

STRIKE LEADERS STANDING FIRM

Piez Alone Can Avert Walk-out, Union Men Declare.

MEN INSIST UPON DEMANDS

Referendum Votes in Many Unions Kept Secret From Their Own Members.

CITY LIGHTS TO BE KEPT ON

Hundreds of Citizens Volunteer Services; Light Employees Exempted From Strike.

SEATTLE, Feb. 5.—The Seattle Central Labor Council tonight officially ratified the time of the general strike, set for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, when an estimated 65,000 workers will become idle if the expectations of labor leaders are fulfilled. The strike is a sympathetic one, called in support of 25,000 striking metal trades workers, who left work January 21, demanding higher wages.

SEATTLE, Feb. 5.—With Seattle's general strike called for 10 o'clock tomorrow morning, pending final approval by the Central Labor Council tonight, strike leaders said they believed nothing would avert the strike at the 11th hour except a concrete settlement of the shipyard workers' demands by Charles Piez, head of the Emergency Fleet Corporation.

Interest today centered in the reported receipt by Bert Swain, secretary of the Metal Trades Council, and by Tacoma labor councils of a telegram from Mr. Piez with regard to summoning a conference at once to consider the question of wages and hours of the men provided they would return to work and live up to their agreement with the Government until March 31, the date of its expiration. This, the strike leaders said, would not be acceptable as a compromise.

Referendum Vote Kept Secret.

The outstanding feature of the strike shortly before it was to become an actuality was that many labor unions have refused to announce their referendum vote on the strike question to their own members; that some votes announced show that the two-thirds majority required by their international regulations failed, and that many unions "are on the fence" because of fear to violate the orders of their international officers not to strike. The streetcar men come in this general category, and their final action was to be decided at a mass meeting at 1 A. M. Thursday.

Citizens Volunteer Services.

Just prior to this action, however, the Municipal Civil Service League, comprising the city civil service employees, adopted resolutions pledging their support to the city in operating all the city's utilities, including light, electric and steam power and water. During the day hundreds of citizens went to the City Hall to volunteer their services in operating any of the utilities, and plans were made by the city authorities to replace possible desertions in the ranks of regular employees with these volunteers.

The city-owned streetcar lines will be run, according to definite announcement tonight. Whether the employees would strike or not was not known. Armed guards will be sent with the cars if necessary.

Federal Attorney Issues Warning.

United States District Attorney R. C. Saunders warned strikers that Federal property must not be interfered with. School operation until noon Thursday is certain. After that time operation will depend upon action of the engineers, firemen and janitors, who were said to have asked exemption from the strike of the strike committee.

Other developments today included: Secretary Ernest Newschan said the United Mine Workers of District No. 10 would not consider a strike unless a general state-wide strike be called; the Ministerial Federation made a final and vain appeal to labor leaders

DROP IN BUTTER AND EGG PRICES CHECKED

LARGE SHIPMENTS TO SEATTLE STEADY LOCAL MARKET.

Potato Prices Slump on Average of 25 Cents a Sack, but Other Vegetables Remain Firm.

The declines in egg and butter prices have been checked, at least temporarily. During the last few days large quantities of Oregon eggs have been shipped to Seattle and this has steadied the Portland market.

Dealers in the Puget Sound city are stocking up in anticipation of a general strike, which, among other things, they believe, might shut off the supply of fresh meats. In that case the demand for eggs would be large.

The fall in butter prices in the Northwest was stopped by the recovery in Eastern markets. In all sections of the country consumption of butter has been stimulated by the lower prices ruling, and the same is true of eggs. Dealers do not believe prices will remain stationary for long, however, and in a week or two they look for further declines.

These are the only two commodities that have become cheaper to consumers to a noticeable degree. Eggs, at 50 cents a dozen, have fallen 30 cents from the high point reached before the holidays, and butter, at 45 cents a pound, is 20 cents cheaper than it was. Fresh meat prices are about as they were. Livestock at the stockyards is selling close to the high winter prices, and livestock men say there is nothing in the situation to warrant belief in an early decline.

