

PRESIDENT HAS TAKEN CONTROL OF RAILROADS

Proclamation Is Issued, to Take Effect Tomorrow

SECRETARY McADOO WILL HAVE CHARGE

Stock Exchange Market Is Strong as Result—Dividends Are Guaranteed on Stocks and Bonds.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—The market is strong, railroad shares showing a decided advance as the result of the government control announcement.

The advances ranged from 2 to 11½ points.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. (Special).—President Wilson announced last night that he will assume possession and operation of every railroad in the continental United States at noon Friday, December 28, and that he had appointed Secretary McAdoo Director-General of Railroads.

In a statement accompanying his proclamation the President announced that when Congress reassembled he would ask that definite guarantees be given that the railroad properties will be maintained in good repair and as complete equipment as when taken over, and that the net operating income in each case shall equal the average net operating income of the three years preceding June 30, 1917.

The railroads will be taken over under war authority already granted by Congress, through the Secretary of War.

Secretary McAdoo, whose appointment is made by formal proclamation, is expected to direct the unification and operation of the roads through their present managements. He will retain his place in the Cabinet as Secretary of the Treasury.

The President makes it clear that his decision was not made because of any failure on the part of the railroads to perform their whole duty insofar as they could while hampered as they were by legal restrictions.

"The committee of railroad executives," said his statement, have done the utmost that it was possible for them to do, but there were difficulties they neither could expect or neutralize. In mere fairness to them the full authority of the government must be subdued."

The plan of control as outlined in the proclamation is not extended as to details, but the general scheme appears to follow closely the British system. In England, however, the government freight is carried free and the guaranteed earnings require an enormous amount of money from the government funds, while in the United States the Government will pay for its freight as in the past and will stand its part of increased freight

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THE WEATHER

PORTLAND, Dec. 27.—The United States weather forecast: Rain.

FINANCIERS APPROVE THE PRESIDENT'S ACT

Best News in Years Is Verdict in New York

CONFIDENCE IS AT ONCE RESTORED

McAdoo's Choice as Railroad Dictator Is Approved—Editorial Comment Favorable.

NEW YORK, Dec. 27.—Financial America approved the Government operation of the railroads.

The stock exchange members say this is the best news in years.

Advances of the railroad stocks generally were maintained.

The move seems to have restored confidence to the whole list.

Financiers say the move is to stabilize monetary investment conditions.

Secretary McAdoo as dictator is universally approved.

Editorial comment approves the plans.

It is expected dining and club cars will be the next to get in work, getting the last ounce of efficiency from the roads.

A move has been started to curtail race horse transportation.

Theatrical companies may be forced to take regular trains.

McAdoo is to select a board of directors, including a railroad war board.

The Interstate Commerce Commission and other agencies are helping direct transportation.

A. B. Garretson, spokesman of the brotherhoods, says: "Labor is behind Wilson." He prophesied eventual federal ownership of the railroads. Officials confidentially admitted this was a possibility.

JOINT INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS IS HELD

A joint installation of officers of La Grande Lodge No. 41, A. F. & A. M., and Hope Chapter No. 13, Order of Eastern Star, last night, proved a very interesting and enjoyable event, attracting a large attendance. At the conclusion of the ceremonies light beered refreshments were served.

The Masonic officers were installed by Ed. E. Kiddle, as follows:

Robert S. Eakin, worshipful master.
John McEwin, senior warden.
C. M. Humphrey, junior warden.
Geo. S. Birnie, senior deacon.
Oscar Berger, junior deacon.
J. P. Bingham, senior steward.
W. W. Rhine, junior steward.
Chas. Noyes, Tyler.
Mrs. Dora B. Schilke, grand lecturer, installed the following officers of the Eastern Star:
Worthy matron—Sadie E. Green.
Worthy patron—C. M. Humphrey.
Associate matron—Florence Bacon.
Secretary—Mary Warnick.
Treasurer—Ella Russell.
Conductress—Cassie Glover.
Associate conductress—Hilda Humphrey.
Adsh—Ethel Wright.
Ruth—Floy Nelson.
Eather—Ora Serlhor.
Martha—Carrie I. Stoenkamp.
Electa—Nellie G. Neill.
Chaplain—Lula Berger.
Marshall—Ida M. Cherry.
Organist—Corra P. Oxner.
Warden—Mrs. Parker.
Sentinel—Oscar Berger.

