

EBERT-SCHNEIDEMANN GOVERNMENT OVERTHROWN MARINE WORKERS' STRIKE TIES UP N. Y. HARBOR TRAFFIC

EBERT REIGN IN BERLIN OVERTHROWN

Ebert-Scheidemann Government Has Been Overthrown and Independent Socialists Rule.

NEW REVOLUTIONARY GOV. HAS BEEN PROCLAIMED

Civil War is Spreading to Other Parts Germany, Rhenish Provinces and Bavaria Involved.

(By Associated Press.)

Paris, Jan. 9.—(Havas Agency.)—The Ebert-Scheidemann government has been overturned, the extremists having gained the upper hand in Berlin after sanguinary fighting, according to the latest German advices received here.

A new revolutionary government has been proclaimed, composed of Independent Socialists.

A part of the government troops is reported to have gone over to the rebels and the Spartans now hold the principal points in Berlin.

Civil war is spreading to other parts of Germany, the advices indicate, and parts of the Rhenish provinces and Bavaria are now reported to be involved.

Severe Fighting in Berlin. Amsterdam, Jan. 9.—Severe fighting in which artillery was employed took place in Berlin yesterday near the Central telegraph office. The Spartans renewed their attempt to seize the chancellors' palace, it is declared in Berlin dispatches to the Handelsblad, but were driven back with a loss of 30 killed and 45 wounded.

Hoske to Send Government Troops. Paris, Jan. 9.—(Havas Agency.)—Gustave Noske, the commander-in-chief of the German government troops, will send new forces against the capital in an attempt to regain control of it, it is reported.

A desperate reaction by the more conservative elements is expected.

Casualties in the Berlin fighting are reported to have been very heavy. The Independent Socialists said to be at the head of the new government are George Ledebour, Herr Liebnann and Herr Tiek.

Dr. Karl Leibknecht, leader of the Spartacus element, is continuing his activities, (presumably in an effort to install a government of his own choosing.)

Negotiations at Berlin Failed.

London, Jan. 9.—Telegrams dated Berlin at 8:30 o'clock Wednesday morning and transmitted by the Copenhagen correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company say that negotiations between the government (composed of a majority of Socialists) and the Independent Socialists failed.

The Independent Socialists and Spartans appealed to working people to meet Wednesday in order to complete the "victory of the proletariat."

The government has ordered troops in nearly all the garrisons in Germany to move against Berlin and they are arriving there in motor cars. A state of siege, it is added, will be declared in Berlin.

The Spartans control the railroads near Berlin.

Loyal Troops Arriving in Berlin.

Basel, Switzerland, Jan. 9.—Troops loyal to the Ebert government are arriving in Berlin from Potsdam and have driven the Spartans as far as Tiergarten and recaptured the printing works, according to the Frankfurt Zeitung. The government, the newspaper adds, has decided to take energetic measures, and has assembled a large number of troops.

Premier Ebert has issued a manifesto to workers, bourgeois and soldiers denouncing the Spartans as responsible for many persons being killed and wounded.

Government Master of Situation. Amsterdam, Jan. 9.—Street fighting in Berlin attained the greatest intensity between 11 o'clock Tuesday night and 5 o'clock Wednesday morning, according to a Berlin telegram to the Frankfurt Nachrichten. Heavy artillery firing continued unintermittently. The dispatch says the government is still master of the situation. Large bodies of troops, particularly artillery, it is added, continue to be sent to Berlin.

In reforming the system of Prussian schools, the type of schools, in the northern countries of Europe is to serve as a model.

Sir S. P. Sinha, delegate from India to the peace conference, will be accompanied by the Maharaja of Bikanir.

RANK CARELESSNESS CAUSED BIG LOSSES

Students of Fire Losses Find that During the Year 1917 Large Losses Were Shown.

CARELESS SMOKERS AND USERS OF MATCHES

These Contributed Largely to the Great "Preventable Loss" During the Year.

New York, Jan. 9.—Careless smokers and users of matches were responsible for \$15,724,556 of the total loss of \$60,466,054 worth of property by "preventable fires" in the United States during 1917, according to members of the fire marshal's association of North America who are holding a two days' conference here with the national board of fire underwriters beginning today.

