

STRIKERS OFFER TO RESUME WORK

Prominent Men Proposed as Arbitrators.

INJUNCTION ASKED U. S. COURT

Mayor Gill Hears That Strike-Breakers Are Coming.

SHIPBUILDING MAY SUFFER

Union Electricians Are Ordered Out of Power Stations, Which Still Further Will Cripple Seattle's Industries.

SEATTLE, Wash., July 23.—(Special.)—Seattle's labor situation today was somewhat clarified by the submission of an offer on behalf of the striking streetcar employees to arbitrate all differences, including closed shop, if the traction company would agree to reinstate all discharged employees in Seattle and Tacoma pending the decision of the arbitration board.

The offer of the employees includes a proposition to have the third member of the arbitration board selected from a list of five names submitted by them.

Their letter to the traction company follows:

Letter Makes Proposal.

"Seattle, Wash., July 23, 1917.—Puget Sound Traction, Light & Power Company and subsidiary companies: Gentlemen—Owing to the serious situation which now confronts the people of our country as a result of the present war, and to the public generally, we now submit to you our final and definite proposition on the matter of settlement between the Puget Sound Traction, Light & Power Company and its employees:

- "1. The company shall reinstate all men who have been discharged by reason of having joined the union of men on strike, including the men who were discharged by your company in the city of Tacoma.
- "2. We will submit all other questions to a board of arbitration, composed of the arbitrator selected by your company and the arbitrator selected by the employees, and the third to be any one of the following named gentlemen that you may designate:

Prominent Men Named.

- "1. M. A. Gottstein, manager Gottstein Furniture Company.
- "2. J. Allen Smith, of University of Washington.
- "3. Henry Suzzalo, president of University of Washington.
- "4. Harold Preston, president of King County Council of Patriotic Service.
- "5. Henry M. White, United States Commissioner of Immigration.

"Respectfully submitted,

"Conference committee, representing all organized employees of the Puget Sound Traction, Light & Power Company.

"JAMES A. DUNCAN,
"A. W. TELELEY,
"J. MORGENTHAU."

Interurban Tie-up in Place.

Both sides to the strike have been active during the day. The strikers have issued a call to all men employed in the power houses of the Puget Sound Traction, Light & Power Company to leave their places immediately. A deputation was sent forward this morning to convey this word to the employees of all the properties of the company. To cut off the company's power will tie up all interurban lines and hundreds of industrial plants and private residences from light and power.

Just whether the injunction asked by the traction company in the Federal Court today to restrain the strikers from interfering in any way with properties or employees of the company will be granted is not decided tonight. Judge Peterer at first indicated his intention not to grant the injunction, but later, upon request of C. W. Howard, of Bellingham, representing the traction company, he consented to allow Howard to file a list of authorities in favor of an injunction. Tomorrow he will render a decision as to whether or not a receiver shall be appointed to operate the traction company's lines until it is able to resume normal operation.

Effects Not Felt.

In addition to the offer submitted by the employees to arbitrate all differences, the efforts of the Council of Patriotic Defense to bring the disputants together were not futile. The traction company replied to the Council's letter of Saturday expressing a willingness to meet the employees, but indicated its unwillingness to submit to domination of its affairs by the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees. The strikers previously had signified their willingness to go into such a conference.

The situation in Seattle has been quiet all day. No cars were run and it is not likely that any effort will be made to run cars tomorrow. A report that several carloads of imported strikebreakers are held outside the city limits has not been verified.

City Suit Sent to Federal Court.

Judge Peterer, in the Superior Court, today transferred to the United States District Court the suit brought last Thursday by the city of Seattle against

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ABSOLUTE EMBARGO PUT ON NEUTRALS

WEEK PASSES WITH NO CARGO GOING TO NORTH EUROPE.

Policy Is Temporary and Will Be Changed When Rationing Basis Is Fixed.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The American Government's control of exports has resulted in an absolute embargo on cargoes destined to the Northern European neutral countries. Since the control was made effective for a little more than a week ago, not a single cargo, it was learned today, has been licensed for shipment to these nations. The policy enforced is described as temporary, to be changed as soon as it is possible to put the neutrals on a rationing basis.

