

**RAILROAD STRIKE IS DECLARED OFF**

**Basic Eight-Hour Day to Be Put Into Effect by Managers.**

**NATIONAL CRISIS MAIN FACTOR**

**Concession Made Regardless of Forthcoming Action by Supreme Court—Chairman Issues Statement.**

New York—The conference committee of railroad managers early Monday morning authorized President Wilson's mediators to make whatever arrangements were necessary with the railroad brotherhoods to call off the strike.

The formal letter in which this authorization was made was signed by Elisha Lee, chairman of the managers' committee, and was as follows:

"In the national crisis precipitated by events of which we heard this (Sunday) afternoon, the national conference committee of railroads join with you in the conviction that neither at home nor abroad should there be fear or hope that the efficient operation of the railroads of the country will be hampered or impaired.

"Therefore, you are authorized to assure the nation there will be no strike, and as a basis for such assurance we hereby authorize the committee of the Council of National Defense to grant to the employees who are about to strike whatever adjustment your committee deems necessary to guarantee the uninterrupted and efficient operation of the railroads as an indispensable arm of national defense."

The announcement of the managers that they had yielded apparently came as a surprise to the brotherhood chiefs, for they were in bed when summoned again to the conference room. Earlier in the evening there had been a distinctly pessimistic feeling as to the prospect for averting a strike.

Up to that hour the railroads had refused to make the concessions granted, and the brotherhoods had stood fast to their determination to strike unless they won their demands either by the Supreme court declaring the Adamson law valid or by their employers granting them the eight-hour day.

The men will get their present pay for 10 hours for eight hours' work under the agreement. These concessions on the part of the managers are virtually what the employees contended they would gain under the Adamson law if it were declared constitutional.

Immediately after Secretary Lane had made his announcement the brotherhood leaders sent telegrams to all the general chairmen informing them that the strike had been called off.

**Submarines Sink Three American Ships Without Warning**

London—The sinking of the American steamships City of Memphis, Illinois and Vigilance was announced Monday. Fourteen men from the Vigilance are missing, as are some of the men from the City of Memphis. The crew of the Illinois landed safely.

The City of Memphis, in ballast from Cardiff for New York was sunk by gunfire. The second officer and 15 men of the crew have been landed. A patrol boat has gone in search of the other members of the crew.

The Illinois, from London for Port Arthur, Tex., was in ballast.

The Vigilance was torpedoed without warning.

**Allies Gain on 82-Mile Front; Sixty Villages Are Occupied**

London—British troops, continuing their rapid advance on the heels of the retreating Germans, have occupied the important towns of Nesle, Chaulnes and Peronne.

Along a front of about 45 miles they have entered the German positions to a depth of 10 miles in places. In addition the British have taken more than 60 villages.

The announcement of these gains was contained in the official report Monday from British headquarters.

**Yarrowdale Men on Way.**

Berne—The 59 American seamen were taken to Germany on the prize ship Yarrowdale stopped for lunch in Berne Monday and left at 3 o'clock for Lyons, en route to the United States by way of Spain. The men were met at the railroad station by Pleasant A. Stovall, the American minister, the entire legion staff and virtually all the members of the American colony. Mrs. Harold McCormick had given each one of the party \$50. Some bought little souvenirs, while others invested in suitcases and clothing.

**Funeral Warship Named.**

Washington, D. C.—Japan has assigned the armored cruiser Azuma to bring home the body of Ambassador Guthrie. Mrs. Guthrie will return on the same ship.

**Day is Quiet in Dublin.**

Dublin—St. Patrick's day passed quietly in Dublin. Many country people came into town but there were no processions. The church services were largely attended.

**TO CLEAR SEA OF U-BOATS**

**Preparation for Aggressive Action by Navy Ordered by President.**

Washington, D. C.—Preparation for aggressive action by the navy against the German submarine menace began Tuesday at the direction of President Wilson. The President authorized the expenditure of the \$115,000,000 emergency fund, provided by congress to speed up naval construction and pay for special additional war craft, and the suspension of the eight-hour labor law in plants engaged in navy work.

Immediately afterward, Secretary Daniels ordered the New York navy yard to begin building 60 submarine chasers of the 110-foot type, to be completed in from 60 to 80 days. It was said 40 of these could be laid down at once.

With the President's approval, the secretary also ordered the graduation of the first and second classes at the naval academy. The first class will go out March 29, releasing 212 junior officers to fill existing vacancies, and the second in September, furnishing 202 more, a full year before they otherwise would be available.

While the energies of the navy will be concentrated for the present on efforts to get into commission craft designed particularly to destroy submarines and guard the coast, warship building generally will be speeded up under the recent agreement with private builders and with the funds now made available.