Figures showing that the United States leads the world in property destruction by fire were given in the opening session, the damage per capita being stated as \$2.10 annually in this country as compared with 49 cents in France, 33 cents in England, 28 cents in Germany, 25 cents in Italy and Austria, 15 cents in Switzerland and 11 cents in Holland.

Homer Rutledge, of Lansing, Mich., fire marshal of that state, discussed "The Arson Trust" and showed how incendiaries had burned \$8,121,816 worth of property in one year during the war, exclusive of the many other millions destroyed indirectly by explosions. Ole O. Roe, of Des Moines, fire marshal of Iowa, in an address on "Pyromania," said education was one of the most efficient means of combating this evil. F. R. Morgaridge of New York, formerly assistant fire marshal of Indiana, said most firebugs were adolescent boys and girls. He advocated proper home and school training.

Despite the fact that the United States was at war and that enemy agents were active, 20 states reported a slight decrease in the number of cases of arson. While it was announced as a fact that in the first nine months after America drew the sword \$43,000,000 worth of war industries went up in smoke, in only 10 per cent of these cases was there any suspicion of spy-work. "Carelessness" was designated as the biggest firebug of all. One grain elevator fire alone destroyed enough wheat to make a year's supply of bread for 200,000 soldiers.

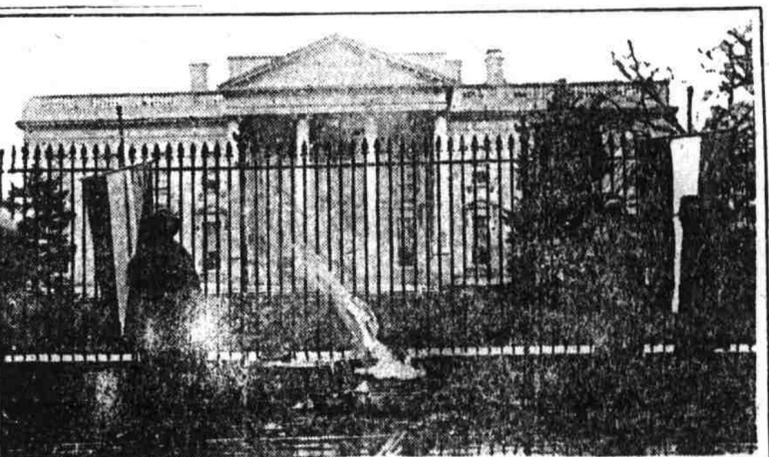
Many fires at first attributed to German spies and pyromaniacs were found, upon investigation, to be due to other causes. One notable instance was a spectacular and costly warehouse fire in Brooklyn, the bow's stores, in which a vast quantity of brass intended for shipment to the allies was destroyed. It was discovered that the blaze was the result of a dust explosion caused by a spark either from friction or static electricity. Another conspicuous instance was the Baltimore pier fire which at first was positively ascribed to pro-German plotters. Rigid investigation by federal agents, according to fire marshals definitely determined its non-incendiary origin.

Following a reference to the Morgan, N. J., disaster in which nearly 100 lives were lost and \$20,000,000 damage done, delegates spoke of the work accomplished the past year by the fire prevention section of the war industries board. This bureau, it was stated, had inspected more than 2,000 large plants valued at over \$10,000,000 and in a large percentage of cases the "safety" recommendations of its volunteer dollar-a-year engineers were carried out.

It was stated that fire prevention methods adopted for the 16 large army cantonments throughout the United States had proved most effective although these camps consisted of wooden buildings. Hazards were reduced to the minimum by proper watchfulness, water protection, isolation, conducting, and enforcement of regulations in regard to smoking and the use of matches and lights.

