

S. V. RAILWAY TROUBLE UP AT BAKER

BOTH SIDES HAVE MADE SINCERE EFFORT TO HAVE URGENT MATTER SETTLED.

BLAME IS LAID AT DOOR OF GOVERNMENT

Men Will Quit January First if They Are Not Assured of Continuance of the Payment of Present Advanced Wage Scale—Will Mean Big Loss if Trouble Is Not Settled.

BAKER, Dec. 27.—At a conference yesterday of the management and employees of the Sumpter Valley railroad each side notified the other officially that as between the railroad and the employees there was no possibility under present conditions of getting together on a settlement that would permit keeping the road in operation after December 31.

At the suggestion of the federal board of mediation and conciliation the railroad company has been paying its employees an increased wage scale of 10 cents per hour for a period of sixty days, which period will expire December 31. The railroad company declares it will go back to its previous scale January 1, and the employees assert that if this is done they will not return to work.

Each side seems to concede the justice of the other's demands, and the grievance is against the United States railroad administration for its apparent failure to induce the O. W. R. & N. company to permit of a joint rate whereby the Sumpter Valley railroad's rate would be absorbed in the long haul to eastern points. The fact developed at the meeting that both the company and the employees had done all in their power to induce the government to act before December 31, but for reasons unknown here not the slightest intimation is forthcoming as to what will be done to protect the railroad, the employees and the extensive and valuable public interest.

Manager J. W. Hewitt, speaking to the representatives of the employees, said that the company had done everything in its power to obtain the joint rate agreement which the main line roads, which would enable them to continue paying the increased wage rate, but they had been unable to accomplish their aim. Therefore, Manager Hewitt said, the company felt they had done their part and notified the employees officially that on and after January 1, 1919, they would no longer pay the increased wage scale.

The engineers' spokesman, Fred Metzler, said he hoped that conciliation might come before January 1, but if it did not they would work no longer if they had to revert to the old wage scale. He said: "We feel that if the Sumpter Valley railroad were getting justice from the government, as the other railroads are, we would come out all right. We are getting smaller pay and believe we are working harder than the employees of the main lines. We have worked to help you get the joint rate so that we could receive just wages, but we don't know what influence we have had with the administration."

Walter Mencham, speaking for the public, told of the efforts he had been making through the congressmen to get the question settled, and he promised he would spare no effort to the last minute to induce the government to act. He said the people of Grant county were doing likewise.

An inspection of the Sumpter Valley railroad company's book revealed the fact that the company is actually operating at a deficit of several hundred dollars per month.

The meeting was characterized by a spirit of fairness and conciliation throughout. But the extremely serious fact must be faced that if the Sumpter Valley railroad suspends operation January 1, 1919, Baker and

MAJ. HAROLD E. HARTLEY



Maj. Harold Evans Hartley, one of the American aces, is a Californian, his home being in Pasadena. He has made a fine reputation for skill and bravery in fighting the Hun in the air.

CHOIR'S PLANS SPOILED TOO

BUT MEMBERS ARE READY AND ANXIOUS TO RESUME.

Director of Community Chorus Wants Organization to Live Up to Its Name.

"The plans of the Community Chorus have been somewhat disarranged by the different closing orders of the health board," said Prof. L. D. Edwards, director of that organization, today. "We had all plans made for a concert in November and much work done when we were closed for five weeks by the first order. We began all over and were making good progress for a December concert when the last order was issued."

Continuing further the professor said: "That the progress of our community chorus has been very remarkable and that this organization has come to stay is also true. It might be pointed out that about forty part-songs, patriotic and popular, have been taught this body of faithful singers and sung in a short time—that, too, under the before mentioned adverse conditions. Both the operas and the sublime oratorio have already been introduced and immensely enjoyed by the chorus. Such elaborate compositions as the grand chorus of "Bacchantes" from "Pelleas and Baudis" also the greatest of all glorias in the praise of God, the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah," would have been given in our popular concert planned for the Christmas time of carol singing."

"In passing it is but fair to note," said the director, "that our chorus is intended to be what its name implies, a 'community chorus' not comprised of a but but rather a collection of the many—some of experience and many who have yet to learn to blend their voices in the 'art divine,' whose purity of expression can only be attained by a constant effort on the part of the whole."