Goods destined for the allied countries are licensed without question, as are commodities that go to most other neutrals. Some shipments have been permitted to go forward to Switzerland. Meanwhile the Government is negotiating with Great Britain for an arrangement by which the export control bill supercedes the British system of granting letters of assurance. For the present, however, an export control license is no guarantee against British seizure.

The Dutch Minister, M. Van Rappard, has taken a particularly vigorous stand against the Government's policy toward the European neutrals. Without awaiting the arrival of the special mission, to leave Holland soon to negotiate here on the subject, he has laid before the exports council detailed statistics to refute charges that Holland has been developing an enormous export trade to the central powers.

DIVORCE AND RICHES ASKED

Thousand Acres of Umatilla Land and \$17,500 Sought.

PENDELTON, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—Suit for divorce was filed here today by Mary R. Halvorsen against Mathias Halvorsen, wealthy lone rancher. She alleges cruelty.

She asks for one-third of his 3000 acres of farm land, \$16,000 outright, \$2500 suit money, \$150 a month during the pendency of the suit, \$100 a month permanent alimony, the care of their two children and \$80 a month for their support during their minority, together with \$1534, which she alleges is due on a promissory note.

CROPS MAY NOT BE SAVED

Efforts to Find Farm Labor in California Fail.

BERKELEY, Cal., July 23.—Efforts to find sufficient labor for the farms of California have proved a failure. The prospect now is that much of the crop will go unharvested. Government conscription of labor may have to be the means chosen of solving the problem.

These are the conditions which have been reported by Professor Harry N. Adams, of the University of California, who has been assisting the State Council of Defense to help the farmers in their difficulties.

MAN, 77 YEARS OLD, WEDS

N. Remlinger, of Portland, Takes Mrs. Alafare Lee as Wife.

VANCOUVER, Wash., July 23.—(Special.)—It is never too late to marry. N. Remlinger, 77, of Portland, thought so he brought his chosen bride to Vancouver today and was married by Judge R. H. Back, of the Superior Court of Clarke County.

Mr. Remlinger, who lived in Vancouver for 23 years, but of recent years has resided in Portland, married Mrs. Alafare Lee, 55 years old. The witness was Mrs. May Becker, of 326 Vancouver avenue, Portland.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCE CUT

Soldiers to Get Only Quantity Actually Needed.

MISSOURI'S QUOTA FILLED

Enlistment in Regular Army, 6620. With Requirement 6586.

TROOP NEWS TO BE GIVEN

Adjutant-General to Establish Division of Information.

FIERCE ATTACK AT CHAMPAGNE FAILS

Germans Mown Down by Thousands.

SOLDIERS REFUSE TO ADVANCE

Attempt to Take Chemin Des Dames 40th Since May 4.

FRENCH LOSE NO GROUND

Total Gain Accomplished in Ten Weeks Is Few Hundred Yards of Front-Line Trench at Cost Exceeding 100,000 Men.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

GRAND HEADQUARTERS OF THE FRENCH ARMY IN FRANCE, July 23.—(12 midnight.)—The verbiage of the French troops at Verdun—"they shall not pass"—has applied equally to the Champagne, and the French today showed the Crown Prince's army that the Chemin des Dames was a closed road to them.

On Sunday morning the Germans, in great force, made their 40th attempt since the French captured Craonne on May 4, to secure possession of the famous road. This effort was one of the biggest offensive movements they had made since Verdun, so far as artillery was concerned and proved an undoubted failure.

Gas Attack Made.

Four o'clock was striking when a terrific bombardment was opened along the front extending from just west of Corry to rear position and the front lines and rear position and all the roads leading thereto were deluged with shells, both great and small as well as asphyxiating projectiles.

At 5 o'clock the German infantry started from their trenches. The greatest concentrations advanced between Hurbine and Casemates plateau and between Casemates and Californie plateau, where it was evidently hoped to rush Craonne. The correspondent was posted where he could observe the entire battle along the crest which stood out in the clearest atmosphere but rolling along it and over it were dense clouds of black, brown, grey and white smoke from tens of thousands of shells.