H. C. Brearly, one of the speakers, said New York City was in imminent peril of a great conflagration when on November 7, after the erroneous report of the German surrender, a "storm" of paper was thrown from the windows of business buildings littering the streets to a depth of several inches and many miles of ticker tape covering telegraph and telephone wires constituted a fire hazard of the 19th power. Fire Chief Kenlon of New York City declared that if a serious blaze had started at that time, or on Nov. 11, four days later when the scenes of pandemonium were repeated, all New York might have been laid in ashes. The fire departments would have been crippled also, he said, by the crowds of traffic congestion in the streets. As one of the delegates expressed it, "This was invited the greatest loss of life and property, perhaps, in American history."

KEEPING SUFFRAGE FIRE BURNING



This bonfire in a basket started in front of the White House on New Year's day by suffragists, is kept going day and night by suffrage sentinels who are burning President Wilson's speeches there as fast as he makes them. They plead democracy is not achieved unless women are given the vote.

THE SECURITIES AND THE SHIPPERS

Conference Held in Chicago This Week on Railroad Matters and Different Interests Confer.

WILL GO TO SENATE COM. WITH SUGGESTIONS

The Shippers and the Committee Representing the Owners of Securities Held Meetings.

(Dowe Jones & Company.)

Chicago, Jan. 9.—Davis Warfield, of Baltimore, president of the National Association of owners of Railroad securities and of the Continental Trust company, of that city, has been in Chicago since last Monday in consultation with the executive committee of the National Industrial Tariff League, in connection with plans for the return of the railroads to private operation. As a result of these conferences it is understood that he has adopted many suggestions made by the committee.

Mr. Warfield was also in conference with John S. Miller, of the law firm of Miller, Star and Brown, who is one of the advisory council of the securities association, together with Mr. Elihu Root, John S. Milburn, of New York; Hugh L. Bond, of Baltimore and Forney Johnson, of Birmingham, Ala. He conferred with Luther M. Walter of the General Council of the association and of the firm of Bordens, Walter and Burckmore; also with John J. Mitchell, president of the Illinois Trust Company, who is vice president of the securities association. When asked regarding the fact that Mr. Mitchell had been quoted as favoring government ownership, Mr. Warfield said that the intentions of Mr. Mitchell at the time were misunderstood that "he is no more in favor of government ownership than I am." Being told that Mr. McAdoo had resigned and would immediately return the roads to their owners, Mr. Mitchell simply stated that "if this takes place without remedial legislation, financial chaos will be disastrous and I would prefer government ownership."

The National Industrial Tariff League is of national scope and represents, though constituent membership, leagues and others over 250,000 shippers of the country. The executive committee which has been in session here since Monday is composed

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Importation into France of German banknotes, coin, or any other monetary instrument is prohibited by decree.

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PROGRAM PRIVATE CONTROL RAILWAYS

Comprehensive Program for Private Ownership and Operation Under Government Regulation.

(By the Associated Press)

Washington, Jan. 9.—A comprehensive program for private ownership and management of railroads under strict government regulations was laid before the Senate Interstate Commerce Committee today by T. De Witt Cuyler, chairman of the Association of Railway Executives, representing practically all of the leading roads in the United States.

The plans include provisions for merging the systems, a large measure of unification of operations, pooling of facilities and in certain cases of earnings, an enforcement of adequate service under the supervision of a secretary of transportation, a new cabinet officer, with the Interstate Commerce Commission acting as a supreme court to review rate disputes, and wage employment disputes, which could not be settled between employes and management would be referred to adjustment boards within the department of transportation under the plan, and strikes and lockouts to be forbidden pending investigation.

Most of the operation reforms in effect during the unified management by the railroad administration would be continued but the executives object to Director General McAdoo's proposal for a five year extension of government control.

ROBT. CECIL FAVORS LEAGUE OF NATIONS

Paris, Wednesday, Jan. 8.—Robert Cecil, who has arrived here with the first section of the British peace delegation, expressed the opinion to the Associated Press that the definite organization of a league of nations is indispensable as a first step toward the conclusion of that enduring peace and satisfactory settlement of international problems which have arisen out of the war.

Lord Robert made it clear that his statements were personal views and not an attempt to give the views of the British government.

GOVERNOR BICKETT DELIVERS MESSAGE

Makes Some Startling and Novel Recommendations As to Bastardy and Also Taxation.

