

Generally fair Saturday and Sunday, but probably showers Sunday, especially west portion.

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WILMINGTON, N. C., SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 7, 1919.

WHOLE NUMBER 29,766.

WILL CALL NATION-WIDE STRIKE TODAY IN SUPPORT OF SOUTHERN OPERATORS, SAYS KONENKAMP

President Commercial Telegraphers Leaves Washington for Chicago

SAY STRIKE A FAILURE

W. U. President Declares of 40,000 Employees Eligible Only 710 Members Union

LESS THAN 300 STRIKE

Union Claims, However, 4,000 Have Walked Out

Washington, June 6.—President S. J. Konenkamp, of the Commercial Telegraphers' Union of America, announced today that he would call a nationwide strike of members of the union upon reaching Chicago tomorrow. He said that neither the date of the proposed walkout nor whether it would affect both the Postal Telegraph-Cable company and the Western Union had been decided.

The strike, President Konenkamp said, would be called in support of local employees of the Western Union company in 10 southeastern states, who were requested by him to leave their work last night following return by order of Postmaster General Burleson of the wire systems of the country to private operation.

Postmaster department officials, while admitting that whereas the wire systems now are being operated by the companies the department was not directly concerned in the controversy, expressed the belief that the strike if called would not seriously affect communication. Western Union officials are pointed to the statement in New York today of Newcomb Carlton, president of the company, that out of 40,000 employees eligible to join the Commercial Telegraphers' Union, only 710 were members.

Mr. Konenkamp planned to leave Washington shortly after midnight for Chicago.

Leaders in congress, despite the postmaster general's order returning the wires to private operation, went forward with their plans for legislation for the repeal of the wire control resolution. Reopening the hearings on the bill by Senator Kellogg, republican, of Minnesota, for repeal of the wire control resolution, the senate commerce committee questioned N. C. Kingsbury, the president of the American Telephone & Telegraph Co., as to legislation necessary to protect the wire systems during the hearing some members of the committee charged that the postmaster general, controlled by a strike, issued the return order for the purpose of "passing the buck."

Mr. Burleson in a letter to Chairman Cummings of the senate committee, declared his order had been misinterpreted and that actual control of the wire systems had not passed from the government, but only operation had been relinquished.

The committee, at the close of its hearing, agreed to amend the Kellogg bill to continue existing telephone service in effect for 90 days after the wires are returned instead of 60 days as originally proposed. Shortly before the senate adjourned late today until Monday the bill was called up and the senate in session with privileged status for consideration Monday. Chairman Esh, of the house interstate commerce committee, announced after a meeting of the committee today that the postmaster general's statement of legislation for return of the lines would be considered Monday.

REPORT BULGARIANS MARCHING ON SERBS

Another Report That Bulgars Are Massing Against Serbia—Several Reports.

Copenhagen, June 6.—A part of the Bulgarian army has been mobilized and is marching toward the Serbian frontier, the Balkan News Agency reports.

Reports that the Bulgarian army was secretly mobilized on the Serbian frontier have been heard in this city several times during the past three months. The purpose of the mobilization was never explained nor have recent dispatches indicated any reason for strife between Bulgaria and Serbia. The reported movement of the Bulgarians may have some connection with the peace terms as anticipated in Bulgaria. The Bulgarian treaty has not yet been completed by the peace conference. Bulgarian peace delegates were reported to have arrived in Switzerland several weeks ago.

RAILROAD TO TAP 35,000 ACRES OF VIRGINIA HARDWOOD

Knoxville, Tenn., June 6.—With the completion of a tap railroad now under construction from Ela, N. C., to the new Found Gap of the Smoky mountains, Sevier county, about 35 miles southeast of Knoxville, the first step toward the marketing of 35,000 acres of virgin hardwood timber land will have been taken by a fiber company, of Canton, N. C., what will be the most extensive development in the history of the lumber industry of the south.

Still Many Loose Ends To Catch Up in Treaty

Paris, June 6.—There are still many loose ends to the determination which must be made before the reply of the allies to the German counter-proposals can be submitted to Count von Brockdorff-Rantau, head of the German plenipotentiaries, and even the question of principle regarding changes in the treaty has not been definitely settled.

Nevertheless the members of the commissions of experts profess confidence that they will be able to complete their reports to the council of four by Monday or Tuesday and the members of the council themselves seem sure that they will be able to present the allied reply on Thursday or Friday.

