

TURN TO WILSON TO SAVE DISASTER

Autocracy Shattered At Last In Old Russia

CABINET HAS ACTED; MEN READY STRIKE; EMBARGO ORDERED

Both Sides Hold Separate Conference In New York and Watch President.

WILSON AND CABINET ARRANGE CONFERENCE
President May Act In Behalf of The Country at This Critical Hour—One Hopeful Sign Both Sides Express Willingness to Further Confer.

New York, March 16.—There were no surface indications this afternoon that any move had been made to prevent the strike which threatens to paralyze the transportation system of the country, scheduled to begin within less than thirty hours.

Both groups were in separate conference here today and each was apparently in readiness to receive overtures from the other.

Both were expecting some action taken by the administration and were eager to hear the result of today's cabinet meeting.

Many railroads today declared freight embargoes and more were expected to follow suit. The national conference committee of managers advised all the roads to declare embargoes on perishable freight.

W. G. Lee, spokesman for the Brotherhoods, declared his belief that not more than 1 out of 12 employes would refuse to obey the strike order.

Both the railroad managers and brotherhood chiefs held separate conferences all the forenoon, but no overtures for a resumption of a joint meeting came from either side. Each group apparently was waiting for the other to make the first move.

Both sides were informed that the President has summoned a cabinet meeting and indicated they expected some action in Washington.

W. G. Lee, head of the trainmen said the brotherhoods were willing to consider any proposal from the President.

Washington, March 16.—President Wilson is expected to make his first move to prevent the threatened railway strike after today's cabinet meeting.

The President had cancelled a regular cabinet meeting when he got reports from the conference in New York and then he suddenly summoned the members for this afternoon.

A general impression prevails in official circles that the President before going further will appeal to both sides and men not to plunge the country into a railway strike at this critical juncture of international affairs.

Further than that the President's purposes have not been openly disclosed.

GERARD GIVEN NOISY WELCOME

New York Greets Him In Pomp and Style—Thinks War Imminent.

New York, March 16.—If war comes with Germany, James W. Gerard, former ambassador to that country, would be willing to lead a regiment of German-Americans, he said, upon his arrival here today, at the close of his journey of 7,231 miles from Berlin. A citizens' committee, completed by Mayor Mitchell, greeted him and the city gave him a noisy welcome. "We are on the brink of war with Germany and I believe those of German descent in this country will remain loyal," Mr. Gerard said in his public address. "I would not mind leading a regiment of German-Americans in the event of hostilities and I feel sure I would not be shot in the back."

NEW REVOLT REPORTED FORMING IN MEXICO.

El Paso, Tex., March 16.—Reports of a new revolutionary movement in Mexico headed by General Obregon, Felix Diaz and with Villa included in the alliance, have been received here. The Yaqui Indians from Sonora who were sent to Chihuahua City are reported to have revolted in favor of Obregon and Sonora is reported about to join in the new movement.

MEN WHO HOLD RAILROAD SITUATION IN THEIR HANDS.



These are the chiefs of the four big railway brotherhoods in whose hands rest the railway strike situation of the United States. They are Warren S. Stone, of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; W. S. Carter, of the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen, and A. B. Garretson, of the Brotherhood of Railway Conductors.

GOVT. MIGHT TAKE DRASTIC STEPS TO KEEP ROADS OPEN.

Every Phase of the Serious Situation Being Carefully Considered.

DISSENTION REPORTED AMONG THE EMPLOYES

Many Said to Be Opposed to The Nation-wide Strike—Council of National Defense Takes Up The Question.

Washington, March 16.—Consideration was given by administration officials to possibly drastic steps which might be taken to force the operation of the railroads in case the strike actually comes. One means suggested was for the government to ask for receivership if necessary, for the roads and undertake their operation. The discussion was entirely tentative, however. The Council of National Defense, including several cabinet members, at a meeting here today took up the threatened Nation-wide railroad strike and it was indicated that some action looking to a prevention of the strike might be taken. An unsuccessful effort was made to reach Samuel Gompers, who is a member of the advisory committee. The council discussed the threatened strike because of its relation to the National defense at a time when the country is threatened with war. Exactly what action can be taken was not disclosed. Immediately after the meeting the cabinet members went to the White House for the meeting there. Cabinet members who are on the council declared the situation was not finally disposed of.

Reported Break In Ranks.

