

## GERMAN LINERS TO BECOME PROPERTY OF UNITED STATES

Shipping Board Announces That it Will Take Over Eight Vessels at Once

LIST INCLUDES SECOND LARGEST SHIP IN WORLD

England Had Expected to Take Over Big Boats But War Department, Which Had Ships For Transporting Troops, Will Turn Them Over To America

Washington, Sept. 27.—Eight German liners, including the former Hamburg-American steamer Imperator, second largest ship in the world, allocated to the United States by the Inter-allied Shipping Commission after the signing of the armistice and used to bring home American troops, are to be retained by the United States.

The Imperator had been allocated by the Allied Naval Commission at Paris to Great Britain and the British minister of shipping expected that the ship would be delivered to him today at Hoboken for use by the Canadian line in service between New York and England. The Shipping Board announced today, however, that it had taken the liner over from the War Department and ordered a survey to determine repairs necessary for use as a liner.

Director Issues Statement. J. H. Rosster, director of the division of operations of the board issued tonight the following statement:

"It is understood by the United States Shipping Board that the Imperator, Kaiserin Augusta Victoria and six other German ships, now in New York, were allocated to the United States under the terms of peace and the board therefore assigned these vessels to the War Department for the repatriation of troops. The chairman of the board requested the War Department to deliver the ships to the United States Shipping Board. Accordingly the War Department this morning re-delivered the Imperator at New York to the Shipping Board representatives.

Standard Oil Tanks Involved. While no official of the board would stand sponsor for the statement, it was understood that the action of the board in retaining the ships was a direct result of a decision by the Supreme Economic Council at Brussels to allocate to the allies twelve oil tank steamers in German ports which the Standard Oil Company, of New Jersey, contends are its property. The ships were operated under the German flag but the company claimed they belonged to its German subsidiary.

Under-Secretary of State Polk, head of the American peace delegation at Paris, has sought to have the twelve oil ships allocated for transportation of oil from the United States to Germany. The representatives of the Great Powers at Paris agreed, but the Supreme Economic Council, on which the United States is not represented, ordered Germany to turn the vessels over to the allies.

Allocation Is Permanent. In an announcement that the shipping board would retain the eight German liners, Mr. Rosster said their allocation to the United States was permanent. When the ships were delivered by the Germans in England, the shipping board, it was explained, turned them over to the War Department for use as transports and has now taken them back for commercial employment.

It was said at the War Department today that since the ships had been assigned to it by the shipping board, the department's only course was to return them when no longer needed as transports. At the State Department it was said that the matter had not been brought formally to the attention of officials there and no statement was forthcoming.

President May Act. Great Britain has contended that the allocation of the eight liners by the Inter-Allied Commission was only temporary, and that when the need for the ships as troop transports had passed, they were to revert to the allied port for permanent allocation among the allied and associated powers.

Officials of the shipping board would not say upon what authority they were acting. It was expected, however, that the whole question would be brought to (Continued on Page Two.)

## MISS TAFT WOULD HAVE UNION OF PROFESSORS

Daughter of Ex-President Thinks Strike For Higher Salaries in Order

Bryn Mawr, Pa., Sept. 27.—Miss Helen Taft, acting president of the Bryn Mawr College, declared today in an address before the alumni conference in the Bryn Mawr campaign for \$1,000,000 to increase faculty remuneration, that she wished the professors of the country would organize a union and strike for higher salaries.

She said that they had a better case than the ministers. Miss Taft, holds that the faculty of Bryn Mawr and other colleges are taking the most reasonable way possible to press their claims. She said they are justified in refusing to serve the country. Miss Taft pointed out that she would not object to a strike as a college executive, because she believed it would not be a strike against the college executives, but against the public, which ought to be made to pay for its education.

## SUCCEEDS BENSON AS BUREAU CHIEF



Rear Admiral Robert E. Coontz has been named by Secretary of the Navy Daniels as chief of naval operations to succeed Rear Admiral William S. Benson, retired. This bureau is the most important in the Navy Department.

## RAILWAY TRAFFIC STOPS COMPLETELY

Warring Labor From Union Standpoint Scores Its Most Successful Tie-Up

## GOVERNMENT BLAMED BY LEADER IN STRIKE

President of Railway Union Says Strikers Not at War With Public But With Those in Control of Affairs of Country; Denies It is in Defense of Union Rights

London, Sept. 27.—(By The Associated Press.)—The first day of the great strike in England's history passed without disorder, but with practically complete stoppage of railway transportation throughout the country. Thus far it has been from a union standpoint the most successful tie-up of industry ever recorded by warring labor.

