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No Other Town in the World the Size of Grants Pass Has a Paper With Full Leased Wire Telegraph Service.

CONFERENCE OVER STRIKE STILL ON

Negotiations Between Pres. Wilson and Representatives of Contending Factions Are Again Put Over for a Day

Washington, Aug. 15.—President Wilson completed his second day of negotiations to prevent the threatened railroad strike with the end not yet in sight.

After a conference which lasted for an hour and 35 minutes with the railroad employes' representatives this afternoon, it was announced the president would see both sides again tomorrow.

"We are not yet through," A. B. Garretson, spokesman for the brotherhoods, said as his committee left the White House. "Nothing as yet is done. We have made no concessions."

The employes this afternoon presented a counter-proposition, the nature of which has not been disclosed.

The result of today's conferences, therefore, is summed up in the fact that each side has indicated a willingness to bring about peace by submitting counter-propositions for consideration of the other.

"Don't say anything about arbitration," was the tip from one of the most prominent of the brotherhood's board, "but we are very hopeful regarding the outcome. There are propositions and counter-propositions on both sides."

While the speaker declined to be specific as to what he meant by his tip that arbitration was side-tracked it was assumed the two sides are more nearly together than they have hitherto been and that matters are to be adjusted "across the tables."

Following the conference, the White House issued the following statement:

"There is no change. There is an earnest effort being made to work out a settlement."

President Wilson it was authoritatively learned following the conference, has withdrawn any suggestions of arbitration. The men made it clear to him they had all along refused arbitration and that they now see no reason to alter that attitude. It could not be learned what alternative the president was considering.

It was announced at the White House following the conference this afternoon that the president will see the railroad managers again at 9 a. m. tomorrow and the brotherhoods' board later.

Washington, Aug. 15.—The burden of concessions in bringing about an adjustment of the threatened railroad strike, appeared to have swung around from the railroads to the employes today.

After the railroad managers had been in the White House for more than an hour and a half, it was learned that they have agreed to accept the basic principle of the eight-hour day, but they demand that the question of overtime pay be subject to a more far-reaching investigation.

At the conclusion of the conference with the managers, President Wilson authorized the following statement:

"The president spent an hour and a half this morning with the representatives of the railway managers. After the conference he said it was impossible as yet to report as to the results; all that he could say was that a very candid and honest discussion was in progress about the practicable basis of settlement."

Their acceptance of the basis prin-

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HOUSE APPROVES NAVAL PROGRAM URGED BY SENATE

Washington, Aug. 15.—The house today adopted a naval program of four battleships and four battle cruisers for immediate construction, accepting that part of the naval bill as amended by the senate and urged by the president.

The house gave indication that it would adopt the entire plan which will involve an expenditure of \$315,000,000. Should this be the case, preparedness cost totals would be brought for this session to \$660,409,000. The vote was 233 to 53.

OREGON MILITIAMEN ARRESTED BY "M. P."

Headquarters Oregon National Guard, Calexico, Cal., Aug. 15.—Oregon soldiers who have been regarding civilian police as harmless ornaments since their mustering into the United States service, met their Waterloo here today in the activities of camp "M. P."

"M. P." is the camp slang expression for military police. Armed with club and pistol, with a blue band on right sleeve, the "huskies," as they are sometimes called, have incarcerated more than a dozen northwestern troopers in the provost marshal's "jug."

SLAVS ADVANCE ON UPPER STRYPA

Petrograd, Aug. 15.—The Russians have pierced the new Austro-German line on the Zlota Lipa river at a new point, having crossed to the west bank of the river in a 12-mile advance from the upper Strypa. It was officially claimed today.

Other Russian forces have crossed to the western bank of the Zlota Bistriza, southwest of Stanislaw. In the south the Slavs approaching Halitz are several miles west of the Zlota Lipa and seriously threaten General Bathmer's right flank and rear. Unless the Russian advance is speedily checked, the Austro-Germans must continue their retreat until they reach the Gnistia Lipa river—nearly 35 miles.

Ten days ago the arrival of strong bodies of Austrian and German reinforcements was followed by heavy attacks that caused the Russian line to retire slightly. It is now believed that these reinforcements have been withdrawn and are being hurried to the defense of Lemberg by a roundabout route south of the Carpathians. The Russians are now drawing in on Lemberg on a curving 150-mile front. At the nearest point, southwest of Brody, they are about 45 miles from the Galician capital.

GRENADE ATTACK WINS FOR FRENCH

Paris, Aug. 15.—A French grenade attack on the northeastern front of Verdun last night resulted in the capture of German trenches on a front of 300 yards to a depth of 100 yards, it was officially claimed today. The gain was made in the vicinity of Saint Fine chapel, at the intersection of the Fleury and Vaux roads.

German counter-attacks at this point were checked. The Germans bombarded French positions at Fleury and on the Vaux-Chapitre sector.

