

IF STRIKE COMES THE PUBLIC WILL KNOW WHERE THE RESPONSIBILITY RESTS, PRESIDENT WILSON SAYS

He Appeals to Railroad Officials to Abandon Their Insistence on Arbitration. SCENE WAS VERY DRAMATIC Employers Refuse Acceptance of Plan, for Present, But Give No Final Answer. MORE PRESIDENTS CALLED Situation Described as "Not Hopeless, But Grave."

Washington, August 19.—President Wilson appealed to the railroad officials today to abandon their insistence on arbitration of the dispute threatening a nationwide strike and to accept his plan of settlement, already agreed to by the employes because in his opinion the railroads are contending for a principle which it seemingly is impossible to apply to the present situation.

In one of the most dramatic scenes known to the White House in recent years, the President declared to the heads of five billion dollars' worth of properties assembled as his summons: "If a strike comes, the public will know where the responsibility rests. It will not be upon me."

A few minutes later he issued a statement saying "the public has the right to expect" acceptance of his plan. Urge Arbitration. Refusing acceptance for the present, but not giving a final answer, Hale Holden, president of the Burlington roads and spokesman for the 33 railroad officials, urged the President to uphold the principles of arbitration and declared his plan would "place in peril all that has been accomplished in the peaceful adjustment of labor controversies by methods of arbitration."

At the close of the conference, President Wilson summoned to Washington additional railroad presidents from the West, and the executives already here told him they would "stand among themselves and return next week, probably Monday. In the meantime representatives of both the roads and the employes will remain here for informal conferences."

The situation tonight was described by a railroad president as "not hopeless but grave." It will be at a standstill until Monday, at least. Government Operation. Discussion of counter proposals and compromises were current and serious consideration was given to the possibility of government operation of the roads in case of a strike. It was said in good authority tonight, however, that many of the road presidents looked upon the possibility of a strike as more remote than at any time since they came to Washington. It still was considered possible that some of the "directors" of the railroads would be arbiters in a strike. Both among the employers and the employes talk of arrangements for a strike continued, and for different reasons each side thought it came it would last less than a week.

"Condition, Not a Principle." While President Wilson still was addressing the railroad executives, telling them they faced a "condition, not a principle," the statement to the country, reviewing his plan and characterizing it as "a thoroughly practicable and fair programme," was given out at the White House. In the statement he urged the adoption of the eight-hour day because he believed the concession right suggested the creation by Congress of a small body of men to investigate the results, and urged the abandonment of the demand for time and a half over-time pay by the men and the "contingent" proposals by the railroads.

Mr. Holden Replies. Mr. Holden insisted on arbitration in his reply to President Wilson, because "it is essentially the common right of every citizen of whatever position in life to be heard," and because "experience has put the right to claim arbitration as a method of settling such controversies beyond question." He argued that the eight-hour day was impracticable in railroading, and said the roads are willing for the Interstate Commerce Commission or any other disinterested body to arbitrate the whole question.

RAILWAY OFFICIALS ISSUE STATEMENT

Say Most of Men Working on 8-Hour Basis Are Employed in Moving Fast Freight. AND RATES ARE HIGHER Supplemental Statement Directed Particularly at President's Contentions That Some Roads Already Have 8-Hour Day.

Washington, Aug. 19.—A supplemental statement regarding the eight-hour day, directed particularly at President Wilson's contention that some Southern roads already have adopted the 8-hour day without disastrous effect, was issued tonight by the railroad officials. It pointed out that most of the men working on an eight-hour basis are employed in moving fast freight for which freight rates are high.

"Some of the roads in the Southeast now have the eight-hour basic day, but affecting through freight service only and including less than 50 per cent. of the men in freight service," said the statement. "All the men in yard service and those running local freights and minor runs are on the eight-hour basis. Many branch lines 10 and 12 hour basic days prevail.

"These roads are the Seaboard Air Line, the Richmond, Fredericksburg & Potomac, Norfolk Southern, Atlantic Coast Line, Central of Georgia, Georgia Southern & Florida, Florida East Coast and Queen & Crescent lines South, all of them roads with a high percentage of perishable traffic, such as fruits and vegetables, which must be moved at a high rate of speed in order to reach markets in good condition and which for that reason carry freight rates which no shipper could afford to pay for the movement of ordinary freight.