RAILROAD DICTATOR OF THE UNITED STATES



Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo

SEC'Y BAKER HAS CONFIDENCE IN CROZIER

Also Expresses His Confidence in Quartermaster-General

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Secretary Baker expressed confidence in General Crozier, Quartermaster-General Sharpe and other officers concerned in the Senate military probe of war supplies.

He made it clear that these officers will remain until proven inefficient.

He admitted the war council will be the directing head of the war department and said that General Crozier and General Sharpe would bring the council experience in their own branches of the service.

McADOO WILL RETAIN HIS CABINET OFFICE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27. Secretary of Treasury McAdoo is to retain the treasuryship, calling upon practical railway men to aid in the work and allowing existing organizations to continue for the present. The railroads will receive compensation on the basis of their average three years' earnings ending June 30 last. Actual operation of the railroads begins January 1, avoiding confusion in accounting. This means reducing non-essential trains.

BOMB HURLED AT U. S. CONSULATE

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—It is announced a bomb was hurled at the American consulate at Odessa on December 18, which did considerable damage. The consul was away at the time.

Cable—Telephone line between McKinley and Coquille Valley completed.

IMBLER ELGIN COVE WIN THE COUNTY HONORS

IMBLER FINISHES RED CROSS DRIVE WITH 150 PER CENT TO GOOD

COVE'S REMARKABLE SHOWING IS 139 PERCENT

Union County Hit the Bull's Eye—Mr. Kiddle Silent But Effective—Neighborhood Club Wins Thanks—Women Workers of County Show Heroism.

Imbler and Cove stand out as the big precincts in Union county's part in the Red Cross membership drive. Imbler has come to the front with a per centage of 150 of its quota and Cove has the remarkable showing of 139 per cent.

Every Precinct Passes.

That Union county hit the bull's eye in the big drive is indicated by returns coming in to General Manager Kiddle which show that each precinct did its quota—some just did but nevertheless fulfilled the requirements. Many interesting races developed between towns and workers. Mrs. E. A. Bidwell, of Union, and Mrs. Stella Huron, of Imbler, are the queens of workers, each having about 200 members to their credit. This wonderful showing helped put their respective communities on the map in big letters. Not until everything is checked over will it be known just which one won the high honors of the entire county.

Neighborhood Club Sets Pace.

The Neighborhood Club of La Grande under the management of Mrs. George T. Cochran, showed the men how to canvass La Grande. In the many drives held here this far various purposes the city has never been given the systematic canvassing that Mrs. Cochran and her workers arranged this time. So complete was the program mapped and so faithfully carried into execution that virtually every home was called on. On the record the canvass was perfect too, many going back time and time again to catch families not at home at the first call.

"One of the big satisfactions of the whole affair has been the willingness and the vim displayed by the La Grande workers," declared General Manager Kiddle today. From the first the women took hold without coaxing, and they kept at it to the finish.

"As a matter of fact it was the women who largely put the whole county's work over. In many precincts the women did all the canvassing and while it rained and blew and going was hard they kept continually on the march. It was a magnificent piece of work for the county's female population to do."

Campaign Is Closed. In The campaign here is closed. In (Continued on Page 2.)

Elgin Makes a Wonderful Record

Elgin made a wonderful record in the Red Cross drive. With a quota of 300 the branch got 775 members, a record of 258 per cent.

DANCE FOR RED CROSS IS VOTED GREAT SUCCESS

GOOD MUSIC, LARGE ATTENDANCE, PATRIOTIC DECORATIONS IN EVIDENCE

MR AND MRS HAROLD GRADY MAKE GREAT HIT

Red Cross Nurses in White Add Picturesqueness—Dancing Continues Until 1:00 A. M.—Nickels Ratt In and Affair Is a Financial Success.

Here are some of the things that helped make the Red Cross dance an enjoyable affair at the Rex Hall last night:

A good floor; Sprightly, jazzy music, by a good orchestra; Fresh, patriotic decorations; Comely maids and matrons; Red Cross nurses in white; Good punch at the Red Cross booth; A fine list of patronesses who were actually present; A lot of dancing men; Alert and active floor managers; And Mr. and Mrs. Harold Grady with their exhibition of fancy dancing.

Every one pronounced at a real party and said they were glad to be there (and they really acted like it) and wondered when the next one would be.

Mr. and Mrs. Grady were very graceful in their dances and their numbers were voted a great hit. They first presented Russian dances to fascinating music, followed by a racy tango, "Nigger Blues," and later by modern society dances. Their grace and fancy steps were a revelation to all.

