

RAILROAD OFFICIALS MAY OFFER COUNTER PROPOSAL TO WILSON

Take His Plan Under Advisement With Indications That They Will Reject It Today

ACCEPTED BY EMPLOYEES

Word From Managers Last Night Was They Had Reached No Definite Decision

THEY WANT ARBITRATION

Powerful Railroad Financiers May be Summoned Next

Washington, Aug. 18.—President Wilson's plan for the settlement of the threatened nationwide railroad strike was accepted today by the representatives of the employes and taken under consideration by the officials of the roads with many indications that they would reject it tomorrow. The word came from the managers tonight, however, that they had reached no definite decision.

With the situation thus apparently at a deadlock, the only hope in the situation lay in reports that the railroad officials might suggest a counter proposal forming the basis of a settlement or that one side or the other might recede from its present position.

Plan Presented to 31 Officials. Thirty-one presidents and ranking officials of the great railroads received from the President this afternoon his plan for the adoption of an eight-hour day, regular pro rata pay for overtime and creation of a Federal commission to investigate collateral issues.

They told him they would like to consider the question and would report back tomorrow with the committee of managers which has been conducting negotiations.

At the same time the general committee of 640 representatives of the employes had voted approval of the President's plan by a large majority and soon after the railroad officials left the White House the four heads of the railroad brotherhoods delivered to the President a letter notifying him of the vote. The employes' committee will remain here at the President's call.

While the railroad officials would make no formal statement, they revealed clearly their opposition to Mr. Wilson's plan, and indicated that they would press further their offer to arbitrate all the points at issue.

Counter Proposal Suggested. In spite of the above developments, it was reported that the officials might suggest a counter proposal based on the acceptance of the eight-hour day and arbitration on all other points, instead of the investigation by a Federal commission proposed under the President's plan. It was stated positively, however, that the officials had reached no definite decision on their future course.

In case the President finds no hope of settlement during his conference with the railroad officials tomorrow, he probably will summon to Washington some of the powerful financiers of the country serving as directors of the railroads. Administration officials said tonight he had by no means given up hope of effecting a settlement and was determined that it shall be reached if possible before the representatives of both sides now here leave Washington.

In their formal statements, the railroad officials insisted on arbitration on the ground that they give in at any time it would mean the abandonment of the principle of arbitration, and because they feared if they granted the 8-hour day with its consequent added expenses without resort to arbitration, it would prejudice any appeal they might make later to the Interstate Commerce Commission for higher freight rates.

Surface Indications Gloomy. On the surface, the threatened strike appeared nearer today than at any time since the negotiations at the White House began, but administration officials continued to believe that eventually there would be an agreement.

Having accepted the President's plan of settlement, the committee of employes awaited developments. The railroad presidents and officials conferred with the President less than an hour. After Mr. Wilson had explained his plan, Hale Holden, president of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, acting as spokesman, informed the President that the officials present could speak only for their individual roads and that the conference committee of managers was the only body with power to accept or reject proposals.

It was indicated plainly to Mr. Wilson that the officials were inclined to accept behind the previous attitude of the managers' committee in refusing to accept the eight-hour day, and that they believed the proposal to be impracticable. The President was told.

SHIPPING BILL IS PASSED BY SENATE

Creates Shipping Board and Appropriates \$50,000,000 to Buy or Operate Ships

ALREADY PASSED BY HOUSE

Effort by Borah to Attack Immigration Bill as a Rider Defeated by 22 to 37—Main Vote Follows Party Lines.

Washington, Aug. 18.—The Government Shipping bill passed the Senate tonight by a vote of 38 to 21, ending one of the most bitterly contested legislative struggles of the Wilson administration. In the last Congress the measure precipitated a Democratic revolt and a filibuster which forced postponement of many important bills, but revised so as to minimize the government operation feature, received today unanimous Democratic support and solid Republican opposition. It already had passed the House.

The Shipping bill provides for creation of a government shipping board to acquire and operate ships for rehabilitation of the American merchant marine, and appropriates \$50,000,000 for that purpose, to be raised by the sale of Panama Canal bonds. Several important amendments were agreed to just before the final vote, among them one which would reduce the salary of the shipping board members from \$10,000 to \$7,500 a year. Other amendments passed included one which would authorize the President to seek adjustment of foreign discriminations against American shipping through diplomatic action, and one which would authorize the Treasury to withhold clearance from masters of vessels who deliberately refuse to accept freight from American citizens without satisfactory reasons.

