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GOMPERS ASKED TO STOP STRIKE IN SHIP PLANTS

President Confers With Labor Head and Shipping Board Appeals to Him to End Walkouts in West—Hurley Favors Wage Increase—Contractors on Percentage Basis.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Chairman Hurley of the shipping board and William Blackman, conciliator of the department of labor, will leave tomorrow for San Francisco to undertake adjustment of labor troubles in plants building ships for the government.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Secretary Wilson has telegraphed W. T. Boyce, assistant commissioner of immigration at San Francisco, to tender his offices as mediator or conciliator in settlement of the strike of iron workers and shipbuilders there.

Extension of the strike to mills producing lumber for government ships is feared by shipping board officials. From Portland, and Astoria, Ore., came reports that striking carpenters were trying to persuade other workmen to walk out and that lumber mills might be affected.

The government marked time today in efforts to settle the strikes at San Francisco and other coast cities pending arrival Wednesday or Thursday of officials of a Seattle company which has granted a high wage scale. Conciliator William Blackman of the department of labor, has studied the demands of the men, but will take no other action for several days. The shipping board is awaiting complete reports of the San Francisco situation from Captain A. F. Pillsbury, district officer of the board for the Pacific coast.

Favor Wage Increase.

Shipping board officials favor a substantial wage increase, with a sliding scale for government participation. The proportion of wage raises to be paid by the government should depend, Chairman Hurley of the board believes, on the profits of shipbuilders. Some officials have urged that the government pay fifty percent of the increases for companies making ten percent profit or less and require profits of more than that amount to go into wage grants.

Samuel Gompers has an engagement to confer with President Wilson late today.

Navy contractors involved in the strike virtually all are of the cost plus a percentage of profit type adopted to meet precisely the situation that has arisen. When bids for destroyers, cruisers and battlehips were opened private builders said they could not make flat contracts except at an extraordinary advance in price since they had no assurance as to what labor might cost them before the work was completed.

Gompers Appealed To.

Chairman Hurley of the shipping board today appealed to President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor to stop the strikes which are holding up government shipbuilding on the Pacific coast. A conference will be held today between Mr. Hurley and Mr. Gompers. Chairman Hurley also conferred today with Secretary Daniels on the navy's settlement of wage demands in government shipyards.

NATION-WIDE FIGHT UPON HIGH LIVING COST

ST. PAUL, Sept. 18.—A nationwide movement to combat the high cost of living was inaugurated here today when several thousand delegates representing, it is said, approximately 3,000,000 members of the industrial and agricultural organizations, met for the first session of the 'Producers' and Consumers' conference.

The purposes of the St. Paul meeting, as explained by A. C. Townley, are to urge further price regulation, to eliminate profiteering, to place heavy war taxes on wealth, and probably to urge government ownership of natural monopolies, transportation systems, flour mills and farm machinery manufacturing.

KORNILOFF WRITING STATEMENT UNDER MILITARY GUARD

PETROGRAD, Sept. 18.—Twenty generals and other officers arrested on Friday with General Korniloff, leader of the revolution against the provisional government, are being closely guarded. General Korniloff is imprisoned in a hotel at Mohilev, where he is writing a statement, which is expected to be finished today.

LULL IN BATTLES ALONG ALL FRONTS SHOWN BY REPORTS

By Associated Press, Sept. 18.—Still lacking in large offensive operations, the European war fields continue to furnish news of multiple local activities. The Germans last night in an attack toward the Neufchatel road, near Rheims, reached the French lines, but were ejected. London's official statement is particularly colorless today, but recent communications have mentioned very active raiding work and airplane observation.

The Russians apparently have stopped their forward movement in the Riga district, in which some of the ground lost in the recent retreat was reclaimed.

Enterprise continues to be shown by the Roumanians, who yesterday captured a section of the Tarnopol fortified positions in the Varnitza region on the Moldavian front.

The Italian official statement merely reports the repulse of further Austrian counter attacks on the Bainsizza plateau, and heavy artillery fire on the Carso.

PORTLAND SHIPYARDS REMAIN CLOSED

PORTLAND, Or., Sept. 18.—No change was reported today in conditions resulting from the strike Saturday of union employes of wooden shipyards on the Columbia, and Willamette rivers at Portland, Vancouver, Wash.; St. Helens, Or., and Astoria, Or. All but two Portland yards remained closed or crippled today. The men walked out to press their demands for the closed shop.

SPECIAL SESSION OF LEGISLATURE LIKELY

SALEM, Sept. 18.—Governor Withycombe announced today he intends to make an investigation to determine how much money the state can set aside for support of dependents of Oregon soldiers and sailors. "I will willingly call a special session of the legislature to discuss the care of dependents when the situation is grave enough," the governor asserted, "but I am not inclined to regard it as such as yet."