BIG FIVE HUNDRED RED CROSS BENEFIT

WILL BE HELD TOMORROW AFTERNOON AT MASONIC HALL

The Thursday Bridge Club Has the Party in Charge—All the Ladies of City Invited.

Everything is in readiness for the big Five Hundred Red Cross benefit to be given by the Thursday Bridge club tomorrow (Friday) afternoon, December 28, at 2 o'clock at the Masonic hall.

The Thursday Club which has the party in charge is the oldest card club in the city and is composed of ladies who do things and this alone assures every one who attends a good time.

As was announced before this large party is the first of a chain of parties to be given for the Red Cross. Each lady who can who attends tomorrow is to give a party of three tables and these ladies in turn are to give a party of two tables. Twenty-five cents will be collected from each lady attending. At tomorrow's party "500" will be played, using the Avondale count.

Mrs. Harold Grady of Portland, who is visiting in the city during the holidays, has very graciously consented to give some solo dances. All who have seen Mrs. Grady dance are very loud in their praise of her work, and the ladies feel very fortunate in having her here for this occasion.

The following committees have this party in charge:

General committee—Mrs. J. Van Guren, Mrs. W. H. Bohnenkamp, Mrs. T. N. Murphy.
Refreshments—Mrs. Vincent Palmer, Mrs. W. Allison, Mrs. Jake Collins, Mrs. W. B. Jones.
Invitations—Mrs. M. B. Donahue, Mrs. E. C. Grady, Mrs. W. H. Bohnenkamp.
Chairs and Tables—Mrs. W. R. Jones, Mrs. E. Polack, Mrs. J. J. Carr.
Score cards—Mrs. C. P. Newlin.
The following ladies have pledged themselves to set five tables each and have reported wonderful success: Claude Seranton, Charles Reynolds, Frank Rohan, L. A. McAlister, H. Zurbick, Peter Macdonald, Wm. Bellows, A. V. Andrews, M. A. Smith, C. R. Hibbard, J. E. Foley, P. Reebbin, E. E. Osner, A. J. Van Val.

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CENTRAL POWERS GIVE OUT THEIR TERMS OF PEACE

Vienna Makes Formal Reply to Russian Overtures

NO ANNEXATIONS, NO INDEMNITIES

Austria-Hungary Asks the Other Belligerents to Agree to Same Terms.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 27.—In a formal reply to the Russian separate peace overtures, Vienna says, the Central powers are willing to make a general peace on the basis of no annexations and no indemnities. Austria-Hungary asks only that the other belligerents pledge the same policies.

ROUMANIAN HEAD-QUARTERS CAPTURED

PIETROGRAD, Dec. 27.—Ukrainian newspapers announce that the Roumanian front headquarters of the fourth and eighth armies were captured. Maximalist forces were disarmed.

Fighting at Tomsk goes on with alternating success. Cossacks and Cadets are opposing the Bolsheviks.

Trotsky telegraphed the Bolshevik commander-in-chief, urging him to come to terms immediately with the Ukrainians so they may join forces and cut off Kaledines.

ESSENTIAL ELEMENT IS STILL LACKING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 27.—If the Central powers' overtures to Russia are true, they still lack the essential element President Wilson and England demand—the elimination of Hohenzollernism.

The blanket formula "no annexation, no indemnities" is universal and necessary in settlement; but it leaves Belgian restoration and kindred vital problems out. The overtures are considered largely as bait to the Russians.

QUIET PREVAILS ON WEST FRONT

LONDON, Dec. 27.—Hostile artillerying northeast of Ypres is reported. Elsewhere the west front is quiet.

ELEVEN ITALIANS ARE SENTENCED

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 27.—Eleven Italians, including one woman, were sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment for participation in the Bay View riots September 9.

MOOSE GIVE SMOKER AND CLAM SUPPER

A very enjoyable smoker and clam supper was given last night by the Loyal Order of Moose. After the supper a program of music and toasts was given which was followed by the piece de resistance, a very delicious clam supper. Mr. Doby, accompanied by Mrs. R. J. Kitchen on the piano, sang several fine selections. Among the speakers were R. J. Kitchen, Clarke Letter, E. J. Green, W. C. Hansen, George Young, Harry S. Varr, Jap H. Stevens. Many toasts were touched upon; loyalty to the government was the theme and the patriotic work the Moose are doing during the war was commented upon with much spirit and pride.

A large attendance was present. The affair was under the direction of the social committee, Dr. Ralston, chairman.

