

RAILWAY STRIKE NOW DEFERRED

Enginemen Accept Roads' Offer of Mediation.

Managers Deny Refusing to Abide by Awards—Federal Board Will Now Take Case.

Chicago—Danger of a strike of the engine crews of Western railroads was deferred Saturday night when the representatives of the men accepted an offer of mediation by William L. Chambers, chairman of the Federal Board of Mediation and Conciliation. The meeting with the full board will begin here within a few days.

The offer of mediation by Mr. Chambers came as a result of a request by A. W. Trenholm, chairman of the committee of general managers, which was made in spite of a formal announcement that the employees would decline to accept mediation, and charges that the railroads had heretofore refused to abide by the findings of arbitration boards.

The message of acceptance was sent by Warren S. Stone, grand chief engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

The railroads committee, in a letter to the men, denied they had refused to abide by arbitration awards, as charged by the men.

Mr. Carter said that the charges of repudiation had been the result of the interpretation given awards by the roads, and not because they had actually ignored the findings of the arbitration board. He said, also, that the Eastern rather than the Western roads, had been in mind when these charges were made.

"The findings of the mediation board are not mandatory," he said.

Both Germans and British Offer Gen. Huerta Asylum

Puerto Mexico—General Victoriano Huerta, who recently resigned as provisional president of Mexico arrived here shortly after 9 o'clock Saturday night. He was accompanied by General Blanquet, his minister of war.

When he expects to leave his country and share the exile of General Porfirio Diaz, whom he escorted to the coast three years ago, is yet unknown except perhaps to himself.

Captain Kohler, of the German cruiser Dresden, offered him his ship "for any use he cared to make of her," but General Huerta merely thanked him, adding that he would return his call.

The trip to this port was without incident or unpleasantness other than that caused by the terrible heat of the tropical lowlands. With Huerta and Blanquet were the general staff. The party occupied a train of nine sleeping cars, four of which were given over to troops.

Two other trains, with nothing but troops, preceded General Huerta's train and arrived here an hour before the Huerta train. Behind him came another train, also loaded with soldiers, to guard against any rear movements.

Captain Kohler and staff, in formal dress uniforms, were at the station and were officially presented to General Huerta. He thanked the captain for his call and for the offer of his boat.

British Vice Consul Gemmill also officially called on Huerta and presented him a message, presumably an offer of refuge on the British cruiser Bristol. Huerta read it and expressed pleasure at the consideration being shown him.

Strikers Use Dynamite.

Fort Smith, Ark.—After a pitched battle between several hundred striking coal miners and sympathizers and 100 guards stationed at the Prairie Creek mines of the Mammoth Vein Coal company, near Fort Smith, Saturday which ended in the rout of the guards, tipples of three mines were destroyed by fire and dynamite.

The property damage is estimated at \$200,000. So far as can be ascertained no one was killed or wounded in the fighting, which began shortly after daybreak. The rioters held possession of the mines several hours, wrecking the plants with torch and explosives.

Child Escapes Narrowly

Riverside, Cal.—Mary Sobde, 2 years old, dropped her rag doll into an irrigation standpipe near here, and, reaching after it, fell in herself and floated along in an 18-inch main. Efforts to fish her out at two standpipes farther down failed, but at the third, an eighth of a mile away, James Klinge, a rancher, caught her, unconscious, and resuscitated her. The doll was not recovered.

NEW PRESIDENT OF MEXICO TO RESIGN TO CARRANZA

Washington, D. C.—Francisco Carbajal, successor to General Huerta as provisional president of Mexico, has advised the United States government informally that he intended to retire in favor of General Carranza, the constitutional chief. Mr. Carbajal wishes only that a general amnesty be proclaimed and protection given to the property of those who opposed the constitutionalists.

This statement of the attitude of Huerta's successor, together with the announcement from Saltillo that Carranza was willing to enter into negotiations with Carbajal relative to the transfer of authority at Mexico City, was regarded here as practically assuring cessation of hostilities and the restoration of peace in Mexico.

Monterey, Mex.—"General Carranza will not recognize the validity of the debts of Huerta after he enters Mexico City and establishes a constitutional government," was the statement made here by high constitutionalist officials.

It was in answer to questions concerning a statement said to have been published in the United States that foreign nations had made a demand through Washington that Carranza agree to recognize the legality of the debts of Huerta and grant amnesty to all political prisoners.