INFANTILE PARALYSIS EPIDEMIC IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Sept. 18.—The discovery of sixteen new cases of infantile paralysis, bringing the total number under observation now in the city to 116, caused Health Commissioner Robertson today to put twenty-five additional quarantine inspectors to work and to take other steps to protect the city from an epidemic.

BUSINESS ASKS PRICE POLICY OF GOVERNMENT

Chambers of Commerce of Nation Pleads for Fairness in Laws and Regulations—Uncertainty Upsets Business—Business Back of Administration in Support of War.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 18.—George M. Reynolds, president of the Continental & Commercial National bank of Chicago, in a speech at the convention of the chamber of commerce of the United States here today, urging that the government make known immediately its war price policy, and declared business would be injured by harsh legislative measures.

Talk of too strict a regulation of business, he said, was causing uncertainty and uneasiness in industrial circles. "Stability and fairness in laws and regulations," he said, "will enable business to get its bearings and put its entire strength back of the president. Uncertainty, the mother of fear, breeds timidity, halts business, and if not removed, results in depression. There is no occasion for worry if the policies to be adopted and carried out are wise and definite and made known without too much delay."

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Sept. 18.—American business has no intention of profiting at the expense of the government in the sale of war supplies, R. G. Rhett of Charleston, S. C., president of the chamber of commerce of the United States, declared today in opening the war convention of American business and industrial leaders.

"There undoubtedly have been cases where selfishness and greed have outweighed patriotism, but the cases have been exceptional," he said. "And the great body of business men have invariably stood squarely behind the government in its plans and proposals."

Franklin K. Lane, secretary of the interior, in an address, spoke of the peace terms desired by the allies, saying:

"It is now nineteen hundred years since Caesar defeated the Germans in France. When they came asking terms he said to them: 'Go back whence you came, repair the damage you have done and give hostages to keep peace for the future.' It was the ancient and barbaric custom to take princes and high men as hostages, and this custom Germany followed when she entered Belgium. But the world does not ask such hostages today. It is the problem of world statesmanship to discover what kind of hostage Germany can give when she has been convinced that her dream of world over-mastery cannot come true."

President Rhett, in his address, said:

"Business has been groping in the dark because it finds the very regulations of commerce have been upturned. Demand and supply can no longer be permitted to control prices, because the extraordinary demands of the government have completely unbalanced the scales. Something else must be done to take its place for the time being. The government is now searching for that something."

"The president has well said that this war is not a battle of armies, but a conflict of nations in which every national resource must be called into play."

"Let me emphasize the primary and paramount purpose of this convention. Our countrymen want to know just how the business men feel about this war. Our allies likewise want to know."

(Continued on Page Five.)

NORWAY CANCELS PAPER CONTRACTS

PARIS, Sept. 18.—The inter-ministerial press committee has been advised that Norwegian print paper manufacturers have just cancelled their contracts, invoking as a pretext the German submarine blockade. This is expected to again reduce the size of French newspapers.

3000 MARKS REWARD FOR FIRST AMERICAN OFFERED BY KAISER

PARIS, Sept. 18.—The American headquarters staff in France has just been informed by the French authorities that Emperor William has promised a prize of 3000 marks and three weeks' leave to the first German who captures an American soldier. This information came from a German prisoner recently taken, who declared the offer was contained in an order issued through the army.

STRIKE PARALYZES BUILDING PLANTS AT SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 18.—While large and small ship yards, iron and machinery building plants, totaling more than one hundred, lay smokeless and idle today, paralyzed by the strike of approximately 25,000 iron workers and shipbuilders, conferences between leaders of employers and employes continued in an effort to break the deadlock.

Further spread of the strike to other industries was declared imminent by leaders of the iron trades council, the organization of twenty-five affiliated unions on whose authority the walkout was ordered. Already, it was reported, many shops and plants had been forced to operate on a reduced schedule. Early today about 100 women employed at the American Can company's plant were forced to quit work because of the strike of skilled mechanics.

W. T. Boyce, appointed today by Secretary of Labor Wilson as federal mediator in the iron trades strike, immediately called a meeting of the conference committees of the California Metal Trades association, the organization of employes, and the iron trades council.

W. R. Burton, president of the latter organization, declared the employes were willing to have the government pass judgment on the fairness of the strikers' demands.

"If our cause were not just this army of workers would not be on the streets today," Burton said.