"On some of the largest and most important roads in the South the 8-hour basic day is not in effect in any branch of the service. Among them are the Norfolk & Western, Chesapeake & Ohio, Virginia Southern Railway, Mobile & Ohio, Queen & Crescent Lines north (Cincinnati, New Orleans & Texas Pacific Railway and Alabama Great Southern Railway) and Carolina, Clinchfield & Ohio.

"These roads handle a much larger percentage of coal and other heavy traffic than the roads which now have the basic eight-hour day and the adoption of this basis would mean an increase in cost in every branch of freight service for each of them."

San Francisco, Aug. 19.—Charles E. Hughes today told audiences here and in Oakland that the government of the United States could not be properly conducted by mixing politics with business, with preparedness, with the maintenance of international honor or with other administrative functions of government. "I do not believe we can run this government by mixing business and politics," the nominee said in a gathering of business men here a short time before the Oakland meeting. At Oakland Mr. Hughes repeated his declaration that he favored fostering honorable American achievements in business and adjusting difficulties by finding the facts and acting upon them.

NO GREAT DAMAGE AT CORPUS CHRISTI

Ten of Crew of Steamer Pilot Boy Drowned When Vessel Sank Off Aransas Pass. ONLY DEATHS FROM STORM Portions of City of Laredo, Texas, Flooded and Hundreds of Soldiers' Tents Wrecked—Communication Restored.

First communication with Corpus Christi, Texas, where Friday night's tropical storm was believed to have been felt hardest, showed Saturday afternoon that no great damage had been done to the city and that there were no fatalities there.

Greatest property damage was done to the Corpus Beach hotel, which was partially unroofed. Summer cottages, bathing pavilions, and a pleasure pier in that section were entirely demolished. Interest was centered on the effect of the storm at Port Aransas and Aransas Pass in the absence of definite word from those points. Each is a popular fishing resort, as well as a shipping center of more or less importance on the lower Texas coast. It was pointed out as possible that these points might have felt the storm more severely than did Corpus Christi.

It developed Saturday night that the steamer Pilot Boy which sunk off Aransas Pass Friday afternoon, "These were the only deaths so far reported from the storm." Restored communication with the city of Laredo, Texas, showed that place and the military camps surrounding it to have felt a heavy aftermath of the storm which hit the coast. The storm flooded portions of the city to a depth of two feet and wrecked hundreds of soldiers' tents.

RAILROADS AND UTILITY COMPANIES LOST HEAVILY. San Antonio, Texas, Aug. 19.—Railroads and other public utilities operating through the storm stricken district suffered damages aggregating more than \$300,000, exclusive of losses in Corpus Christi, Brownsville and other points in the storm center, according to estimates tonight. The loss to the San Antonio & Aransas Pass railroad may reach \$150,000. It lost a mile of the deck of the two-mile cable entering Corpus Christi from a nearly three miles of embankment near Portland.

CATAWBA LEADS THE STATE. Over 10,000 Persons Take Anti-Typhoid Treatment in Two Weeks. (Special Star Telegram.) Newton, N. C., Aug. 19.—The second week of Dr. Thomas M. Jordan's anti-typhoid campaign in Catawba county closed tonight with 10,523 people treated, a record that Dr. Jordan claims has never been equalled in the State. Assisting him have been Dr. Frank Ford and Eli Warly, and no team the State Board of Health has sent out has ever had so much work to do.

The campaign, and in two weeks more and the result will be 50 per cent of the county's 35,000 population will have been made typhoid proof. Specialists all over the State admit that Catawba has surpassed all records. MALLORY STEAMER LAUNCHED When Completed Will Play Between New York and Galveston. Newport News, Va., Aug. 19.—The Henry R. Mallory, passenger and freight steamer, building for the Mallory Steamship Company, was successfully launched at the plant of the Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock Company today. When completed in October, the new steamer will ply between New York and Galveston. She is 439 feet long, 54 feet in beam and 34 feet deep and is designed to make 14 knots speed.

FUNSTON THINKS IT WISE TO WITHDRAW PERSHING'S FORCE

Recommendation Contained in Recent Report on the Military Situation. FOR BORDER COMMISSION State and War Department Officials Understood to Share General's View.

Washington, Aug. 19.—A recommendation by General Funston that the American troops be withdrawn from Mexico, was contained in a recent report on the military situation made at the request of the War Department and designed for use of the joint commission which will discuss border problems. State Department officials do not attempt to disguise their regret over premature publication of General Funston's conclusions, but they indicated today that it would not cause any alteration in the plans.