German Losses Heavy.

It was known that the Prussian guards and several other divisions faced the French positions, while other fresh troops were hurrying across the Ailette Valley from the north. The French guns did not remain long mute, but answered shot for shot, and when the German reinforcements were seen approaching they poured a hurricane

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SCREAMING WOMAN FLEES FROM AUTO

HAVANA POLICE SUSPECT GIRL IS MISS RUTH ARMSTRONG.

Man Pursues to Door of Refuge, but Escapes When Crowd Hears Cries and Collects.

HAVANA, July 23.—A young woman escaped from an automobile today and rushed through an open doorway into a nearby house. A man who drove the car went into the building and demanded that the girl again enter the car, but her screams attracted a crowd, and the man fled in his machine. The police say the girl may have been Miss Ruth Armstrong, of Youngstown, Ohio, who disappeared a week ago.

Another man asked the young woman if she was not Ruth Armstrong. She replied in the negative. When told that her disappearance was causing a lot of comment in the newspapers, the young woman excitedly exclaimed: "Is my name in the papers?" and then called a passing automobile and hurried away.

The numbers of both the private automobile and the one hired by the young woman have been given to the police, who are making an investigation. Inquiry today at the home where Miss Armstrong worked, and at the place where she lived, failed to reveal any information concerning her whereabouts.

\$350,000,000 IN GARDENS

Estimated Increase in Numbers Is 200 Per Cent.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The gardening campaign has resulted in the planting of more than three times the usual number of gardens in the United States, with the prospect that their products will reach the total value of \$350,000,000, according to an estimate made by Charles Lathrop Pack, president of the National Emergency Food Garden Commission.

In the Pacific states the gain is set at 185 per cent.

LOGGING CAMP BURNS

Fire Spreads into Green Timber Near Bellingham.

BELLINGHAM, Wash., July 23.—Fire is raging in Camp No. 4 of the English Logging Company, 25 miles south of here tonight. The fire started in the camp buildings and spread them out, thence spreading rapidly to green timber, where it is burning out of control.

The camp was closed last Saturday night through the activity of the Industrial Workers of the World. It is one of the company's large camps.

Cavalry to Use Big Guns.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—Eight new regiments of cavalry, equipped and trained as artillery, will be added to the regular Army immediately.

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INSURANCE PLAN IN SERVICE IS FRAMED

Allowance for Families Is Included.

POLICIES TO RUN TO \$10,000

Government Would Pay Excess Over Regular Rate.

EARLY ACTION IS DESIRED

Project Also Embraces Indemnity in Case of Disability and Training of Such Men for Earning Livelihood at Close of War.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—The Federal Government's plan for insuring officers and men of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps against death and injury while in service broadened today a complex programme which would provide Government allowance for families of soldiers and sailors and the rehabilitation and training of injured men to fit them for making a livelihood after the war.

The programme was discussed at conferences today among officials of the War, Navy, Treasury, Commerce and Labor Departments, the labor committee of the Council of National Defense, and the presidents and other high officers of leading insurance companies of the United States.

Government to Have Charge.

Issuance of insurance policies from \$1000 to \$10,000 to officers and men at ordinary peace-time rates, the Government paying the extra cost, indemnities for total or partial disability, and administration of the entire scheme by the Government's war risk insurance bureau, which is at present insuring officers and crews of American merchant vessels, are among the outstanding features of the proposed programme.

"The plan has not yet assumed definite form," said a statement issued at the Treasury today, "but when it has been worked out in all its fundamentals and details, Secretary McAdoo will present it to the President for his approval, and if approved, the recommendation will be submitted to Congress at an early date for its consideration."

State to Pay Extra Premiums.

"The whole proposition is based on the fundamental idea that the Government should, as a matter of justice and humanity, adequately protect its fighting men on land and sea and their dependent families. It is proposed to impose on the public treasury the obligation of indemnifying justly the men who have entered or are about to enter the American Army and Navy.

