



WEATHER—Maximum yesterday, 51; minimum today, 25; precipitation, .04. FORECAST—Tonight and tomorrow, fair and light frost tonight.

MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



Forty-sixth Year.
Daily—Eleventh Year.

MEDFORD, OREGON, FRIDAY, MARCH 16, 1917.

NO. 304.

PRESIDENT APPOINTS STRIKE MEDIATORS

APPEALS TO PATRIOTISM OF STRIKERS

President Wilson Appoints Mediators Members of Cabinet and of Council of National Defense and Sends Personal Appeal to Representatives of Both Sides Urging That They Do Everything to Co-Operate With Mediator Committee.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—President Wilson late today sent a personal appeal to the representatives of the two sides in the railroad controversy urging that they do everything possible to co-operate with the mediation committee.

The president's appeal follows: "I deem it my duty and right to appeal to you in this time of national peril to open again to the questions at issue between the railroads and their operatives with a view to accommodation or settlement.

With my approval, a committee of the Council of National Defense is about to seek a conference with you with that end in view. The railway interruption of this time would entail a danger to the nation which I have the right to enter my most solemn and earnest protest. It is now the duty of every patriotic man to bring matters of this sort to immediate accommodation. The safety of the country against manifest perils affecting its own peace and the peace of the whole world makes a convention absolutely imperative and seem to me to render any other choice or action inconceivable."

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The Council of National Defense, including several cabinet members at a meeting here today took up the threatened nation-wide railroad strike and it was indicated that some action looking to a prevention of the strike might be taken.

The action decided upon was to have Secretaries Lane and Wilson and Daniel Willard and Samuel Gompers, members of the advisory commission of the Council of National Defense, confer at once with representatives of both sides. This action was expected by the president and his advisers to avert the strike.

Ask Postponement. Secretary Baker announced after the cabinet meeting that the Council of National Defense, with the approval of President Wilson, had decided upon this step. Arrangements for conferences with the representatives of the two sides will be made at once.

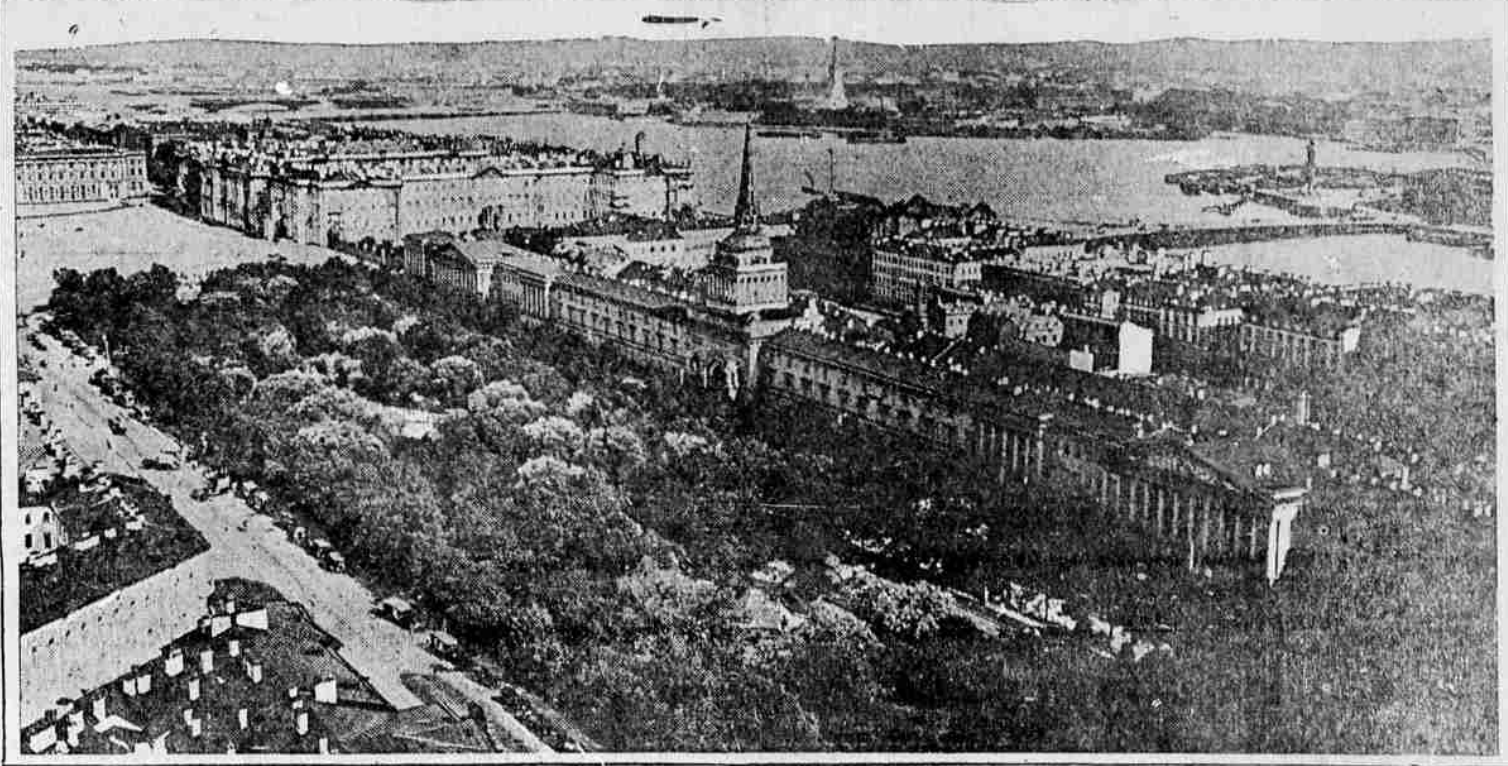
The mediators, speaking for President Wilson, said:

