

RAILROAD STRIKE MAY BEGIN THIS WEEK

Hunger May Bring War in Europe to an Early Close

For the Active Development of Idaho

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SATURDAY SET FOR BEGINNING OF STRIKE BY BROTHERHOODS

If the Conference Fails to Reach an Agreement the Men Will Be Called Out This Week and Next, the Managers Are Informed.

PLAN PROGRESSIVE SERIES OF STRIKES

Made Clear That in Event of Hostilities the Men Will Remain Loyal to the Government and Offer Their Services.

New York, March 13.—The national conference committee, composed of railroad managers, has received information indicating that the brotherhoods are planning a progressive series of strikes, beginning Saturday night, if the conference fails to reach an agreement.

According to the program freight trainmen on seven Atlantic and northeastern lines will strike Saturday, freightmen on eight southeastern roads Monday, freightmen on the northwestern group, including the Hill roads, Tuesday, and all other freightmen and all passengermen, Wednesday, if no agreement is reached.

BOARD OF MEDIATION TO HAVE AGREEMENT REACHED

Washington, March 13.—The United States board of mediation and conciliation, which failed to prevent an open breach between the big four brotherhoods and the railroads last April, will make a final effort to have an agreement reached in the present recurrence of the controversy, the United Press learned today.

Commissioners of the board are viewing with the utmost anxiety the recrudescence of the rail strike. Just what form the "final effort" will take is not disclosed, but presumably it will consist of the customary offer of good offices.

It is recalled, however, that when the railroads called in the board to assist in the settlement last spring the four brotherhoods, although nominally accepting the board's offices, refused ultimately to accede to any conciliatory suggestions.

NO STRIKE IF THERE IS WAR

President Wilson today was informed by the four big railroad brotherhood leaders that in case of war no strike will be called on the great railroad system of the country.

In a letter from the brotherhoods and which reached the White House today, every assurance was given that railroad trainmen will "stand by the president" in event of actual hostilities.

The brotherhood letter dated March 7 and sent to the president from Cleveland, reads:

"We feel obligated to officially advise you of our intention to again meet the conference committee of the railroads on March 15 for the purpose of making another effort to adjust the pending eight-hour controversy.

"We are very hopeful of working out a satisfactory adjustment with the railroads, but if, while we are negotiating our country should become involved in war, we want to assure you, as chief executive of the nation, that we and the membership we represent can be relied upon to support you to the fullest extent and that yourself and the nation will have our hearty and full support."

The letter is signed by L. E. Shepard, W. G. Lee, W. S. Stone and W. S. Carter, representing the four branches of the great brotherhoods.

No promise was made, however, that

MANY SUBMARINES LOST BY GERMANY IN NEW CAMPAIGN

American Experts of the Opinion That the Kaiser Will Be Forced to Give Up the Use of U-Boat as Weapon.

Washington, March 13.—About 60 German submarines were captured and destroyed between Jan. 1 and Feb. 15, according to reports reaching here today, the first authoritative word of the entente success in coping with the undersea boats.

At this rate—an average of one and one-half submarines a day—the success of the German submarines in the long run is doubtful, it is believed here. No information is available here as to the number of U-boats Germany has, though unofficial reports have claimed that she had from 300 to 500.

Experts think, however, that if the entente can continue at the rate shown between Jan. 1 and Feb. 15 and can improve thereon, Germany will soon feel the strain upon this weapon, and that ultimately she will be forced to give up its use.

BRIAND NOW FORCES TEST OF STRENGTH IN FRENCH CHAMBER

Paris, March 13.—Premier Briand faced his crucial test of strength in the chamber of deputies today and the general belief was that the session would be marked by announcement of a reorganized cabinet.

The situation proceeds from a strange anomaly whereby the government, theoretically, with majority in both chambers, is actually unable to make headway because of lack of support in the committees of the houses. The most recent vote of confidence which the Briand cabinet obtained showed 200 opposition members not voting.

CENSUS BEING TAKEN BY GERMAN AGENTS

New York, March 13.—According to statements today of government agents working here on German plots, the German government has agents taking a census of German-Americans in this country. The information is said to come from two American agents who worked for Germany as supposed spies.

