

Freezing Tonight (Full Report on Page Two)

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WASHINGTON, SUNDAY EVENING, MARCH 18, 1917.

PRICE ONE CENT.

BOTH FACTIONS FIRM AS WEEK OF STRIKE ENDS

Car Men in Spectacular Parade, Followed by Mass Meeting of Sympathizers.

PREPARE FOR LONG SIEGE

Each Side Adopts More Stringent Measures, Predicting Ultimate Victory.

A spectacular parade of the strikers and their sympathizers this afternoon, followed by a mass meeting, marked the end of the first week of the strike on the Washington Railway and Electric lines.

Each side is predicting ultimate victory and today prepared for a prolongation of the struggle by the adoption of more stringent measures.

The men will fight to the last ditch and will have organized labor behind them," said George A. Wilbur, president of the car men's union.

Epitomize Attitude. Those statements epitomize the attitude of each side.

Speakers on the program at the mass meeting included Secretary of Labor Wilson, Congressman Nolan of California, Congressman Gallivan of Massachusetts, Secretary Frank Morrison, of the American Federation of Labor, Samuel De Nedrey, and Hugh Digney, of the Central Labor Union, and Col. Robert E. Mattingly, of the District bar.

The parade, which was headed by Caldwell's band, started from Sixth and G streets northwest, where the strikers began to assemble shortly before 2 o'clock.

Major Pullman took precautions to avert any disturbances along the line of march, and extra policemen were detailed for that purpose.

Strike leaders cautioned the men to be orderly and provoke no trouble. Instructions were given just before the parade started.

The result of the conference between the union committee and the traction company officials, including George E. Hamilton, president, and J. H. Hanna, general manager, will be presented to the employees at a meeting tomorrow forenoon at Typographical Temple.

Secretary surrounds the proposed agreement, but the best information is that the company has agreed to shorten the ten-year period now required to reach the maximum wage scale, which is now 27 cents an hour.

The committee representing the employees comprises J. H. Cookman, W. B. Pollitt, and William Meyerhoffer. They are silent as to the terms offered by the traction company heads.

Despite the rejection of their offer to the board of directors of the Washington Railway and Electric Company to act as mediators, the District Commissioners have not desisted of being able to find some means of bringing an end to the strike.

Commissioner Newman will receive representatives of the strikers tomorrow and listen to their plans for cooperating with the strikers and extending aid to their families.

Home gardens will be the chief topic at a meeting of the executive board of the Community Workers' Conference at the Wilson Normal School at 7:30 o'clock tomorrow night.

Other subjects to be discussed, that they may be reported on to the entire meeting of the Parents' League Wednesday, include whether the community school will be continued after the Easter holidays, whether to form a separate branch for the community work, and a report of the auditing committee.

Miss Susan E. Sipe, director of garden work in the public schools, will give a stereopticon lecture on garden work Wednesday. Prior to the lecture, Mrs. Ida M. Kebler, president of the Parents' League of the Third Division, will answer any questions regarding home gardens in room 25 of the Wilson Normal School.

Stephen E. Kramer, assistant superintendent of schools, will conduct a question box after Miss Sipe's talk.

CAT THEFT NO CRIME, COURT HOLDS

PITTSBURGH, March 17.—It is not a crime to steal a cat in Pennsylvania, according to the decision of Judge Henry C. Quigley.

His decision was given on a motion to quash an indictment against Charles E. Ryan, of Carnegie, charging him with the larceny of two 500 Persian felines from the cattery of Miss Hattie Gels.

Ryan's attorney contended that cats were not subjects of larceny of common law, and have not been made such by statute, and Judge Quigley upheld him.

The quashing of the indictment did not mean freedom for Ryan, for he has been charged with entering a building in connection with the theft of the cats.

WILL MOBILIZE GARDEN FORCES

Conference Seeks to Concentrate Efforts for a Wide-spread Movement.