Chicago, March 16.—Reports of dissension among the hundreds of local brotherhood chairmen attending the executive meeting here today to ratify the strike order were circulated. Timothy Shea, assistant president of the firemen, and other officials denied them. Representatives of the Kansas City locals, the most powerful west of St. Louis, were said to have instructions to oppose the strike. Denver was said to have similar instructions. Some of the chairmen were said to insist that the Brotherhood chiefs in New York had no right to call a strike on the basis of the vote taken last summer.

COLOMBIAN TREATY RECALLED TODAY

Won't Be Considered at Special Session of Senate—New Treaty.

Washington, March 16.—The treaty with Colombia to pay \$25,000,000 for the partition of Panama was withdrawn from the Senate today on motion of Chairman Stone of the foreign relations committee and will not be acted upon at the present special Senate session. Senator Stone's action was taken to foreshadow further diplomatic negotiations with Colombia for a new treaty which would not be received with such strong objections. An effort to frame a more acceptable treaty is expected before the Congress which convenes in special session April 16 has adjourned.

OLD TYPE TORPEDO DESTROYER HIT MINE.

London, March 16.—A British torpedo boat destroyer of old type struck a mine in the English Channel yesterday and was sunk, says an official announcement made this afternoon. All the officers were saved. One man was killed and 28 sailors are missing. It is presumed these men were drowned.

SENATE ADJOURNS.

Washington, March 16.—The special Senate session which began March 5, adjourned sine die at 3:03 o'clock today.

TURKS CONTINUE TO FLEE BEFORE BRITONS' MOVE

While Russians Also Press Down Upon The Sorely Tried Muscovites

TRYING TO DRIVE WEDGE IN LINE.

Turks Making a Stand on One Side of The Tigris—The Battling at Other Points.

The Turks apparently have not altered their flight northward from Bagdad on the west bank of the Tigris, where they were last reported by Constantinople as somewhere to the south of Samarra, 70 miles north of Bagdad. General Maude, the British commander, reports them continuing to fall back. On the other side of the Tigris, however, the Turkish forces are apparently endeavoring to hold on to territory lying northeast from Bagdad, towards the Persian border. General Maude's report announced occupation by the British of a portion of the town of Bakubah, on the Diala river, about 30 miles northeast of Bagdad. Turkish resistance there is suggested. It seems not unlikely that the Turkish purpose is to hold off the British in this region to assist the Turkish armies from Kermanshah, which at last accounts were retreating toward the Persian border not far north of the present point of contact between British and Turks on the Diala. The British object in driving northeastward seems to be to push a wedge between the Turkish Mesopotamian fronts and the Ottoman troops retiring along the Kermanshah-Bagdad caravan road.

Fighting of much importance is taking place on the Macedonian front. The French have been on the aggressive for some days. Today's Berlin reports say repeated attacks by the French occurred yesterday, northwest and north of Monastir. The German-Bulgarian position near Nijopole, six miles west of Monastir, was admittedly breached in this series of assaults. Otherwise the attacks are declared to have failed, as did French attacks farther west between Lakes Ochrida and Presba.

In the House of Commons today the British Chancellor of the Exchequer indicated that an appeal to the country was impossible because of the attitude of the Irish Nationalists, hampering the government in its conduct of the war. There has been a general desire in Great Britain to avoid elections during the war and the life of the Parliament has been extended to obviate the necessity of holding them.

Petrograd, March 16, Via London (British Admiralty, Per Wireless Press).—Russian troops have dislodged the Turkish forces from their fortified positions on the summit of Narleshkan, to the west of Kermanshah, in Northwestern Persia, says an official statement issued today by the Russian War Department.

Britons Take Another Town.

London, March 16.—A portion of the town of Kakubah, on the right bank of the Diala river, about 30 miles northeast of Bagdad, has been occupied by the British, it was announced in a report received today from Gen. Maude, in command of the British igris forces. The Turks continue to fall back on the right bank of the Tigris.

French Again Advance.

Paris, March 16.—A French detachment advanced last night between the Avre and the Oise and occupied a number of points, taking prisoners, the war office announces.

German raids on the Verdun front were repulsed. Artillery engagements occurred in the Champagne.

CZAR'S RULE HAS BEEN TRAMPLED UNDER IRON HEEL

HOSTILE AIRSHIP DROPPED BOMBS

Resort Near London Visited By War Aviator Today. No Casualties.