The reply will be submitted as an ultimatum with a short time limit, probably about four days, in which Germany will either have to take or leave the conditions as offered them. The most important modification under consideration, namely the question of reparations, probably will not involve any material changes in the treaty as originally presented. The concessions will, instead, be presented in the form of a supplementary agreement defining the procedure for the reparations commission and prescribing certain instructions for that body which, according to the original draft of the treaty, was given a most comprehensive power of action, subject only to the instructions of the powers represented on the commission.

This new solution which is expected to emerge from the deliberations of the experts will dodge fixation of a definite monetary total for reparations, to which the French object on the ground that announcement of any sum which it is considered possible to exact in payment would so disappoint the expectations of the French public as to cause a political upheaval.

The supplementary agreement also would meet the objections of the Germans who declared they were to be (Continued on Page Two.)

HINES DISCUSSES RAILROAD EXPENSE

Government Lost 250 Millions of Dollars the First Four Months of Year

HOLDING RATES DOWN

Director General Says Other Industrial Concerns in Same Fix on Labor and Materials But Profits Are Larger

Washington, June 6.—Director General Hines estimated today that the railroad administration incurred a deficit of approximately \$58,000,000 in April making a total deficit of \$250,000,000 for the first four months of the year. The director general reiterated, however, his previously expressed judgment that present economic conditions are too unsettled to afford a safe basis for decision as to the necessity for increased rates to offset the difference between income and operating cost. For the present there will be no raise, he added, the administration confining itself to practicing every possible economy.

The net operating income for April was about \$26,000,000 as compared with \$71,000,000 for April last year, and an average of \$67,102,681 for April during the three-year test period, on which the compensation to the roads is based. "In April," Mr. Hines said, "as in January, February and March, this unfavorable showing was due in large part to the falling off of business. It was also due in part to the heavy increases in wages and cost of materials. The railroad administration is not unlike other industrial undertakings in the increase in wages and costs of materials, but is unlike these other enterprises in that the latter have made high responding increases in the prices of what they sell while the railroad administration has made an increase in transportation rates of only 25 per cent, which is a far less percentage than the increase in wages and cost of materials."

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OPENS NEW EPOCH IN PAN-AMERICAN BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Director John Barrett Declares Commercial Congress Has Been of Great Value

BETTER SHIP SERVICE

Parcel Post Extension to Latin America and Banking Connections Fruits of Week

Washington, June 6.—The inauguration of a new epoch in Pan-American affairs has marked the sessions of the Pan-American commercial conference, declared Director John Barrett of the American Union, in summing up the achievements of the meeting at the concluding session today.

"Its great outstanding characteristic," said Mr. Barrett, "has been the expression of the Pan-American or All-American idea and viewpoint, in which the interests of Latin-America, just as much as those of the United States, have been frankly considered and discussed by the most eminent and skilled authorities of both North and South America."

The applause which greeted the statement of Director General Barrett was considered as reflecting the sentiment of the more than 750 representatives of the United States and Latin-America who have attended the five-day meeting.

"If the work and results of the conference were to be summarized in the form of conclusions," said Mr. Barrett, "the following should be included: 'The immediate establishment of abundant freight, mail and passenger steamship facilities between the principal ports of the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific coasts of the United States, on the one hand; and the corresponding ports of Latin-America, on the other; 'The making of every effort by both governments and individuals to develop thorough reciprocity and mutual cooperation in trade, commerce, general treatment of commercial relations; 'The meeting of the unavoidable and pressing financial needs of the Latin-American governments and legitimate private understandings and also the protection and enlargement of the United States-Latin American trade, through the financial and banking interests of the United States providing the necessary money loans and credits; 'A well-defined program for the protection of the patents, trade-marks, and copyrights of each country in all the other 20, through the United States, and the opening of the South American office in Rio de Janeiro; 'The making of the parcel post beneficial to the export business interests of the United States and the rank and file of the Latin-American peoples through the removal of unnecessary restrictions and regulations; 'The improvements in the administration of consular offices, simplification of consular invoices and fees, the annulling of petty laws annoying to trade and the revision and permanency of tariffs; 'The undertaking without delay all over Latin-America of extensive railway and highway road construction, the renewing of railways already in existence but suffering from the lack of supplies during the war, and the establishment of fast aviation mail service; 'Better credit facilities for Latin-American buyers, a closer study of the Latin-American trade and social conditions by the interests of the United States and the extension of United States banking connections for the benefit alike of the United States and Latin America; 'The improvement and extension of news service, cable service and employment of the best methods of advertising, publicity and other agencies of commercial intelligence; 'The study of the Spanish and Portuguese languages, Latin-American institutions, history and geography by the people of the United States and a corresponding study of the United States by the people of Latin America."

