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WORKERS IN RUHR TO TAKE VACATION

TWO MONTHS WITH FULL PAY GIVEN BY MINE OWNERS FOR MARCH AND APRIL.

FOOD STORES ARE LOOTED

Belgians Seize Another Billion Marks; Will Not Return Other Seizures.

Essen.—Unemployment in various districts of the Ruhr again is causing some uneasiness in occupation circles. The number of non-workers has been increased by the vacations with full pay given by mine owners for March and April. The French say they have information that the vacations have been given the men in order deliberately to reduce the coal production to that required for the Ruhr industries and local domestic purposes alone.

These vacations with full pay will bring coal production down to 15 or 20 per cent of normal. The exact figures as to how many of the 500,000 miners are now out are not available. In addition to the miners on vacation from 30,000 to 50,000 railway men and many thousands of workers in factory districts where works are closed owing to lack of raw material or other causes are idle.

The occupation authorities charge that acts of violence against the railways and waterways are part of the German plans to hinder the French and Belgians in their transportation program.

Rails are being torn up nightly along the roads operated by the French and Belgians, who now are arranging to place guards over all the lines used by them for the coal and passenger services. In spite of the sabotage the French and Belgians on Saturday ran more trains than any day since the period of occupation began. One hundred and 36 passenger trains alone were handled.

Cologne.—General De Goutte, the French commander, has notified the reichsbank that he will not return any portion of the 12,000,800,000 marks recently seized by the French at Cologne. It was added by General De Goutte, if the reichsbank desired to avoid further similar losses, the German government must meet the demands of the French for money for the requirement of the armies of occupation.

Essen.—Essen experienced the wildest night since the beginning of the occupation and in the early morning hours food stores were looted and others broken into by armed mobs, said to be composed of the unemployed.

Marks to the amount of one billion from the Berlin reichsbank, which were being transported to banks in Dulsburg were seized by the Belgians. The money will be applied to payment of the cost of the Rhineland army of occupation, on which account Germany is in arrears.

Orders Veterans Given Preference.

Washington.—One of President Harding's last acts before his departure for Florida was to direct the Civil Service Commission to give certain preference to veterans of the World War in their examinations for positions under the civil service.

Under the order, veterans and others entitled to preference are to be given five points in addition to their earned ratings. Those who suffered serious disability are given ten instead of five. Time spent in military service is to be credited as a part of the civil service record of applicants, and age limitations are waived as are many of the physical requirements.

Human Fly Killed By Fall.

New York.—With a Broadway crowd standing agape and movie machines clicking out their yards of celluloid ribbon, Harry F. Young, self-styled "spider," plunged 10 stories to his death, while attempting to scale the side of the Hotel Martique.

Women fainted and disorder ensued. Police reserves had to be called before the body could be removed and traffic restarted.

Among those who crowded Greeley square watching the performer at his stunt was his wife with whom he had just lunched. She swooned. Revived in a drug store nearby, she was removed to a hospital.

The square was packed when Young appeared. Clinging to points of vantage on the Thirty-third street elevated station were dozens of cameramen. Windows of every skyscraper in the vicinity were filled with men and women laughing and talking excitedly as Young began his climb. The police estimated the crowd at 20,000.

FAMILY OF SIX DIE FROM GASES.

Chicago.—An entire family of six was found dead killed by the vapor of an acid used as a disinfectant by the proprietor of a restaurant under their apartment.

Peter Vordabyak, the restateur, and O. W. Hall, local manager of the National Hygiene corporation of Cleveland, who had undertaken to rid the apartment of roaches, were arrested.

The dead are William Kratzenberg, 30; retired wagon builder; his wife; John Kratzenberg, 54, a son; Mrs. Laura Szymanski, 39, a daughter; Henry Szymanski, 39, railroad engineer, Gray, Ind., and Harold Szymanski, 17.

The bodies were discovered by William Powers, a member of the state legislature, who roomed with the Kratzenbergs. Powers left the window open last night and was the only person in the apartment to escape the deadly fumes.

