

## Crisis in Strike Situation Today; Little Likelihood Avoiding Break

### BROTHERHOOD MEN PAY BILLS IN HOTELS AND PREPARE TO LEAVE THE CAPIT'L CITY; LAST THREADS SEEM TO HAVE BEEN CUT

#### Railway Presidents Submit Substitute Proposal to Wilson and Union Heads—Demand Investigation of the Eight-Hour Day and Verdict of Impartial Board—Hold Out Obstinate for Arbitration—Men Will Walk Out Before They Will Accede, Strongly Intimated—Companies Have Prepared for Operation in That Event, Reported—Washington's Aspect of the Controversy Today a Gloomy One.

(By the United Press)

Washington, Aug. 26.—With dramatic and sinister suddenness the crisis came today in the negotiations to prevent the railroad strike. A break now seems certain. The executives ignored the President's peace proposal and submitted a substitute proposition which it is believed the brotherhoods will reject. It provides that the 8-hour day must be investigated before it is tried, and says that wages and overtime are collateral issues manifestly arbitratable, and that an impartial board should decide if the roads should abide by the President's decision. The roads request no increased rate.

The brotherhoods today indicated strongly that they will not accept such a plan. The general impression is that the last thread has been cut. The roads have prepared plans for operation in the event of a strike. The brotherhood men paid their hotel bills today preparatory to leaving town tonight.

## CONGRESS TO QUIT NEXT WEEK WHETHER OR NO, DETERMINED

(By the United Press)

Washington, Aug. 25.—Congress is getting ready to adjourn next Friday if possible, ignoring all threats of members to press special bills for consideration over protests of administration leaders.

It is expected that a joint resolution to provide for adjournment Friday evening will be submitted to both houses next week, as soon as the general deficiency appropriation bill has passed the House, probably on Tuesday.

## GOING ON IN OTHER E CAROLINA TOWNS

The second annual communication of the Fifth Masonic district was held at Bethel Thursday, with an attendance of several hundred. The lodges in Pitt county comprise the district. The lodge was opened by Deputy Grand Master John H. Cheek and addresses were made by M. K. Blount of Bethel, E. T. Phillips of Ayden, and Grand Lecturer J. A. Rowell.

J. R. McMullan of Hertford has

## Mortons Try to Force Bayly Take Rich Wife Back; Refuses Take Her

(By the United Press)

Warrenton, Va., Aug. 26.—If only the ground of desertion is used, on which ground he says "they have every reason for a divorce," Roger Bayly, the prominent Virginia horseman whose romantic elopement with Helen Morton, the Chicago heiress, in 1914, caused a sensation in society circles, will not protest a divorce suit brought by the Morton family. Bayly today made this statement at the Warrenton horse show.

Mrs. Bayly, heiress of the Mark Morton millions and niece of the late Paul Morton, secretary of the navy in Roosevelt's cabinet, was adjudged insane at her husband's request by a jury of physicians, shortly after their marriage in July, 1914. Bayly declared the present suit is an effort to bring the two together again. "This can never be," said Bayly.

## GA. NATIONAL GUARD CAPTAIN KILLED AT HIS TENT BY WOMAN

### Murderess Declared He Had Broken Up Her Home; May Be Unbalanced

## SPRATLING WAS POPULAR

#### Fellow Officers of Captain Think Mrs. Adams Crazy —Victim Was Sanity Ex- pert and Had Treated Her, Said

(By the United Press)

Macon, Ga., Aug. 25.—"God knows she was justified in killing Spratling," S. C. Adams, whose wife killed Capt. Spratling, said today, but Mrs. Maud Monk, a trained nurse, another woman in the case, charged that the killing was an act of jealousy. Admitting friendly relations with Dr. Spratling for four years, Mrs. Monk says Spratling had shown her letters from Mrs. Adams saying that if Dr. Spratling did not bring her to Atlanta and put her up in an apartment she would put out his light.