Tonight a great mass-meeting of railway men was held in Albert hall, at which James Henry Thomas, secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen—after the audience for an hour had sung "The Red Flag"—delivered a heated speech of censure against the government and declared that trouble was brewing which might lead to bloodshed.

Both Thomas and G. T. Cramp, president of the union, who has preceded him, asserted that the men were firmly behind the leaders in this great crisis.

Denounces Government. President Cramp denounced the government statement regarding the purpose of the strike as "a deliberate lie." It was not the public with whom the strikers were at war, he declared, "it was the people who were for the moment in the position of directing the affairs of the country."

All "the powers of hell, the press, platform and perhaps the pulpit" would be invoked against the strikers, said President Cramp, but if they remained solid they would be victorious.

Both speakers denounced what they characterized as the government attempt to bias the mind of the public by saying that the strike was not in defense of union rights but against the life of the community. Answering the premier's strong statement earlier in the day that the strike was an anarchistic conspiracy against the government, Secretary Thomas declared if that were true, "God help the country."

"My answer to the prime minister's challenge," said Mr. Thomas, "is that if he will now say to us officially himself, not influenced or intimidated by anyone else, if he will say as head of the State, that he is prepared to concede to the same principles of all railway servants, then the strike can cease at once."

Strike Test of Power. Official pronouncement from government sources and bitter rejoinders from the railway executives coupled with the attitude of the press which is largely with the government, has surrounded the strike with a decidedly political atmosphere.

The general feeling is expressed by the newspapers is that the present struggle is a test between the relative powers of the government and of the organized working classes.

A lengthy verbal report issued officially tonight concerning Friday's conference between the government and railwaymen shows that Secretary Thomas asked for a minimum of sixty shillings a week for all workers. Mr. Lloyd George admitted that the railwaymen before the war had been "disgracefully underpaid."

## ALBEMARLE MILLS ALL WILL RESUME WORK TOMORROW

Local Textile Union and Mill Representatives Reach Agreement

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING OPERATIVES TO GO BACK

Each of 19 Defendant Operatives Bound Under Bond of \$200; Not Pros Taken in Cases of Four Others; Warrants Still Unservd On Five of the Strikers

Albemarle, Sept. 27.—All mills will resume operation Monday morning in Albemarle, in accordance with an agreement reached in a conference between representatives of the Wisconsin Mills Company and the EHR Manufacturing Company and the executive committee of the local Textile Union.

The text of the agreement is not given, but it is understood that the manufacturers agree to meet regular committees from the union and that they acknowledge their right to collective bargaining. All former employees will be taken back with out prejudice, and they will be allowed to pay house rent accumulated for period of the strike at the rate of ten per cent a month giving them ten months to pay the indebtedness.

Bond of \$200 Each. Judge W. K. Littleton, bound under bonds of \$200 each the 19 defendants who were on trial yesterday and today. Twenty-three were on trial but Solicitor Brock took a nol-pro in the cases against John L. Thompson, Jasper Poppin, George Luchbery and Jasper Hoover, stating that sufficient evidence was not developed to hold these men.

Warrants are still unserved for five men, John Britt, Charles Cooper, Eric Troutman, Fred Pennington and John Lemmons, Jr. Being as yet unapprehended Dee Porter and Fred H. Burleson are ill, Porter being confined to his bed from the wound received on the morning of the picketing which resulted in a fight and Burleson suffering from some minor malady.

Personal of Defendants. The men who will appear in Superior court to answer the charges of insurrectionaries Nick Simmons, Buck Dennis, George Dennis, Allen Tucker, Gray Boyd, Paul Austing, Jack Morris, Dan Lewis, Jason Tucker, Ben Carpenter, Eben Dennis, Duncan Solomon, Luther Poplin Henry Parker, George Walker, Pink Russell, W. H. Smith, P. M. Barber and J. A. Lee.

Day's Court Proceedings. The State rested its case, after the introduction of one witness, and the defense without putting up any witnesses also rested. Thereupon began a series of arguments which lasted from 11 o'clock until 8 p. m. At their conclusion Judge W. K. Littleton, farmer-magistrate, first took occasion to thank the spectators for good behavior and the lawyers for their uniform courtesy to him. He said he seldom tried a case unless it were sworn away from some other magistrate practicing the more peaceful portions of that calling. He further expressed himself as being sympathetic with unions, being a member of the Farmers' Union, but that it seemed to him a violation of the law for these men to have undertaken by force to prevent other men from going to work.