There has been a small drop in potato prices, averaging 25 cents a sack, but other vegetables are high and not likely to be cheaper before Spring. Staple groceries also continue high and, until the new crops are on the market, the grocers do not look for much change in price.

GOLD STAR IS REMOVED

Yakima Boy, Reported Dead, Arrives With German Helmet.

YAKIMA, Wash., Feb. 4.—(Special.)—William Wheat, aged 15 years, former Yakima High School boy, reported killed in action, yesterday went to the high school building to see the gold star pinned on the gold service flag for him. The star was removed. Wheat is a son of Mr. and Mrs. G. M. Wheat, of this city. Rejected in America, he enlisted in the Canadian army and went overseas within four weeks. He was gassed. He walked in on his parents yesterday morning, bringing an assortment of German helmets and other battlefield souvenirs. He may continue his high school studies, but says that after seeing men fight and die, school life seems dull.

OFFICE HELD UNNECESSARY

Bill Introduced to Oust Controller of Currency.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—A bill to abolish the office of Controller of Currency, now held by John Skilton Williams, and transfer its functions to the Federal Reserve Board, was introduced today by Senator Weeks, of Massachusetts. The bill was referred to the Senate banking committee, which meets tomorrow to take up the renomination of Mr. Williams, confirmation of which is opposed by a number of Republican Senators.

ACCUSED SOLONS EXPLAIN

Report of Meeting With Anarchists Brings Out Statement.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Representatives Mason of Illinois and Dillon of South Dakota, mentioned in the Senate debate yesterday as having attended an anarchistic meeting here Sunday, spoke in the House today on points of personal privilege.

AGENT OF VILLA ARRESTED

Texas Rancher Charged With Theft of Machine Gun and Ammunition.

EL PASO, TEX., Feb. 5.—George Holmes, who claims to be an agent of Francisco Villa, on the border, was arrested at his ranch, 125 miles east of here, early today charged with theft of a Vickers machine gun 3600 rounds of machine gun ammunition and seven rifles from the United States Army border camp near here.

MEN THOUGHT DEAD ALIVE

Prisoners Who Escaped From Alcatraz Island Not Drowned.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—That four prisoners who escaped on a raft from the Army disciplinary barracks at Alcatraz Island last November were not drowned as was supposed after being swept through the Golden Gate, but managed to land, was reported by Herman Kunig, one of the number, who was apprehended here today.

MORE TURK CHIEFS TAKEN

Arrests Made to Avert Possible Entente Intervention.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Further arrests have been made in Constantinople of leading members of the Turkish party of Union and Progress.

The Turkish government explained that the arrests were made to prevent disorders that might have involved possibility of entente intervention and to prevent Bolshevik disturbances.

LEAGUE OF NATIONS HANGS IN BALANCE

Equality Demand of Small States Threatens Plan.

BIG POWERS WOULD CONTROL

Fear of Being in Minority by "Big Five."

LITTLE NATIONS WILL QUIT

Situation Said to Be Developing Where League Plans May Fail, as at Second Hague Conference.

PARIS, Feb. 5.—Although the five great allied and associated powers which are directing the peace conference have turned over much of the work to commissions, the society of nations question, especially with reference to the smaller nations, is becoming rather a knotty problem.

The smaller nations, it is declared, want full equality in a society of nations and greater powers than the plans already outlined give them. The great powers, on the other hand, are faced with a situation that if each state has one member on a supreme court of nations they might find themselves in the minority, although their interests might be much greater and probably would be.

Experts Yet Have Hope. It is not believed that the great powers would consent to an arrangement of this kind, and a situation similar to that at the second Hague peace conference appears to be in the making. The experts on the society of nations question are hopeful of finding a way to get the smaller states to agree to the plan so that it will not fail, as Elihu Root's scheme for a supreme court of nations failed of approval at the second conference at The Hague.

The directing force of the peace conference, which resides in what now goes generally called the "big five" allied and associated powers, is finding great relief from the study of the details of complicated secondary questions through the commissions which have been created for these special problems. In this category falls the subject of the conflicting claims of the smaller nations of the entente to territory which is likely to be taken from enemy countries. This question takes a great deal of time to study.

