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EFFORTS TO AVERT STRIKE ON RAILROADS ARE PUSHED

"BIG FIVE" CHIEFS TO-DAY ARE IN CONFERENCE WITH LABOR BOARD IN CHICAGO

Find Some Signs of Peace

MAINTENANCE OF WAY HEADS SAYS MEN DON'T WANT STRIKE.

Chicago, Oct. 19.—Preparation for the various moves through which it is hoped the threatened rail strike will be averted were completed today and tomorrow the peace efforts will be in full swing.

Tonight heads of the unions and of the carriers were silently alert with figuratively speaking—one eye on the conferences tomorrow and the other on meetings of officials of eleven unions which have not yet joined the conductors, engineers, trainmen, firemen and switchmen in a strike order, for both sides were agreed that out of these conferences would come the final decision as to whether a general walkout of rail employees would materialize.

In the conference with the labor board rested the possibility of the "Big Five" being persuaded to cancel their order for a walkout in the meeting of the eleven unions, which actually started today, was to be decided whether these organizations, holding the balance of manpower through numbering three-fourths of the nearly 2,000,000 rail workers in their membership, would join the "Big Five" if they walked out October 30 as planned.

While the "Big Five" conference was looked on as the most important of the peace moves, railroad men tonight professed to see signs of a peaceful settlement of the difficulties in the attitude of B. M. Jewell, head of the 456,000 members of the six railway shop craft organizations, and of J. C. Smock, vice president of the maintenance of way union, which number 300,000 men.

The shop crafts executive council met today, but took no action other than to call in the conference committee of 100. The committee, while having power to call a strike, also is expected to defer action by calling in the 1,000 general chairmen for a meeting Friday, when the final attitude of these groups probably will be made known.

The maintenance of way executive council met only informally today, the formal meeting coming tomorrow when all of the members are expected to be present.

"I cannot speak for my entire organization now, but personally I will say that we do not want a strike that we would ever strike on the wage question unless forced to, and that we will not go into any walkout with the brotherhoods unless we have definite promises of co-operation, which so far have not been forthcoming from them," said J. C. Smock, maintenance of way vice-president, tonight.

The labor board will go into conference with assurance of full support from every interested governmental department, its members said tonight, following an executive session at which they went over the case. One member intimated he believed the board had found a legal method of enforcing its ruling. Heretofore, the board has maintained that it had no power to carry out its decisions and unions and railroads each have charged the other with violating the board's rulings.

The board had no announcement to make tonight as to its procedure tomorrow other than to say that the situation "would be gone over thoroughly." It was understood, however, that a plan similar to that proposed by the public group in Washington—calling for acceptance of the last wage cut and cancellation of the strike order by the men, with the roads immediately reducing freight rates and temporarily post-

To Move Necessities In Spite of Strike.

Chicago, Oct. 19.—In the event the threatened railroad strike is called the roads are prepared to "do our utmost to move necessities, utilizing to the fullest possible extent all the manpower available." Charles H. Markham, president of the Illinois Central railroad, declared today in an address before the American Mining congress.

Mr. Markham said the present transportation tangle was due to the fact that 99 public bodies have a hand in fixing the rules, income and expenses of the roads and that in the expenditure of more than 97 per cent of their operating costs the railroads have no voice.

"The remedy," he said, "is to place once more in the hands of railway managements—under competent and broad minded supervision—the control of operating costs in such a way that responsibility may properly be placed on the management for the operation of their properties."

GREAT REPORTS HEARD REGARDING SCOUT WORK

Excellent reports were submitted at the monthly meeting of the executive board of the Greensboro council, Boy Scouts of America, on Monday night at scout headquarters in the basement of the county court house. W. C. A. Hammel announced that the drum corps would make its first public appearance on the following afternoon in the "Children's Week" play day exercises. The young scout-musicians also will parade with the American legion on Armistice day November 11. The report of Scout Executive Bob Denny showed that there are now in Greensboro and vicinity 20 troops with a membership of 378 scouts, 44 scoutmasters and assistants. On the troop committees are 53 men and there are 31 merit badge scouts in Greensboro.

poning further wage cuts—would be the basis of discussion.

Board members admitted they realize the board really is fighting for its life and that much of its future depends on its ability to handle the present situation.