Macon, Ga., Aug. 26.—Whether or not Mrs. H. C. Adams, wife of an Atlanta laundry worker who shot and killed Capt. Edgar J. Spratling, commander of a company of Georgia militia, is sane, was the question most discussed at the mobilization camp here today.

After shooting Spratling twice with a small caliber revolver, in front of his tent, she cried: "You have ruined my home." It is said she had confessed improper relations with Spratling to her husband, and declared that Spratling, who was a sanity expert, treated her for nervous breakdown. Then, she said, the improper relations began.

Officers at the camp doubt her story. They think she is mentally upset. Spratling was married and one of the camp's most popular officers. The body was taken to Atlanta.

#### Earlier Report of the Tragedy.

Macon, Ga., Aug. 25.—Capt. Edgar J. Spratling, of F Company, Fifth Regiment National Guards of Georgia, was shot and killed in his tent at the State mobilization camp near here today by Mrs. H. C. Adams, an Atlanta woman, who, according to officers at the camp, accused Capt. Spratling of having wronged her.

At the Elbb county jail tonight, Mrs. Adams asserted that Captain Spratling, who was a physician, had caused her to shoot him by attentions paid to her while she was in his office in Atlanta for treatment before the Georgia troops were mobilized.

The woman, according to Lieutenant Samuel A. Kysor of Company F, who seized her a moment later, cried out as she fired, "you have ruined my home." Mrs. Adams' husband is employed at a laundry in Atlanta, according to information received here.

## GETS SEVEN THOUSAND FOR A RECORD FLIGHT

Newport News, Va., Aug. 25.—Victor Carlstrom, flying a Curtiss J. N. twin motor combination land and water machine here today, set a world's record for distance in one day carrying one passenger. He made 661 miles in eight hours and forty minutes. Captain Baldwin, head of the Atlantic Coast Aeronautical station, states that Carlstrom will receive \$7,000 for his flight.

## COWPER IN DENIAL OF JURY'S CHARGES IN SUPERIOR COURT

### County Attorney Alleges Politics Was Brought In- to Body's Work

## DEFENDS COMMISSIONERS

#### Administration Stands Will- ing for Probe, But Does Not Want "Farce," De- clares to Court—"Could Have Had the Facts"

County Attorney G. V. Cowper late Friday made a statement in Superior Court defending the Board of County Commissioners against the charges made by the Grand Jury in its report earlier in the week. The attorney intimated the injection of politics into the Grand Jury's deliberations, and declared that had the jury thought there was foundation for the charges it was its sworn duty to bring indictments, but of such action there was not even a hint in the report.

Referring to the suggestion of the "improper expenditure of money," Attorney Cowper said that as a matter of fact, of the total amount of "about \$40,000," alleged by the jury to have been spent since January, "which they treat as if expended on the roads," \$12,000 to -13,000 went into the Caswell street bridge, while \$15,000 was used to take up past indebtedness of the county. There is a record of every cent used in the Register of Deeds' office, he stated, and the Register either actually exhibited to the jury or offered to show to it the records of expenditures.

As a matter of fact, the whole criticism was exactly the same criticism as was made in the campaign before the primaries, in which the present county administration was upheld, the County Attorney charged.

#### Startling Business, Says.

"Most startling and remarkable," he said, is the fact that the Grand Jury makes accusations and then proposes to name the whole commission for a probe—well-known, nearly all of them, to have expressed themselves as opposed to the Board of Commissioners.

The Board of Commissioners, the court was told, urgently invites an investigation, but wants it to be "something more than a political farce." The commissioners are perfectly willing for the presiding or resident judge to name the commission for the purpose, and "if this thing continues will demand it."

#### Mincher's Place in the Personnel.

As to the statement of belief that E. W. Mincher, former convict guard several times under fire for alleged mistreatment of prisoners, is still "walking boss" at the convict camp, expressed by the jury, Attorney Cowper said: "That simply is not a fact." Mincher has had no actual connection with or authority over convicts since convicted for whipping a prisoner at a spring session of court, he stated. Mincher has, however, been employed either regularly or from time to time by the commissioners for the laying out of roads, because of his "special and expert knowledge in that line."