Gardening enthusiasts will be busy people during the present week. Final attempts will be made to correlate all the different bodies in Washington into one large organization, competent to direct and control the different phases of Washington's gardens during the summer.

A conference has been called for all those interested in gardening to be held in the office of Miss Anne Heers, supervising principal of the eighth division, at the Jefferson school next Friday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock.

Speakers will be E. L. Thurston, superintendent of schools; O. H. Benson, of the Department of Agriculture, and Mrs. Giles Scott Rafter, who called the conference.

Trade Bodies Invited. Heads of Washington's three trade bodies, representatives of the Federation of Citizens' Associations, and officers of various other associations have been invited.

The Times has just received the report of the garden-enthusiast last summer by Charles Wood, age 15, at 7133 Seventh street northwest. This little fellow, on a plot of ground including only fifty-two square rods, was able to make a net profit of \$90.49 in addition to supplying his family with vegetables for the entire summer.

The cost of this garden was \$24.55, divided as follows: Preparation of seed bed, \$3; cost of seed or plants, \$2.55; cost of manure and commercial fertilizers, \$3; cost of cultivation, labor, \$12; cost of gathering vegetables, fruit, etc., \$2.

Charles' Own Story. Following is the story of the garden, as told by Charles Wood.

"Due to the cold season, I did not get my garden plowed until May 1. On that day I planted potatoes and peas, and on the following day string beans, beets and radishes. By May 14 I had planted lettuce, tomatoes, peppers, egg plants, string beans, corn, and okra. On May 25 I planted some Swiss chard, and also ate my first radishes. On May 27 I planted one row of cabbage. I planted my second lot of corn on July 1, and by that time I had eaten entire beets, string beans, peas, and lettuce for over a week. July 3 I ate my first new potatoes, and by July 28 I had planted five rows of corn, five rows of black-eyed peas, and one row each of beets and carrots, and had also eaten my first okra and lima beans and tomatoes and egg plants. By September 8, I had planted three rows of cabbage, 100 celery plants, kale (which was sown broadcast), two rows of spinach, 1 1/2 rows of first late beets and carrots on September 18.

Had His Troubles, Too. "This year my eggs puffed blighted very badly, and the insects ate up all my cucumber vines, and I also had quite a bit of trouble with potato bugs.

My total expense was \$24.55, and the value of my vegetables, including fresh and canned, and the things I put away for the winter amounted to \$114.84, leaving me a profit of \$90.49. I am still eating fresh vegetables, and hope to continue doing it for quite a time yet."

WILL DISCUSS GARDENS

Community Workers to Prepare Report to Parents.

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MAY FALL BACK TO 'HINDENBURG' DEFENSE LINE

London Believes Germans Will Make Next Stand Far to Rear.

FATE THERE IS DOUBTFUL

British Splendidly Equipped and Able to Follow Up Fighting Front.

(Special Cable to The Times) By J. C. WELLIVER.

LONDON, March 18.—It makes not the slightest difference to the British what explanation Germany makes of the capture of Bapaume. It is considered as capping the climax in trench warfare and opening the way to greater and more active maneuvers of the British army in the open country beyond.

There is reason to believe that the Germans know they cannot hold out in any position save in what is known as the "Hindenburg line," extending from Douai through Cambrai and St. Quentin to the fortress of La Fere, nearly 100 miles long and roughly twenty-five miles back of the present line. Whether even this strongly fortified line can withstand steady pressure is open to doubt.

Success might become a real retreat. Throughout the past ten days of warfare it has become plainer that the British were outmaneuvering the Germans. Wherever the Germans made a stand the British pushed harder on each side, placing the opponents in an untenable position. Wounded men returning from the front declare that conditions everywhere in the path of the retreating Germans show that they are pressed so hard that they had no time to complete the wrecking of their defenses which they had planned to hold from the British until their defenses further to the rear had been perfected.