In connection with the possibility of this conference averting a strike, it was pointed out, however, that many railroads have announced positively that the public group proposal is impossible in their opinion while few labor leaders have expressed very warm approval of it.

In this connection Samuel O. Dunn, editor of Railway Age, issued a statement today denouncing the plan as "involving a complete surrender by the roads to the labor unions." The statement said that the "labor leaders' opposition to the plan was a bluff, as it was exactly what the unions want."

Possibility of immediate steps to bring about a labor board hearing on the proposed 10 per cent wage cut which the roads recently announced they would seek was reported in rail circles, but locally no action yet has been taken to this end. Informal meetings of presidents of railroads entering Chicago are being held almost daily, however, and it was said that definite announcements would be made shortly.

Presidents of railroads centering here have not yet advertised for men to man the trains in case of a strike, as has been done in New York, but this action also will be taken within a few days, it was said.

STATE-NEWS BRIEFS

Mistrial Ordered.
Fayetteville, Oct. 17.—Standing eleven to one against the insanity plea of the defense the jurymen in the case of J. Marshall Williams charged with the murder of Deputy Sheriff A. J. Pate this morning reported that they were unable to agree, after deliberating for forty-five hours on the question of Williams' sanity. A mistrial was ordered after the withdrawal of one juror.

Pastor Resigns.
Hamlet, Oct. 17.—Rev. J. M. Page, for the past five years pastor of the Hamlet Baptist church, on Sunday morning tendered his resignation to become effective on December 1. He did not announce where his next field of labor would be, but he is considering a number of calls.

Murder and Suicide.
Lenoir, Oct. 17.—Phillip King was shot and fatally wounded and Tom Winkler was shot and instantly killed near here this morning by Harden Mabe, prominent farmer, who later committed suicide by blowing the top of his head off with a 12 gauge shot gun. This triple killing occurred seven miles west of here on the old Lenoir-Morganton road. Mabe is believed to have been insane.

Issue Road Bonds.
Tarboro, Oct. 17.—Edgecombe county board of commissioners met here today and unanimously agreed that the county would raise five hundred thousand dollars, interest not to exceed 6 per cent, and purchase five hundred thousand dollars North Carolina state bonds for the purpose of building hard surface road from Rocky Mount through Tarboro and Coneto to Pitt county line.

Efrd Buys Building.
Raleigh, Oct. 18.—A real estate deal by which one of the most valuable pieces of property on Fayetteville street changed hands was consummated yesterday when J. R. Efrd, head of the Efrd chain of stores, closed with Mrs. E. E. Swindell for the building now occupied by the Efrd store.

Many Jobs Found.
Raleigh, Oct. 19.—More than three thousand men and women found employment through the state employment service during the three months' period ending October 1, according to report made public by M. L. Shipman, director of the service.

Ambassador Speaks.
Red Springs, Oct. 18.—Sir Auckland Geddes, British ambassador from the court of St. James to the United States was given a royal welcome here today by the Scots of the two Carolinas who came from all sections to hear him speak. The ambassador made a most interesting talk.

Pastor Called.
Reidsville, Oct. 18.—At a congregational meeting at the First Presbyterian church on Sunday morning the members voted unanimously to extend a call to the Rev. Marion Huske to become pastor of the church. He is a native of Fayetteville and for two years served as a missionary in China, returning to the states on account of his health and for some time has had charge of the church at Black Mountain.

Gen. Metts Dead.
Wilmington, Oct. 18.—Gen. James I. Metts, 80, commander of the North Carolina division, United Confederate Veterans, who was injured when his automobile was struck by a street car here Saturday night, died at a local hospital here today. General Metts was the father of Adjutant General J. Van B. Metts.

Goes to Referee.
Asheville, Oct. 18.—Judge Harding in Jackson Superior court today referred the Jackson county election contest to a referee, this being the second time the matter has gone to a referee.

COUNTY OFFICIALS VOTE APPROVAL OF LOAN PLAN

SEEKING \$160,000 FOR COUNTY SCHOOLS—FURNITURE CONTRACT IS AWARDED.

By unanimous vote of the county commissioners in mid-monthly session here Tuesday the application of the county board of education for a loan of \$160,000, to be obtained from the state's special building fund, was approved.

It is generally believed that the money will be secured. It is to be used in improving a number of schools in the county. The request for approval of the application was presented to the commissioners by Thomas R. Foust, county superintendent of public instruction. It will be a long-term loan, it is expected. Many improvements in the physical facilities of county schools are greatly needed, it is pointed out, and these will be made possible if the money is obtained.