Marines patrolling the Union Iron Works, the largest of the plants affected, refused to allow any one to approach the gates unless armed with a pass. No violence of any kind had been reported today.

BLOODY SHIRT OF MURDERER IDENTIFIED

RED OAK, Ia., Sept. 18.—Another link in the chain of evidence pertaining to the much discussed "bloody shirt" was woven into the records today by the state in the trial of Rev. Lynn George J. Kelly, charged with murder in connection with the Villisca slaying. Mrs. Cora Marquard, a marker in a Council Bluffs laundry, testified she had opened a package of soiled garments at the laundry shortly after the murder, and that it had contained a shirt, apparently this package belonged to Kelly.

NORWEGIAN STEAMER ASKELAD IS SUNK

CHRISTIANIA, Sept. 18.—The Norwegian foreign office announced today that the Norwegian steamship Askelad, of 2823 tons, had been sunk by a German submarine. One boat with 11 men was lost and the captain and ten men were saved. It was also announced that the Norwegian steamship Retn, 1175 tons, had been sunk by a German submarine off Cape St. Vincent. Ten men lost their lives and the captain and nine others of the crew were saved.

KAISER REGRETS TELEGRAM SENT THRU SWEDEN

German Minister Formally Expresses Sorrow to Swedish Government Sorrow Over Exposure—Explanations Reserved Until Count Luxemburg Heard From.

STOCKHOLM, Sept. 18.—The German minister to Sweden today formally expressed to the Swedish government Germany's regrets in consequence of the Swedish-Argentinian telegram affair.

The German minister is understood to have reserved explanations regarding the telegrams sent by the German minister at Buenos Aires thru the Swedish legation until the report from Count Von Luxburg has been received.

Inquiries at the foreign office today regarding the statement that Swedish assurances in 1915 that the forwarding of German dispatches would be discontinued were of general application and not as the recent Swedish communication implied, valid only so far as communication between Sweden and Washington was concerned, were met by a reaffirmation of the terms of the original Swedish communication.

It was pointed out that this would not have been drafted and issued without consultation with the foreign minister then in office. Therefore it is claimed, it represents the version of Count Waltenburg, the former foreign minister.

ADOLPH MAX TO BE GIVEN LIBERTY

LONDON, Sept. 18.—Germany, at the request of King Alfonso of Spain, is about to restore to liberty Adolphe Max, the burgomaster of Brussels, according to reports received by the Amsterdam correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph company, from Berlin.

Recent dispatches from Germany have said that Burgomaster Max was seriously ill in prison at Celle, a Prussian town 23 miles northeast of Hanover, and that King Alfonso of Spain was intervening in his behalf. The burgomaster was arrested at Brussels on September 28, 1914, for his "irreconcilable attitude," according to an announcement made by the German military governor of Belgium. Some time ago the newspapers of Paris asked President Wilson, Pope Benedict and the King of Spain to use their influence in securing the burgomaster's release. More recently the Belgians offered to exchange Dr. Schneck, governor general of German East Africa, for M. Max.

BOSTON WELCOMES JAPANESE MISSION

BOSTON, Sept. 18.—The Japanese mission headed by Viscount Ishii was welcomed to Boston today by a great crowd, notwithstanding a disagreeable northeast rainstorm. Troops lined up in the south station train shed, stood at present arms while a band hailed the guests with the Japanese national anthem as they stepped from the train.

There was an informal parade in automobiles to the state house, where the party was greeted by Governor McCall. After a brief reception the visitors went into the convention, which is sitting to revise the state constitution, and there Viscount Ishii expressed his delight at being in New England.

SOLDIERS KILLED IN CLASH AT HELSINGFORS

HELSINGFORS, Sept. 18.—In the course of disorders at the Finnish fortified seaport of Viborg, 74 miles northwest of Petrograd, in which soldiers were involved, twenty officers were killed and sixty others are missing.

ALL MEN ON DRAFT LIST IN OREGON TO BE EXAMINED SOON

SALEM, Sept. 18.—All Oregon men on the draft list may soon have to undergo physical examination, according to Governor Withycombe, who announced here today he favored a recent suggestion of the war department that the men be examined in the near future, instead of waiting until they are called. Examination now would save time later, it is claimed.

TROOPS SENT TO ASTORIA MILL FOR PROTECTION

PORTLAND, Sept. 18.—Colonel C. E. Dentler, U. S. A., announced here today he would send a special trainload of troops to Astoria tonight to prevent Industrial Workers of the World from endeavoring to coerce employes of the Hammond Lumber mill there to strike in sympathy with Seattle strikers against ten-hour lumber. The Hammond mill is working on aeroplane spruce.