**Allies Pressing Enemy Hard; Large Territory Being Regained**

Paris—The French troops have occupied about 20 additional villages and small towns in their advance on the retreating Germans. They have gone beyond Ham on the Somme river and Chauney on the Oise, which brings them appreciably nearer to the St. Quentin-Laon line. At one point the advance Tuesday penetrated German lines to a depth of 22 miles.

London—The British advance still is being pushed rapidly, further large gains being recorded in the official report from British headquarters in France Tuesday night.

"The pursuit of the enemy," says the report, "continued Tuesday, our cavalry and advance guards driving back the enemy's rear guards. The ground gained extends for a depth of from two to eight miles and 40 more villages have fallen into our hands."

London—The following official communication is issued regarding the operation of the British troops against the Turks in Mesopotamia:

"During Saturday night General Maude's troops effected a crossing of the Djalal river and occupied the village of Bahrih and a part of the town of Bahrih on the left bank of the river. The enemy retired hastily toward Khanikan."

Bakubah lies about 25 miles northeast of Bagdad on the Djalal.

**Fifteen of Crew of Torpedoed Vigilance Are Drowned**

Plymouth, via London—Fifteen members of the crew of the American steamer Vigilance lost their lives when the steamer was torpedoed by a German submarine. The survivors were in lifeboats from Friday morning until Sunday afternoon.

Among those drowned were several American citizens, including Third Officer Neils P. North and Third Engineer Carl Adehold. This information was given out by Captain Frank A. Middleton, of New York, who, with the survivors of the Vigilance, has reached the mainland, and probably will make affidavits before the American consul.

Captain Middleton said that his vessel was sunk without warning. Two lifeboats were lowered from the Vigilance and the crew of 43 men got into them. Owing to the swell of the ocean, however, 25 men were thrown into the water. The boats of the Captain and the mates picked up ten of the men, but the other 15 were drowned.

**Shells Lifeboat; Kills Eight Men.**

London—A boat containing the first, second and third mates and five seamen of the Dutch steamer Selien chartered by the Belgian Relief commission, has been shelled by a submarine and all the occupants killed, according to a dispatch from Stavanger. "The Dutch steamer Selien," says the dispatch, "has reached here bound for New York in ballast. She left Rotterdam Friday, bearing the usual designations of the Belgian Relief commission, and was attacked at 5 o'clock Saturday afternoon."

**Seaplanes Save Ship.**

New York—The British freight steamer Eastgate, which arrived here Tuesday from La Pallise, was recently attacked by a German submarine and escaped destruction only through prompt aid rendered by two French seaplanes. The incident was related by members of the crew, who pointed to holes in the ship's ventilators made by shells in support of their story. The place of the attack and the date were not divulged.

**ADAMSON LAW IS CONSTITUTIONAL**

**Washington, D. C.—The eight-hour standard for railroad wages, provided in the Adamson law, was held constitutional Monday by the Supreme court.**

The Supreme court's decision, holding the entire Adamson act constitutional, was announced by Chief Justice White.

In announcing the opinion, the Chief justice reviewed the negotiations leading to enactment of the law. He did not read from a prepared opinion, giving it apparently from memory. He told of the President's efforts to avert the strike last September.

"He suggested arbitration. The employees accepted and the employees refused," said the Chief justice. "He then suggested a basic eight-hour-day standard. The employers rejected that and the employees accepted."

How the President went to congress was then recited. "Congress passed the law that is before us and the carriers refused to recognize it," he recited. He said the agreement to expedite the case was "very laudable."

In the early course of the opinion the Chief justice said that the law was both an eight-hour day act and also a wage-fixing statute. He said it "strips the parties of power of contract" as to wages. He said the eight-hour provision was the paramount feature.

As to whether the law fixes the hours of labor or fixes wages, the Chief justice said it did both. He said the right to fix hours of labor by congress was out of the cases unquestioned.

**Wilson Sees Way Clear in Strike Decision to Urge Arbitration Law**

Washington, D. C.—President Wilson, it is learned on good authority Wednesday, will strongly urge upon congress, in special session, the enactment of a compulsory arbitration act, basing his demand on the decision of the Supreme court in the Adamson case, which foretells that such a law will be held constitutional.

The President, according to those who have seen him since the decision, will be more vigorous in his demand than in the past two sessions, and will use the full power of the administration in favor of a law similar to that of Canada. One feature which the President probably will insist upon will make it unlawful for employees of interstate railroads to strike pending the arbitration of differences.

It is also learned from authentic sources that the leaders of the American Federation of Labor are deeply alarmed over the ruling of the Supreme court as to compulsory arbitration, and fear that if this principle is rigidly applied by congress labor unions will be deprived of an important and hitherto effective weapon.