"Remember this," said the professor, "our efforts as an organization are to boost La Grande musically. The chorus have financed their own way, and have now on hand a lot of new music comprising some of the best known compositions by the masters of music. A glance at musical programs elsewhere and that, too, by standard musical societies is evidence to the knowing ones that the La Grande community chorus is not only closely associated, but rather abreast in the march of real musical progress."

"In concluding," said Mr. Edwards, "may I add that our male section has not been as strong in numbers as we would like to see it. With the return of favorable health conditions for resumption of our rehearsals we hope to see a number of new applicants among the tenors

England and America Trying to Agree on the Freedom of Seas—Britons Hold for Navy

GIFTS TO CANTEEN ARE APPRECIATED

Ladies of Red Cross Canteen Grateful for Donations from Well-Wishers.

The ladies of the Red Cross canteen wish to acknowledge with thanks the following donations received and used on Christmas day: Mrs. James McEwan, 1 box apples; Mrs. Riddle, 5 gal. cider, 2 mince pies; Mrs. Short, 5 mince pies; Mrs. Redhead, 5 gal. milk, 1 chicken, 1 cake, 4 pies; Mrs. Corbett, 2 pies, 1 glass jelly; Mrs. Huffman, 3 pies, 1 gal. milk, 1-2 gal. pickles; 1 loaf bread; J. D. Slater, \$1.00; Herman Roesch, 10 pies; Mr. Loties, 3 doz. glasses.

C. E. Short helped the ladies serve at the 11:25 train and Bruce Dennis did his duty at the 8:20 train.

PEACE BRINGS CHANGE

Evening Dress Is Coming Out of the Moth Balls.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—Evening dress, generally abandoned in England during the war, is coming out of the moth balls.

King George set the fashion before the armistice was a month old by abandoning uniform for black. Now fashionable restaurants and theatres are crowded by men in evening clothes.

TO DEMOBILIZE SOON

Tenth Division to Be Let Go This Coming Month.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28.—Demobilization of the tenth division, now stationed at Camp Funston, will probably occur in January according to a statement made by chief of Staff March today.

OUTSIDE TOWNS SHOULD PREPARE

In the endeavor to establish a quarantine that will be effective in setting rid of the influenza throughout the county the authorities meet up with home rule and no ordinances in smaller cities providing for quarantine.

A dance is to be held at Perry soon and these in charge refuse to put it off. Appeal to the state board of health did not help for the belief is that Attorney General George Brown probably thinks there is law for forcing a closing outside of incorporated cities where the city ordinances naturally govern.

Cove is without quarantine and lumber suffered in the same manner. Union and Elgin have not put into operation strict quarantine methods. Perry is not incorporated but quite likely citizens will band together and take care of the situation there.

Pass ordinances at once, is the recommendation to the municipalities of this county.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(United Press)—Great Britain and the United States have not reached a common basis of understanding relative to freedom of the seas.

With the agreement achieved on every essential of the league of nations, the leaders of the two great English-speaking democracies are striving for the solution of the second of the most important factors in peace negotiations.

Great Britain, as well as America, is frankly considering the material factors in the case. England is absolutely convinced that no international authority on the sea will be able to replace the British navy in safeguarding British interests.

The government agrees to drastic retrenchments in the navy building program provided other powers do likewise and it is understood the Eng-

lish government wishes, to start retrenchment proceedings by sinking the German fleet. It insists that the British navy is only a defensive weapon and cannot be used aggressively, therefore England claims the navy is no threat to the rest of the world.

In meeting various delegations at the American embassy, President Wilson received assurances from Viscount Grey, Arthur Henderson, Asquith, Viscount Bryce, the Archbishop of Canterbury and others that they will support his peace program.

A memorial from five million workers which was presented to the president said: "You have spoken our thoughts and given expression to the principles of the silent masses everywhere. We support your views which have fortified the will and clarified the vision of all organized democracies."

RUMORED MURDER KAISER DOUBTED

PARIS, Dec. 28.—Rumors that the former emperor of Germany had been assassinated became current in Paris, notably in the chamber of deputies Thursday evening. There is not the slightest confirmation of the report up to the present.