Industrial Workers of the World have recruited a large number of Hindus and are picketing the Hammond plant, according to A. B. Hammond, president of the company. The pickets are endeavoring to frighten the workmen away, as the millmen do not want to strike, Mr. Hammond asserted.

As the Hammond mill furnishes light and power for Astoria, the Port of Astoria authorities communicated with Governor Withycombe today regarding the situation. Apparently the governor transmitted the complaints to Colonel Dentler, who ordered the troops to leave tonight. Approximately 100 more men went on strike at Astoria today, according to dispatches received here.

WOOL GOES UP 20 CENTS A HANK

NEW YORK, Sept. 18.—Feminine knitters of articles of wearing apparel for soldiers and sailors are beginning to worry about the high cost of being patriotic. An increase of 20 cents a hank in the price of wool today put it at the dollar mark. Since April the price per pound has risen from \$1.50 to \$2.40 to the Red Cross and other relief organizations that are supplied by the manufacturers and wholesalers at the lowest figures.

In all the relief societies the policy prevails of asking the knitter of wool to return her finished garment to the society. Consequently if the knitter wishes to present her own particular here with something of her making she cannot get wool at the reduced price offered by the relief societies.

Manufacturers attribute the rise partly to the fact that the government now is using much raw wool for uniforms, and to the higher wages paid mill labor.

SPAIN REORGANIZES ARMY TO BE READY

MADRID, Sept. 18.—At a cabinet meeting last night it was decided to create new regiments of field artillery, seven battalions of garrison artillery and seven battalions of heavy artillery. It was decided also to appoint a special committee to draft a plan of industrial mobilization from a military point of view. Eduardo Dato, the premier, explained that these reforms were not undertaken in any militaristic spirit. They were, he said, only a part of the army reorganization scheme which was one of the principal features in the government's policy of reforms.

POSTAGE TAXES REINSERTED IN REVENUE BILL

Modified Zone Plan for Increasing Newspaper Rates—Higher Letter Postage Also—House Debates Seven Billion Dollar Deficiency Bill—Considers Collective Agency Bill.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—The \$7,000,000,000 war deficiency bill, carrying huge appropriations for the army, fortifications and shipping board, passed the house today by a unanimous vote.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 18.—Second class postage taxes in the war tax bill were agreed upon today by the conferees.

A modified zone plan for increasing rates on newspapers and periodicals was decided upon, according to reliable information which filtered thru the strict order of secrecy. None of the conferees would disclose any intimation of their action.

Others, however, in close touch with the second class mail question said the conferees had agreed upon a modification of the house zone plan. Their information was to the effect that a compromise between the house and McKellar plans had been reached proposing a limited circulation area in which the present one-cent-a-pound rates would not be raised and reducing both the graduated zone rate increases of both the house and McKellar plans.

Raise Postage Rates.

Postmaster General Burleson talked with the conferees before their decision was reached today and was said to have urged the Hardwick plan of raising postage rates, especially on advertising portions of publications.

Representative Kitchin and the other house conferees, it was said, threatened to take the fight back into the house if the senate conferees did not yield on the second class mail question.

Coupled with the agreement on the publication postage rates were said to be a decision by the conferees to restore, in part at least, the house taxes on first class mail.

Secretary McAdoo also talked with the conferees and it was said he favored the McKellar proposal. It was considered probable that, in view of the secretary's unexpected entry into the situation there might be some more further discussion.

Automobile Ttx.

A tentative agreement to impose an automobile tax on manufacturers, as proposed in the original house bill, has been reached. It would eliminate the proposed tax on individual owners.

Machines selling for less than \$500, fifteen dollars; \$500 to \$750, twenty dollars; \$750 to \$1000, twenty-five dollars, and \$5 additional for each \$250 additional in the selling cost.

Motor trucks would be exempt. The intention of the conferees in making the tax definite was that the manufacturers could pass it on to the purchaser.

Selling Agency Bill.

Senate consideration of the administration bill to permit American business concerns to operate collectively selling agencies abroad began today. Leaders plan to push it to final action as speedily as possible. The measure passed the house June 12 last.

The legislation is designed to en-

SAFE CONDUCT FOR LUXBURG REQUESTED

BUENOS AIRES, Sept. 18.—In private sources it was learned by the Associated Press today that the Argentine government has asked Spain to take the responsibility of obtaining from the American and British governments a safe conduct for Count Von Luxburg, the German minister here, who recently was given his passports, arguing that the count is to leave Argentina for Spain on a Spanish vessel. Accordingly, it was said, the Spanish ambassador has asked the Madrid government to start negotiations to this end.