At the last minute vain efforts were made by Senator Borah, to attach the immigration bill to the Shipping measure. Administration leaders are hopeful that Senate amendments to the bill will be accepted by the House, where it will be submitted Tuesday, and that a conference will be unnecessary.

Provisions of the Measure. The Shipping bill would create a shipping board of five commissioners appointed by the President, the House and the Senate. The Secretary of the Navy and Commerce, ex-officio members having been eliminated. The board would be authorized, either directly or indirectly, through a corporation or corporations to be organized to build, purchase, lease or charter vessels suitable for use in ocean commerce. Limitations upon these powers would prohibit the acquisition of any vessel at the time engaged in foreign or domestic commerce of the United States, unless it is to be withdrawn from such commerce by the owner without intention to return thereto, within a reasonable time; or unless the vessel is under registry or flag of a foreign country engaged in war; or acquisition of any vessel which would not be available for ocean commerce without unreasonable alterations.

The bill further would authorize the shipping board to organize one or more corporations with a total capital stock not exceeding \$50,000,000, the government to subscribe for not less than a majority of the stock. The corporations would be empowered to purchase, construct, equip, charter and operate merchant vessels in the commerce of the United States. Operation of ships by the government corporations would be limited to a period of five years after the close of the European war. Actual government operations would be limited to a period of five years after the close of the European war. The President would be authorized to take possession for naval purposes of any vessel acquired under the act, with reasonable compensation to persons dispossessed.

Secretary Baker to Speak in Greensboro September 7. Other Notables to Make Addresses at "Conservation Dinner." (Special Star Telegram.) Greensboro, N. C., Aug. 18.—Secretary of War Baker will speak at a "Conservation Dinner" to be given at the State Normal College September 7 by the Chamber of Commerce. Other speakers will be Congressman Small, Governor Craig, General Bickett and Frank Linney. Mr. Baker promised President Brooks, of the chamber, yesterday to come. The affair will be State-wide.

ALLIES GAIN MORE GROUND NORTH OF SOMME IN FRANCE

Little Activity on Eastern Fronts, According to Official Statements Issued

FIGHTING IN CARPATHIANS

Teutonic Allies Take Offensive on Greco-Serbian Frontier and Capture Town

Assaults by British and French forces against German positions north of the Somme in France have resulted in the gaining of additional ground by the attackers, according to the British and French war offices. The French advance was in and around Maurepas, the scene of much hard fighting during the last few weeks, and the British gain was in the direction of Ginchy and Guillemont, near the southern end of their section of the Somme front. The Anglo-French attack, London says, took place along the whole line from Poziers to the Somme.

The gains reported by Paris and London were in the center of the German positions on the Somme front and mark another step in the Anglo-French advance toward Comblez. French troops gained more ground in the village of Maurepas, after stopping German counter attacks near the village. Calvary Hill, southeast of the village, was carried by assault and the French position on the Maurepas-Clery road was also extended. British troops successfully advanced in the region of Ginchy and Guillemont and seized more German positions. London mentions no gain on any other part of this front. The Anglo-French forces captured more than 400 prisoners in their advance.

The French offensive continues on the right bank of the Meuse and Paris chronicles the capture of several redoubts northwest of Thiaumont work. Progress also is reported for the French east of the Vaux-Chapitre. Berlin reports attacks by the French and British north of the Somme but says all of them were repulsed except one by the British in the direction of Martinepuch. A French gain around the Verdun region is admitted.

There has been little activity on the eastern front, according to the official reports. Most of the fighting has been in the Carpathian mountains region, where both the Russians and Austro-Germans claim to have made some slight advances. Petrograd says the Austro-Germans are attacking in Galicia but with no success.

The Teutonic allies have taken the offensive on the Greco-Serbian frontier north of Saloniki and Berlin reports the capture of the Greek town of Florina from Serbian troops. This report probably is in answer to the recent Entente allied activity on the same front.

Artillery bombardments are taking (Continued on Page Eight.)