Big Alaskan Railway Tax Is Repealed by Congress

Washington, D. C.—In less time than it takes to tell it, the United States senate, following the lead of the house of representatives, tore up "I. O. U.'s" representing something like \$20,000,000 technically due the government, but not recoverable, because of the inability of certain railroad companies to pay fines that legally rested against them under an old law passed in 1899.

This big wad of money, stage or otherwise, was thrown away when the senate passed a house bill repealing the act of 1899 imposing an annual tax of \$100 a mile on all railroads in Alaska, and remitted all penalties that may have accrued under that statute.

In lieu of that tax, the repealing law, since signed by the President, imposes a tax of 4 per cent per annum on the gross receipts of all privately-owned railroads in Alaska.

One of the interested spectators in the senate gallery when the repeal bill was passed was Falcon Joslin, representing the Tanana Valley railroad, a 45-mile road running out of Fairbanks. This road, one of the first built in Alaska, has never paid and has never been able to pay the old tax, especially since that law was cumulative in character, doubling the penalty the first day of delinquency, quadrupling the penalty for the second day and so on ad infinitum.

Mr. Joslin estimated that at the time the senate repealed the \$100 tax, his railroad owed the government something more than \$10,000,000, and the full penalty earned the day the bill passed was exactly \$13,000.

There are about 200 miles of railroad in Alaska that have been effectively put out of business by the old \$100 tax, as none were able to operate and discharge their obligation to the government. Senator Jones, of Washington, who was instrumental in having the law of 1899 repealed, informed the senate that the repeal would give incentive to these roads to begin operation immediately.

General Villa Sorry That President Huerta Resigned

Juarez, Mex.—"I would much prefer that Huerta had remained in the chair, or, in Mexico City, until we could get our hands on him," General Villa said in Juarez, when he learned of Huerta's reported resignation.

"That is the only comment I care to make on the subject," he added. "I am a soldier of my country and do not care to express my opinion of the traitor's resignation."

A military band played martial airs outside Villa's headquarters as the news of Huerta's resignation was spread about. Villa will remain on the border two or three days, it was said at his headquarters here. An informal request has been made that he visit El Paso on the American side, but while neither army nor civil officials have any objections, the matter was dropped.

The sudden, but not unexpected turn of affairs at the national capital led to speculation regarding what troops of the constitutionalist army would be the first to enter Mexico City. The forces under Generals Aguilar and Obregon are the nearest the goal of the Carranza revolution, but Villa officials expressed the belief that troops of all the divisions would be represented in the triumphal entry. Villa's army cannot be moved southward for several weeks.

Enginemen of 98 Roads Favor Strike if Necessary

Chicago—Only the hope that the managers will yield to the demands of 55,000 engineers and firemen stands between 98 roads west of Chicago and the greatest strike in the history of American railways.

With the statement that the men had voted nearly unanimously to strike, union officials announced that arbitration under the Federal law would be refused, on the grounds that the railroads have not lived up to previous arbitration awards.

The railroads, through their general managers' committee, contended that to grant the employees' demands would mean an increase of \$33,000,000 annually in wages. The engineers and firemen asserted that their requests were fair and equitable.

It is expected that further conferences will be held. Should the negotiations fail and the employees stand by their announced refusal of arbitration, the resulting strike would, it is declared, almost completely paralyze traffic in the Central West. Some of the principal requests made by the employees of the roads were:

Increases in the rates of pay of engineers and firemen in all classes of service.

That the number of hours after which overtime will be paid in freight service be reduced from 10 to 8 hours, and in passenger service from 10 to 5 hours.

That overtime be raised to a basis of time and a half in freight service and double time in passenger service.

That engineers and firemen be paid an arbitrary 30 minutes' preparatory time for each trip, instead of computing service continuously from actual time of reporting for duty.

That allowances be made for terminal delays in addition to payment for the miles or the hours of the trip.

That the differentials paid for running Mallet engines be increased.

That the differentials between local and through freight service be increased.

Virtually all lines west of Chicago, the Illinois Central and lines in Canada west of Fort William, except the Canadian Grand Trunk Pacific are affected.

Bungalows on Top of Skyscrapers is Prediction

Duluth, Minn.—That the skyscraping office building of the near future will contain many new features is the prediction of C. A. Patterson, secretary of the National Association of Building Owners and Managers, in addressing that body here.