Commenting on the alleged discourteous reception accorded the Grand Jury by the men in charge at the convict camp, Attorney Cowper said the commissioners do not know from the report what occurred and the report doesn't specify. Should, as would be proper, the facts be laid before the Board of Commissioners, they would be heard and the board would be glad to act upon them.

#### "Vague Insinuations."

"The truth is that the report consists of vague and broadside insinuations about matters every one of which was susceptible of definite and specific information," the attorney charged. "The report on its face showed that a real investigation had not been made, because as to every matter of which there was criticism,

## START DEMOCRATIC CAMPAIGN OFF NEXT FRIDAY WITH RALLY

### Spellbinders to Hold Forth at LaGrange; to Be County Affair

## WILL TALK OVER ISSUES

#### Candidates and Executive Committee Meet Today— Regular Canvass of the 'Townships Won't Be Un- til October, Decided

The Democratic campaign in the county will be started off with a lively rally in LaGrange next Friday night. The "county canvass" proper, however, will not be commenced until October.

This was decided upon at a largely attended joint meeting of the county candidates and Executive Committee in the Courthouse this forenoon.

At the LaGrange meeting Chairman G. V. Cowper, as National Elector, will speak on National issues; State Senatorial Nominee W. D. Pollock, on State issues and Assembly Nominee H. W. Brothers and other candidates on county politics. The addresses will be short, sharp and spicy, and Democrats from all parts of the county are urged by the Executive Committee to attend.

The canvass will be featured by the usual township rallies, with a barbecue at each and every place and the usual parading of the select who want to be the elect.

"Things are lovely," the candidates said, but they will nevertheless not do anything by halves. The campaign is to be conducted just as if the "enemy" wasn't something like "800 or a thousand" behind.

Funds are discussed. "Every Democrat's contribution is wanted," said Chairman Cowper after the meeting. "It is not a matter of need, but we want all hands to show their spirit. We hope to get the last man interested to the extent of just what he feels like giving."

## NORFOLK, WHAT D'YE MEAN BY TREATING US IN THIS MANNER

Mr. T. W. Mewborn will suggest to the Chamber of Commerce that that body call to the attention of the Norfolk Southern Railroad officials that when trains are announced in the Norfolk terminal station, there is never a word said about Kinston. It is an incongruity, Mr. Mewborn states, that when the announcer calls out, "Train for Edenton, New Bern, Goldsboro," he doesn't say a word about "the most important town of the lot." That thing "gets the goat" of a patriotic Kinstonian who happens to notice it.

Also, Mr. Mewborn noted on a recent visit to the Tidewater metropolis, the hotels in their train lists omit Kinston. That's another inconsistency, for Kinston is now in the public eye. It's getting to be a more important place every day, and practically every commercial traveller making East Carolina now considers this one of the big places on his itinerary. Mr. Mewborn will ask the chamber to courteously request a new leaf of the hotel men.

the jury could have offered definite facts upon which the public could have formed its opinion."

Judge Devin, presiding, told the County Attorney that he thought it was the part of wisdom to make the statement in open court, and said he would take no action upon the report, but have it filed for reference by the succeeding grand jury, for an investigation should it see fit.

"The first request that the statement be made," Attorney Cowper said today, "was from disinterested persons, among them 'some of the best citizens of the county.'"

## SLAYS RESUME THE ADVANCE WESTWARD AFTER WEEK'S LULL--FRENCH AIR FLEET DOMINATES THE ENTIRE BATTLE FRONT

(By the United Press)

Paris, Aug. 26.—A German attack in the Champagne was the climax last night to the Teutons' violent fighting on that front for several weeks. Following an intense bombardment, the Teutons attacked in force south of Tachure, but were checked by French fire and grenade counter attacks. Several German attempts to advance in the region of Thyaumont and Fleury were checked.