Agents of the department of justice, it became known, have several of these census takers under surveillance and are working in close co-operation with the departments of state and war at Washington. Steps to intern these men, it is believed, would be taken immediately should hostilities come.

SERIOUS FIRE IN BUSINESS SECTION OF LOS ANGELES

Los Angeles, March 13.—Fire, originating in a shampoo parlor in the basement of the Wilson building, for a time today threatened the destruction of all buildings on the west side of Broadway between Fourth and Fifth streets. Every fire company in the city is fighting the blaze, which threatens to extend to the Occidental hotel annex. Twenty women were rescued from the annex by firemen.

A defective gas cock caused the fire, according to the police. In this explosion a Japanese engaged in cleaning the shampoo parlor was probably fatally hurt.

After the fire was apparently under control it gained headway again and threatened to spread to buildings of Hill street. The Broadway department store and all other establishments in the wire-swept block were closed by the police.

BERNSTORFF TELLS HOW UNITED STATES GOT INSTRUCTIONS

Copenhagen, March 13.—Count von Bernstorff prepared a statement regarding Germany's deals with Mexico after arriving here and forwarded it to Berlin. It is understood he tells how Zimmermann's instructions were obtained by Americans.

DISAPPROVE ACTION TAKEN BY THE CZAR

London, March 13.—In the view of British observers, the czar has taken an unusually drastic step in proroguing sessions of the duma and of the imperial council in order to deal with food demonstrations which, according to unusually detailed reports, have not been of any marked degree of seriousness.

The Telegraph commented today that it was to be regretted that such action had been taken, since it was remarked heretofore that the duma constituted the "safety valve" of public feeling; its sessions periods of sunshine, and the days of its prorogation periods of eclipse.

Senate Leader Who "Gets Things Done"



Senator Martin.

Washington, March 13.—Senator Martin of Virginia, who has been chosen Democratic leader of the upper house to succeed John W. Kern of Indiana, held this office previous to the election of Senator Kern, when the Virginia member became chairman of the powerful appropriations committee. Senator Martin has been a member of the senate for 22 years, and only one other Democrat, Senator Tillman of South Carolina, has had as long a continuous service in the senate.

COLOMBIAN TREATY AGAIN REPORTED BY SENATE COMMITTEE

Washington, March 13.—The Colombian treaty, modified in two particulars, but with the sum to be paid Colombia left at \$25,000,000, was again reported by the senate foreign relations committee today. It will go to the senate formally tomorrow.

That phrase in the document which expressed regret by this government over differences between the governments, was changed so as to read that both governments regret the differences.

A phrase also was added emphasizing that nothing in the treaty shall be held to cast any doubt about the title of the United States to the Panama canal zone.

When the treaty is reported tomorrow the senate is to be told the president "has information which makes ratification imperative at this time."

STRIKE ORDERS IN HANDS OF THE BROTHERHOOD MEN

Bellevue, O., March 13.—Strike orders calling for a strike on the Nickel Plate railroad have been printed and are in the hands of brotherhood men, it became known definitely here today. This is a division point of the Nickel Plate. The order calls for a strike at 6 o'clock Saturday night.

CHINA TO FORMALLY ANNOUNCE BREAKING OFF OF RELATIONS

Peking, March 13.—The Chinese government was expected to formally announce China's break in diplomatic relations with Germany today.

WINTER WHEAT SAVED BY SNOW AND RAIN OVER MIDDLE WEST

Farmers of the Mississippi and Missouri Valleys Are Happy Because of Breaking of Long Dry Spell.

WORLD LOOKING TO AMERICA FOR FOOD

Wheat Belt of the United States Needed to Solve the Bread Problem Caused by War and World Shortage.

Chicago, March 13.—Snow and rain last night and today through the winter wheat belt saved the winter wheat crop from what seemed certain ruin. They broke a drought that had lasted nearly all winter. Some damage was done to wheat, but the snowfall means millions to the American farmer. Precipitation was general throughout the Mississippi and Missouri valleys.