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Chairman Kahn told the party leaders that the army bill authorizing \$1,100,000,000 when it passed the house in the last congress would be reduced by nearly \$400,000,000 and later it was learned that the naval committee expected to cut the naval appropriation bill to about \$600,000,000 effecting a saving of more than \$100,000,000 over the amount carried when the measure was in the last congress. A cut in the \$1,200,000,000 request of the railroad administration also was planned when the appropriations committee meets to consider its final action on the estimate. Refusal to grant all of the money asked for working capital was contemplated by some committee members.

Work on the army appropriation bill was completed by the military committee today and arrangements were made for reporting it out tomorrow. According to present plans the bill will be taken up for consideration by the house Tuesday and acted upon Thursday. Democratic committee members joined with the republicans in decreasing the total amount carried to the lowest possible figure.

The largest reductions in the measure were made possible by authorizations on a basis of an army of 400,000 men instead of 509,000, as recommended by the war department. This made possible decreases averaging from 20 (Continued on Page Two.)

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Some Changes Indicated In Peace Terms Dealing With Amount of Damages

Middle Course Relative to Reparation May be Taken Between the Fixing of a Definite Sum and the Provisions of the First Draft—Allow Germans Some Capital and Tonnage—Reply Next Week

(By the Associated Press)

Germany will know the decision of the peace conference on her counter-proposals to the treaty by Thursday or Friday of next week, according to the latest dispatches from Paris.

It is understood the allied and associated governments have decided to adopt a middle course as between the fixing of a definite sum to be exacted from Germany, a proceeding strenuously objected to by the French as likely to lead to a political upheaval due to the disappointment of the French public, and the provisions of the draft of the treaty handed the Germans, which the latter have declared mean economic slavery. The reparations to be demanded for certain forms of allied claims will be made known to the Germans, but not all of them, as the only sum for the total losses which the French have

declared themselves willing to agree to, amounting to a figure the experts declare Germany will be unable to pay. It is probable the Germans will be allowed some working capital and tonnage for overseas trade with which to earn the sums required of them. The clauses of the treaty concerning responsibilities, punishment of the former kaiser, and the disposition of Germany's overseas colonies likely will stand as set forth in the original draft of the treaty, while a plebiscite in Upper Silesia with regard to the future sovereignty of the district is believed to have been definitely decided upon.

President Wilson, interviewed by a Paris newspaper Friday, declared his conviction that the peace treaty handed the Germans violates none of his principles and conforms in its entirety with his 14 points. The statement again is made, this time in Copenhagen dispatches, that part of the Bulgarian army has been mobilized and is advancing on the (Continued on Page Two.)

ERZBURGER FAVORS ACCEPTING TREATY

Head of German Armistice Commission Preparing a Memorandum to That Effect

EXECUTE RED LEADER

Bavarian Cabinet Refuses Mercy to Bolshevik Agitator Levine Nissen—German Terrorist in Switzerland

Copenhagen, June 6.—Mathias Erzburger, head of the German armistice commission, according to the Deutsche Tageszeitung, of Berlin, is preparing a memorandum which, after discussing the peace terms in all their aspects, advocates signing the treaty.

GOVERNMENT REFUSES TO SAVE RED LEADER'S LIFE

Munich, Bavaria, Thursday, June 6.—Levine Nissen, the bolshevik agitator who was one of the leaders of the Munich communist soviet regime, was executed at noon today at Stadelheim outside the capital. He was convicted yesterday and the Bavarian cabinet refused to commute his sentence, maintaining that he was the cause of the civil war in Bavaria and deserved no mercy.

It seems probable that Levine Nissen, named above, is identical with the bolshevik leader Levine who has figured so prominently in the press dispatches in connection with the Munich soviet regime. The arrest of the communist leader "Levine" who had previously been referred to as editor of The Red Flag of Munich, was announced in a Munich message of May 15 and a dispatch earlier this week reported his sentence to death after a two days' trial.