"Innovation," said Mr. Patterson, "is the middle name of the modern skyscraper. It will be only a short time when big office buildings will have elevators running not only up and down from the street to the top of the building, but running horizontally on different floors. Furthermore, patrons will pay fares to ride on these elevators and get transfers from the vertical lifts to the horizontal, just as we get them on streetcars."

"They will pipe pure air from the country right into the big city building, just as they pipe pure water, and bungalows on top of tall buildings will house the owners in summer. A building permit for such a bungalow already has been taken out in Chicago."

Biggest Gun is Shipped.

Washington, D. C.—When its breech-loading device has been perfected, the great 16-inch gun, the biggest piece of ordnance in the world, which has just been shipped from Sandy Hook proving grounds, will be practically ready for service in the Panama canal fortifications.

The carriage for this giant gun is now under construction at the Watertown, Mass., arsenal. It probably will be taken back to Sandy Hook for tests after being mounted, and will not be shipped to Panama before next spring.

Some idea may be gotten of the tremendous power of this gun, destined to protect the Pacific entrance to the canal, by the fact that it is 50 feet long, weighs 142 tons and fires a projectile about six feet long. The projectile itself weighs a ton and is discharged by 665 pounds of powder. This gun has a maximum range of from 22 to 23 miles. The elevation permitted by its carriage will enable the gun to fire a projectile about 11 miles across the Pacific ocean. It has sufficient power, theoretically, to pierce two feet of the best armor plate at the muzzle. At 11 miles the gun is calculated to pierce at 12-inch armor plate, or any side armor afloat.

Owl Snoozes Before Senate.

Washington, D. C.—Roosting high on a ledge on a senate gallery corridor Wednesday, a screech owl peacefully snoozed while the senate was in session. Through an open door the strange visitor was in plain view of Vice President Marshall. The bird showed no interest in the anti-trust legislation or the introduction of bills and resolutions, but just kept on snoozing.

Family of Huerta Leaves Mexico Under Heavy Guard

Mexico City—At 10 o'clock Wednesday night the family of President Huerta and other relatives and close friends left the capital for Vera Cruz aboard a special train. The train was composed of three sleepers and a baggage car. Running ahead of it were two military trains carrying 800 men. Following came another military train with 500 troops aboard.

The family of General Blanquet, minister of war, also left on the special.

The party boarded the train at Villa de Guadalupe, a railroad station about five miles from Mexico City. Only a few persons were aware of their departure.

Washington, D. C.—Although the resignation of General Huerta is confidently expected by the State department and Washington diplomats to be presented at any moment, the constitutionalists, unaffected by the news, are pressing hard their military campaign on Mexico City.

Official dispatches revealed that General Villa, with 15,000 men, was ready for a rapid advance on the Mexican capital and that General Obregon's forces at Guadalajara were prepared to sweep onward within a few days.

Diplomats are working hard to prevent fighting in the capital and still hope that the transfer of power to the constitutionalists may be effected without further bloodshed. General Huerta's resignation, it is realized, would not immediately compose the situation, but it would make possible parleys with the constitutionalists through which a change of government could be accomplished peacefully.

The numerous official advices saying Huerta would resign in a day or two, including messages from the Brazilian minister in Mexico City and other diplomats, have raised the expectations of official Washington that his exit from power also would mean his flight from the country.

Trust Program Delayed by Absence of Senators

Washington, D. C.—The administration anti-trust program has struck some more snags.

Absenteeism is one of the causes of delay, differences between Democrats as to important points both in the Clayton bill, pending before the judiciary committee, and the measure to regulate securities of common carriers before the interstate commerce committee is another, and a desire on the part of many senators to have all the pending bills consolidated into one measure is a third cause.

Many senators are declining to participate in discussion of the interstate trade commission bill, which is already before them, because they are not aware of the provisions of the other measures. When asked how soon the securities bill would be ready, Senator Newlands, chairman of the interstate commerce committee, said it would be perfected at the next meeting of the committee. He was unable to specify the day of the meeting on account of the absence of several members of the committee. That the committee is far from an agreement on the bill was admitted by one of the members.

The judiciary committee met Wednesday and endeavored to perfect the Clayton bill. Some changes already announced are again under consideration.