A German detachment last night penetrated a French salient northwest of Beaulne, in the region north of the Aisne, after an intense bombardment. They were later expelled by a French counter-attack.

French artillery was very active on the Somme front last night, but no infantry engagements occurred.

WOULD BURN CROPS IN GERMANY

Charge Is Made at Berlin That the Allies Attempt to Set Fire to Fields of Grain With Incendiary Bombs

Berlin, Aug. 15.—Allied military chiefs have attempted to aid the "starve Germany out policy," by setting fire to German harvest fields, according to reports received here.

The recent raids by Anglo-French aviators over the Black Forest and farm lands near Karlsruhe, are said to have been experimental trips. Incendiary bombs were dropped in several fields with the evident object of starting great fires, but did only slight damage.

Adolph von Batocki, German food director, said today there is little chance that the plan will succeed.

"In the first place, the fields have not been dry enough to enable them to start a great fire," he said. "In the second place, many of the crops are in. In the third place, we have no large farms like you have in America, and if small farms lost their crops in this manner, it would not affect the total. Don't forget, too, that our aeroplanes are guarding our farms as well as the trenches. Furthermore, our biggest harvest, potatoes, cannot be burned because they are buried."

The oats supply from the new harvest is so good that horses' rations will be increased, Batocki said. The grain crop is so good that bread rations will be increased and the fodder prospects are so excellent that Germany expects to raise as large a stock of pigs this fall as in peace times.

By a special arrangement between the government and the cattle raisers, the latter must deliver to the government so many fat pigs in return for fodder, which the government has monopolized. This insures a certain supply of pork and makes unnecessary the slaughtering of milk cows unless they are dry.

"As the result of these steps, there will be no shortage in milk," said Batocki.

TRAINMEN'S REPRESENTATIVE SAYS STRIKE WOULD PARALYZE TRAFFIC

Washington, Aug. 15.—If a strike of the 400,000 railway men of the four brotherhoods should be called, the transportation of the United States would be paralyzed within a minute after the order was issued, A. B. Garretson, of the conductors' brotherhood declared today.

Garretson gave this idea of the effect of a strike, when asked how long it would take to tie up the railroads, should the negotiations now being conducted by President Wilson fail. As for the movement of mails, which would be affected by a strike order, Garretson said the railroads, not the men, would be responsible.

"It is the railroads that have the contracts for carrying the mail," he said. "I do not see any reason why we should supply men for this. The roads would have to attend to it."

"Industrial necessity," Garretson said, "is a plea that is the excuse for every kind of injustice and oppression."

"It was the case in France some years ago when that nation suspended its constitutional guarantees in order to prevent a general railroad

BRITISH GAIN ON SOMME FRONT

Recapture of 700 Yards of Trenches from Germans is Announced, while French Succeed in Verdun Section

London, Aug. 15.—Recapture by the British of about 700 yards of German trenches on the Somme battle front, and a successful French blow on the most important sector of the Verdun battle front, were recorded in official despatches today.

The German war office this afternoon admitted the British gain on the Somme front.

Berlin, however, announced the repulse of all other British and French attacks on the Somme front.

In the fighting northeast of Verdun, the French captured German trenches on a 300-yard front to depths of 100 yards, it was officially claimed at Paris. The gain was made north of the Chapel of Saint Fine, at the point where the German line dips closest to the city of Verdun.

Conflicting claims came from Petrograd and Berlin today on the progress of the Russian drive on Lemberg. An official statement from Petrograd claimed that another Slav force has crossed the Zlota Lipa river and indicates that the new Zlota Lipa line, to which General Bothmer retreated from the river Strypa must soon be abandoned under heavy Russian pressure.

Berlin announced that Bothmer repulsed strong Slav attacks, inflicting heavy losses on the enemy.

The Italian war office claimed the capture of several sections of enemy trenches west of San Grado and Mount Pecinka and the capture of 1,675 prisoners in that region and in fighting east of Goritz.

Berlin's official report of the repulse of attacks south of Lake Dolran indicated a continuation of the lively patrol fighting in the Balkans.

Muskogee, Okla., Aug. 15.—Another 10 cent cut in mid-continent crude oil to 95 cents was announced today by the Prairie Pipe Line company.

MAINE SITUATION IS ENCOURAGING FOR WILCOX

New York, Aug. 15.—Declaring that the "profession of political prophecy was extra hazardous," Wm. R. Wilcox, chairman of the republican national committee, today declined to make any predictions concerning the coming Maine election, other than to remark that the situation looked "very encouraging."

Senator Clark of Wyoming was a visitor at the republican headquarters today en route home to take part in the campaign. Clark predicted a republican victory in Wyoming. The campaign will be opened at Cheyenne Aug. 25 by Governor Hughes.