EXECUTION IS STIRRING UP PEOPLE THROUGHOUT GERMANY

London, June 6.—The execution in Munich of Levine Nissen is resulting in unrest throughout Germany, an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Copenhagen says. The majority socialists are joining a strike movement begun by the soldiers and workers of council and executive committees of the Greater Berlin factories which protested against the sentence of the Bavarian communist.

Strikes have occurred in Nuremberg and Munich. A strike at Leipzig has (Continued on Page Two.)

STATE DEPARTMENT IS ASKED BY THE SENATE FOR TEXT

Resolution Also to Investigate Rumors That Copies of Peace Treaty Are Here

QUIZ PEACE DELEGATES

Senator Borah Declares He Will Publish First Copy That Falls Into His Hands

Washington, June 6.—Resolutions asking the state department for the text of the treaty with Germany and directing the foreign relations committee to investigate how copies of the unpublished document have reached private hands in New York, were adopted by the senate today without a roll call.

Action on the two proposals came unexpectedly during lull in the stormy debate they had aroused and scarcely a score of senators were in the chamber when, in quick succession the resolutions were put to a vote. Their passage, however, was no surprise as it generally had been conceded that each would have a majority. The request for the treaty will be referred by state department officials to President Wilson and Secretary Lansing at Paris and pending a reply no official opinion is available here as to whether the text will be forthcoming.

Under the investigation resolution, introduced at the request of the white house by Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, senior democrat of that foreign relations committee, it is expected that a far-reaching inquiry will begin within a few days. The committee will meet Monday to formulate plans which may include the summoning of members of the American peace delegation. Adoption of the Hitchcock resolution came first, just after the debate had reached a dramatic climax in a clash between Mr. Hitchcock and Chairman Lodge of the foreign relations committee. After this clash a request by Mr. Lodge that the senate substitute an investigation resolution drawn by Senator Kellogg, republican, of Minnesota, was withdrawn and the question was put on adoption.

The resolution asking for the treaty text, introduced by Senator Johnson, republican, of California, was automatically under the senate rules and it was disposed of within less than a minute with only a few scattered "noes."

It had been opposed stubbornly during two weeks of debate by the president's supporters, and the general expectation had been that the vote on it would be close. In suggesting the Kellogg substitute Senator Lodge said the Hitchcock resolution apparently had been "hastily drawn" and that his object was to improve the language of the measure. With this Senator Kellogg immediately took issue, saying the substitute was quite different in content because it did not name Senators Lodge and Borah, republican, of Idaho, as having made charges that the treaty is in private hands in New York.

His own proposal, continued Mr. Hitchcock, would show by naming the two senators where the information came from that started the inquiry. "I am amazed," continued the Nebraska senator, "at the position now taken by the senator from Massachusetts. Yesterday he wanted immediate action. Yesterday and the day before he was for the Kellogg substitute. Now the senator who was so anxious to make statements here about the treaty being in New York wants some one else investigated."

Referring to inferences that the treaty was in the hands of financial interests, Senator Hitchcock drew a pointed reply from Senator Lodge. "I did not say that," shouted the foreign relations chairman. "Now the senator question the truth of what I say?"

"No," retorted Senator Hitchcock, "but I think we ought to have another investigation to find out what's happened during the last 24 hours and what new light the senators on the other side of the chamber have seen. 'You can beat my resolution if you want to. You can put in a vague substitute. But the people of the country won't be satisfied with that kind of an investigation.'"

Senator Lodge denied that he desired to evade investigation and assured Senator Hitchcock that he would "get all the investigation he desires." Senator Borah said he thought either resolution would be broad enough to give the committee access to "the whole field" of investigation.

There was much speculation tonight as to the turn the inquiry may take. Senator Lodge told the senate yesterday that he would not reveal the source of his information about the treaty copies and Senator Borah is understood to take the same view.

In some quarters it was suggested that subpoenas might be issued to representatives of any financial interests suspected of having private channels for securing such information. Another opinion was that the inquiry would begin at the other end and would seek to locate first any possible "leak" among government officials or attaches.

In this connection much comment was caused by an Associated Press dispatch mentioned in the senate during the day by Senator McCormick, republican, of Illinois, saying it was understood in Paris that the Berlin government was sending copies of the treaties to members of congress. So far as could be learned, no such copies have arrived. . . . Senator Borah has announced his intention of making the treaty public as soon as he receives a copy, but he said tonight he had been unable so far to obtain one.



American sentries standing guard over the river near Remagen, Germany. (C) Underwood & Underwood.