Officials realize, it is understood, that the most pressing matter for discussion by the commission, from the Mexican viewpoint, will be the question of withdrawal of General Pershing's expeditionary force. Publication of the fact that General Funston believes it wise to withdraw the troops may hamper the American investigation of the situation. In obtaining whatever guarantees they may ask of the Mexican government as to the security of the border from bandit raids, it is believed, the administration was fully prepared to arrange for the recall of General Pershing's force, since both State and War Department officials are understood to share the views expressed in General Funston's report.

There can be little doubt it is now said, that the withdrawal will be promptly agreed to when the commission meets, the conferees there turning their attention to the drafting of a protocol to cover future border operations, investigation of the causes of bandit raids and such other matters as they may wish to take up. No intimation came from the White House today as to when announcement of the American membership of the commission might be expected.

MEXICAN SAYS MEXICO NEEDS "INTERVENTION OF CHRIST." Asheville, N. C., Aug. 19.—Declaring that Mexico needs intervention—the intervention of Christ—James Mallon of Chicago, a Mexican, foreign student secretary of the Y. M. C. A., aroused intense interest at the triennial conference of the Laymen's Missionary Movement at Lake Junaluska today when he discussed "Mexico." "Mexico needs annexation," he said, "but it is annexation to the Kingdom of God. If our present trouble with Mexico were to give Mexico to America to give Mexico the gospel, not a drop of blood will have been shed in vain."

Touching upon the punitive expedition for the pursuit of Villa, Mr. Mallon said: "With regard to that punitive expedition you are chasing the wrong man in the wrong place. Go to Wall (Continued on Page Two.)" HIGHWAY CONFERENCE AT WARSAW PLANNED For Promotion of the Wilmington-Goldsboro Thoroughfare. Decided Upon at Meeting in Goldsboro Yesterday—W. H. Hood Held for Enticing Labor—Evangelist Draws Throughs.

(Special Star Telegram.) Goldsboro, N. C., Aug. 19.—Dr. Jos. Hyde Pratt, of the State Highway Commission, filled an appointment here today, where he came to address the Wayne county highway commission and others interested in a national highway from this city to Wilmington. He was greeted by an audience of kindred good roads advocates of this city and county and of Duplin county, the latter delegation being headed by Rivers Johnson, of Warsaw. Dr. Pratt talked interestingly and enthusiastically for an hour on the great effect for progress good roads has on the territory through which they pass and presented the thousand and one ways that the Goldsboro-Wilmington highway would work to the general uplift of the whole section. As a result of today's meeting it was decided to have a grand Goldsboro-Wilmington highway conference at Warsaw early in September and there formulate united plans for achieving this so greatly to be desired thoroughfare north and south. A committee was appointed to formulate plans and fix date of this meeting. W. H. Hood, who is said to be from Selma, arrested in this city the early part of the week charged with enticing negro laborers from this section, was given a hearing before Mayor Higgins this morning upon a warrant (Continued on Page Two.)

CHAMP CLARK PUTS THREE AND A HALF YEARS AGAINST 20

One Democratic Administration Has Achieved More Than Five Republican. SPEAKER CITES RECORD Opening Campaign in Maine, He Tells Why They Should Support Democracy.

Augusta, Me., Aug. 19.—Speaker Champ Clark opened the Democratic campaign in Maine today by urging the voters to support the Democratic National ticket because "in three and a half years it has placed on the statute books more constructive, remedial legislation than the Republicans did in twenty."

"Judge Hughes," Speaker Clark declared, "has endeavored to make an issue of the separation of E. Dana Durand from the pay roll as director of the census, but it is not within the power of any complaining orator to make a national issue of Durand any more than he can make a national issue of 'who struck Billie Patterson.'" "Actions speak louder than words. Here are some of the things we have done and on which we stand: "We passed a great tariff bill with the income tax.

"The Democrats, with the assistance of patriotic Progressives and a patriotic contingent of Republicans, placed before the Nation the National Reserve Bank act, which it is believed will render panics impossible in the future. Anti-Trust Law. "We passed an anti-trust law which tends to promote a legitimate business and to crush illegitimate business.