On Probable Cause. He went on to say that he bound them over under no particular count, having found probable cause under the testimony.

In reply to a question from the counsel for the defense, he stated that he considered the men more particularly guilty under the second count. Some discussions as to amount of bond took place, the solicitor suggesting that it (Continued on Page Fourteen)

## GREENVILLE READY TO GREET HEROES OF 30TH

South Carolina City Gaily Decorated on Eve of Reunion of Veterans

Greenville, S. C., Sept. 27.—Thousands of American flags and festoons with a scattering of allied colors, whipped in the breezes tonight a vibrant message of joyous welcome to the gallant veterans of the immortal Thirtieth division who have begun to arrive by the hundreds to attend the first reunion of the Old Hickory Association, an event that commemorates the first anniversary of the breaking of the Hindenburg line by this division of patriotic Tennesseans, North and South Carolinians.

Principal streets are arched from one end to the other with almost a canopy of red, white and blue, while the residences and stores are decorated as never before. The home fires have been kept burning for the men who kept the faith.

Greenville's welcome to the Thirtieth is her heartiest welcome back home. In the words of Mayor Harley, Greenville inexpressibly values the honor of being the first reunion city. Throughout the Thirtieth's career overseas Greenville watched with undiminished interest and proud expectancy its progress and with unabated eagerness awaited its return home.

The success of the reunion is assured and with this accomplishment the veterans' association is insured of a long life of usefulness and undoubted growth, according to a statement today of Col. Holmes B. Sprague, chairman of the organization committee.

## Raleigh Engineer Is Killed In Wreck of Seaboard Train

Mr. C. R. Smith, Seaboard Air Line engineer, of Raleigh, his white fireman, and an unidentified man were killed last night when Seaboard Air Line passenger train No. 5, headed for Jacksonville, Fla., was wrecked three miles south of Petersburg. The fireman, Mr. H. M. Ferguson, of Richmond, was buried under the coal of the overturned engine and early this morning his body had not been recovered.

From information available last night, the Seaboard train ran into an open switch at 10:35. An hour later, the wrecking crew from Raleigh had left for Petersburg. It was stated definitely here last night that none of the passengers were injured.

The unidentified body found in the wreckage is believed to be that of a tramp beating his way on the train.

Mr. Smith, the dead engineer, who lived at 112 N. McDowell street, is survived by a widow and one son, Mr. Rice Smith.

For some time after it became known that the Seaboard through passenger train had been wrecked the name of the engineer could not be learned. It was after midnight before Mrs. Smith could be notified of the tragedy. Friends in the neighborhood immediately went to the home and remained with her.

From the meager information available, the theory was advanced in railroad circles here that the tragedy was the work of trainwreckers. The switch had been opened and the big engine with its string of cars smashed into it without notice. The engine was overturned, but the cars were left standing.

## SOUTHBOUND CENT TOO EXPENSIVE IN CAPITAL TODAY

Bankers of South Complain of Commercial Exchange of Unit of Exchange

TO TAKE MATTER UP WITH TREASURY DEPARTMENT

Good News From Phosphate Beds; Doughton To Talk at Jefferson Oct. 9; Britton Secures Speaker For N. C. College For Women On Founders' Day

The News and Observer Bureau, 603 District National Bank Bldg. By R. E. POWELL.

Washington, Sept. 27.—That dark-browed affinity of the always popular Jimmy, the penny, is giving North Carolina bankers a great deal of concern these days. It is costing the bankers \$1.50 to get a hundred dollars worth of the peppy things to the State from the treasury.

So annoying is this small unit of commercial exchange that Senator Simmons has been asked by a well known banker of Goldsboro, to take the matter up with the Treasury Department and see if some relief can not be obtained. The Goldsboro banker tells the Senator in his letter of protest that his bank uses anywhere from \$300 to \$500 worth of the pennies a week, the most of which goes for railroad tickets and soft drinks.

Senator Simmons will of course try to get some relief. In fact he has already communicated the matter to Secretary Carter Glass, transmitting the protest of the Goldsboro man, and asking the Secretary if some relief cannot be furnished under the existing law. If not, he desires to know from the Secretary just what the disposition of the Treasury Department would be toward legislation providing for relief.

Wooley to be Founder's Day Speaker. R. W. Wooley, member of the Interstate Commerce Commission and a prominent Kentuckian, has accepted an invitation extended through Edward E. Britton, private secretary to Secretary Daniels, to deliver the principal address at the North Carolina College for Women on Founder's Day October 6. Mr. Britton received the acceptance of the Commissioner today and notified President Foust, who extended the invitation on the part of the board of directors.