French air forces dominated the entire front. Nine German planes were downed as well as three captive balloons.

## Russian Advance Resumed.

Petrograd, Aug. 26.—The Russians have resumed their advance in the region of Stanislaw after a week's lull, capturing the village of Guatare and reaching the sources of Bistrizta and Nadorna rivers, it is said officially.

In the Caucasus the advance continues past the captured town of Mush. Remnants of the Fourth Turkish division are being pursued.

## Bulletins

(By the United Press)

### AUSTRIANS CONSERVE MEAT.

Vienna, Aug. 26.—Citizens of Austria-Hungary have been forbidden in a royal decree to eat meat on more than five days a week.

## COUNCIL WOULD NOT ALLOW PAVING COY RETAINER SO SOON

The West Construction Company,

doing the \$425,000 or \$450,000 worth of paving here, Friday night asked City Council at a special session for its 15 per cent. retainer on work completed. The city, indebted to the company in the sum around \$50,000, declined, on the ground that the specifications say the retainer, which is deducted from every monthly payment, shall not be paid until the entire work has been completed and formally accepted. The city, the company was informed, is living up to the specifications to the letter. The council did, however, very courteously agree to advance \$10,000 of the August assessment, due on September 1st.

Council ordered a water main installed on East Vernon avenue for fire protection of property lying near the A. C. L. yard.

## DANIELS DEVOTES TIME TO ANSWERING GARDNER

Milbridge, Me., Aug. 25.—Secretary of the Navy Daniels delivered here tonight the first of a series of speeches he will make in the State during the next few days which mark his entry into the campaign for the re-election of President Wilson. While he touched on other topics to some extent Mr. Daniels' devoted himself particularly to answering charges made by A. P. Gardner, of Massachusetts, who has been the Secretary's chief critic in Congress.

## Terrible Loss of Life in Battle For New York is of Stage-Acting Kind

(By the United Press)

Washington, Aug. 26.—A great naval battle has been raging off New York harbor for six hours. The main battle fleet under Admiral Helm, defending the coast, engaged the attacking fleet under Admiral Mayo, early today at the entrance to New York harbor.

Helm's fleet opened fire with 12-inch guns. Eight war vessels already have been sunk. It is believed the enemy ships destroyed were sunk by torpedoes from destroyers of the defending fleet. The "sunken" ships, under the rules of the game, put into port.

Large bodies of theoretical wounded are being rushed to the marine hospitals. The hospital wards of the ships are filling up. If the assumption that the ships were torpedoed is correct, officers here foresee a great loss of life,

## EPSTEIN CASE NOT WITH JURY BEFORE NIGHT, IT'S THOUGHT

(Special to The Free Press)

Goldsboro, Aug. 26.—With two addresses and a portion of another to be heard in the case of Hyman Epstein, charged with the murder of Leonard Edwards, there seemed at 2 o'clock no chance that the jury would get the case before night, probably not until after supper.

Argument was commenced yesterday afternoon in the case, in which young Epstein, member of a leading family, is accused of the killing of a youth equally prominent and the brother of Epstein's fiancée.

## COTTON HIGHEST IN SEVEN YEARS AT NEW ORLEANS ON FRIDAY

New Orleans, La., Aug. 25.—A sensational buying movement today sent the local cotton market to the highest prices in seven years, a gain of almost \$3.50 a bale over yesterday's closing prices, and established a new high record for October. The levels reached today were the highest for the time of year since the establishment of the future market.

Early in the afternoon there was a period of the heaviest buying in years, which threw the ring into wild excitement and sent prices 62 to 63 points above yesterday's close. October sold at 15.52, which broke all former records, and March reached 15.00. This was the highest of the day.

## Archbishop Spalding Succumbs To Short Illness.

Peoria, Ill., Aug. 26.—Archbishop John Lancaster Spalding, who has been in failing health for the last two weeks, died here Friday afternoon.