

STRIKE CALLED OFF BY RAILWAY LABOR

Union Leaders Take Action at Night Session.

RESOLUTION IS ADOPTED

Telegraphers Only Body Not Yet Deciding and Early Line-Up With Others Is Expected.

(Continued From First Page.)

ward the orders to each of the subordinate officials under him. J. H. Elliot of the rail group of the railroad labor board, when informed that there would be no strike at this time said:

"I am very much gratified at the good judgment exhibited by the men. To say any more would just be shooting the bull."

William H. Finley, president of the Chicago and Northwestern, at his home, said:

"I am very glad to hear that. It certainly will be a relief to everyone." Samuel Pelton, president of the Chicago Great Western, said:

"I expected that. I do not care to say any more tonight."

Hooper Obtains Settlement.

In discussing the resolution annulling the strike orders, the union presidents declared that its outstanding feature was that it was based on the statements made to the unions by Ben Hooper, of the board, that wage reductions would not be considered by the board for any employees until the rules and working conditions for those employees had been settled.

Mr. Hooper's arguments, made possible by the testimony of Mr. McMenimen, labor member of the labor board, were the turning point in the discussions over calling off the walkout, the union leaders said. The chief claimants pointed out that the strike "absolutely was off" and that a walkout could not now be called until a new vote had been taken. "We are not making any plans now for a new vote," said Mr. Lee.

Labor Board Promises Cited.

Union leaders said that the resolution adopted by the labor board annulling the strike orders was a "decidedly instrumental" in bringing about the action calling off the walkout. They declared that they believed under this resolution it would be months before their pay again could be reduced.

The union resolution immediately was communicated to the labor board and proved particularly gratifying to Walter McMenimen, of the board, who was instrumental in bringing about the settlement of the crisis.

Mr. McMenimen, a personal friend of Mr. Lee, and an ex-trainman, paved the way for conferences between the board and union men, particularly those today which were addressed by Ben Hooper, member of the public group.

Mr. Hooper Also Pleased.

Mr. McMenimen, "I am immensely gratified," said Mr. McMenimen, "it takes a great worry off my mind and I am sure it will be best for all."

Mr. Hooper expressed himself as "tickled to death" over the cancellation of the walkout order.

"I am glad the railroad employees have taken such wise action," he said. "They have taken a step which they will never regret and which will bring them approval from everyone in this country."

"A railroad strike at this time would have been more disastrous than the civil war. It would have brought on almost inconceivable hardships for everyone."

"I am particularly glad that the world armament conference now can go about its work in the capital of a nation which is not torn by an internal industrial dispute."

Board Plans Statement.

Members of the labor board said that the action of the labor leaders meant "that the board's decision on yesterday's conference between the board, the unions and the railroads, to determine if the transportation act had been violated in the strike activities, would be decided mid."

The board, which today informed the unions that this decision would "handle them with unyielding hands" if they did not call off the strike by morning, would take the attitude now that the dispute had been settled and that consequently the matter again was out of its hands, members said.

The decision, one member said, probably would be a recital of events leading up to the conference and then a mere statement that the "board sees nothing further to do," members said. The decision probably will be issued about 10 o'clock tomorrow—immediately after the telegrams calling off the strike are sent out by the heads of the unions. These are scheduled to be filed at 8 A. M.

These conferences were held today. Some were addressed by Ben W. Hooper, public member of the board, who, with Walter McMenimen, labor member, is given most of the credit by board members for averting the strike. They tied up to the "big five" final action.

On last Saturday, however, 600 trainmen on the International & Great Northern began a strike. This strike had been authorized previous to the "big four" strike call. What the settlement there will be is not known.

The government while acting formally only through the labor board, completed plans to combat a strike, these plans including proposed legal action on the grounds that a strike would violate conspiracy laws. The board informed the labor groups a few hours before the latter's decision that it had word from Washington that "every governmental agency would be full in combating a strike."

Day Full of Meetings.

The decision not to strike came at the close of a day full of rail union meetings, sessions of the railroad labor board and conferences between representatives of the two groups.

The labor board had informed the labor leaders that unless peace came by tomorrow it would "deal with the unions with unyielding hands" in its attempts to prevent a walkout. Night appointed, the committee to draw up the resolution calling off the proposed walkout and present it as quickly as possible at the meeting of the labor leaders.

Resolutions Committee Busy.

The resolutions committee began work at 8:30 P. M. It had been instructed to "work carefully and bring back a resolution which would explain fully the unions' attitude in the matter."

EVENTS LEADING TO STRIKE AND CANCELLATION VIEWED

Walkout, Precipitated by Wage Reduction, Causes Friction Among Unions—Labor Board Brings About Peace Move.

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—(By the Associated Press.)—Decision of the railroad labor board on July 1 authorizing railroads to reduce the wages of their employees an average of 15 per cent was the first event in the series which led up to the orders for a general strike by six unions.

When this decision was rendered, a majority of the rail unions began taking votes on its acceptance. In some cases the union vote was overwhelmingly for a strike rather than accept a wage cut, although on some lines, notably the Pennsylvania, there were divisions where groups of workers voted not to strike.

Taking of the ballot, however, developed some signs of friction among some unions. W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, withdrew from a meeting of the four brotherhood chiefs when other groups included in their ballots such questions as rules and working conditions. Mr. Lee held that it was illegal to vote on anything but the already authorized wage cut and sent separate ballots to his men in which the wage question was the only one mentioned.

Leaders Hold Meeting.

Leaders of the big four brotherhoods—trainmen, conductors, engineers and firemen—met in Chicago to decide what action should be taken. On October 15 it was announced that the chiefs had decided to authorize a walkout beginning October 30 and extending progressively in four distinct movements until virtually every railroad worker in the country was out. The union of North America immediately announced it would join the big four.

The night of this announcement heads of virtually all 11 "standard" unions—the American Federation of Labor group, which is independent of the brotherhoods—declared that they "saw nothing to do but obey the wishes of their men and authorize them to walk out with the brotherhoods and the switchmen."

Some leaders of these unions were more conservative, however, and later one of them—B. M. Jewell, president of the railway employees' department, American Federation of Labor, which

which called on the board today to report progress of the joint conference of chiefs of the switchmen, trainmen, conductors, engineers and firemen, which was forced to adjourn late today without taking action because the less on the meeting room had run out. The session was continued at a hotel later, however.

Labor men were informed that unless the crisis were settled tomorrow the board would take its most drastic action thus far and that it would "deal with the unions with unyielding hands" if they did not call off the strike by morning, would take the attitude now that the dispute had been settled and that consequently the matter again was out of its hands, members said.

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The statement from the labor board was delivered to union committees,

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