**Ex-Czar of Russia May Quit Native Land for Switzerland**

Petrograd, via London—The former Dowager Empress Marie Feodorovna who was at Kiev, went to meet her son, former Emperor Nicholas, as he was returning after his abdication. She had long resented the influence over Nicholas wielded by the Empress Alexandra, Gregory Rasputin, the mystic monk, and Mademoiselle Grubava, lady-in-waiting to the Empress and Alexandra's best friend, who had introduced Rasputin to the Empress. Marie Feodorovna saw Alexandra only when court functions required. Since early in January she had been at Kiev and had refused to come to the capital. Her meeting with Nicholas was said to have been affecting.

The object of her visit to him was to advise with him as to her future residence. It is reported that she intends to go to Denmark, her native country.

It is expected that Nicholas Romanoff, as the former Emperor is now known, will eventually go to Switzerland or France, his stay in the Crimea being temporary. Most of the members of his suite have acknowledged the new government.

**New Peace Move Hinted.**

London—A dispatch from The Hague asserts that a new German peace move is on foot. Prominent Germans have recently visited Holland and Switzerland under instructions to ascertain what the present attitude of Great Britain is toward a possible cessation of hostilities. The emissary to Holland, disclaiming authority to speak for the German government, is quoted as saying the Russian revolution has changed the situation, since Germany could no longer claim that she wished to free the Russian Baltic provinces.

**Four Die From Greens.**

Boise, Idaho—Claude Richards, aged 22, member of the Richards family, of Carey, poisoned last week by eating canned greens, died Wednesday. He is the fourth victim to succumb, his mother and two sisters having died Sunday and Monday. The father, Samuel P. Richards, is very low, but his physician now entertains hope for his recovery. A hired man, who also ate some of the poisoned herbs, is considerably improved and will recover.

**Slayer of Judge is Killed.**

Birmingham, Ala.—David D. Overton, the ex-county clerk under death sentence for the murder of Judge W. T. Lawler, was shot to death in a Birmingham suburb Wednesday night by a sheriff's posse sent out to capture him and six other prisoners who had escaped from the county jail early in the day.

**RUSSIAN ROYALTY ABDICATES THRONE**

**Romanoff Dynasty Brought to Close by Revolution.**

**COUNTRY BECOMES REPUBLIC**

**Minister of Interior Killed, New Cabinet Named and Premier Chosen—Bread Riots Final Cause.**

Petrograd, via London—Emperor Nicholas abdicated at midnight Saturday night on behalf of himself and his heir apparent, Grand Duke Alexis, in favor of Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich.

At 2:30 o'clock Sunday afternoon Grand Duke Michael himself abdicated, thus bringing the Romanoff dynasty to an end.

The government, pending a meeting of the constitutional assembly, is vested in the executive committee of the Duma and the newly chosen council of ministers. A manifesto to this effect was issued by the Duma committee and telegraphed to army headquarters.

Petrograd, via London—Unless improbable events occur, Russia has become a republic. The outcome depends on how the manifesto of the new government is received by the 6,000,000 soldiers at the front.

Petrograd—The Emperor of Russia has abdicated and Grand Duke Michael Alexandrovich, his younger brother, has been named as regent. The Russian ministry, charged with corruption and incompetence, was swept out of office Saturday.

One minister, Alexander Protopopoff, head of the interior department, is reported to have been killed, and the other ministers, as well as the president of the Imperial council, are under arrest.

A new national cabinet is announced, with Prince Lvoff as president of the council and premier, and the other officers held by men close to the Russian people.

For several days Petrograd has been the scene of one of the most remarkable risings in history.

Beginning with minor food riots and labor strikes, the cry for food reached the hearts of the soldiers, and one by one the regiments rebelled, until finally those troops that had for a time stood loyal to the government took up arms and marched into the ranks of the revolutionaries.

The president of the Duma, Michael V. Rodzianko, was the leading figure among the deputies who unanimously decided to oppose the imperial order for a dissolution of the house. They continued their sessions, and M. Rodzianko informed the emperor, then at the front, that the hour had struck when the will of the people must prevail.

London—Official action by Great Britain, France and Italy in recognition of the provisional government of Russia was taken in Petrograd Sunday, according to Reuter's correspondent.

**United States of Russia Being Formed by Victorious Duma**

New York—The Empress and Crown Prince are now safe in Finland and the Emperor is at the Smetogorsky monastery in Pskoff, according to a cablegram made public here Sunday by the Russian-American-Asiatic corporation.

According to Ivan Norodny, head of the corporation, the cablegram was from their representatives in Petrograd and was transmitted through the Belgian minister.