SOUTH AMERICA TO DEFINE ATTITUDE

WASHINGTON, March 16.—Five Latin-American governments have accepted in principle a formal suggestion from Ecuador that delegates from the republics of North, South and Central America, assemble immediately for the purpose of "taking necessary measures for securing a continental expression principally for the guarantee of the rights of neutrality and it is possible for the alleviation of the horrors of war."

Additional acceptances are expected soon by the government of Ecuador. The United States has not indicated its attitude toward the conference. It is known that at least one of the larger South American republics will follow whatever course the United States pursues.

GENERAL VIEW OF PETROGRAD, SHOWING ADMIRALTY BUILDING IN FOREGROUND AND WINTER PALACE NOW IN POSSESSION OF REVOLUTIONISTS.



GRAND DUKE NICHOLAS TO LEAD ARMY

Russian Revolution a Complete Success—Vigorous Prosecution of War Assured—Czar Has Not Abdicated Yet, But Must—Michael Regent—Duma and Zems to Co-Operate in Restoring Normality of Life of Empire—Food Problem Solved.

LONDON, March 16.—Official action by Great Britain, France and Italy in recognition of the provisional government of Russia, was taken in Petrograd yesterday, according to Reuter's Petrograd correspondent.

LONDON, March 16.—A Reuter dispatch from Petrograd says that the emperor is expected to arrive at the Tsarskoe-Selo palace and that several regiments with artillery are hastening to the same place.

LONDON, March 16.—The abdication of Emperor Nicholas and the appointment of Grand Duke Michael as regent has not yet been carried into effect, though it has been decided on by the executive power, Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer announced today in the house of commons.

Arresting Police. LONDON, March 16.—A Petrograd dispatch says that soldiers there were still engaged today in rounding up the police, thousands of whom have been imprisoned. All the police stations have been destroyed or sacked and all suspected houses searched for ammunition and arms.

This dispatch reports that a train carrying Emperor Nicholas was held up by soldiers. The empress is said to be in a hysterical condition, while the crown prince is suffering from an attack of either measles or scarlet fever. Prices of provisions in Petrograd have fallen greatly.

Nicholas to Command. LONDON, March 16.—The Grand Duke Nicholas is reported to have taken the Russian capital, probably to reach the command of the troops.

Grand Duke Nicholas, idol of the Russian army, and ranked as Russia's greatest master strategist, looms up as the big military figure of the hour in the empire which has just witnessed a successful and almost bloodless revolution and the abdication of its emperor.

The relinquishment of the throne by Nicholas II automatically deprived him of his rank as commander in chief of the Russian armies. The heir to the throne is an infant and Grand Duke Nicholas, named as regent.

IRISH MAY FORCE GOVERNMENT OUT

LONDON, March 16.—In discussing the Irish situation in the house of commons today, Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, declared the attitude of the nationalists might compel an appeal to the country on the ground that the nationalists were willing to permit the government to get on with the war.