Alaskan Trade Growing.

Seattle—The report issued by the customs collector of Seattle shows that the shipments of freight to the North for the past 10 months have totaled \$14,000,000, an increase of \$1,500,000 over that of last year for the corresponding period. Alaskans here say that the passage of the bill for a government railroad already has started the trend of freight northward, and that next year will show a greater increase when actual construction work starts.

Suffrage School Opens.

Kansas City—The necessity of votes for women and how to get them were the subjects taken up at the first session of the Kansas City Suffrage school, which opened here Thursday. Thirty-five women were in attendance, representing the four suffrage leagues of the city. Sessions are to be held three times a week preliminary to the campaign to be conducted this summer for the suffrage amendment to be voted on at the fall election.

Clubman Shot for Deer.

San Francisco—Mistaken in the thick underbrush by his hunting companion, Elmer Cox, Jr., as a deer they had run to cover, A. J. Fancis, a well-known clubman of this city, was shot and dangerously wounded. Assisted by their hunting guide, Cox and a fellow hunter succeeded in getting Francis to a hospital 27 miles from their camp, the trip occupying more than 30 hours.

HUERTA IS OUT; CARBAJAL IS IN

Resignation Accepted by Mexican Congress, 121 to 17.

New President Assumes Control Immediately—Late Dictator Pays His Respects.

Mexico City—General Victoriano Huerta resigned from the provisional presidency of the Mexican republic Wednesday night, and his resignation was accepted by the senate and chamber of deputies by a vote of 121 to 17. The resignation was accompanied by the announcement that it was actuated by highest motives of patriotism and complying with supreme duty to his country.

Francisco Carbajal was then appointed president and took the oath of office at the joint session of deputies and senators.

Huerta's resignation was submitted through the department of foreign relations. It was read in the house and was greeted with cries of "viva Huerta." It was then referred to the joint committees of governance. After brief consideration, the committees reported accepting the resignation in the following terms:

"Article 1.—We accept the resignation presented by General Victoriano Huerta as president of the Mexican United States.

"Article 2.—We call Licentiate Francisco Carbajal, minister of foreign relations, to assume the presidency."

Quick Solution of Mexico's Troubles Seen by Officials

Washington, D. C.—News of General Huerta's resignation as provisional president of Mexico was hailed by official Washington as the first practical step toward a quick solution of the Mexican problem.

Constitutionalists, diplomats and officials of the United States government did not conceal their satisfaction over the fact that General Huerta at last had voluntarily eliminated himself from the situation and pointed the way to an era of peace in his country.

Although the constitutionalists have declared they would not recognize Francisco Carbajal as provisional president any more than they did his predecessor, and the United States government likewise will refuse to recognize him, the understanding here is that the new executive will hold office for only a short term—only until satisfactory arrangements can be made for the entry of General Carranza, the constitutionalist chief.

General Huerta's retirement came just as the constitutionalists were preparing their formal answer to the South American mediators rejecting the invitation for formal conferences with representatives of Huerta for the discussion of internal Mexican questions.

Huerta and Blanquet on Journey Out of Country

Mexico City—General Huerta and General Blanquet left the capital immediately after the resignation was accepted. They boarded a train on the Mexican railway a few miles beyond the city. It is thought they are going to Puerto Mexico.

Admiral Badger also announced that two British cruisers sailed from Vera Cruz for Puerto Mexico.

Before his departure Huerta went to the palace to pay his respects to President Carbajal.

Vera Cruz—The Mexicans of Vera Cruz received the news of Huerta's resignation without manifestation of excitement.

Apparently the officers in the field have been kept in the dark as to Huerta's intention to resign. Commanding rurales about this city, while discussing the subject with American officers at the gap, offered to wager that Huerta would remain at his post for many months.

The American officers think it possible the next day or two may see many Mexican officers seeking safety within the American lines. They believe it is even possible that virtually the whole federal force near Vera Cruz may offer to surrender to the Americans rather than seek to join the constitutionalist cause at this late hour.

Disease Menaces Rebels.

Washington, D. C.—Famine and disease threaten to drive the Dominican rebels from their stronghold in Puerto Plata, from which President Bordas has been endeavoring to dislodge them in a campaign of several months. Captain Eberle, of the cruiser Washington, reported that food and water were scarce and that the death rate was increasing daily in consequence.