The fall of Bapaume had been so long anticipated that it has aroused little enthusiasm in London. But officers on leave agree that the British wedge is bound to have a tremendous effect on the German troops attempting to hold back the wings. By abandoning Le Transloy and Achiet-Petit the Germans proved that they knew their troops on the two wings could not hold out against the slaughtering fire which was bound to follow.

Organization is Superb. Army circles are speaking with the highest praise of the British organization back of the fighting lines. The extreme difficulty of bringing up the heavy guns and keeping up supplies of ammunition to keep pace with the advance is being met.

When the teacher left the room to go to lunch, following the general order of the principal, she locked her door. During her absence someone climbed through the transom and tore the picture of the Kaiser to bits, flinging them on the floor. Young Roper denied knowledge of this. She then turned the dial up with the principal, Emory Wilson, meanwhile by teachers. He sent a note to Miss Siebert advising her to remove the picture. She received the note before she discovered the destruction of her picture. Only when she went to remove the picture did she discover its absence, she stated. This led to inquiry.

"Act of Young Children." "I look on the act as one of young children," stated Miss Siebert today. Miss Siebert was born in Germany of naturalized American parents. She came to this country when young, but revisited Germany, where friends of the family lived, during vacations.

She was in Germany when the war started, and her passage to this country was delayed. She arrived in New York the day school opened here. Several days later she reported for duty.

Superintendent of Schools Thurston is noncommittal on the subject, merely stating that the "matter will be investigated."

Hotel Murder Baffles Police Unable to Find Any Clue in Woman's Death.

NEW YORK, March 18.—The police were without clues today in the murder of Mrs. Harry J. Helair at the Hotel Martingale.

Mrs. Helair, who had registered under the assumed name of "Florence Grey, Boston," was found, clad only in a nightgown, strangled to death in a room at the hotel.

A purse, containing 61 cents, was found, but jewelry valued at \$2,000 was missing. Only her wedding ring and a trinket of slight value were left.

A niece, who lived with the Helairs, said Mrs. Helair left home after a mysterious telephone call from a man.

Envoy Under Knife. Physicians attending Dr. Alberto Membruno, minister to the United States from Honduras, who is ill at the Episcopal Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, announced this morning that the envoy's condition was serious and that an operation would be performed this afternoon. Dr. Membruno has been suffering from ear trouble for several weeks, it is stated.

Orders Arrest of Daughter. NORRISTOWN, Pa., March 18.—The police at Elkton, Md., were notified by Norristown police to arrest as runaway Elsie Eddy, who left her home in Norristown yesterday, according to her father, who believes she has eloped.

\$1,000,000 SACHEL UNGUARDED IN CAR

Funeral Party Thought Dead Woman's Suitcase Only Contained Clothing.

CHICAGO, March 18.—An ordinary suitcase, supposed to contain clothing, but in reality holding \$1,000,000 in currency, certified checks, and jewels, traveled from Aiken, S. C., to Chicago unguarded in a baggage car.

The bag, the property of Mrs. J. K. Stewart, widow of the founder of the Stewart Warner Speedometer Company, who died at Aiken, Monday, was checked without being opened by the funeral party which brought her body to Chicago.

When opened at the bank currency totaling \$690,000 and \$296,000 in certified checks, and valuable jewelry rolled out. The money is in \$5,000 and \$10,000 bills.

ROPER INCIDENT 'A CHILD'S ACT'

German Teacher So Describes Destruction of Picture of the Kaiser.

"I look upon the act of destroying the picture of the Kaiser I was using in class room work as an illustration as the act of a very young child."

This was the statement today of Miss Marie Siebert, a teacher of German in Central High School, in discussing the destruction of a picture of the Kaiser which had been posted on a bulletin board in her room.

Harry Roper, fifteen-year-old son of Daniel C. Roper, recently nominated to serve on the tariff commission, today declared: "I am an American. This is a time when every speck of patriotism should be used. I took an active part in the destruction of the picture of the Kaiser, although not actually destroying it."