Replying in the house of commons today to a question of John Dillon as to whether orders had been given to the people of Dublin to remain indoors on St. Patrick's day, Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, said that Henry E. Duke, chief secretary for Ireland, had gone to that country. Mr. Bonar Law said that he personally knew nothing about the matter, but would make inquiries.

RAILROAD STRIKE CURTAILS VALLEY'S SUPPLY OF FOOD

Medford and the Rogue river valley will be forced to depend upon products raised at home and upon those brought in by express according to local food dealers if the embargo announced by the Southern Pacific continues in effect. The embargo order states that no perishable freight will be accepted that will not reach its destination by noon tomorrow. Freight not perishable is being accepted subject to delay.

The plans for a walkout as stated in news dispatches this morning will not stop service in the Western section until March 21. Before that time a large quantity of foodstuffs is expected to be moved at the consignee's risk. Following the stopping of freight traffic, local dealers state that if necessary to protect local customers, they will bring in food products by express.

The Union Meat Co. branch at Medford will suffer most heavily from a freight embargo as they average 8000 pounds per week, smoked and cured meats and lard comprising most of the shipments although some fresh meat is also shipped in.

An embargo will probably stiffen the local poultry market as San Francisco where most of the local poultry is shipped consumes quantities of middle western poultry. In event that supply is cut off the demand for western poultry will be greatly increased. Eggs, in event of a rail stop will probably drop, as San Francisco and Portland, which absorb the local output both ship great quantities east; Portland to Idaho and Montana and San Francisco to Nevada and Arizona.

Local stores will be out of fresh vegetables, except those raised locally, by the first of the week, according to the Medford Fruit Co. Bananas also will be off the market at that time. The company is well stocked with potatoes and other heavier commodities which will hold out for a considerable time. A telegram was received by C. C. Chapman, manager of the company this afternoon, stating that a car of fruit and vegetables ordered from San Francisco, will not be shipped until the embargo is lifted.

AIRSHIP BOMBS FALL ON WESTGATE

LONDON, March 16.—The war office announces that at 5:30 today a hostile airplane dropped bombs on Westgate. There was no casualties and the material damage reported was slight. Westgate is about 80 miles from London.

BRITISH OCCUPY BAKUBAH; SLAVS DISLodge TURKS

LONDON, March 16.—A portion of the town of Bakubah, on the right bank of the Diala river about thirty miles northeast of Baghdad, has been occupied by the British, it was announced in a report received today from General Maude, in command of the British Tigris forces.

The Turks continue to fall back on the right bank of the Tigris. Russian troops have dislodged the Turkish forces from their fortified positions on the summit of Narleskhan, to the west of Kermanshah, in northwestern Persia, says an official statement issued today by the Russian war department.

BERLIN, March 16.—An attack with strong forces was begun by French troops on the Macedonian front yesterday in the region of Monastir. Today's headquarters report says the French occupied advanced trenches at one point, but otherwise were repulsed.

TWO KILLED BY BOMB, BOSTON COURT HOUSE

BOSTON, March 16.—Two persons were killed by an explosion in the Suffolk county court house today. The explosion occurred in a wash room on the second floor of the building. A hole was torn in the floor. A police official said it was the explosion of a bomb.

The police admitted that their present theory was that there had been a premature explosion of a bomb or bombs while in the hands of two men who were carrying them to the court house with murderous intent. This theory would place the responsibility on the men who were killed.

The two dead men were believed, from pieces of their clothing picked up, to have been soldiers. Judge Loring was holding a session of the superior court in a room adjoining that in which the explosion occurred.

NEW YORK, March 16.—As one of the first steps to deal with the disorganization of transportation, which will be caused by the railway strike, the national conference committee of railway managers has informed the individual railroads that an embargo on all perishable freight is advisable.

STRIKE ORDER REPUDIATED ON SOME SYSTEMS

Withdrawals From Brotherhood Announced On Many Railroads—Do Not Consider Grand Chiefs Have Power to Call Out Men Without First Submitting Matter to Vote.

NEW YORK, March 16.—The one hundred general chairmen of the brotherhoods of the eastern lines met here today to arrange details for the strike called for Saturday.