London, March 16.—The war office announces that at 5:30 today a hostile airplane dropped bombs at West Gate. There were no casualties and the material damage was reported as slight. West Gate is a watering place close to Margate and about 80 miles from London. On March 1 a German airplane dropped bombs on Broadstairs, another watering place in the same neighborhood as West Gate. The British officials statement said that on this occasion one woman was injured. According to the German version the raid on Broadstairs was carried out by a number of hydroairplanes which attacked merchant shipping and the railroads.

OHIO RIVER HAS PASSED FLOOD STAGE

Louisville, Ky., March 16.—The Ohio river had passed the flood stage here early today and was still rising at the rate of about 0.1 foot an hour. The Government gauge in the canal above the falls registered 29 feet, one foot above the flood stage.

TO TAKE ALL WHEAT CROP FOR ENGLAND.

Ottawa, March 16.—The government has received word that the Canadian council of agriculture, meeting at Regina, has decided that the whole wheat crop of Canada shall be taken for the British government.

BITTERLY ASSAILS GERMAN POLICY

Socialist in Prussian Diet Bitterly Denounced Offer of Peace.

London, March 16.—The German submarine campaign was denounced as inhuman and the German peace offer of last December characterized as ridiculous in a stormy speech by Deputy Hoffmann, Socialist, in the Prussian Diet, after Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg had delivered his speech promising internal political reform and reform of the franchise after the war, according to a dispatch transmitted by the Central News correspondent at Amsterdam. Deputy Hoffmann, after being thrice called to order, was forced to leave the chamber. Hoffmann, according to the dispatch, declared that the military despotism in Germany which is causing mad and unnecessary shed of blood. The Germans, he added, should make known their peace terms, for a mere blank peace offer without terms was ridiculous. Submarine warfare, he insisted, was absolutely opposed to the laws of humanity.

Old Regime Completely Overthrown By Popular Movement of People.

DUKE NICHOLAS BACK AT CAPITAL

Idol of the Times and Will Likely Take Army—Hunting Out All German Sympathizers In The Empire.

ABDICATION NOT COMPLETE.

London, March 16.—The abdication of Emperor Nicholas and the appointment of Grand Duke Michael as regent has not yet been carried into effect, though it has been decided on by the executive power, Andrew Bonar Law, announced today in the House of Commons. Grand Duke Nicholas, idol of the Russian army and ranked as Russia's master strategist, looms up as the big military figure of the hour in the empire which has just witnessed a successful and almost bloodless revolution and the abdication of its Emperor. The relinquishment of the throne by Nicholas II automatically deprives him of his rank as commander-in-chief of the Russian armies. The heir to the throne is an infant and Grand Duke Michael, named as regent, while a soldier of repute, is not of commanding military experience. Thus the nation, the Petrograd despatches indicate, is turning to its most tried and trusted military leader. Grand Duke Nicholas is reported to have arrived at the Capitol and the probability is pointed out that he will take command of the troops. Of the complete success of the revolutionary movement in which the lead was taken by the Duma, there seems to be no doubt. While there have been few advices received as to the attitude of the army at the front, such news as has been received indicates that the military with the exception of reactionaries among the officers, together with all the popular forces of the empire, is backing the new government. The civil forces are co-operating with the government most heartily in restoring normality in the life of the empire. The Duma, which is the chief factor in shaping the course of the new regime, and the Zemstvo council are reported co-operating successfully in straightening out the various tangles which have resulted from the momentous change in government control. The food problem is being attacked and the people themselves seem to be exercising their own authority to repress any elements of the population that might be inclined to indulge in excesses. A measure of general political amnesty is reported in course of preparation by the new Russian minister of justice. Grand Duke Nicholas is said to have indorsed this move as one necessary to save the empire and bring the war to a successful conclusion. The Old Banished. Petrograd, Thursday, March 15 (Via London, March 16).—The old regime of conservatives has been supplanted by a government of liberals, M. Kerenski, the new Minister of Justice, is a Socialist. He accepted the portfolio on the stipulation that there should be absolute freedom of speech and of the press and full political amnesty. The cabinet has been chosen exclusively from present and past members of the Duma. It was named by the executive committee of the Duma in conjunction with other deputies and representatives of the workingmen and the soldiers, which held an all night session. (Continued on Page Eight)