Mother Defends Boy. "Harry is able to take care of himself in this matter," declared Mrs. Roper, mother of the boy, today. "He is a true American and intensely patriotic, as we all here are. I will have nothing to do with it."

The picture in question was one of a group of three, two of the Kaiser and one of the royal family, which, Miss Siebert stated, she had clipped from a magazine to use as an illustration in a German lesson.

On Wednesday of this week Roper removed a picture of the Kaiser and put it behind the board. The next day it was replaced by Miss Siebert, who stated that she thought some one had removed it to secure the tack with which it was held in place. Roper then turned all the pictures face to the wall.

All but one picture of the Kaiser was then taken down by the teacher. Declarations of students against the picture were heard throughout the school, it is said by some teachers. There, Miss Siebert today stated that she had heard nothing of it.

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MYSTERY VEILS TRAGIC CAUSE OF HETH KILLING

People of Town Avoid Discussion of Shooting By Professor.

WAIT FOR LAW'S DECREE

Both Families Are Highly Respected in Blue Ridge Section.

By B. M. McKEELWAY.

BLACKSBURG, Va., March 18.—The profound and solemn influence which has descended upon the "small town" life of this little community since the shooting last Tuesday morning of Stockton Heth, Jr., in the home of Prof. Charles E. Vawter, dean of the department of physics at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and the subsequent death of Heth in a Roanoke hospital, is strikingly evident in the complete change in the social life of friends and neighbors of the principals in the tragedy.

There has been an unspoken, though none the less certain, agreement among the people here to maintain comparative silence on the case.

There is a total absence of the gossip that usually follows such occurrences.

There is yet no attempt to place blame, for the full facts are unknown, and each side in the tragedy stands high in public estimation. The people are waiting for developments under the searchlight of the law, feeling sure that justice will be done without the influence of premature discussion.

Situation is Tense. It is a tense and uncomfortable situation in which the folks here are finding themselves. There is but one thing in their minds as they meet upon the streets, in the stores, or wherever business throws them together. Friends who, without reserve, have been used to planning into topics of the day, find themselves facing each other in strained silence, groping for a word that will pass for conversation, and studiously avoiding the topic that is uppermost in all minds.

There has been a marked curtailment in social affairs, a sort of mourning period either for the dead or for the plot in which the Vawter family has been placed, or for both. Club meetings have been postponed, grocer discussions, and it is quite likely that only the most guarded comments are exchanged in the privacy of homes.

Practically the entire population of this little town was acquainted with the Heths and the Vawters. The Heth family is one of the oldest in the Blue Ridge section.

(Continued on Second Page.)

ASKS LAW TO BAN CORSETS

Woman Says They Are Greater Evil Than Whisky or White Plague.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 18.—Of three evils—the corset, white plague and whisky—the corset is the greatest.

That is the declaration of Mrs. Anna Lee, who has drafted for introduction in the Indiana legislature a bill prohibiting the manufacture of corsets.

"There is more tuberculosis in children of corset deformed mothers than in whisky drinking fathers," she declared. "Intoxicants have been in general use for centuries; tubercular children were never known until the corset was invented. Thousands of deformed children are the result of the wearing of corsets by mothers."

Mrs. Lee says she has made a twenty-year study of the evils of the corset. She believes the time will come when restriction of the waist will be prohibited in every degree, and the corset bill is only the first step in her fight, she says.

WRECKED FAMILY UNITED

After Eight Years Separation Meet in Railway Station.

ST. LOUIS, March 18.—Separated eight years ago, in a shipwreck, Herman Jacobs, thirty-seven, and his wife and child have been reunited by accident at a meeting in the union station here.

The Jacobses were married in Germany ten years ago. They started for America when their baby was a year old. Their ship was wrecked. The wife and baby went away in one life-boat and Jacobs in another. They never met again and each thought the other lost.