"Under the plan discussed, it is suggested that provision be made for the

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RETAIL PRICES OF FOOD GO SKYWARD

SOME STAPLES JUMP FROM 55 TO 150 PER CENT PAST YEAR.

Statistics Just Compiled Show Wholesale Figures More Than Double Since 1914.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—Heavy increases in retail food prices in the United States within the last three years are shown in statistics compiled today by the Department of Labor. The sharpest advance was in flour, which jumped 150 per cent in price. Potatoes increased 125 per cent, lard \$2.80, sugar 75, cornmeal 77, bacon 86, bread 55.

During the first year of the war many prices decreased slightly but by the Summer of 1916 they were mounting rapidly. Most of the increase was during the last 12 months.

Wholesale prices of many commodities have more than doubled since 1914. Wheat and flour have increased 200 per cent, corn 140, cornmeal 170, potatoes 140, lard 107, beef 76, hogs 73.

GEORGE BENSON DROWNS

Lad's Father Is Employee of Northwest Steel Company.

George Louis Benson, aged 8 years, was drowned yesterday at 5:30 in Columbia Slough at the foot of East Twelfth street, just north of Columbia boulevard. The body was recovered by City Coroner Brady at 7 o'clock. The pulmoner was used, but without effect. Acting Coroner Smith took charge of the body.

The lad's father is Harry J. Benson, an employee of the Northwest Steel Company.

O. A. C. TEACHER TO WED

Corvallis Postmaster Wins Head of Domestic Arts Department.

CORVALLIS, Or., July 23.—(Special.)—Announcement is made of the approaching marriage of Mrs. Helen Brooks, head of the Oregon Agricultural College domestic arts department, and B. W. Johnson, for 18 years postmaster of this city.

The wedding will take place some time in August.

SUFFRAGISTS ARE IGNORED

Eight Women Continue Watch at White House.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—Eight suffragists of the women's party took up their posts beside the gate of the White House again today.

They carried banners with quotations from some of President Wilson's speeches before Congress, but attracted little attention, and one special policeman easily preserved order.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

- The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 76 degrees; minimum, 50 degrees. TODAY'S—Fair; warmer; moderate northwesterly winds.
- Foreign. Premier Kerensky made dictator of Russia. Crockerland Expedition has comfortable winter. Page 2. Ruth Armstrong reported seen on streets of Havana. Page 2.
- War. Germans fail in 40th attempt to take Chemin des Dames. Page 1. German soldiers surround Russians. Page 2. Tank nest behind British lines is lively. Page 6. Chaos in Russia attributed to German agents. Page 2. Embargo on cargoes for neutrals absolute. Page 1.
- National. Bitter fight brews in House over Senate draft of food bill. Page 1. Plans for securing men in service discussed. Page 1. Railways asked greatly to efficiency under War Board. Page 4. Another loan of \$75,000,000 made to Russia. Page 4. U. S. and England agree on ocean steamship rate regulation. Page 5. Shipping Board will be kept intact. Page 5.
- Domestic. Government statistics showing advance in food prices since 1914 made public. Page 1. Orders to registered men for examination will be posted and is official notice. Page 5. Bibles deposited ask return home under protection of War Board. Page 4. Fate of Mrs. Rena Mooney is in jury's hands. Page 2.
- Sports. Patriotic tennis tournament matches are fast. Page 12. Betting at grand circuit races at Detroit barred. Page 12. J. G. Clemons wins blanket in Pacific Indians' tournament. Page 12. Beavers' showing in feature of Pacific Coast League race. Page 12. Amateur tennis singles not championship this year. Page 12.
- Pacific Northwest. Seattle strikers submit proposal to resume work, and Federal Court denies company injunction. Page 1. Eighteen are hurt when O.-W. R. & N. train crash. Page 6. Portland Field Hospital first to begin training at American Lake. Page 5. Oriental labor joins in Vancouver, B. C., strike. Page 7.
- Commercial and Marine. Eastern dealers again inquiring for Northwestern wheat. Page 17. Wheat and corn advance sharply at Chicago. Page 17. Hogs higher and cattle and sheep lower at local yards. Page 17. Fill for new shipyard will begin soon. Page 14.
- Portland and Vicinity. Portland sends fire fighters to Crater Lake. Page 11. Miss Lena James Douglas, colored composer, scores in recital. Page 11. Plan to discharge Engineer Edmondstone not popular with Council. Page 14. Whole National Guard plans drive for recruits. Page 8. Commissioner Barbur lets out 57 employees. Page 8. Mobilization will be at Clackamas. Page 14. Japanese now suspected of tampering. Page 11. Billy Sunday may hold rally in Portland. Page 4. Weather report, data and forecast. Page 17.