The contract for furnishing the bedrooms at the new county home now being constructed was awarded by the commissioners to the Harlee-Welborn Furniture company, of High Point. The contract is for approximately \$5,000, and 36 rooms will be furnished. In each room will be two iron beds (single), bed clothing, a small table, a dresser, two chairs and a rug. Ultimately there will be 72 beds, but only 47 beds will be furnished with clothing at present.

Yesterday the commissioners inspected a number of road projects in the vicinity of High Point, also the convict camp two miles from that city.

CONFERENCE MEETS

Bishop Darlington Presiding Over Sessions at High Point.

High Point, Oct. 20.—With Bishop U. V. W. Darlington, of Huntington, W. Va., presiding, the annual sessions of the Western North Carolina conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, south, are being expeditiously conducted here. Yesterday, the first day of the conference, was a busy one, many important matters of business being transacted.

Addresses were delivered yesterday morning by Rev. Luther E. Todd, D. D., secretary of the board of finance of the Southern Methodist church, and Dr. Henry N. Snyder, president of Wofford college, Spartanburg, S. C. The opening religious services yesterday morning were conducted by Bishop Darlington, who apostrophized the love of Christ.

Rev. W. L. Sherrill was re-elected secretary of the conference. Standing committees, nominated by Rev. A. W. Plyler, presiding elder of the Greensboro district and secretary to the cabinet, were elected. Various vacancies on the church boards were filled. Yesterday afternoon Rev. H. G. Hardin, pastor of Tryson Street church, Charlotte, preached in Wesley Memorial church, where the conference is being held. Last night the anniversary meeting of the Sunday school board was held.

The conference will probably come to a close next Monday with the reading of the appointments.

LIEN AGAINST ARMFIELD REAL ESTATE IS SOUGHT.

In the office of Mason W. Gant, clerk of Guilford Superior court, a complaint was filed yesterday by the Crude Furniture company, of Winston-Salem, asking that a lien against real estate on Wharton street, owned by Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Armfield, be granted, the lien to be for \$1,060.75. In the complaint it is alleged that the plaintiff provided five furnaces for a like number of residences erected on the property, by the defendant and that the plaintiff has not received pay therefor. Mr. Armfield was president of the Bank of Thomasville which was closed several weeks ago by order of the state corporation commission. The plaintiff in this case is represented by Wilson and Frazier, of Greensboro.

NEWS OF THE NATION

Miners Resume Work.
Pittsburg, Kan., Oct. 17.—Fifteen hundred coal miners of district No. 14, who have been idle since Alexander Howat and August Dorchy went to jail, returned to work today, according to an announcement at the headquarters of the operators' association.

Delegates to Meet.
Washington, Oct. 17.—Secretary Hughes today issued a call for the second meeting of the American delegation to the conference on limitation of armaments fixing the date as Friday, at 3 p. m., subject to the convenience of Senators Lodge and Underwood.

Senator McKellar Hurt.
Washington, Oct. 17.—Senator McKellar, of Tennessee, was knocked down and run over by an automobile today while crossing Pennsylvania avenue in front of the White House. He received cuts about the face and bruises, none of which were serious.

Bergdoll Papers Stolen.
Washington, Oct. 18.—Nearly a thousand copies of a house committee report on the escape of Grover Cleveland Bergdoll, the draft evader, and a big wooden box containing certain Bergdoll documents, together with many private letters and papers were stolen last night from the office of Representative Ben Johnson, Democrat, Kentucky.

To Prevent Fight.
Oklahoma City, Okla., Oct. 18.—Governor J. B. A. Robertson today ordered the sheriff of Tulsa county to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the Mike Gibbons-Mike O'Dowd middleweight boxing contest in Tulsa next Tuesday, warning the promoters it will not be permitted in Oklahoma.

Flat World Theory.
Zion, Ill., Oct. 18.—Zion schools, of which Wilbur Glenn Voliva, the overseer of the colony, is president, have adopted his new theories of a flat world and the absence of gravitation, and the 1,000 grade and high school pupils believe them implicitly, according to their teachers.