Commissioner Wooley is prominent in public life, and is an unusually charming speaker. He is a man of large business affairs, an active Democrat and close friend of Secretary Daniels.

Goldsboro Wants Relief. Among the other things that engaged the attention of Senator Simmons today was a petition from Goldsboro folks requesting one or more pieces of German artillery captured by Americans during the world war. Goldsboro and Wayne county propose to erect a \$250,000 memorial building to the heroes of the late struggle with the Hun. Fifty-four men from that county gave their lives for the cause of the allies and the Chamber of Commerce, with other organizations, is anxious to get some battle relics from the strikers.

Phosphate Situation Improving. The railroad administration today informed the Senator that the strike troubles on the Florida railroads hauling phosphate rocks, have been given close attention with the result that the railroad men have been afforded armed protection and are now at work again. The action on the part of the railroad men, holding up the movement to the fertilizer factories, is attributed to intimidation by those sympathetic with the strikers rather than the strikers.

The situation was first called to the attention of Director General Hines by R. Chamberlain, prominent fertilizer man of Raleigh, who stated that unless quick action was taken the South would be short of fertilizer the coming season.

Movements of North Carolinians. Another North Carolina news item from the Senator's office today is the decision of the War Department to retain Major Chas. M. Halvey, commanding the organization committee.

(Continued on Page Two.)

## WANT SENATE COMMITTEE TO PROBE CONDITIONS AT FIRST HAND IN PITTSBURG

UNION LABOR TO MASS FORCES FOR OFFENSIVE

National Labor Committee Sends Request to Senator Kenyon To Come

Having failed in the first week of the steel strike to paralyze the industry, although crippling many plants and forcing a shutdown in some centers, union labor is massing its forces for a greater offensive tomorrow, when approximately 35,000 employes of the Bethlehem Steel Company have been ordered to join the walkout.

On the other hand, officials of the United States Steel Corporation and independent companies, who claim to have won back many deserters, are preparing to launch a drive of their own, in an effort to reopen as many plants as possible and increase the output in mills kept in operation.

The sixth day of the industrial struggle, which passing without serious disorder, brought no great advance to either side, was marked by the following developments:

One—Formal announcement by the strikers' national committee that the Bethlehem strike would become effective tomorrow.

Two—Invitation extended by the strikers' national committee to the Senate Labor Committee to visit Pittsburgh and investigate for itself "causes of the strike" and "illegal and brutal methods employed by the steel corporations to break the strike."

Three—Announcement that the strikers would confer with the railroad brotherhoods "on matters in connection with the strike."

Four—Expression of confidence in William Z. Foster, secretary of the strikers' national committee, adopted by that body after attacks had been made on Foster, in Congress and elsewhere, for alleged "radicalism."

Five—Detailing of additional policies in various cities to afford protection to workers desiring to return to their posts tomorrow.

Six—Reply by Secretary of War Baker to strikers' protest that he lacked authority to prevent employment in Chicago of discharged soldiers in uniform as strike guards.

Seven—Second message sent Governor Case, of Ohio, by Governor Cawwell, of West Virginia, warning him of a threatened "invasion" of West Virginia and Ohio strikers unless the West Virginia mills close by tomorrow afternoon.

## SAILORS LAND FOR PATROL DUTY ONLY

Secretary Daniels Announces That Small Landing Force Recovers Trau

## CLAIM LABOR OUTLAWED IN WEST PENNSYLVANIA

Conference Committee Will Get In Touch With Four Railroad Brotherhoods As Soon As Possible, It is Stated; Adopt Vote of Confidence in Secretary Foster; Steel Companies Maintain That Workers Will Flock Back To Work Monday; Many Mass Meetings Scheduled For Today; Quiet Everywhere

Pittsburg, Pa., Sept. 27.—The National Committee for organizing iron and steel workers after canvassing the steel strike situation here today sent a telegram to United States Senator Kenyon, tonight asking him to have the committee come to Pittsburg and investigate for itself the conditions the steel strikers complain of in western Pennsylvania.

The National Committee also decided to confer with the railroad brotherhoods on matters in connection with the strike.

The telegram sent to Senator Kenyon, which was decided upon by unanimous action of the National Committee, which represents 24 unions involved in the strike, requested and urged the committee, which is investigating the strike "to come to the Pittsburgh district at the earliest practical date for the purpose of getting first-hand evidence of the causes of the strike and of the illegal and brutal methods employed by the steel corporation to break the strike."

