



MEDFORD MAIL TRIBUNE



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THREE AMERICAN SHIPS SUNK BY U-BOATS

NO WARNING GIVEN SHIPS TORPEDOED

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NEW YORK, March 19.—Eighty-five Americans, comprising a large majority of the crews, were aboard the three American steamers Vigilancia, City of Memphis and Illinois, sunk by German submarines on Saturday and Sunday in the blockade zone.

Without Warning. The Vigilancia was torpedoed without warning, according to the survivors' story and the submarine did not appear. She carried a crew of 45 men, 21 of whom were Americans.

Captain Missing. WASHINGTON, March 19.—The following dispatch, undated from Consul Frost at Queenstown, reached the state department very late last night and was given out today: "Thirty-three survivors City of Memphis do not include Captain L. T. Borum and four other Americans and four non-Americans, but indications are that they are safe on board some merchant or admiralty vessel which has no wireless. Captain's boat did not separate from others till 1 a. m. today and was picked up empty at 10 a. m., weather meanwhile remaining moderate."

BRITAIN SPENDING 30 MILLIONS A DAY

LONDON, March 19.—Replying to a question in the house of commons today, Andrew Bonar Law, chancellor of the exchequer, said the daily average expenditure of the British government from April 1, 1916 to March 31, 1917 would work out at \$30,000,000.

OVERT ACTS PRECIPITATE WAR STATE

New and Aggressive Action to Protect American Shipping—President Authorizes Issue of \$115,000,000 Emergency Bonds to Enable Speeding Up of Naval Program—Steps Taken to Have Navy Protect Merchantmen.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The United States today faced the pressing question of war with Germany over the immediate issue of the ruthless destruction of three unarmed American merchant ships.

Bond Issue Authorized. President Wilson late today authorized the navy department to spend \$115,000,000 to speed up in naval construction and to buy small auxiliary craft.

Navy Ready to Act. Asked what, if any further steps the navy had in contemplation for the protection of American life and ships on the high seas, Secretary Daniels said: "Whatever the navy can do, it will. More than that I would not like to say at this time."

With American ships already being armed, the most probable step would be an active campaign to clear submarines out of the shipping lanes. There appeared to be no plan to have the United States enter the war in the sense that the European nations have entered it.

FACTORY WORK IN PETROGRAD RESUMED

LONDON, March 19.—The council of workmen's delegates in Petrograd has prescribed the immediate resumption of work in all factories, according to a dispatch to Reuter's from the Russian capital. Factories will pay full wages for the days in which work was prevented by the revolution.

GERMANS ABANDONING WEST LINE

Kaiser's Army in Full Retreat to the Aisne River—French Recover Two Entire Departments, Those of the Oise and Aisne, Regaining 620 Square Miles of Territory—Unrelenting Pursuit Forcing Retreating Teutons Back Without Rest.

PARIS, March 19.—The French closely following the retreating Germans re-occupied Guiseard last night and at several points reached the railroad from Ham to Neale, the war office announces. Troops were pushed along the national road to St. Quentin.

In Full Retreat. The German line at last accounts was in full retreat over a section which represents almost one-fifth of the vast front from Switzerland to the sea, closely pressed by the French and British.

In the Lorraine region west of Roy the Germans appear to have made only a weak defense since the French were able to push forward thirteen miles at one bound. General Nivelle, the French commander, who is credited with possessing almost uncanny ability to gauge the powers of his opponents, is following up the retreating Germans with great rapidity.

Two Departments Freed. Tomorrow, or the day after, two entire French departments, those of the Oise and Aisne, will be liberated from the German invader, according to reports from the fighting front. The total territory now regained is roughly calculated at 620 square miles.

BERLIN, March 19.—Evacuation of territory over a wide sector of the French prisoners were taken.

THREATENED RAILROAD STRIKE CALLED OFF

LANE PROVES A MOST SUCCESSFUL MEDIATOR



Franklin K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, who arranged the strike settlement as mediator for the board of national defense.

HOME RULE FOR FINLAND DECREED BY NEW REGIME

LONDON, March 19.—Home rule for Finland is the policy of the new Russian government, according to a Reuter correspondent, who says that the Finnish diet will be convened shortly and asked to establish a government possessing the full confidence of the people.

General Zein, governor of Finland, under the old regime, has been sent to Petrograd as a prisoner. Negotiations are proceeding with Baron Rosen, former ambassador to Washington, with a view to his appointment as governor general of Finland.

Minister of Justice Kamesky has ordered the district court at Tobolsk, Siberia, to release immediately M. Ovinbayer, former president of the Finnish diet, and arranged for his journey to Petrograd.