ARMY APPROPRIATION BILL VETOED BY THE PRESIDENT RE-INTRODUCED IN HOUSE

Mr. Wilson Declines to Accept Certain Provisions in the Revision of the "Articles of War" Which Will be Eliminated by House. Another Stage of Long Fight Between Hay and the Army—May Delay Adjournment of Congress.

Washington, Aug. 18.—The Army Appropriation bill was unexpectedly vetoed today by President Wilson because he would not accept certain provisions in the revision of the articles of war, forced to the bill by the House conferees and commonly said in army circles to be in the interest of certain retired officers "at outs" with the army. Chairman Hay, of the House Military committee, at once re-introduced the bill, and the entire section, revising the articles of war, was struck out and the declaration that no revision at all would go through with the bill in this Congress.

The bill reintroduced by the Senate Military Affairs committee, announced that the Senate would reinsert the revision approved by the President and the War Department, but the situation had resolved itself into a contest between the Senate and House on one hand and Mr. Hay on the other.

The tangle threatens to delay the adjournment of Congress. Incidentally, completion of the preparedness programme, as well as to hold up appropriations for the army increases, and all the extra expenses involved in the Mexican service.

The bill reintroduced now is in the House Military committee and there is an agreement to take it up and expedite passage Tuesday. The fight, if one develops, will come when the Senate puts in a revision of the articles of war, and sends it back to the House.

Another Stage in Fight. The President's veto, one of the few he has exercised, marks another stage in the long fight between the army and Chairman Hay. The army charges Hay with defeat of the continental however, that the plan would be given further consideration and a report made to him tomorrow.

Urges Spirit of Conciliation. Mr. Wilson's explanation of the railroad officials that he had drawn up the plan because he thought it fair and because he believed a way must be found for "settling a strike." He urged them to demonstrate a spirit of conciliation and to assist him in settling the controversy. Tonight the railroad officials held another long conference at their hotel.

Employers' representatives held two meetings during the day, one of several hours for speech-making and balloting on the President's plan and the other, a short one, for announcement of the result of the vote.

President Wilson's veto message follows: "To the House of Representatives: I have carefully considered the bill entitled 'An act making appropriations

DEUTSCHLAND ARRIVES AT BREMEN, IS REPORT AT BREMEN, IS REPORT. Geneva, via Paris, Aug. 18.—A private telegram received today from Berlin by the Neue Zeitung says that the German submarine fleet, including the U-101, arrived yesterday at Bremen from the United States.

DR. RANKIN DISGUSTED AT HEALTH CONFERENCE

Says U. S. Health Men Know Nothing About Infant Plague

United States Health Service Disclaims Any Thorough Knowledge of the Disease—Measures are Experimental

Washington, D. C., Aug. 18.—Dr. W. S. Rankin, of Raleigh, State health officer of North Carolina, put a monkey wrench into the machinery of the health authorities called to Washington for the purpose of considering infantile paralysis and its treatment when he declared today at the meeting that the United States Public Health Service knew absolutely nothing about the disease or its genesis, yet it was trying to deceive the public into believing that it was possessed of all essentials necessary to combat the malady. There had been discussions of forms of regulations and preventative measures advocated by some of the leading physicians and surgeons attending conference. Most of the remedies suggested were of a rather indefinite character. Dr. Rankin, who had listened to every word of the proceedings of the conference, took exception to the deliberation in the following language: "I am going home and tell my folks that you don't know a blooming thing about this disease and yet you are trying to deceive the public into believing that you do. Any rules which may be adopted will only go to show that we will have to go home to our folks and tell them that they are a bluff. I don't believe that this conference has resulted in anything material. We will be called upon to report that the regulations in force in New York City are to be the standard. I recall that several years ago there was an epidemic of infantile paralysis and that, despite the fact that there were no regulations in force, the epidemic proved not half

CHILD LABOR MEASURE IS ACCEPTED BY HOUSE

Will Become Law One Year After President Signs It

House Acts Without Debate or Record Vote—Measure Represents Result of Years of Struggle in Congress.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Without debate or record vote, the Child Labor bill was accepted by the House today with the Senate amendments. It will become a law one year after President Wilson signs it. The measure represents the result of years of struggle in Congress between forces urging the conservation of child life and those opposing it on many grounds, chiefly that it was a question for the states and not the Federal government.