"In many instances the civil authorities have entirely outlawed organized labor," the telegram concluded. A conference committee of the National Committee will get in touch with the heads of the four railroad brotherhoods as soon as possible. What the steel workers will ask the brotherhoods was not disclosed.

The committee before it adjourned, adopted a resolution endorsing and affirming its confidence in William Z. Foster, secretary of the National Committee, whose alleged radical attitude has been attacked in Congress and elsewhere.

Secretary Foster said tonight the committee will send a document tomorrow that will be interesting. He would not say what it was.

The sixth day of the strike in the Pittsburgh district was the quietest of the week. Saturday being a half-holiday in the steel industry there was no great change in the number of men at work, either in the plants of the United States Steel Corporation or in the mills of the independents.

Employers Are Confident. The employers continued to make announcements of small gains, but the strike leaders had nothing to say except that the situation from their standpoint, remained satisfactory.

"Wait until Monday" was the word that came from the Steel companies everywhere in the Pittsburgh strike zone. The companies expect that the opening of the second week will find strikers flocking back to the mills. They claim that thousands of men are willing and ready to return but strike district, under heavy guard of State police, detestives has been comparatively quiet for several days and this, company officials say, encourages them in the belief that there will be a big return on Monday.

Secretary Foster said the unions had no fear that there would be any considerable number of deserters from the ranks of the strikers.

Mass Meeting Today. Mass meetings will be held tomorrow wherever the authorities will permit them for the purpose of increasing the ranks of the strikers. A large force of additional organizers are in the field to handle the meetings.

The strike, which began last Monday, has resulted in the shutting down or crippling of virtually every plant of the United States Steel Corporation and many of the independent mills. The subsidiaries of the Steel corporation were harder hit outside the Pittsburgh district than they were in this vicinity, according to reports. The Carnegie Steel Company, largest of the subsidiaries, managed to keep its great plants at Homestead, Duquesne and Bradwood, running, although the strikers claimed they were badly crippled and constantly losing men. This was denied by the Carnegie Company, which insists that each day saw more men returning to work. The same reports came from the independents that kept their plants in operation.

Four Persons Killed. Four persons were shot and killed in western Pennsylvania during the week as a result of the strike. At New Castle a woman was shot by a mill guard, it is alleged, and died the next day. In Farrell, near the Ohio State line, where the most disorder occurred during the week, three men were shot and killed, all of them, according to reports, by members of Pennsylvania State police.

One State trooper had an eye shot out and another was seriously hurt in the Farrell riots.

The strikers charge that during the week many men were clubbed when State troopers dispersed crowds. Hundreds of arrests were made in the six days by the State police, deputy sheriffs and local police authorities. Many thought that the money was gone forever, but voted for it anyway.

San Francisco, Sept. 27.—Herbert C. Hoover has "retired from public office" and is to devote his future time toward making the \$3 and \$4-a-day salaries of Stanford University professors more commensurate with the \$8 and \$9 wages of home building artisans and to various relief measures in Europe, according to a letter received from Hoover by a San Francisco newspaper today. The letter was in response to one sent Hoover asking about his future plans.

He is to return between \$85,000,000 and \$90,000,000 in foreign obligations to the United States treasury in partial liquidation of the \$100,000,000 voted by Congress for relief purposes, he wrote: "I hope this will be an agreeable surprise," he wrote. "Most of Congress thought that the money was gone forever, but voted for it anyway."

(Continued on Page Two.)

## HERBERT HOOVER GIVES UP HIS PUBLIC OFFICE

Former Food Administrator Will Help Stanford University Raise Salaries

## RAILROAD SHOPMEN HAVE REACHED AN AGREEMENT

Washington, Sept. 27.—Representatives of affiliated unions comprising the railroad shopmen, were reported tonight to have reached a general understanding with the Railroad Administration covering wages and working conditions to remain in effect while the government retains control of the lines. Details were not available as the agreement is still to be completed, it was said, but officials of the American Federation of Labor, familiar with terms of the understanding, were quoted as describing it the most far-reaching and comprehensive advancement ever made by organized labor.

More than 600,000 railway employes are included in the group of unions known as the Railroad Shopmen. According to meagre statements obtained from various sources, the contemplated agreement includes a union wage scale for each trade. A union involved, the statement of a basic 8-hour day, time and a half for overtime and many other detailed provisions, all to be incorporated in uniform contracts which would terminate automatically when the roads were handed back to private operation.