Claims Will Be Heard. It is the design of the supreme council or "big five" that such questions as these be ultimately adjusted in harmony with the principles of the society of nations, it is explained, but pending the completion of the organization of that society it has been found expedient to arrange for a full hearing of all these claims.

Thus complex issues raised by the claims of Greece, not only to enemy territory, but to sections also claimed by other friendly states, after being

(Continued on Page 2, Column 1.)

GOVERNMENT TROOPS ROUTE BREMEN REDS

SPARTANUS RETREAT AFTER BOMBARDMENT OF CITY.

Reinforcements for Revolutionary Element Said to Be Coming From Other Places.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 5.—Government troops entered Bremen last night after heavy fighting and occupied the Town Hall and the Stock Exchange. The Spartacus have retreated to Groepingen.

The government troops made their entrance after the city had been bombarded. Many persons are reported to have been killed in the bombardment. Armed Spartacus from Eisenach and Gotha are on their way to Bremen to support the Spartacus there.

AVIATORS GO TO SIBERIA

100 French Pilots and Mechanics Leave San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—Carrying their own airplanes, airplane and food supplies, 100 French aviators and mechanics departed from this city for Siberia today. They were members of a party of 500 French aviators and troops which came here more than two months ago on their way to the Siberian front. Two hundred departed January 5. The 300 remaining here will return to France, it was announced.

REPORTERS GET ADVANCE

House Votes to Raise Salaries of Official Scribes.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—An increase from \$6000 to \$8000 a year in the salaries of official reporters of debates in the House and of hearings before its committees, was voted today by the House.

No further legislation is necessary for paying the increases.

FEATURES OF THE OREGON LEGISLATURE YESTERDAY.

Senate. Gordon's red flag bill passes. Nerlid introduces bill prohibiting white girls from working in Oriental restaurants. Effort to suppress salaried bills by party officials defeated.

House. Insurgency develops, headed by Representative Burdick, as rebuke to attitude of Speaker Jones in opposing salary increase for Supreme Judges and to alleged "right-wing" attitude of Marion County members. Representative Burdick proposes to raise salaries of Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer and Attorney-General, and to purchase mansion for the Governor.

New bill, providing for 1 cent tax per gallon on gasoline and half a cent on distillate, comes from Roads and Highways Commission, and is the first to pass the new legislative committee on introduction of bills.

(Continued on Page 11, Column 2.)

MR. ALBERS FOUND GUILTY ON 2 COUNTS

Defendant Turns Ashen as Verdict Is Read.

NEW TRIAL MAY BE SOUGHT

Forty Years in Prison, \$20,000 Fine Maximum Penalty.

BROTHER VOICES REGRET

Conviction Based on Conversations and Utterances Calculated to Encourage Resistance to U. S.

J. Henry Albers, millionaire Pacific Coast miller, was found guilty on two counts of violating the espionage act by a jury in Federal Court yesterday morning when the sealed verdict, reached the night before, was returned.

Motion of the defense, made by John McCourt, attorney for the defendant, for 30 days in which to file motion for a new trial, was granted by Federal Judge Wolverton. In the meantime Albers is released on his previous bond of \$10,000, furnished by John O'Neill.

At the verdict of the jury was read, at 10 o'clock, Albers turned ashen and visibly slumped in his chair. He was seated between two of his attorneys—John McCourt and R. Citron. Henry E. McGinn, third of the counsel for the defense, was not present. Under the law the convicted miller may receive a sentence of 40 years in Federal prison or a fine of \$20,000, or both.

Verdict Based on Two Counts. The defendant was convicted on the third and fourth counts of the indictment, based on the conversations he had with the Government's witnesses on the night of October 3 while a passenger on a Southern Pacific train, traveling from Grants Pass to Roseburg.

Count three charged him with utterances calculated to incite, provoke and encourage resistance to the United States and to promote the cause of its enemies. The fourth count charged him with supporting and favoring the cause of Germany and opposing the cause of the United States.