The law would not have been enacted at this session of Congress had not President Wilson, after the Democratic caucus decided to eliminate it from the administrative programme, visited the Capitol and insisted upon its inclusion in the bill.

As it originally passed the House, the measure proposed to bar from interstate commerce products on which child labor actually had been employed. As amended by the Senate and now perfected, it prohibits shipment between the states of all products of any establishments which employ child labor. It bars products of any mine or quarry employing children under 16 and products of any mill, cannery, workshop, factory or manufacturing establishment employing children under 14 or more than eight hours a day, or more than six days a week or earlier than 6 o'clock in the morning or later than 7 o'clock in the evening. Opposition to the bill was led by Southern congressmen and its sponsors charged cotton mill owners with being the principal objectors.

HEALTH OFFICERS ISSUE A WARNING

Infant Epidemic May Spread Next Summer Unless Means are Found for Suppressing It

CAUSES ARE TO BE STUDIED

Standing Committee Named for This Purpose by Conference in Washington—Recommendations for Control Adopted.

Washington, Aug. 18.—With a warning that unless measures are found for its suppression, the infantile paralysis epidemic may advance next summer to states not now appreciably affected, the national conference of health officers adjourned today after adopting recommendations for control of the plague and naming a standing committee to study its causes.

Co-operation among Federal, state and local health authorities toward curbing the epidemic was emphasized as imperative in resolutions adopted and regulations were recommended to control travel from epidemic zones of children 16 years of age and under, by issuance of uniform travel permits and notification of their destinations, but without an interstate quarantine.

Delegates to the conference, who included health officers from 40 states and many experts of the Public Health Service, expressed confidence tonight that the two days exchange of views upon all aspects of the baffling disease would result in vitalizing the campaign against it.

Assistant Surgeon General W. C. Rucker, who presided over the conference, made the following statement tonight: "We have admitted frankly and freely to the public that we have something which we do not know a great deal about and the public sympathizes with our efforts to do whatever we can, with the limited knowledge we have. We can't afford to leave any stone unturned.

The great bulk of the traveling public presumably not exposed should not be hampered until we know which persons are actually disease carriers." In recommending restriction of travel of children under 16 years from known epidemic areas, the conference expressed its belief that no more advanced step toward interstate quarantine measures should be taken with present uniform methods of exchange of epidemic information was also adopted.

The standing committee, appointed consists of Surgeons C. H. Lavinder and Wade Frost, of the Public Health Service; Dr. E. D. Tuttle, of Washington; Dr. St. Clair Drake, of Illinois; and Dr. Oscar Dowling, of Louisiana. They will collect and distribute information regarding the disease. Secretary McAdoo declared this is the third time since 1836 that surplus postal revenues have been deposited in the Treasury, and that all three years have been under the present administration.

Washington, Aug. 18.—A surplus of \$520,000 from the postal service during the fiscal year ending June 30 was reported to President Wilson today by Postmaster General Burleson. In a letter to Mr. Burleson, acknowledging receipt of the check for the surplus, Secretary McAdoo declared this is the third time since 1836 that surplus postal revenues have been deposited in the Treasury, and that all three years have been under the present administration.

OPPOSITION TO SOME FEATURES OF TREATY

Some Senators Want Further Information Concerning Purchase of Danish West Indies—Secretary Lansing Heard.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Some features of the treaty for purchase of the Danish West Indies have met opposition which may so prolong discussion in the Senate as to prevent ratification at this session of Congress.

Secretary Lansing was questioned by the Foreign Relations committee today about business concessions in the islands granted by Denmark and guaranteed by the United States under the treaty. Some members also want further information about the purchase price of \$25,000,000, which they believe is too high. Secretary Lansing was unable to furnish some of the details asked for concerning the concessions guaranteed and will appear again as soon as he can prepare a report.

Copenhagen, (via London), Aug. 18.—The situation with regard to the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States is still at an uncertain stage, pending caucuses to be held tomorrow by the various political parties. Newspapers of all persuasions agreed that the situation is difficult and that if plans for formation of a coalition cabinet fail, general elections must precede ratification of the sale of the islands.

New York, Aug. 18.—At the opening meeting today of the sixth annual convention of the Catholic Press Association, the resolutions committee was instructed to prepare a memorial to the Federal Trade Commission concerning the price of print paper.