DISCUSS AMERICAN CLAIMS

WANTS REIMBURSEMENTS MAINTENANCE OF ARMY IN GERMANY.

Military Forces on the Rhine Cost This Country Approximately \$365,000,000.

Paris.—The position of the American government regarding its claim for reimbursement for maintenance of the army of occupation on the Rhine was explained by Elliot Wadsworth, assistant secretary of the treasury, at his first conference with financial representatives of France, Great Britain and Italy.

The American views had already been fully set forth in various notes to the allied governments prior to November 23, last, when the allied ambassadors' council, finding it difficult to conduct the four-cornered republic, suggested the present conference.

The delegates decided to defer further consideration until next Monday to afford them time to think over matters. It was also decided to observe secrecy, except for the issuance of official communications to the public. The first communique, the framing of which occupied about one-third of the time of today's session, was as follows:

"The committee on the costs of occupation of the American army held the first session of the conference decided upon as a result of communications exchanged by the interested governments. The committee proceeded to exchange views and explanations of the diverse questions raised by the problem of reimbursing the costs of the American army in order to determine the direction in which a solution could be found.

The costs of maintaining the American military forces on the Rhine were estimated in Washington on February 19, as approximately \$365,000,000.

Charges Filed Against Theater.

Washington.—Another echo of the Knickerbocker Theatre disaster a year ago was heard in the District of Columbia Supreme Court, when attorneys representing the interests of one of the injured and two of the dead filed charges that officials of the theatre company practiced "fraud and deception" on the chancery court of Delaware in seeking dissolution of the corporation.

The attorneys alleged that the dissolution was brought about for the sole purpose of removing from the District of Columbia cash assets of the company amounting to \$90,000 to hinder recovery of damages by victims of the disaster, and asked the court to strike out the suggestion of dissolution made to it as a "friend of the court" by Harry M. Crandall, former president of the company. They cited the Delaware statute which keeps dissolved corporations alive for three years for purposes of defending suits, and alleged that Mr. Crandall failed to obtain the court's permission to appear as its "friend."

Freight Traffic Heavy.

Washington.—Freight traffic on railroads, which has been running far above seasonal records ever since January, is continuing to maintain the record breaking volume, on the basis of latest reports compiled by the car service division of the American Railway Association. During the week ending February 17, a total of 817,778 cars were loaded with revenue freight, or 44,503 cars more than were loaded in the same week last year, and 125,771 cars more than during the same week of 1921.

67TH CONGRESS ADJOURNS SINE DIE

FARM CREDITS BILL AND 98 OTHER MEASURES SIGNED BY PRESIDENT.

CROWDS WITNESS CLOSING

Many Members Answer Their Last Roll Call; No Legislation Was Vetoed.

Washington.—The sixty-seventh Congress which had spent a greater proportion of its two-year span of life in actual session than any other in the history of the country, adjourned sine die.

During the last few hours of the session, President Harding, spending part of the time at the capitol, signed the farm credits bill and 98 other measures. No legislation was vetoed.

Vice President Coolidge's gavel fell sharply at noon after an almost colorless morning senate session of two hours, and the house adjourned after a concert by a section of the marine band and a chorus of popular songs by members and spectators.

The departure of members, many of whom answered their last roll call, was in full swing with prospective suspension of activities at the capitol until next December brings in the 68th Congress.

Crowds witnessed the closing scenes, adjournment and presence of President Harding, cabinet officers, diplomats and other high officials bringing hundreds who packed the senate and house galleries.

The President reached the capitol at 11:25 o'clock and was kept busy reading and signing the final avalanche of bills. Before going to the capitol, he signed the farm credits and 43 other bills, turned out during the early morning session. In the presidential suite, off the senate chamber before the noon limit expired, 55 more bills received executive approval.

The last bill to become law was the better butter measure, changing butter fat standards. An important measure placed on the statute books at the last moment was the one providing for return to enemy alien owners of all property seized worth \$10,000 or less.