Entering the union station, Jacobs saw a little girl standing near the candy stand gazing wistfully at the array of sweets. He bought her a sack of candy and was putting it in her hand when a woman rushed up. "Herman!" she shouted, and threw herself into his arms.

TO KEEP UP RELIEF WORK

Queen Wilhelmina Accedes to King Alfonso's Request.

THE HAGUE, March 18.—Queen Wilhelmina of Holland has acceded to the request of King Alfonso of Spain to cooperate in continuing the Belgian relief work in the event of war between Germany and America, according to the Cologne Gazette. It was stated the Queen has already directed a number of Dutch students to prepare to replace American relief workers.

"SURE CURE" PLANS SENT TO WILSON

Sure cures for strikes, wars and all the ills to which governments are heir to can be found in a small Ohio town, according to advices to the White House today.

Among the almost countless letters and telegrams that the President has been receiving daily, beseeching his earnest efforts to prevent a strike, the cream of suggestions came hot over the wire from the proprietor of a cigar store in an Ohio town.

The telegram said: "Would advise you come here and spend day with me in store. A hundred sure ways to settle railroad strikes and European war sprung here every twenty-four hours. You would render great service to us by getting some ideas here."

Up to 1 o'clock today, owing to a lack of notification that the strike had been deferred for forty-eight hours, the striking freight men had not returned to work, and as a result, no freight cars were moved on the Baltimore and Ohio tracks in or about this city. Passenger traffic has not been affected in any way, officials of the road stated.

An official of the railroad said that the entire system from Washington to New York was affected in a similar way because the workmen had not been notified officially that the hour to strike had been deferred.

Systems Not Affected. As yet the Pennsylvania and Southern freight systems here have not been affected, the men on both these lines having received notification that the strike had been postponed, pending further negotiations between their leaders and the mediators.

Men in the local freight department of the Pennsylvania railroad here do not work on Sundays. On the Southern system, officials said, there had been no cessation of movement.

From fifty to seventy-five handlers of freight, trainmen, and other employees quit work in the local yards of the Baltimore and Ohio at the hour fixed for the strike.

By 7:10 p. m. overalls and tools were bundled up and the men were on their way home, firmly convinced that the strike was on, and evidently determined not to be dissuaded from striking by unofficial reports.

Shown Suspicion. When informed that the order had gone out from their leaders that the strike had been postponed for forty-eight hours, the workers showed suspicion, and said that they would await official notification before they returned to work.

At noon they were still awaiting this notification. Members of the union said they were expecting to be notified to return to work at any minute and would do so without delay as soon as the orders from their leaders came.

Officials in charge of the Baltimore and Ohio freight yards were positive in their assertions that the walkout caused but little or no inconvenience. They explained that every effort had been directed by them to getting all freight off before the hour set for the strike, and had succeeded well in this direction. Ordinarily between two and five freight trains leave Washington on Sundays and as many arrive. Besides these departures and arrivals the workmen are ordinarily employed on Sundays in making up trains for the conveyance of other freight.

B. & O. MEN TO RETURN

But Action is Taken Only After Wild Demonstration.

BALTIMORE, March 18.—Scene of wild enthusiasm, intermingled with shouts and cries of "If you have gone on strike, stay out," marked the mass meeting of striking railroad men this morning at Moose Hall, when the leaders endeavored to persuade the employees of the Baltimore and Ohio, who were called out on strike last night, to return to work.

Hats and coats were thrown in the air, and the voices of the speakers, as they pleaded with the men to place their faith in the leaders of the strike, were drowned by the shouts of the striking railroad men. When the demonstration had spent itself, Representative Harry B. Hall, of the Grand Lodge of the Brotherhood of Railroad Firemen, who came from New York especially to attend the meeting, made his way to the front of the stage, and appealed to the men. His words were effective and word was sent out for the men to return to work.