The North American continent must provide the world with the major part of its bread in 1917-18. Wires to the great grain houses in Chicago and official information from Washington indicate a general shortage of wheat all over the world. The crops just harvested from the southern half of the world have been disappointing.

European crops are shortened by the invasion of the fields by armies and a serious shortage of man-power. The wheat belt of the United States is looked to for the solution of the bread problem. The United Press, through its correspondents today secured the statements of conditions from the main grain states.

There are reasons to believe that Germany will exercise every precaution against sinking an armed American merchant ship without first complying with every stipulation of international law demanded by this government.

By July, it is believed that success or failure of the U-boat will have been determined.

NEW LEASE ON LIFE TO KANSAS FARMERS

Kansas City, March 13.—Kansas wheat took a new lease on life today, following snow and rain which continued today. Farmers believe that the drought in the southwest is definitely broken.

Reports from Hutchinson, Kan., state that rain fell throughout the southwestern wheat belt last night.

Not only does this rain put new life into the wheat crop, but it will put the soil into good shape for spring planting.

SNOWSTORM HELPS NEBRASKA FARMERS

Lincoln, Neb., March 13.—A blanket of wet snow, bringing badly needed moisture to the wheat, covered practically the entire small grain section of Nebraska this morning. This, with the heavy sleet storm also general yesterday, ends the temporary anxiety of the farmers for the wheat outlook, which was regarded as serious. The past winter has been the driest in over a decade and with a dry, windy March the entire wheat crop of this region would have been ruined. With favorable conditions from now on, a normal crop may result, but at best the crop will not be above normal.

MISSOURI EXPERTS NOT OPTIMISTIC

St. Louis, March 13.—Crop experts are not optimistic over the crop outlook for the coming year. Prior to the general snowfall of yesterday and today, 68 per cent crop was the best that those conversant with conditions would predict. The timely moisture may bring the percentage up to 75. A decreased acreage in nearly all grains also is predicted.

DECIDED IMPETUS IN GRAIN FARMING

Madison, Wis., March 13.—A decided impetus in grain farming is in evidence in Wisconsin this year. More than 101,000 acres of winter wheat has been planted and from present indications, according to C. P. Norgard, agricultural commissioner, the crop will be 5 per cent above normal. This means a total crop of 1,616,000 bushels, or an increase of 55,000 bushels over average years.

WHEAT LOOKS GOOD IN THE DAKOTAS

St. Paul, March 13.—Winter wheat throughout the Dakotas and Minnesota looks excellent. Record snows, some places having received as much as five feet, protected winter wheat and has caused a very optimistic outlook.

FIGHTING NATIONS IN DISTRESS; END OF WAR FORESEEN

Washington, March 13.—A general peace move will be launched within three or four months, according to views of diplomats and officials today.

In the opinion of military men, government authorities and representatives of foreign powers here, there are many elements at work which are tending to bring the great world war to its closing stage.

These elements include an increasingly acute food situation in all the warring nations, particularly among the central powers; a growing unrest among the peoples as indicated by the dissatisfaction manifested toward the entente cabinets; possibility of any one of the principal nations breaking suddenly under the military strain; and growing belief that neither can achieve an overwhelming victory such as would force a strictly military peace.

THAW ADJUDGED INSANE; ESCAPES NEW YORK TRIAL

Philadelphia, March 13.—Harry K. Thaw won another victory in his long fight for freedom which started following the killing of Stanford White, when a lunacy commission declared him insane today.

The Pennsylvania sanity examination, held on petition of Thaw's mother, Mary Copella Thaw, apparently blocks return of Thaw to New York for trial on a charge of beating and mistreating Frederick Gump, Jr., of Kansas City.

TO CONTINUE FIGHT

New York authorities will continue their fight for extradition, however. Extradition was requested of Governor Brumbaugh when Thaw's attempted suicide revealed his presence in a rooming house here, while detectives were searching far and wide for him following his indictment in New York.

Mrs. Thaw refused to make any statement for publication following the decision. It was said at St. Mary's hospital, where she is staying with her son, that "Mrs. Thaw never gives out any statements."