Mr. Norodny announced the receipt of dispatches also saying that the Duma is promulgating orders for the formation of a government to be known as the United States of Russia, with Prince Lvoff as President.

**Handwriting Seen in Germany—Russian Parallel is Noted**

London—Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent telegraphs that an article in the Frankfurter Zeitung appears to confirm to some degree the impression that the sudden appearance of Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg in the Prussian Diet on Wednesday and his speech advocating the democratization of Germany were caused by his knowledge of events in Petrograd.

The Zeitung draws a parallel between the chancellor's acts and the revolution in Petrograd, pointing out that at the same time the executive committee of the Duma seized the reins of power Dr. von Bethmann-Hollweg delivered the speech, which it says, also disclosed a revolution, though of quite different kind and employing different means.

The newspaper asserts a democratic German empire comes because it must—not because the chancellor avows himself in its favor, but because his words express the will of an overwhelming majority of the people.

**Bandits Kill Two Americans.**

El Paso, Tex.—Partial confirmation of the massacre of the employees of the Magistral mines at El Oro, Durango, including Louis Seigler and Charles Winn, Americans, has been received here by officials of a mining company in the Magistral district. A Mexican employe reached the border Saturday from El Oro and said Seigler, Winn and the Mexicans from Magistral had gone to El Oro for safety and were surrounded by bandits when the messenger fled to the border.

**Press May Censor Self.**

Washington, D. C.—Secretary Daniels is considering the advisability of seeking the personal co-operation of press association officials and managing editors of leading newspapers in his effort to prevent publication of military information relating to the arming and sailing of American merchant craft. A conference with the New York editors, including those of Philadelphia, Baltimore and Boston, may be arranged early in the week.

**U. S. IS VIRTUALLY AT WAR**

**President Considers Extra Session; "Overt Act" Committed.**

Washington, D. C.—With the announcement of the ruthless destruction of three unarmed American merchant ships by submarines, it was unofficially admitted here Monday night that virtually a state of war exists between the United States and Germany.

Technically the United States remains in a position of armed neutrality. Whether this shall be changed before April 16, the date fixed for a special session of congress, the war-making branch of the government, President Wilson has not decided.

One step the President is contemplating is a call for an immediate session of congress to hear an address asking for authority to adopt aggressive measures against the submarine menace. Already American ships are being armed to defend themselves, the next move must be to send warships with orders to seek out submarines.

**Abdicates Throne.**



**Czar Nicholas, of Russia.**

The house of Romanoff is descended from Andrei Romanoff, who is said to have gone to Moscow from Prussia in the 14th century. Mikhail Feodorovitch Romanoff was the first of the family to ascend the throne. This was in 1818, when he was 17 years old.

The direct line of the Romanoffs terminated in 1730 and the female line in 1762, when the Holstein-Gottorp branch came into power and has since ruled.

The members of the family in the past two centuries have married so generously into the German royal houses that the Romanoffs are often said to be as much German, by blood, as their kinsman, the German emperor.

**and clear the trans-Atlantic lanes.**

Some of the highest officials of the government hold that the executive has the power to declare that a state of war exists and to proceed with aggressive protective steps pending the assembling of congress. There is no indication, however, that the President will follow that course.

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**Flag-Raising is Imposed.**

New York—Bouck White, pastor of the Church of the Social Revolution, who is serving a 30-day sentence in the Tombs for burning an American flag at a "melting pot" ceremony in the courtyard of the church last June, will raise the flag on the new flagpole in the Tombs yard each morning and haul it down at night.

To Edward R. Ames, and August Henkel, serving sentences for the same offense, will fall the duty of carrying the flag to and from the warden's office daily.

**Ranchers to Build Ships.**

Seattle, Wash.—Through R. W. Michael, of Seattle and Portland, a number of ranchers of the Pendleton district in Oregon are seeking to invest a large amount of money in the motorship industry at Seattle, Michael said Monday.

"The construction of wooden ships is logical the means of putting to use the money received for the wheat crops," he said. "It is apparent that the industry is only in its infancy."

**WORLD HAPPENINGS OF CURRENT WEEK**

**Brief Resume Most Important Daily News Items**

**COMPILED FOR BUSY READER**

**Events of Noted People, Governors and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing**

Premier Lloyd George has announced that the interest rate on all loans to farmers throughout the country Federal land banks would be cent.

An emergency appropriation of \$100,000 for the defense of the Commonwealth in the event of a strike passed by the Massachusetts legislature.

Elden, the 4-year-old son of Mrs. Frank Mahood, of Fairdale, on Thursday he would move a congratulatory to the Russian Emperor.

The Farm Loan board has announced that the interest rate on all loans to farmers throughout the country Federal land banks would be cent.

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