TROPICAL STORM HITS SOUTHERN TEXAS WITH A 70-MILE VELOCITY

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Crest of Hurricane Expected to Reach Coast With Velocity of Probably 120 Miles

ARMY QUARTERS IN DANGER

Havoc Already Wrought at Fort Brown Military Camp and Brownsville, Say Reports

TELEGRAPH WIRES GO DOWN

But Few Details of Gale's Work Available Last Night

Corpus Christi, Texas, Aug. 18.—Blowing at a 70 mile an hour velocity, the tropical storm in the Gulf of Mexico was felt tonight as it approached the Texas coast at this point, Brownsville and on the intermediate plains. Early tonight the local Weather Bureau station estimated that the crest of the storm would reach here about midnight with the wind attaining a velocity of probably 120 miles an hour. But few details of the storm's work south or north of here had been received early tonight. In Corpus Christi, however, the gale had carried almost every movable thing before it. In its wake it had left demolished cottages along the beach front here, thousands of dollars damage to buildings in the business section and a heavy sea running in Corpus Christi bay. The waves whipped over the beach in the northern section of the city, beaching small craft and carrying upon the shore debris from a score of docks and small bathing pavilions.

Lloyd's Pier, one of the largest pleasure resorts on this section of the coast, which juts out over the water one thousand feet, had been almost completely demolished early tonight. The small freight steamer Pilot Boy, owned by the Texas & Gulf Steamship Company, of Galveston, was sunk in the Gulf today. One report received here stated that all of the crew of 12 men were rescued and another reported that three of the crew had been washed ashore.

No Loss of Life Reported. Thus far there has been no loss of life in or about Corpus Christi, and so far as known, none seriously injured. The city of Corpus Christi is situated on a broad sandy peninsula 18 miles from the open Gulf, but surrounded on three sides by Corpus Christi and Nueces bays. On the other side of the bay are Mustang and Padre islands, forming a breakwater that all of the crew of 12 men were rescued and another reported that three of the crew had been washed ashore.

Damage at Brownsville was SLIGHT UP TO 6 O'CLOCK. Brownsville, Texas, Aug. 18. (via radio to San Antonio.)—Damage here from the hurricane was slight up to 6 o'clock tonight, although the wind during the day reached a velocity of 60 miles an hour. The barometer marked 29.27 during the middle of the afternoon but at 5 o'clock it rose to 29.35.

At dark the territory in the reaches of the storm extended from Corpus Christi to Tampico, Mexico. There was then no sign of abatement. The wind, starting from the northeast, later changed to the southwest and tonight was blowing out to sea. The damage here consisted mostly of broken plate glass windows and leveled fences and trees. Hundreds of army tents are down and the troops moved into the city. Communication by telephone and telegraph is lost. Point Isabel, a Gulf coast resort, reported late today that all was well there.

SOLDIERS DRIVEN FROM THEIR QUARTERS AT FORT BROWN. San Antonio, Texas, Aug. 18.—All United States soldiers and National Guardsmen stationed at Fort Brown have been driven from their quarters and have taken refuge in the city hall and other public buildings at Brownsville, on account of the Gulf coast storm which is striking that section tonight, according to meagre reports received over the army wireless at Fort Sam Houston from Fort Brown tonight.

A terrific and destructive wind, accord to this report, has wrought havoc in Brownsville and in that military camp. Those troops which took refuge in the court house were the Hill. (Continued on Page Eight.)

MR. BURLESON TURNS OVER TO McADOO \$5,000,000 SURPLUS. Third Successive Year Postal Service Has Made a Surplus.

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AVERAGE SURPLUS OVER 132 PER CENT ABOVE REQUIREMENTS. Banks in Western State Leads All in Excess of \$2 per Cent. in This Respect.

Washington, Aug. 18.—Banks in Western states, with an average surplus 132 per cent. in excess of the legal requirements, led all the banks of the reserve system in surplus on hand June 30. A geographical analysis of the returns for that date, made public tonight, shows the following figures: New England states, \$48,000,000, excess of 52 per cent. above requirements; Eastern states, \$88,000,000 excess 44 per cent.; Southern states \$211,000,000, excess 103 per cent.; Middle states \$50,000,000, excess 52 per cent.; Western states \$165,000,000, excess 132 per cent.; Pacific states, \$156,000,000, excess 111 per cent.