OPPOSES BOND ISSUE FOR ROADS AT THIS TIME

North Carolina Running Behind on Expense Account and Inventory Should First Be Taken.

(By O. J. COFFIN for W. T. BOST.)

Raleigh, Jan. 9.—The feature of the second day's session of the North Carolina general assembly was Governor Bickett's message, delivered before a joint session of the senate and house today at noon.

The governor made startling and novel recommendations in regard to change in the law relating to bastardy and in taxation.

Mr. Bickett proposes that the father of a child born out of wedlock be required to support and educate such child, assuming responsibilities little short of that devolving upon a father toward a legitimate child.

In taxation matters the governor urged an honest appraisal of property for taxation and suggests that a questionnaire be used to ascertain just what land is worth.

The governor opposes a bond issue for roads, saying state bonds are not at present marketable enough and that the state, which is running behind on the expense account, should first take inventory and determine its liabilities and assets.

In the senate a resolution proposing endorsement of the proposal to form a league of nations to enforce peace was not put upon immediate passage as its introducer, Cooper of Lenoir, asked, but upon objection of Mangum of Gaston, who felt that there was some doubt as to the advisability of Uncle Sam turning sword swallower, was referred to the judiciary committee.

Ten pairs of live foxes have been shipped from Prince Edward Island to Japan, with a view to starting the breeding industry in that country.

It is reported from Newcastle, New South Wales, that an English company, with \$25,000,000 capital, intends to establish works for smelting copper and the manufacture of copper wire.

SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE AND DISCONTINUED

The Post has many subscriptions due early in January, many of these the very first days of the month, and some of them have not been renewed. These will all be discontinued in a few days unless the subscription is renewed in time to save the discontinuation. The Post is on a cash in advance basis and will continue on such a basis. Those whose subscriptions expire in January should attend to this matter without a moment's delay.

SERIES OF MEETINGS SET FOR SPENCER

Spencer Y. M. C. A. is Arranging for a Series of Gospel Meetings to be Held Evenings.

METHODIST PEOPLE ARE NOW MAKING PROGRESS

A Lot of Locals and Personals From the Good Town of Spencer.

(By A. W. Hicks)

Spencer, Jan. 9.—A series of gospel meetings for railroad men is being conducted at the Spencer Y. M. C. A. with a short and interesting service each evening at six o'clock. Under the direction of Secretary B. F. Stevenson the various pastors are conducting the meetings which are entirely informal and open to all men. Subjects of vital interest to men, themes that have to do with daily living, are presented in a straight forward manner, and the attendance is good. This week the meetings are being conducted by Rev. K. D. Stukenbrok, of the Baptist church. Next week Rev. E. E. Williamson, the newly appointed pastor of the Methodist church, will have charge. The week of January 20th will be covered by Rev. John S. Wood, of the Presbyterian church. The week of January 27th will be taken care of by Rev. F. B. Lingle, of the Lutheran church. The closing week of February 3rd will be in charge of Rev. R. K. Brady of East Spencer. In all the services special emphasis is being placed on Bible Study.

Under the leadership of Rev. E. E. Williamson a class will begin tonight at Central Methodist church for the training of officers and teachers for Sunday school work. A dozen or more have been enrolled and the class is increasing in numbers with prospects of being a vital force in religious circles in Spencer.

A year ago the workers of Central Methodist congregation were divided into circles with leaders for each division, the object being to raise money for the new home of worship now being erected. The circle headed by Mrs. W. M. Eagle won in the contest by raising the largest amount during the year. This circle will be entertained at supper by the members of the other circles.

A handsome and convenient church directory has just been published by the ladies of the Spencer Methodist church. It is just from the press and contains a large amount of information in regard to the congregation together with a complete list of the membership. Features of the directory are cuts of the pastor, Rev. E. E. Williamson, a cut of the new church, and one of the chairman of the building committee, Engineer Braxton L. Young.

Methodist parsonage here has just been thoroughly renovated and repainted on the interior. It is now regarded as one of the nicest parsonages in the Western North Carolina Conference and has just been occupied by Rev. E. E. Williamson and family. Miss Maggie Cary has returned to school at South Norfolk after spending the holidays here with her parents.