"We passed a bill to open up our amazingly rich Alaska empire for the benefit of all our people and to prevent that marvelous wilderness from being exploited by the few. "The trades commission law is intended to regulate trade so that it will be fair trade—fair to all; big and little. "The rural credits bill will undoubtedly prove a great blessing to the farmers. The bad wagon roads of America are a bad commentary on our sense, for, stated in briefest terms, they constitute wicked and wasteful government. The Shackleton good roads bill is a long step in the direction of giving us a system of wagon roads which will be of permanent and vast utility to all our people.

"After many years of agitation in favor of electing United States senators by popular vote, we secured a constitutional amendment authorizing it and passed laws to put the amendment into effect. "What is known as the Rucker-Corrupt Practice act will go far to lift our politics to a higher plane, into a purer atmosphere. "We have passed grain grading and control laws to prevent swindles upon the public and to aid honest trade in those necessary commodities. Water Power Bill. "We have passed a carefully prepared and thoroughly discussed water power bill which will put an end to the attempted monopoly of water power sites and the charging of exorbitant prices for power.

"We passed, amended and bettered bills for the government of Porto Rico and the Philippines, giving more all-wise and patriotic American favor. "We have passed such bills for defense of our country by land and sea as public opinion demands. "The last three Congresses—including the present one—have done more to improve the conditions under which wage earners live and move and have their being than all the preceding Congresses put together. "The chances are that the voters of America will act on the sage dictum of Abraham Lincoln, that 'it is unwise to swap horses while crossing the stream,' and continue the Democrats in power. "The people seem to have absolute confidence in the pilot of the ship of state, Woodrow Wilson, and are not likely to drop him overboard in mid-ocean while the storm whips the waters into fury. Speaker Clark came here from Brunswick where he spoke today. CAUSE OF LOW PRICE OF COTTON SEED TO BE PROVED Department of Justice to Investigate Complaints From South. Washington, Aug. 19.—Investigation of complaints that a combination in violation of the Sherman anti-trust law is responsible for the low price of cotton seed throughout the South has begun by the Department of Justice. The complaints came principally from Texas and Alabama, but the whole South is involved and the investigation will act on these two times. Cotton growers have written the department expressing their conviction that the depression in price is due to artificial conditions. The department made a thorough investigation of similar complaints about a year ago and collected much information tending to show that cotton seed prices had been depressed unnaturally. This information was convincing on its face but was not deemed weighty enough to warrant court proceedings, and no action was taken.

GENERAL OFFENSIVE ON SALONIKI FRONT HAS OPENED AT LAST

FIVE NEGROES ARE LYNCHED BY A MOB

Three Men and Two Women Taken From Jail and Hanged to Same Tree in Florida. ANOTHER SHOT TO DEATH Were Accused of Aiding in Escape of Negro Who Killed a Constable and Shot a Doctor—Hundreds Hunting Him.

Gainesville, Fla., Aug. 19.—Five negroes, three men and two women, were taken from the jail at Newberry, Fla., early today and hanged by a mob and another negro was shot and killed, by a posse near Jonesville, Fla., as the result of the killing yesterday of Constable S. G. Wynne and the shooting of Dr. L. G. Harris by Boisey Long, a negro. The lynched negroes were accused of aiding Long to escape.

Poses consisting of several hundred men tonight are searching the woods about Newberry, 18 miles from here for trace of Long. Further trouble is feared. Dispatches from Newberry tonight said that the mob which lynched the five negroes was composed of about 300 men and worked quietly and rapidly. After gaining entrance to the jail, they took the victims to a point about a mile from town and hanged all on one large oak tree. Not a shot was fired, the dispatch said. The negro shot near Jonesville also was said to have aided Long to escape.

Wynne and Dr. Harris were shot when they went to Long's home at Newberry early yesterday morning to arrest him on a charge of stealing hogs. It is said Long drew a pistol from his high clothing and fired. Wynne was rushed to Jacksonville, where he died yesterday at noon. Several hundred negroes are employed in phosphate mines near Newberry. OFFICERS INSTALLED Convention of Eagles at Savannah Concludes Its Sessions. Savannah, Ga., Aug. 19.—The installation of officers today formally brought to a close the 18th annual convention of the Grand Order, Fraternal Order of Eagles, in session here since Monday. The ceremonies were conducted by Delegate Cary Smith, past grand worthy president, of Spokane, Wash.

GERMANS VICTORIOUS—NI RESISTING ATTACK

But Shortened Their Guillemont-Maurepas Line Somewhat. War Office at Berlin Issues Statement Reviewing Results of Stupendous Anglo-French Attack on the Somme Front.