PAPERS ARE LARGER

Getting Back to Their Peace Time Proportions.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—English newspapers are getting back to peace-time proportions as a result of the general election. Because of the election the print paper controller released three times as much paper during December as in other months.

Many London afternoon newspapers immediately increased their sizes from four to eight pages. One morning paper retained its four-page war size, but reduced its price from two pence to one.

During the war most English daily papers sold for two pence, the equivalent of four cents in U. S. coinage.

A MERK PREMIER

PARIS, Dec. 28.—A polished well-groomed man appeared at the door of the House mission during the Versailles conference. He bowed deeply, almost apologetically. He asked a few questions, bowed deeply again and went away.

"And who was that?" a secretary was asked.

"Oh, that was just the premier of Roumania," and he went on to his work, having seen only a half dozen or so other premiers during the last half hour.

TO HONOR IOWA MAN IN ENGLISH TOWN

SOUTHAMPTON, ENG., Dec. 28.—Plans are being made to bestow the freedom of the borough on Col. A. W. Swalm, American consul here since 1903.

Bestowal of its freedom is one of the highest honors an English city may accord. Few Americans have received the honor. Both Colonel and Mrs. Swalm, who was Miss Pauline Given of Des Moines, Ia., are popular with Southampton residents. They have engaged in many civic movements.

Col. Swalm, formerly at Montevideo, Uruguay, was born in Womelsdorf, Pa., in 1845. He served in the civil war and afterwards was well known as an Iowa newspaper publisher.

ENGLAND STANDS BY LEADERS

LLOYD GEORGE IS RE-ELECTED TO OFFICE BY HUGE MAJORITY.

LABOR PARTY IS DEFEATED AND COALITIONISTS WIN

Asquith Badly Beaten and His Liberal Party Makes a Poor Showing—Labor Leader Henderson Finishes a Poor Third—Those for United Kingdom Carry Elections by Big Vote.

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(By United Press)—Herbert Asquith, former premier and leader of the opposition in parliament, was defeated deeply, almost apologetically. He asked a few questions, bowed deeply again and went away.

A spirited Unionist has been elected in his district.

Lloyd George has been re-elected by a huge majority.

The Coalitionists have an overwhelming lead as the result of the December fourteenth elections.

The latest returns show: Coalitionists, 240; Laborites, 16; Unionists, 14; Liberals (Asquith supporters) 14; Arthur Henderson, a labor leader, proved to be a poor third in his district.

BATTLE REPORTED BY WIRELESS

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(By United Press)—A battle between the Bolshevik and Polish forces in Dembova district was reported today by wireless from Moscow. The outcome of the battle is unknown. The dispatch also stated that the Bolsheviks disarmed the government militia in the Ashor district.

NEW COMMANDER NAMED

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(By United Press)—Brutina Molkenahr, supporter of Liebknecht, has been made commandant at Berlin, according to dispatches to the Daily Mail.

YANKS RESTING AFTER THE ST. MIHIEL VICTORY



These Yankee fighters, part of the forces that cleared out the St. Mihiel salient, advanced so far beyond their specified objective that they had to be ordered to wait for the rest of their contingent to come up.

SIR ERIC GEDDES



New photograph of Sir Eric Geddes, G. B. E., K. C. B., first lord of the British admiralty.

WORTH OF NEW SERUM PROVED

DEVELOPED IN FAMOUS MAYO CLINIC AT ROCHESTER

Treatment of Influenza Cases With Dr. Rosenow's Serum Gratifyingly Successful.

PORTLAND, Dec. 28.—From the celebrated Mayo foundation at Rochester, Minn., the Portland health bureau has received a new serum for prophylactic inoculation against Spanish influenza and accompanying pneumonia. Quantities of the serum, with which remarkable results are reported to have been obtained in the middle west, will be given to local physicians upon request, said Dr. George Parrish, city health officer.

The serum was originated and prepared by Dr. E. C. Rosenow, of the Mayo foundation clinic, who is widely known as one of America's foremost bacteriologists. It was brought to Portland by Lieut. G. N. Pease, of Portland, upon his recent return from the east, where he has been attending training camps as a member of the medical corps.

Doctors May Get Serum

Four quarts of the serum, or enough for 4000 inoculations, are in the hands of the local health bureau, and will be distributed to physicians upon application. The Mayo foundation has given assurance that it will supply any further quantities desired if the serum is needed for the suppression of the influenza epidemic.

