeared to be virtually ignored, today, as a market factor.

According to one authority, the comparative indifference with which the \$1 a barrel cut in flour prices was received here grew out of the fact that the average per capita consumption of flour is but one barrel a year and meant next to nothing in the cost of bread per loaf.

RADIOGRAPHY REVOLUTIONIZED.

San Diego, Aug. 6.—As result of discoveries at a little experimental station on a barge unnoticed for the past two months in San Diego bay, radiography which transmits thru the earth and water instead of the air, will be revolutionized according to announcement made here today by Lieutenant R. A. Morton, of the navy radio laboratory, who has conducted the experiments.

HIGH SHOE PRICES HELD DUE TO EXCESSIVE PROFIT GRAB ALL ALONG THE LINE

Washington, Aug. 6.—The high price of shoes was declared to be due to excessive profits taken by every factor in the shoe production industry, in a report by the federal trade commission to congress, made public today. The packers are charged with having begun to pyramid shoe prices by an unwarranted increase in the price of hides, the supply of which they controlled. The tanners have taken "exceptional profits," while the shoe manufacturers have demanded an "unusual margin," and the retailers have charged prices that are "not justifiable," the report asserted.

The commission's report covers the four year period from 1914 to 1918. To show that the packers have made unwarranted increases in the price of hides, the report pointed out that the price differential between their hides and "country" hides—hides of a lower grade—has increased "far beyond the usual proportion." Charges of excessive profits against the tanner and the shoe manufacturer were said to be caused by "the high rates of return on investments" in both industries, following the price increase.

"The public," said the report, "had to pay prices for shoes that not only could not be justified because shoe retail dealers took too much profit, but because the dealer had to pass on to the consumer the excessive profits received by butchers for hides and also the excessive profits of tanners and shoe manufacturers."

"Some relief from the intolerable prices paid by consumers for shoes may be had," the commission said.

"1.—By a rigorous enforcement of the laws in control on commodities.

"2.—Legislation forbidding producers of hides engaging in the tanning business.

"3.—The adoption of distribution of literature that will acquaint the consumer with the selling prices of the manufacturer.

Holds Up Girl Cashier With Nitric Acid; Gets \$140 in View of Crowd

Seaside, Ore., Aug. 6.—While hundreds of persons strolled in the main street here, last night, a robber appeared at the box office of the chief moving picture theater of Seaside, and commanded Miss Helen Callahan, the cashier, to hand over the day's receipts, which she had just checked up. He held over her head a bottle which he said contained nitric acid and threatened to throw it into her eyes if she did not comply.

The robber secured one money bag containing \$140 and escaped.

Murder Is Indicated in Finding of Body of Rancher-Prospector

Lewistown, Aug. 6.—Sheriff J. H. Stephens and other officers left here, at midnight, in response to a telephone call stating that the body of William Flanigan had been found a few miles from Gillette and that he had probably been murdered. Flanigan was an old-time prospector and miner and of late years had been engaged in ranching.