Road Work Report.
Raleigh, Oct. 18.—In response to a request from Herbert Hoover as to the possibilities of the use of unemployed through the increased activities on highway construction in North Carolina, Governor Morrison today telegraphed Mr. Hoover, secretary of commerce, that North Carolina can at once put under contract \$5,000,000 of road work in excess of what the state otherwise can do.

Pass Tariff Bill.
Washington, Oct. 18.—A bill to extend the life of the emergency tariff law to February 1 was passed today by the house 197 to 74. The measure now goes to the senate. If the extension is not authorized, the emergency law expires November 27.

Treaties Ratified.
Washington, Oct. 18.—The administration's peace treaties with Germany, Austria and Hungary were ratified by the senate tonight, the vote on the first two being 66 to 20, or eight more than the necessary two-thirds, and in the case of Hungarian treaty, due to the absence of three senators, being 66 to 17.

Held For Assault.
Greenwood, S. C., Oct. 18.—Miss Alice Cobb is held in \$500 bond on a charge of assault and battery with intent to kill James Patterson, whom she fired at last night in his dairy lunch establishment. Patterson was arrested and placed under a \$1,000 bond several weeks ago on a warrant sworn out by Miss Cobb's father charging seduction.

Kissing Game Deadly.
Baltimore, Oct. 18.—Two men were shot to death in an affray which it is said was the outcome of a "kissing game" at a party at the home of John Allen at Curt's bay, a suburb, early today. The dead are John Allen, 57, and Robert Reed, 36.

MR. CLEMENT IS AWARDED DAMAGES BY JURY HERE

GETS \$500 DAMAGES IN SUPERIOR COURT—OTHER CASES ARE TRIED.

Damages in the sum of \$500 were awarded to W. L. Clement Tuesday by the Superior court jury in the case in which the plaintiff was suing the American-Southern Motors corporation.

Mr. Clement alleged that an automobile which he had purchased from the defendant company did not fill the requirements. He paid \$1,717.33 for the car. In addition to the \$500 the plaintiff was given the car. Representatives of the defendant company contended that they did not manufacture the machine, but only acted as agents in making the sale and could not be held responsible for any dereliction upon the part of the manufacturers.

Excellent progress is being made in court this week. Judge T. J. Shaw, of Greensboro, is presiding and civil causes are being tried.

On Tuesday a negro named George Evans was granted a divorce from his wife, Emma Evans. The plaintiff contended that in 1919 his wife left him. The woman said her husband was so mean that she couldn't live with him. She declared that the Lord told her to leave him.

In the suit of Sands and company against the American Railway Express company the jury returned a verdict awarding \$75 damages to the plaintiff.

Yesterday the jury returned a verdict in the case of Nataniel Brooks, administrator of Leon McKinney, who was killed on July 4, 1920, when he slipped and fell under a train at Pomona, against the Southern railway. The verdict was against the administrator.

Two suits against M. Stadiem by the Cossitt Manufacturing company and Arthur B. Laubheim terminated unsuccessfully for the plaintiffs. The former was asking for \$60 damages, alleging that that amount was due the company on a bill of goods. Laubheim asked for \$65.30 damages alleged to be due on a bill of goods.

Damages in the sum of \$60.86 were awarded to the Keystone Merchandise company in its suit against E. C. Hamilton. The plaintiff contended that the defendant had failed to pay for a bill of goods. No evidence was presented by the defendant.

MAKING PLANS FOR BIG KIWANIS MEETING HERE.

An unusually interesting program will be carried out at the annual convention of the Kiwanis clubs of the Carolina district to be held in this city on October 26 and 27. Among the honor guests will be Governor Morrison, Harry E. Karr, international president; Fred W. Parker, international secretary; E. A. Mansfield Hobbs, chairman of the international board of directors; Roe Fulkerson, editor of the Kiwanis magazine, and J. Thomas Arnold, governor of the Carolina district. Business sessions will be held in the O. Henry hotel and the Grand theater, while a number of social events also are planned.

Harris Electrocuted For Slaying Monnish

Raleigh, Oct. 20.—At 10.30 this morning J. T. Harris, Ridgecrest merchant, paid the death penalty in the electric chair for the murder of F. W. Monnish, a wealthy Alabama citizen, in September, 1920.

Governor Morrison declined to commute the sentence, although it was said that he received about a thousand telegrams asking for commutation. He declared "the verdict of the jury seems to me the only possible one." He denied that the Baptists of this state had made any threats against him in the event of commutation.