Before the meeting today, W. G. Stone, spokesman for the brotherhood, declared that if an agreement were not reached by tomorrow afternoon the strike would begin at 7 o'clock.

"We are reasonable men," said Mr. Stone, "and when the President's advisers came here and asked us for time to permit them to work out their plans, as reasonable men we granted the request."

The decision to postpone the strike for forty-eight hours was reached after three of the President's mediators—Secretary of the Interior Lane,

RAILWAY CRISIS PROLONGED BY LACK OF SLEEP

Brotherhood Chiefs' Desire for Rest Causes Postponement of Meeting.

CONFERENCE LATER TODAY

Secretary Lane Hopeful That Truce Will Be Followed By Supreme Court Decision.

NEW YORK, March 18.—The question of a nation-wide railroad strike is still undecided this afternoon.

The conference at the Hotel Baltimore, set for 10 o'clock, did not begin until 10:30. At that hour the members of the railroad managers' committee arrived and met Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior; William B. Wilson, Secretary of Labor; Daniel Willard, president of the Baltimore and Ohio, and Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, who comprise President Wilson's committee of national defense, appointed to mediate between the opposing factions.

The conference was ready to go into session when word was received from the brotherhood chiefs that they had been up the greater part of the night and would not be able to join the conference before 2 o'clock.

Lane Quite Hopeful. Secretary Lane seemed to be hopeful of a settlement. He pointed out that the forty-eight-hour truce would allow time for a decision on the Adamson law by the United States Supreme Court. While he would not commit himself to any prediction, he gave the impression that the two sides will reach an amicable settlement.

Mr. Gompers was optimistic. He explained that he had received no word of his appointment to the committee until yesterday, when he hastened from Atlantic City to New York and reported to Secretary Lane last night.

When asked what would happen if Governor Whitman and executives of other states followed out their threat to run trains with national guardsmen in case of a strike, he had no answer to make, nor would the others comment on this phase of the situation.

The failure of the brotherhood chiefs to appear in time was a disappointment to the railroad managers and the mediation committee.

Walkouts Cause Trouble. It was pointed out that the chiefs faced a number of difficulties owing to premature walkouts in various cities throughout the country.

Particularly disturbing to the brotherhood chiefs was the action of the trainmen in Baltimore, who walked out last night and refused to go back on any of the Baltimore and Ohio lines in spite of orders from New York headquarters.

At 1 o'clock this morning Vice President George H. Sines, of the trainmen, left this city for Baltimore with instructions from the four grand chiefs. His departure followed the departure from Washington of Vice President Doak, of the trainmen; Vice President Clarke, of the conductors, and Vice President McNamara, of the firemen, who went from Washington to urge the men to return to work.

It was said here by Baltimore and Ohio officials that the strikers refused to handle freight or passenger trains, thus disregarding the brotherhood pledge to President Wilson that passenger traffic would not be interfered with until five days after the beginning of a freight strike.

Curious Through Hotel

At 10 o'clock the Baltimore was the scene of unusual activity, knowledge that the big strike issue might be decided attracting hundreds of the curious.

As in yesterday's session the conference occupied three suites. The nineteen members of the National Conference Committee of the Railroads were cloistered in one room, the four Brotherhood chiefs in another, and the committee from President Wilson in a third.

As various plans were discussed they were passed back and forth and then laid before the mediators.

Optimism was in evidence this morning and Brotherhood leaders expressed regret that in some sections the strike had begun, owing to failure to receive notice of the decision to postpone the walkout.

Need Complex Problem. The situation confronting the conference was a complex one, for they were faced with the necessity of formulating an agreement as to what action to take provided the United States Supreme Court should decide the Adamson law to be unconstitutional.

The railroads expect to gain much if the law is declared invalid. The brotherhoods asserted that, no matter what the decision, it will have no effect on their demands.

In other words, the brotherhoods insist that the railroads concede what they ask, no matter what happens. The railroads balk at this and rather look to the Supreme Court decision before making any further concessions.

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