Members of the jury which convicted Albers were: B. F. Holman, foreman; J. J. Van Kleeck, T. J. Elliott, Arthur A. Hastings, Frank W. Bartholomew, John Frye, George Litchfield, Harry Ball, Walter Durham, George Thyns, Karl Fischer and William Larson. It deliberated less than three hours.

Defendant's Counsel Harmless. According to unofficial gossip the jury stood 10 to 2 for conviction on all seven counts on the first ballot and 11 to 1 on the second. Later the agreement was reached by which Albers was found guilty on the two counts.

"Henry Albers is a victim of the heat and temper of the times," was the statement made by his counsel, John McCourt. "He is as harmless as a child."

(Continued on Page 11, Column 2.)

CARE OF SOLDIERS IS CRITICISED IN SENATE

FIGHTING MEN SAID TO HAVE RETURNED PENNILESS.

New Jersey Senator Levels Guns on President Wilson in Connection With His Trip Overseas.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 5.—Criticizing alleged failure to equip properly American forces abroad, delay in payment to soldiers and dependents, and many acts of the Government in the war, Senator Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, said in the Senate today that American soldiers had returned ragged and penniless, "clad more like tramps." He advocated placing of responsibility and concluded with the following reference to President Wilson:

"It is very well for the President to break the precedents of a century that he may head triumphal processions in foreign capitals, sleep in the chambers of royalty, dine off gold plates in the palaces of the modern Caesars, and have his photographs taken with kings, queens and princesses. But what of the American private who returns to his native shores . . . dismissed without a dollar in his pocket?"

Senator Kirby, of Arkansas, Democrat, replied briefly to Senator Frelinghuysen. He charged that incidents had been unduly enlarged upon, and said criticisms had been made for partisan purposes and with little and often no foundation in fact. The ratio of complaints to the number of men involved has been exceedingly small, Senator Kirby declared.

EFFICIENCY EXPERT ASKED

Alleged Extravagance of Legislature May Be Probed.

STATE CAPITOL, Salem, Or., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—Representative Graham, of Lane, tomorrow will introduce a resolution to instruct the Secretary of State to hire an efficiency expert to determine the efficiency of the present plan of legislative organization. The move is taken because of criticism of the legislature and its alleged extravagance as to clerks and the use of supplies.

The resolution calls for an appropriation of \$500 for the work.

SINN FEINERS TO BE FREED

Government Plans Early Release of Prisoners, It Is Said.

DUBLIN, Feb. 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—The Lord Mayor of Dublin announced today that the Lord Lieutenant and the Chief Secretary for Ireland were arranging for the early liberation of imprisoned Sinn Feiners.

The Dublin Evening Mail suggests that Professor Edward De Valera, who, with two other Sinn Feiners, are reported to have escaped from Lincoln prison, is going to the Paris peace conference.

GRAPE MEN TO FIGHT "DRY"

California Associations to Start Statewide Referendum.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 5.—A statewide referendum, directed against the Federal prohibition amendment, is to be started in the next 10 days under the direction of the California Grape Protective Association and the association opposed to National prohibition, a nation-wide organization, H. F. Stoll, secretary of the grape association, announced here today.

INDEX OF TODAY'S NEWS

The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature, 48 degrees; minimum, 39 degrees. TODAY'S—Probably fair; moderate westerly winds.

War. Official casualty list. Page 7.

Foreign. League of nations hangs in balance. Page 1.

Spartacus routed by government troops. Page 3.

Reds in North Russia flee when U. S. marines arrive. Page 2.

Electricians' strike ties up London trains. Page 4.

German propaganda renewed in new newspaper. Page 4.

Story of General Korniloff's death told. Page 5.

National. Care of soldiers criticized in Senate. Page 1.

Draconic war plans of few months ago revealed. Page 2.

I. W. inquiry to be under Judge-Advocate-General's office. Page 2.

Figures on rift strength of powers show German defeat inevitable. Page 2.

Demobilization of Navy personnel is proceeding speedily. Page 3.

Legislatures. Many plans to develop Oregon presented to Legislature. Page 6.