PRESIDENT WANTS FOOD BILL REVISED

Congressional Supervision Not Favored.

DANGERS ARE POINTED OUT

House Called On to Eliminate Senate Amendment.

BITTER FIGHT IS EXPECTED

Decision of Leaders Is That Pleas for Speed Will Be Ignored Until Obnoxious Provisions Are Eliminated From Bill.

WASHINGTON, July 23.—President Wilson asked Congress today to eliminate from the food control bill a Senate amendment creating a joint committee of Senators and Representatives to confer and advise with executive officials on war expenditures.

In a letter to Chairman Lever, of the House agriculture committee, the President pointed out in frank terms that such a committee would be likely to harass constantly those directly responsible for the conduct of the war. Retention of the section, he notified Congress, he would be compelled to interpret as signifying "a lack of confidence in myself."

House Ready to Fight.

Mr. Lever and other House leaders are understood to be ready to make a determined fight against the provision which was voted into the bill near the close of the long Senate debate. The House leaders also are planning to oppose vigorously the Senate's provision for a food control board of three members instead of one administrator, and there are many indications that in this, likewise, they will have the President's unqualified backing.

Mr. Wilson wrote to Representative Lever in response to a letter promising an "earlier" duty in the war committee provision.

War Direction Would Be Hampered.

The President's reply follows: "I am very much obliged to you for your thoughtful courtesy in stating to me the circumstances of the present action on the food administration bill and I am particularly obliged to you for calling my attention to section 23. I deem it my duty to express my opinion about that section and its effect upon the whole administration of the war very frankly, indeed, since the public interest manifestly demands that I should do so.

"Section 23 is not only foreign to the subject matter of the food administration bill in which it is incorporated but would, if enacted into law, render my task of conducting the war practically impossible.

Effects Not Realized He Says.

"I cannot believe that those who proposed this section, scrutinized it with care or analyzed the effects which its operation would necessarily have. The constant supervision of executive action which it contemplates would amount to nothing less than an assumption on the part of the legislative body of the executive work of the Administration.

"There is a very ominous precedent in our history which shows how such a supervision would operate. I refer to the committee on the conduct of the war constituted by the Congress during the Administration of Mr. Lincoln. It was the cause of constant and distressing harassment and rendered Mr. Lincoln's task all but impossible.

Co-operation Held Impossible.

"I am not, I beg you to believe, in any way questioning what might be the motives or the purpose of the members of such a committee; I am ready to assume that they would wish to co-operate in the most patriotic spirit, but co-operation of that kind is not practicable in the circumstances. The responsibility rests upon the Administration. There are abundant existing means of investigation and of the effective enforcement of that responsibility.

"I sincerely hope that upon the reconsideration of this matter, both House and Congress will see that my objections rest upon indisputable grounds and that I could only interpret the final adoption of section 23 as arising from a lack of confidence in myself."

Committee Would Be Named.

The section objected to by the President was embodied in an amendment introduced by Senator Owen, Democrat, to take the place of a similar proposal by Senator Weeks, Republican. It was adopted by the Senate, 53 to 21, after a brief debate. Briefly, it would create a committee of five Senators and five Representatives to ascertain just how contracts were being let and money spent in the conduct of the war and to report to Congress whenever it so desired.

The President and the executive departments, under the provision, would be compelled "to keep said committee fully advised as to such expenditures and contracts" and the committee could compel attendance of witnesses in such inquiries as it chose to make.

Vigorous opposition is developing also to the Senate liquor and 23-grain wheat amendments. Prohibition

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