American Relief Spends \$12,000,000.

Washington.—A review of American relief activities in the near east, showing expenditures during the past year of more than \$12,000,000, was given to Congress by Charles V. Vickery in his annual report as general secretary of the Near East relief.

Shipment of foodstuffs, equipment, machinery, medical supplies and clothing and textiles made from this country by the near east relief during the year totalled 53,000,000 pounds, and in addition large purchases were made in Anatolia and other areas. The number of orphans now under the care of the organization is 115,000 and Mr. Vickery predicted that this total would increase as additional victims of persecution and war are applying daily for aid.

The year's expenditures exceeded receipts by more than \$1,500,000, but the balance carried over from the year previous made up the deficit and left a surplus of \$328,000.

Bills Fail to Pass Congress.

Washington.—Measures of importance which failed of passage during the closing days of the Congress included:

The administration shipping bill which was filibustered to death in the senate.

The resolution of Senator Smith, democrat, South Carolina, to appropriate \$10,000,000 for the purchase of nitrate to aid southern cotton producers.

The constitutional amendment proposal of Senator Norris, republican, Nebraska, to advance the convening dates of Congress and presidential inaugurations.

The resolution of Senator Brookhart, republican, Iowa, proposing investigation of the sugar situation.

Probe of Silver Price is Ordered.

Washington.—An investigation into the reduced price of silver and the low production of gold was authorized by Congress when the House passed a senate resolution authorizing the appointment of a special commission of five Senators and five Representatives to study the economic questions involved and to make recommendations. The expenditures by the special commission is limited to \$25,000 and the President is to name the commission.

TORNADO PASSES THROUGH KANSAS INJURING 15.

Kansas City, Mo.—A tornado, smashing along the Kansas-Missouri border, injured 15 persons and caused property damage estimated at thousands of dollars.

The storm, coming out of the southwest, struck Kansas City, Excelsior Springs and St. Joseph, Mo., the hardest blows, while Troy and other Kansas towns were cut off from communication.

Reports that two persons had been killed by the storm at St. Joseph were unconfirmed.

St. Joseph suffered the brunt of the high winds. A swath half a mile wide was cut through the business and residential districts. Houses were tossed about and light, telephone and street car service paralyzed. Nine persons were injured when struck down by debris hurled about the storm.

At Mosby, near Excelsior Springs, Ed Carey, his wife and five children were injured when their home was demolished.

RIISING TIDE OF PROSPERITY

LABOR DEPARTMENT AND FEDERAL RESERVE BOARD FILE REPORTS.

Textile and Steel Mills Report Shortage of Skilled and Unskilled Labor.

Washington.—Evidence of a rising tide of prosperity was portrayed by two different government branches whose surveys, though made for different purposes, registered practically identical conclusions.

The Federal reserve board, making public its monthly report on finance and commerce, told of increase; taking place in the production volume of commodities generally, expansion of enterprises, and stiffening prices of basic production, while the department of labor, on the basis of responses of its employment agents in 37 states to official queries, reported decreased unemployment, heightening demand for labor in nearly all industrial centers, and an impending labor shortage in many areas.

The reserve board's account of heavier bank lending, increasing building operations, maximum railroad loadings of freight, particularly forestry products, and expanding production in basic industries like steel and cotton weaving, checked completely with the labor department's findings.

Industrial employment continued to increase during February and shortages of both skilled and unskilled labor were reported by the textile and steel mills and in the anthracite mines. The board added, however, that there was still some unemployment west of the Mississippi river, but generally speaking, important wage increases were reported. Office workers, the board declared, have not been in such great demand, yet in eastern industrial centers this class of workers is being absorbed more rapidly than conditions a few months ago would have indicated.

Reports received by the reserve banks gave strong indication, it was said, of an active distribution of goods for this season of the year. Sales of department stores in more than 100 cities were 12 per cent greater than in February a year ago, while at the same time, inventories fail to show that there has been a piling up of goods on store shelves. The rate of the turnover, therefore, was regarded as having been rapid in the retail trade. In wholesale lines, the review said, there were particularly large sales in recent weeks of dry goods, drugs, hardware and farming implements.