Burdick steam roller sounds first toll in vote State Legislature. Page 6.

Olympia solons gay on eve of strike. Page 6.

Pacific Northwest. Fear grips minds of Seattle folk as strike hour nears. Page 1.

Strike leaders declare Piez alone can avert walkout. Page 1.

Wenatchee apples find ready demand. Page 7.

Sports. Hal Chase acquitted of conspiracy charge. Page 12.

Fences annexed to Portland Beavers. Page 12.

Commercial and Marine. Bean market is weakened by excessive supply. Page 13.

Wool auction will be held in Portland March 1. Page 15.

Copper shows weak feature of Wall-street market. Page 16.

Wooden steamers may carry flour. Page 18.

Portland and Vicinity. Strikers ask support of Portland labor. Page 15.

Revival signs shown by lumber industry. Page 15.

Mr. Albers found guilty on two counts. Page 1.

Drop in butter and egg prices checked. Page 1.

Livestock building planned. Page 13.

Military showing lures Coast buyers. Page 13.

Isolation of influenza cases found effective. Page 10.

Horror of the Huns not to be forgotten. Page 10.

Weather report, data and forecast. Page 13.

(Continued on Page 13, Column 4.)

FEAR GRIPS MINDS OF SEATTLE FOLK

Workers Will Join Strike But Dread Idea.

FEW AT ALL DISSATISFIED

No Threats of Violence Used, but Timid Are Going to "Play Safe" and Quit.

GROGERS DO BIG BUSINESS

People Laying in Big Stock of Provisions; Preparedness Is Everywhere Order of Day.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 5.—(Special.)—The general strike which is scheduled to begin at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning finds many prospective strikers in the same frame of mind as the Yankee farmer whom Colonel Roosevelt used to tell about. Someone accosted the farmer on his way to town.

"Where are you going?" was the inquiry. "I'm going to town to get drunk, and Lordy how I dread it."

Idea of Strike Is Dreaded. It is safe to estimate that fully 60 per cent of the men and women who threaten to quit their jobs tomorrow morning dread the idea. They are well satisfied with their own wages, hours and working conditions, and down deep in their hearts are firmly opposed to the strike. But they are going out because they fear to stay at work.

Their fear is not based on any tangible thing. They don't know exactly what they are afraid of, but pressure from the union leaders has been so insistent in the last few weeks that almost every working man and working woman has had it drilled into his or her head that they had better strike when the rest of them strike.

No Violence Threatened.

No threats of violence have been used and no promises of rewards have been made, but the entire atmosphere of Seattle is so surcharged with the boasts, the proclamations, the ultimatum and the molten assortment of official utterances coming from labor headquarters that the more timid wageworkers, whether they belong to the union or not, are going to "play safe" and quit when the others quit.

On the other hand, a considerable sprinkling of workers in various trades and crafts throughout the city have determination enough to defy the group of labor leaders who are conducting the strike and they propose to stay right on their jobs.

Walkout to Be Complete.

But if the strike order goes into effect as scheduled, it is generally conceded that the walkout will be practically complete. There is no question but that a large number of union men and women are going to strike in perfect good faith, believing that they are doing something altruistic for their brother unionists and for society in general.

But it is just as certain that the great majority of those who will be found in the strikers' ranks tomorrow would rather be at work. This majority never had a chance to vote at the so-called referendum, by means of which each local union expressed its purpose to join in the strike or not to join.

Referendums Ruled by Minority.

Most of these referendums were conducted at open meetings of the respective locals, but, as everyone knows, only a comparatively small proportion of the members attend these open meetings. These meetings are run by the more aggressive and more radical members, who may be entirely sincere, but who frequently have no interests at stake excepting their own personal interests, who have no families, no property and many of whom are not even citizens.

This was well illustrated this morning when the electrical workers voted to join. This means that the municipal light plant and the Puget Sound Traction, Light & Power Company's plant will be tied up and the city will be thrown into darkness. The

(Continued on Page 13, Column 4.)

THE GIRL HE LEFT BEHIND HIM.