Mrs. J. A. Roseman, of Charleston, spent a short time here this week with relatives. Mr. Roseman, a former Spencer boy, recently underwent a severe operation on his throat and is improving nicely. Mr. J. L. Otterburg has returned to Norfolk after a short visit to relatives here.

M. L. Sparrow and family have returned from Chapel Hill where they spent the holidays.

Miss Lillian Small has returned to Salem College after two weeks spent with her parents Capt and Mrs. J. C. Small in Spencer.

C. W. McCann, a well known operator at the Spencer depot after being of duty several months.

Miss Mary Wagoner has returned to Elon College after spending some days with her parents.

Mrs. A. C. Miller, Jr., of Shelby is a visitor at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Slackwell.

Mrs. C. E. Tate, one of the grand officers of the Eastern Star, made a professional visit to Greensboro and other places this week.

Dr. Walter G. Gobbel, now located in one of the army camps at Anniston, Ala., is spending a few days in Spencer with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Gobbel.

Mr. Ray Grubb, one of the employees of the Spencer Manufacturing Co., is dangerously ill with influenza at his home on Third street. He has been

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MARINE WORKERS AT N. Y. STRIKE

Practically All Shipping in the Harbor Tied Up When 15,000 Men Walked Out Today.

CITY'S FRESH FOODS AND MILK SUPPLY NOW SHORT

Railroad Tugs and Barges Operated Under Government Supervision Unable to Move.

(By Associated Press.)

New York, Jan. 9.—Except for a small fleet of ferry boats, tugs and lighters engaged in debarkation of home coming troops and the loading of perishable supplies for the American expeditionary forces, harbor shipping is at a standstill today as a result of the strike of 15,000 marine workers in an attempt to force arbitration of their demands for higher wages and an eight-hour day.

The tie up has left New York with a limited stock of fresh food, with the milk supply already seriously curtailed by the strike of the New Jersey Dairymen's League further threatened when shipping from New Jersey was halted. The movement of coal, essential to the maintenance of a limited supply which the city's storage facilities can accommodate, also was suspended.

All Harbor Craft at Standstill. New York, Jan. 9.—With approximately 15,000 men affected the strike of the marine workers affiliation went into effect at 6 o'clock this morning. At that hour ferry boats, steam lighters, tow boats, coal barges, grain boats and other harbor craft were at a standstill, according to strike leaders.

Railroad Tugs Tied Up.

New York, Jan. 9.—Crews of 150 railway tugs joined in harbor strike today, enforcing a suspension of all marine operations of the railway administration. Superintendent Pollock of this branch of the service, says with the freight lighters 1,200 railroad craft were idle.

THREE UNIVERSITY BUILDINGS BURNED

Early Morning Fire Does Considerable Damage to Buildings on Campus of N. C. University—Loss About \$15,000.

(By the Associated Press)

Chapel Hill, Jan. 9.—Three fraternity buildings on the campus of the University of North Carolina were destroyed by fire early today causing an estimated loss of \$15,000.

The blaze started in the S. A. E. building and spread to the Phi Kappa Alpha and Sigma Nu structures. The D. K. E. and Ibrary buildings were scorched but only slight damage was caused.

The cause of the fire has not been determined.

TEN MILLION BALES OF COTTON GINNED

Up to January First 10,761,278 Bales Had Been Ginned, According to the Census Bureau's Report.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Jan. 6.—Cotton ginned prior to January 1 was 10,761,278 round bales, including 1,457,712 round bales, 17,570 American and Egyptian and 36,270 bales of Sea Island, the census bureau reported today.

Prior to January 1 last year the total ginnings were 10,434,852, including 184,104 round bales and 36,806 bales of Sea Island.

Ginnings by states included North Carolina 787,020, South Carolina 1,394,945, Virginia 20,167.

During the war 40 Victoria Crosses were awarded to Canadian soldiers. A society named the "Belgian Journal Office" has been formed in Paris to encourage Belgian subjects to emigrate to the Belgian coast.