World Education Parley is Called.

Cleveland, Ohio.—Announcement that the National Education Association has called a world conference on education, for the promotion of international peace and the mutual understanding of nations and peoples furnished the principal topic of conversation among thousands of delegates attending the annual convention of the department of superintendence and affiliated organizations of the association.

The conference will be held in San Francisco and Oakland, Calif., June 28 to July 2. At the same time a joint world conference on child health will be held.

Attendance of 1,000 delegates, from cities, universities and professional organizations of educators, representing more than 100,000,000 school children in 50 nations of Europe, Asia, and North and South America, has been assured, it was announced.

END OF MEETING FOR EDUCATORS

FIVE DAYS CONVENTION IN CLEVELAND BROUGHT TO CLOSE.

"THE YEAR ROUND SCHOOL"

Four Terms of Three Months Each Put Forward by Superintendent of Schools, Nashville, Tenn.

Cleveland.—The department of superintendence of the National Education association closed a five days' convention with a final business session at which the delegates heard and adopted the report of the resolutions committee and listened to addresses by four speakers.

A summary of the resolutions committee report follows:

President Harding, governors and mayors were commended for issuing proclamations during Education week last December.

Expressed gratitude for enlarged financial support by legislatures and urged a continuance along these lines to the end that there may be an American school good enough for every American child, and for the failure of "every attempt at reaction against a proper and adequate provision of funds for public school purposes whether made by a single individual or by backward looking groups."

Indorsement was given to the intention of congress to make the school system of Washington the model school system of the country. To this was added a request for the immediate passage of the teachers' salary bill pending before congress.

Allegiance in the Sterling-Tower bill is reaffirmed. Necessity of a secretary of education in the president's cabinet and federal aid in removing illiteracy, in Americanizing the foreign born, preparing teachers, developing adequate programs of physical and health education, and equalization of educational opportunity is urged.

Abolishment of summer vacations by splitting the school year into four terms of three months each, with two weeks' vacation periods around Christmas and the Fourth of July, was urged by H. C. Weber, superintendent of schools, Nashville, Tenn., speaking on "The Year Round School" at a section meeting.

"The all year round" plan would be a boon to parents of large families, keeping the children off congested streets, preventing them from becoming corner loafers and bandits.

Baptist Church Makes Big Gain.

Nashville, Tenn.—Southern Baptist churches gained more than \$12,000,000 in the value of their local church property during 1922, baptized 232,442 persons, made a net gain in membership of 147,253, and organized 1,034 new Sunday schools and 1,974 new Young People's Unions, according to a report completed today by Dr. E. P. Alldredge, statistical secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The total number of churches in the convention is now 27,574 with a membership of 3,367,636; the number of Sunday schools 21,184 with an enrollment of 2,224,834; and the number of young people's unions 12,574 with a membership of 406,459. The total contributions of the churches for the year amounted to \$32,514,111.77, the report shows.

A gain of 596 ministers for the year is noted.

Sword Given National Museum.

Washington.—The sword carried by General Richard Montgomery, of the Continental Army, when he was killed in an unsuccessful assault on the defenses of Quebec, December 31, 1775, was transferred to the National Museum in behalf of its owner, Miss Julia Barton Hunt, whose family owned Montgomery's place on the Hudson, where Montgomery's widow died.

The weapon was picked up beside Montgomery's body by a Canadian officer whose descendants ultimately sold it to the Marquis of Lorn, Governor-General of Canada, in 1878. It was presented to Victor Drummond, charge d'affaires at the British embassy here, and by him to a sister of Miss Julia Hunt, who died before she could carry out her purpose of giving the relic to the Government.

Railway Needs Funds.

Washington.—Relief for the Kansas City, Mexico and Orient Railroad through authorization for an additional loan of \$3,000,000 from the Government revolving fund was authorized in a bill passed by the Senate and sent to the House.

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