The managers were informed that the engineers on the Santa Fe system had wired their grand chief they had withdrawn and would refuse to obey the strike order.

The conductors and engineers on the St. Louis and Southwestern have withdrawn, according to word reaching the managers and on the Illinois Central the firemen have announced their intention to withdraw.

"I don't believe it," said G. H. Sines, vice president of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, when the managers' reports of withdrawals were called to his attention. "The last reports we had from St. Louis and the vote there for a strike was slow."

Mr. Lee, when informed of the reports, discredited them. He insisted that all the men who took the strike vote would stand by it and strike. Reports received from various parts of the country by the railroad managers indicated, they declared, organized withdrawal by some of the roads' employees from the brotherhoods' agreement to strike.

Reports declared to have been received from roads in the east and south were that the engineers and conductors did not consider the grand chiefs had authority to call out the men without first submitting the strike question to a new vote.

AMERICA REFUSES EMBARGO ON FOOD

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The American government has made a further reply to General Carranza's proposal to embargo shipments of food and munitions to the European belligerents as a means of bringing peace. It will not be made public until it has reached Mexico City. The United States has declined to take any such action.

WESTERN PACIFIC ENTERS RENO BY LAKEVIEW LINE

SAN FRANCISCO, March 16.—President C. M. Lovey of the Western Pacific railroad announced today that the Western Pacific will gain entry to Reno, Nev., in competition with the Southern Pacific by purchase of 165 miles of the Nevada-California-Oregon railroad. The California railroad commission will be asked to sanction the deal whereby the Western Pacific will acquire the N. C. O. line from Hackstaff, California to Reno, a distance of fifty-five miles and forty miles of road between Blairden through Chilocho to Plumas Junction, negotiations for which are underway.

The Nevada-California-Oregon line extending from Lakeview, Ore., to Reno, has been mentioned in connection with the Western Pacific as a possible route by which the I.H.R. interest could enter California.

BLIZZARD RAGES IN SOUTH DAKOTA

SIOUX FALLS, S. D., March 16.—A March snow storm, which in many places reached the intensity of a blizzard, was general over South Dakota last night and today. A high gale accompanied the snow. Temperatures throughout the state were moderate and little suffering is reported.

Rail traffic throughout the state as well as all other travel, is seriously demoralized. Most of the roads running into Sioux Falls have cancelled all schedules until their lines can be opened with snow plows. Reports from the western and central portions of the state indicate a complete suspension of train service. Over the western section, the storm was the worst of the winter, according to reports received here.

OBREGON LEADING NEW REVOLUTION

EL PASO, Texas, March 16.—Rumors of a new political alignment in Mexico with General Alvaro Obregon leading the opposition to General Carranza and the de facto government have been in circulation here and in Juarez for the past 24 hours, having been brought here from the interior by Mexican and foreign refugees.

AMERICANS AT DURANGO MINES ARE MASSACRED

EL PASO, Tex., March 16.—Partial confirmation of the massacre of the employees of the Magistra mines at El Oro, Durango, including Luis 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 last night from El Oro and said Seigler, Winn and the Mexicans from the Magistral had gone to El Oro for safety and were surrounded by bandits when the messenger fled to the border.

A band of rebels entered El Oro seven days ago, he said, but were driven off by the Mexicans led by Seigler and Winn. The bandits returned the same night with 500 men, he said, and surrounded the house where the Americans were. Winn and Seigler were fighting from the roof of the house when he fled, the Mexican said, and he believed they and the Mexicans had been killed.

Seigler's home was in Chicago and Winn's in Pittsburg, according to the officials of the company here, although both have been in Mexico many years. Seigler was superintendent of the Magistral mine and Winn electrician.

PERSHING'S GUIDE KILLED BY VILLISTAS

EL PASO, Texas, March 16.—Jose Maria Flores, a guide and interpreter for General Pershing in Mexico, was executed near the Babicora ranch in western Chihuahua recently by Julio Acosta, a Villa leader, because of his friendship for the Americans, an American from Babicora reported on his arrival here today. A companion of Flores also was executed.

HEAVIEST SNOW FALL IN UTAH'S HISTORY

SALT LAKE CITY, March 16.—The heaviest snow storm in the history of Utah, according to United States Weather Forecaster A. H. Thiessen, completely paralyzed city traffic today. Twenty inches of snow have fallen in the last 24 hours.