A legal technicality may be raised as a result of today's proceedings. After the indictment Thaw fled to this state and is here adjudged insane.

FAMOUS AVIATOR OF GERMANY KILLED

Berlin, March 13.—(Wireless)—The well known German flyer, Hans Volmoller, was killed during a trial in an airplane, the official press bureau announced today.

In 1910 Volmoller distinguished himself as a constructor of a new airplane which held several records. His brother is the well known poet and author of Sumurun and the Miracle, staged in the United States.

Arrest of This Man Completes Evidence Against Dynamiters

One of the Men Suspected of Being in Conspiracy to Blow Up Munitions Plants.

New York, March 13.—With the arrest of Hans Schwartz the police of Hoboken, N. J., believe they have completed their chain of evidence against Fritz Kolb, the German reservist who is believed to have blown up American munitions factories and to have plotted the destruction of others.

Schwartz, who, like Kolb, is a chemist, admits he gave Kolb advice as to how to prepare explosives, but he denies complicity in any of the plots for which Kolb is being held.

CONGRESS ASKED TO TAKE OVER MINES

Madison, Wis., March 13.—The Wisconsin assembly today passed the Metcalf joint resolution memorializing congress to assume the ownership and operation of all coal mines in the United States. Recent high prices of coal prompted Metcalf to introduce the resolution.



Hans Schwartz.

GOVERNOR MAY VETO ALL THE APPROPRIATION BILLS IN TOTO

Extra Session of Legislature Will Be Called if It Is Found the Amounts Cannot Be Cut Down.

OUT OF ALL REASON DECLARES GOVERNOR

Chief Executive Asserts He Will Not Stand for Such Extravagance and He Will Find a Way to Avert Threatened Deficiencies.

Governor Alexander may veto in toto all appropriation bills passed by the Fourteenth Idaho legislature and call a session extraordinary. A definite decision will be reached when the chief executive has all the appropriation bills before him. If he cannot cut them down, or such a course is found inadvisable, he will veto them outright and convene an extra session for the express purpose of pruning the appropriation measures down to within the limitations of the state.

OVER FOUR MILLION

The appropriation bills passed by the legislature, reaching a grand total of over four million dollars, if allowed to stand, will, in the opinion of the governor, force upon Idaho the highest tax levy in the state's history and require the state to face a deficiency at the end of two years of three-quarters of a million dollars.

"The appropriations are out of reason, and if allowed to stand will bankrupt the state," said the governor. "The way it looks now the appropriations made for every state department from governor down will have to be severely cut. I have commenced to assemble the bills to ascertain what action lies within my power towards cutting them down. If this cannot be done, the only recourse I will have is an extra session of the legislature. I may have to veto the appropriation bills in toto."

GOVERNOR DETERMINED

"I will not stand for such large appropriations. I care not whether they come from a Democratic or a Republican legislature. I repeat they are out of all reason and if allowed to stand in their present form would bankrupt the state. They would also force upon the people one of the highest tax levies and then probably cause three-quarters of a million deficiency at the end of two years."

The governor is determined to use the veto axe all the way down the line. Until he has all of the bills assembled and a close study is made as to where the veto power can be the most judiciously exercised, the matter of convening the legislature in special session will wait. He is limited in his power of veto and when exercising it on an appropriation bill must veto each item in whole. He cannot veto an item in part. For this reason it may be found impossible.

(Continued on Page Five.)

THE WEATHER.

Forecast for Boise and vicinity—RAIN OR SNOW TONIGHT AND WEDNESDAY. Highest temperature yesterday, 34; lowest temperature this morning, 26; mean temperature yesterday, 25.

A rise in temperature in the northwest and British Columbia in the last 24 hours has been offset by lower temperature in the east and southern plateau and southern plains states.

Precipitation has occurred in the plains and southern plateau states and eastward to Tennessee as well as on the Pacific coast. The greatest amount reported, 1.34 inches, fell at Knoxville, Tenn.

Rain or snow is forecast for all sections of Idaho for tonight and tomorrow with higher temperature in the southeast portion tonight.

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