STRIKE DANGER TO KEEP MILITIA IN HOME STATES

Washington, Aug. 15.—Because of the threatened railroad strike the war department today suspended indefinitely the proposed movement to the border of between 25,000 and 35,000 mobilized militia in state camps last week ordered to the Mexican line.

The reason for suspending the order is a possible shortage of supplies and difficulty of obtaining transportation for the men. It has no connection, it is said with possible use of the troops during the threatened strike. Until further orders are issued, none of the organizations which are preparing to leave state camps will be sent to the border.

The order to keep the militiamen at places near their mobilization camps came from General Funston.

Funston's message follows: "In view of the possibility of a general railroad strike, I desire to call the attention of the war department to difficulties that will follow in maintaining food supplies not only of troops in this department, but of the civilian population as well. These border states produce little foodstuffs except cattle."

NO CAMPAIGN TOUR FOR PRES. WILSON

Washington, Aug. 15.—President Wilson will go on no campaign "stamping tour."

This was definitely decided at a luncheon today, tendered by the president and Mrs. Wilson to members of the democratic campaign committee.

From time to time the president will accept invitations to deliver addresses in different parts of the country, but the only trips decided so far are Hodgenville, Ky., Sept. 4 and St. Louis, Sept. 20.

September 2 he will go to Long Branch, N. J., where at 4 p. m. he will receive formal notification of his renomination.

After the Hodgenville speech, the president will return to Washington to remain until congress adjourns, after which he will go at once to the "summer white house" at Shadow Lawn, which will be the center of democratic activities until election time.

Chairman Vance McCormick said delegations from all parts of the country would see the president at Shadow Lawn and he would hold regular conferences there, except for the occasional trips into the heart of the country to deliver addresses.

McCormick said no plans yet had been made for any trip that would carry the president as far west as the Pacific coast, but that he might accept one of a score of invitations that have come to him from coast cities.

The campaign committee, after leaving the White House met with the president's cabinet in secretary McAdoo's office.

AUSTRIANS ARE TAKEN AT GORITZ

Rome, Aug. 15.—Several sections of Austrian trenches have been captured by the Italians in sharp fighting west of San Grado and Mount Pecinka, it was officially announced today. In these operations 1,450 prisoners were taken.

East of Goritz heavy fighting is going on before Austrian entrenchments. In these encounters 225 prisoners were taken. The Austrians made unsuccessful demonstrations for the purpose of diverting Italian troops in the region of Mount Pinta, Forame, Colombaro, Monte Cimone, Seluggio and Pasubio.

ZEPPELINS TO WAGE WAR OF REPRISAL

Air Raids by German Dirigibles will be Prosecuted to Punish the British Because of the Baralong Crew Case

Berlin, via Sayville, Aug. 15.—German Zeppelins will punish England for her failure to punish the crew of the British steamer Baralong, who killed members of a German submarine crew, after they had been made prisoners, it was officially announced today.

In future Zeppelins raiding English towns will have no consideration for the lives of civilians.

The government today made known its position in transmitting to the reichstag a white book on the Baralong case, containing the official German and British documents. The final report says:

"The German government, replying to the declarations of the British government about the German memorandum of Jan. 10, 1916, on the Baralong case, decided that on account of the British government's revoluting attitude, it was impossible to continue the negotiations. At the same time it announced that it would itself take reprisals corresponding to the provocation."

"The German government, of course, declined to retaliate for the crimes committed by British seamen by bringing similar reprisals—for instance, shooting British war prisoners. But German airships will have convinced the English people that Germany is able to atone for the cruelties perpetrated by the officers and crew of the Baralong."

"If, formerly, the unavoidable danger for the civilian population was particularly considered when using German Zeppelins for military purposes, such regards are no more reprisals in the face of the Baralong murder. (The text as sent by wireless is not clear at this point.) Since then the arm of the airship has been used against England within the limits of the law of nations, without any such regard. In every airship that throws destructive bombs on London or other defended towns or such that contain establishments of military character, England shall remember the Baralong case."

The British patrol ship Baralong, flying an American flag, sunk a German submarine in Aug. 1914. The submarine crew was captured, but in a fight aboard the Baralong, the exact details of which are not known, the submariners were killed. According to stories from American newspapers they were kicked off the patrol boat into the water, or shot as they were pleading for mercy.

Germany demanded an explanation of the "Baralong murders." England countered with the proposal that a board of neutrals investigate the Baralong affair and at the same time the sinking of the liner Arabic, the British steamer Reul and the attack on the British submarine E-13 in Danish waters, which occurred at about the same time as the Baralong incident. The German government rejected this proposal and notified England on Jan. 14, 1916, that she would exact reprisals. The exact nature of the reprisals is disclosed for the first time in dispatches from Berlin today.

Washington, Pa., Aug. 15.—Three men were killed and several others were injured at Vances, near here, early today when two doubleheader freight trains of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad crashed head-on.