Berlin, via London, Aug. 19.—The war office report of today says the Germans victoriously resisted the stupendous Anglo-French attack on the Somme front which was made yesterday, but that between Guillemont and Maurepas the Germans shortened their line somewhat. The statement follows: "Our brave troops yesterday victoriously resisted with self-sacrificing tenacity a stupendous effort on the part of our combined enemies. At about the same time in the afternoon, after artillery preparations which increased to the utmost violence, the British and French masses advanced to the assault north of the Somme over a section of about 20 kilometers (12 1/2 miles), while very considerable French forces advanced on the right bank of Meuse against the Thiaumont-Flcury section and against our positions in Caprre and Burg woods.

"North of the Somme the battle raged until far into the night. At several points the enemy penetrated our first line trenches and was driven out again. Trench sections captured on both sides of Guillemont, which remained firmly in our hands, were occupied. Between Guillemont and Maurepas we somewhat shortened our salient line during the night, in accordance with our plans. "The enemy paid with tremendous and sanguinary losses for his efforts which, on the whole, have failed. Our guards and Rheinisch, Bavarian, Saxon and Wuerttemberg troops maintained their positions unshaken. "On the right bank of the Meuse repeated French assaults broke down with very heavy losses to the enemy after bitter fighting at certain points. (Continued on Page Twelve.)

Grand Assault Against Forces of Central Powers Now in Progress in Every Theatre.

RUSSIANS CLAIM SUCCESS London Announces Most Notable Gain in Some Days in the Region of Guillemont.

FRENCH GAIN NEAR VERDUN Daily Attacks by British North of Somme Effective.

The long-expected general offensive on the Saloniki front has opened and the grand assault against the forces of the Central powers now is in progress in every theatre of the world war. General Sarraill is attacking the Bulgarian-German forces along the entire Greek-Serbian frontier, a distance of more than 150 miles.

Reports from both Berlin and Paris indicate that the Entente Allies are following the same tactics in the Balkans that signalized the opening of the great offensive on the Somme. Small bodies of troops are attacking at numerous points along the Bulgarian line, apparently with the intention of feeling out their opponents' positions before the real battle opens.

Each Side Captures a Village. The French claim the capture of a number of villages in the initial phases of the offensive, while Berlin reports the capture of Florina, a Greek town 15 miles southeast of Monastir, from the Serbians. Serbian headquarters admits this repulse. On the eastern front, the Russians have forced their way into the heart of the great mountain barrier between Galicia and the Hungarian plains. The Austrians admit a retirement west of Jablonitz, seized by the Russians last week. The Austrians are retreating toward the Chernohora ridge, the high est point into the Carpathians in that region. From this ridge the ground falls rapidly to the plains of Hungary.

Further to the south in the Bukovina end of the battle, the Russians have been forced back in their advance on Kirilbaba the next pass south of Jablonitz and about 50 miles from that point. Daily attacks by the British against the German lines north of the Somme, in France, are having the effect London announces the most notable gain in some days in the region of Guillemont. After withstanding German counter attacks, the troops of General Haig again assaulted the opposing German lines and gained from 200 to 600 yards along a front of two miles.

The purpose of the Anglo-French forces has been exerted strongly recently where the two forces join hands between Guillemont and Maurepas, and the latest British advance was for Pouraere or Highwood to the junction point. In addition the British report that they have gained a footing in the village of Guillemont. Berlin says the Anglo-French attacks north of the Somme were repulsed, except around Guillemont, where the German line was shortened.

While not as active as the British on the Somme front, the French have made more gains in the Verdun region. Fighting took place on both banks of the Meuse, the German attacking on the left and the French on the right. The German attack was frustrated, Paris says, and the French succeeded in gaining entire possession of the village of Fleury. Counter attacks by the Germans failed to dislodge the French, Paris asserts. The Russians broke through the Austro-German lines on the Stokhod river, 40 miles northeast of Kovel, and captured the village of Tobol.

Fighting is reported on the Austro-Italian front, north of the Italian front, the high ground north of Pozzies, and a half mile of trenches west of Highwood, according to the official statement issued by the war office at (Continued on Page Two.) BRITISH CLAIM ADVANCE ALONG ELEVEN-MILE FRONT London, Aug. 20.—The British have advanced along a front of 11 miles, capturing a ridge overlooking Thiepval, the high ground north of Pozzies, and a half mile of trenches west of Highwood, according to the official statement issued by the war office at (Continued on Page Two.)