At the outset of the influenza epidemic Dr. Rosenow began searching for a serum with which to combat the malady. He did not make the result of his study and experiment public for some time, until actual trial had proved the serum to be valuable in influenza and pneumonia treatment.

Records at the Mayo foundation show that, based upon the first 25,000 cases to be treated, persons who are inoculated with the serum have three times as many chances to escape influenza and pneumonia as those who have not been inoculated.

Death Rate Is Lowered

Further, the statistics of its use show that if one who has been inoculated does contract influenza or pneumonia the chances of recovery are forty times greater than if the inoculation had not occurred. The mortality among those who had taken the serum was found to be only 2 1/2 per cent, an unusually low figure.

Lieutenant Pease, who visited the Mayo foundation while en route to his

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WILSON TO BE FIRST PRESIDENT

MAY BE HONORARY PRESIDENT OF GERMANY AND AUSTRIA.

WIENER JOURNAL PRINTS WHAT SEEMS A DREAM

Austria Has Superstition That United States President Is the Late Crown Prince Rudolf Who Disappeared a Number of Years Ago—Death of the Prince Was Never Authenticated.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 28.—United Press)—President Wilson may be proclaimed the first honorary president of the new German-Austrian republic, says the Wiener Neues Journal, according to Vienna dispatches. There is a new superstition spreading throughout Austria that Wilson is really the late Crown Prince Rudolf, whose death many do not believe, the newspaper says. In lower Austria it is popularly believed that Wilson will save Austria from a final smashup.

Prince Rudolf, heir of the late Emperor Josef, mysteriously disappeared several years ago. His death was never authentically established.

FOOD WILL BE SCARCE IN FRANCE FOR YEAR

PARIS, Dec. 28.—Food will continue to be short in quantity and expensive in France for a year, according to a report on the 1918 crop compiled by Boret, French food controller.

With the exception of the wheat crop which will be larger than that of 1917, all of the cereals will be short. Corn, barley, oats and beans will be especially scarce.

The potato crop is estimated at 7,500,000 long tons, although it has averaged 12,000,000 tons for ten years.

A Londoner who recently entertained a party of nine at a medium-priced Paris restaurant was presented with a bill for 310 francs, nearly \$7 a plate. The meal consisted of soup, fish, chicken, coffee and a small portion of white wine for each guest.

ALLIES BACK "HINDY"

LONDON, December 28.—A Reuters dispatch from Copenhagen is authority for the statement that Field Marshal von Hindenburg is leading an army of loyal German troops against the rebels in Berlin. Hindenburg holds this position with the consent of the Allied leaders.

LIVE, HARWICH!

HARWICH, Eng., Dec. 28.—Harwich, the port to which the German submarines came to surrender, will be remembered by the English as the port firing the first British shot of the war.

At 3 o'clock the morning of August 5, 1914, four hours after England declared war, the Harwich forces under Admiral Tyrwhitt put out into the North sea. By 5 o'clock they had sunk the German mine-laying cruiser, Koenig Louis, caught straggling mines off the English coast.

British naval men believe it was partly because of this that Harwich was picked as the final haven for surrendering submarines.

Admiral Tyrwhitt commanded on both occasions. He is the only admiral in the British navy to hold his post throughout the war.

Before the war, Harwich was the jumping off port on the tourist route from England to Belgium, Holland and Hamburg.

WILSON AND STATESMEN WAVE ALL DIPLOMATIC FORMALITIES

LONDON, Dec. 28.—(By United Press)—President Wilson was officially welcomed in a formal ceremony at Guild hall.

The President and Mrs. Wilson arrived at 1:30 o'clock and were received by the Lord Mayor and others, after initial ceremonies.

The President was given an address of welcome on parchment on a gold easel. Following his reply the President went to the Mansion House as guest of the Mayor and Mayors at luncheon.

Streets were crowded with people eager to see the president pass on

EBERT BERLIN GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN OVERTHROWN

THE HAGUE, Dec. 28.—(United Press)—The Ebert government has been virtually overthrown, according to dispatches filed in Berlin. The government, including Liebknecht, Borshevik, and other leaders, has been overthrown and a new government is being formed. A central committee will be formed.