French river extending from Arras to the Aisne river is announced by the German war office. Several lines of French trenches over an extent of 500 meters in one section and 800 meters in another on the Verdun front were stormed yesterday by the Germans. Nearly 500 of the French prisoners were taken.

MANAGERS YIELD COMPLETELY TO MEN'S DEMANDS

On Account of Critical Conditions Existing Railroad Companies Show Patriotism By Conceding 8-Hour Day—Concession Made Saturday Night States Secretary Lane.

NEW YORK, March 19.—The railroad strike has been averted.

Yielding to the appeals of President Wilson and facing the probability of this country's entrance into the war, the railroads early today granted the demands of the four employees' brotherhoods for a basic eight hour day. The telegraph wires this morning are carrying throughout the United States messages from the brotherhood chiefs rescinding the orders for the inauguration of the great progressive strike at 7 o'clock tonight.

Secretary of the Interior Lane and the other mediators were visibly affected when told of the action of the railroad managers. Mr. Lane sent immediately for the committee of the railroads, and turning to Elisha Lee, their spokesman, said: "This is a magnificent thing that you have done for your country. It will go down in history as one of the greatest things you ever did."

Successful Outcome. "The brotherhood chiefs, who already had left the hotel where the conferences were being held and had retired for the night, apparently convinced that a settlement of the differences could not be reached, were summoned next. W. G. Lee, head of the trainmen, announced for them that orders would go forward at once informing all district chairmen of the brotherhoods of the successful outcome of the conferences.

By the terms of the settlement the combined salary list of the railroads will be increased approximately \$60,000,000 a year, according to conservative estimates. The number of workmen profiting by this increase will be more than 300,000.

That the crisis resulting from the sinking of three American ships by German submarines was the prime factor in clearing the situation and restoring the country to normal conditions so far as its transportation (Continued on Page Six.)

ADAMSON LAW UPHeld AS CONSTITUTIONAL AND VALID BY FEDERAL SUPREME COURT

Decision Makes 8-Hour-Day Standard of Days' Work and Pay for Trainmen—Decision Is Five to Four, Justices Day, Pitney, Vandevanter and McReynolds Dissenting—Judge Hoaks Ruling in Test Case Reversed—Opinion Is Read by Chief Justice White, Who In Announcing Decision Reviews President's Efforts to Avert Strike.

WASHINGTON, March 19.—The Adamson eight hour railroad law was held constitutional and valid in all respects today by the supreme court.

The decision makes eight hours the standard of a day's work and wages for men in operation of trains and legalizes the wage increases which went into tentative effect on its passage.

The immediate temporary wage increases won by the railroad employees affect 400,000 trainmen as of January 1 and are estimated to total between \$40,000,000 and \$50,000,000.

Hook Is Reversed. Federal Judge Hook's ruling in the Missouri, Oklahoma & Gulf railroad test case, enjoining enforcement of the Adamson act and holding it "unconstitutional, null and void," was reversed.

Justice McKenna concurred in the majority opinion, but on slightly different grounds. Justice Day read his own dissenting opinion and Justice Pitney delivered the other dissenting opinion in which Justice Vandevanter joined.

Justice Pitney and Vandevanter in their joint dissenting opinion held that the law should be held unconstitutional and void "because unconstitutional, although confessedly not in possession of information necessary for intelligent and just treatment of the controversy, arbitrarily imposed upon the railroads the entire and enormous cost of an experimental increase in wages."

Day Dissents. Justice Day in his dissenting opinion said the legislation amounted to "deprivation of the railroads' property without due process of law."

In concurring in the majority opinion, Justice McKenna differed in that he believed the law "an hour's service" statute and only secondarily a wage fixing law and thus within the power of congress.

Justice McReynolds delivered a separate opinion, saying that congress did not have power to pass the law but that he now bows to the majority's ruling.

In announcing the opinion Chief Justice White 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.

CHIEF THE RAILROAD BROTHERHOODS WHOSE THREAT OF A GENERAL STRIKE CAUSED THE RAILROAD MANAGERS TO YIELD TO DEMANDS FOR ESTABLISHING THE 8-HOUR-DAY



A. B. GARRETSON. Lee is president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; Garretson, president of the Order of Railway Conductors; during illness of Garretson, L. E. Sheppard acts as president. Stone is grand chief engineer of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineers.



WARDEN S. STONE



W. S. CARTER



W. G. LEE

GERMANS DEMAND RETURN OF FRANCHISE

AMSTERDAM, March 19.—The Berlin Vorwaerts, comparing the situation in Russia with that in Germany asks "shall the world say that all the nations on earth are free except Germany?"