

## 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 Vigilancia was announced Monday. Fourteen men from the Vigilancia 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 Vigilancia 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 retiring 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.

### 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 Diala river and occupied the village of Bahriz and a part of the town of Bakubah on the left bank of the river. The enemy retired hastily toward Khanikan."

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

### Fifteen of Crew of Torpedoed Vigilancia Are Drowned

Plymouth, via London—Fifteen members of the crew of the American steamer Vigilancia 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 Adeholde. This information was given out by Captain Frank A. Middleton, of New York, who, with the survivors of the Vigilancia, 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 Vigilancia 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.

### 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 employer 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.

### War With United States Depends on Acts of U-Boats

London—In an interview granted to the Copenhagen correspondent of the Berlin Tageblatt, Count von Bernstorff, interrogated as to whether he thought there would be war between Germany and the United States, replied:

"That depends on our U-boat warfare. If we sink an American ship we shall get war. If not, I suppose we can avoid it."

### Famine Declared Near.

The Hague—After the debate in the Prussian house of deputies March 6, on the food crisis, Dr. Heim, leader of the Bavarian peasant party, published an article concerning the situation, from which the Vorwaerts prints the following extract:

"It is high time that facts which up to the present are known to but few of the uninitiated should be published. It is better to tell the people the truth squarely than to continue to work on a system which has hopelessly broken down through its own faults. We must hold out 120 days longer until the new crops; but even if tomorrow brought 'hunger peace' we would be unable for months to get a pound more of bread grain, owing to the lack of tonnage and the world's crop failure."

### Colombian Treaty Modified.

Washington, D. C.—Modifications in the Colombian treaty were agreed upon by the senate foreign relations committee in an effort to meet Republican objections, and Chairman Stone will lay the new draft before the senate with a view to pressing for ratification before the end of the present extra session. Republican leaders, still hostile in spite of the changes, said there would be no filibuster to prevent action, but more than 30 senators were pledged to vote against the treaty.

### England Asks for More Credit.

London—It is understood that the supplementary vote of credit which will be moved Thursday will be for £50,000,000 (\$250,000,000). The announcement created a mild sensation in the house of commons, in view of the granting of the huge sum of £550,000,000 as recently as February 12. An explanation unofficially offered is that the new government departments have been spending more largely than was anticipated in connection with the war.

### New Malady Besets City.

Galesville, Wis.—Four persons have died here and scores are ill, some critically, from a disease which has baffled physicians. The city officials have appealed to physicians in other cities for assistance. Little difficulty is experienced in detecting the symptoms, swollen glands and high temperature, but the proper treatment has not been developed.

### Mine Explosion Kills 8.

Canonsburg, Pa.—Eight miners are known to have been killed their bodies having been recovered, and five others are missing as a result of two explosions which early Thursday wrecked the interior of Hendersonville mine No. 1, of the Henderson Coal company three miles north of here.

## 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 1613, 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.

### 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 Snetogorsky 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.

Petrograd—After his abdication, Emperor Nicholas returned to general staff headquarters.

The attitude of the armies at the front in the face of the new development is not yet known in Petrograd. It is generally believed that the appointment of Grand Duke Nicholas as commander in chief will be received enthusiastically by the troops, with whom he is extremely popular.

### 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 READERS

Events of Noted People, Governments and Pacific Northwest and Other Things Worth Knowing.

Premier Lloyd George has announced in the house of commons that on Thursday he would move a motion of congratulation to the Russian Duma.

The Farm Loan board has announced that the interest rate on all loans made to farmers throughout the country by Federal land banks would be 5 per cent.

An emergency appropriation of \$1,000,000 for the defense of the commonwealth in the event of war was passed by the Massachusetts legislature.

Elden, the 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mahood, of Fairdale, Oregon, fell from his high chair at the Mahood home Saturday night and was killed. His neck was broken.

Ambassador Francis, at Petrograd, has cabled the State department that no Americans had been reported injured during the revolution, and that the embassy and staff were undisturbed.

The tinplate shortage threatening to cripple the country's food canning industry is taken up by government agencies with the aim of insuring a supply sufficient to keep all canning plants going.

Yale's senior class has voted to dispense with the use of intoxicating liquors at its class dinner in June. The same vote will govern future reunion gatherings of this class unless the vote should be rescinded.

Captain Jack Bonavita, nationally-known animal trainer, died in Los Angeles Wednesday night as the result of a fractured jaw and severe lacerations received in a struggle with a polar bear at a moving picture studio.

Patriotic students in Central High school in Washington, D. C., tore from the walls of a classroom a picture of Emperor William of Germany, and hung in its place a photograph of President Wilson, decorated with two American flags.

The council of workingmen's delegates in Petrograd has prescribed the immediate resumption of work in all factories, according to a dispatch from the Russian capital. Factories will pay full wages for the days in which work was prevented by the revolution.

In an epochal decision holding congress to be clothed with any and all powers necessary to keep open the channels of interstate commerce, the Supreme court, dividing five to four, sustained the Adamson law as constitutional and enforceable in every feature.

Representative Sherwood, of Ohio, one of the most openly-expressed pacifists in the house, declared in a public statement recently that the latest sinking of American ships by German submarines had converted him in favor of an immediate declaration of war. At the same time he offered his services to the army at the age of 82.

Immediate nationalization of railroad control was urged by Robert S. Lovett, chairman of the board of the Union Pacific, in testifying before the congressional committee investigating all phases of the railway problem. Final disposition of the control question, he declared, would prove a great factor in the grave problem of obtaining new capital with which to continue railroad development.

A sentence of imprisonment for three months is reported by Reuter's correspondent at The Hague to have been imposed on Herr Schroeder, editor of the Amsterdam Telegraaf, on the charge of having endangered the neutrality of the state through the publication of an editorial.

The capture by the Russians of the Persian town of Kermanshah is reported in an unofficial dispatch received in London.

"Enemy aviators again bombarded our hospital at Vertekop," says a Serbian official statement, "causing heavy loss of life among both patients and personnel. Two English nurses were among those killed. The hospitals are completely separated from any other buildings and are distinctively marked with a red cross."