

Secretary McAdoo Is Ready the question will pass to an arbitratto Take Over Railroads To-; ing body, the precise nature of which morrow-Believed Only a! Step to Other Controls

(By Associated Press).

Washington, Dec. 27 .- Preliminaries have given the situation close study for actual taking over of the railroads the government at noon tomorrow

and inating wasteful competition and untoday her war activities in cessary expenses under a common the capital. Though approved by the great mathere was some mate that the saving will be a billion

criticism in Conthe ground that stit wolls of hesonord but there was no the President's plans iv opposed and everytred for enacting neces. dends exceeding the guarantee will reafter he explains the vert to the government, congress will in an address to Con- be asked to make provision for rail-

outh Houses predicted abnormally low by authorizing the the beginning ation and control. soon extend to rele- terstate Commerce commission. alione lines, if not intribution of life's ne. for their own issues of securities, but

Adoo spent the proval of the director-general before going to the Interstate Commerce comstudy of problems lived at the outsel. conferred with the gast sailway brothpared probable that the for percases in Day under the proposed plan. i lied by a committee of, a Le appointed by Mr. Mc-

best position to pass on questions of survey of the securities' interest rates. It also would will pretare to catry be his duty to determine when the lans into effect government should nurchase new seal chiefs went to the relationships with the and this plan would prevent the rall securities from interfering with the government operfuture issues of liberty bonds without question 01 nécessitating actual government fin-

ancing of the roads. The legislation which will recom-mend to Congress would specify that BANKERS APPROVE General McAdeo will the men in their for 40 per cent. highhether he will authorroads should remain subject to all exmanagers to negoisting laws and regulations of the In-It was under terstate Commerce Commission. Those adon had reached no conwho have given careful thought to the best method of prothe situation believe the director-genprobably would favor eral will not modify the existing order radically at first, but eventually will managers to thresh out is for later submission to go far toward centralizing authority under the Federal government.

al londers explained that The Association of State Railroad had until the end of this Commissioners will give full support an answer on whether to the new plan so long as their functione with the men on tions are not reduced materially, bur I, wage demand and that they are expected to protest against at operation pion prob- being deprived of adjusting minor out exception, leading bankers and tee" which Germany requires to in- ply for the territory in Eastern North the Col Del Rosso and Monte De Val at operation pros- heing deprived of adjusting minor out exception, leading bankers and toe while execution of all these com- Carolina and Virginia lying generally Bella, the Italians were unable to hold their is threatened. they their territories.

curities holders against loss.

asion for final sanction. The con-

and that the President alassured the support of roads to bring about uniform 'dent Wilson in taking over the coun- statesmen and publicists. it is un-' ministration issued orders today to was of great violence and the Austro-Control of the

first acts of the government at noon to the President had been anticipated many would insist on retaining con equate supply of coal to the Atlantic up their initial success in the region conclude a general peace without forinning operation of rail- morrow with Secretary McAdoo ""I by railway officials for some time trol of Belgium for an indefinite per- Coast Line, Seaboard Air Line and west of the Brenta.

tutional right and refuse to accept this ation under Director McAdoo's super. a disposition to feel that the object basis of compensation. In that case, vision. The President's action, taken through Kimply to protract the negotiations

Secretary Baker, under authority of to be determined by Congress. the Army Appropriations Act of Au-The conforment fund will also be used gust, 1916, came as a surprise at this pectation of an immediate peace to pay any deficit of earnings this year time, as it was believed he would agreement with the double purunder the pre-war average or the await the re-assembling of Congress pose of leading the German people

amount agreed upon, but officials who and make known his decision in an address to that body. The President's statement made desirous of making peace, and of believe it may be unnecessary to expend any great sum in this way. They clear that the reason for the plan of gaining time for the further strengthhelieve that the government, by elim-

government operation was to period ening of the German lines in the complete unification of all rail systems in:possible through private operation West. control, can save hundre's of millions (

One condition regarded as impos by statutes prohibiting pooling of traft of dollars. Some officials even estisible, for the present at least, is fic and earnings. The Interstate Commerce Commisthat the adherence of all the bellidollars a year, and that the governsion and other government and State ment will be able to garner revenue agencies which have to do with rail gerents must be secured to the peace from the government operation plan roads will continue to perform their the Germans are trying to make with in addition to insuring railroad sefunction under the new plan, except Russia before it can become effec-

that they will be subject to order of Although in most cases earned divithe railroad director. Although the plan of control is not mand for the return of the German outlined in detail, it was the opinion colonies now in the possession of roads whose pre-war earnings were

that the British system would be fol. Russia's allies. lowed closely except in the matter of It can be stated authoriatively that paying for government freight. In the position of the American governphymint of dividends in excess of England the government freight is car- ment has not changed in any respect those amounts on approval of the Inried free and the guaranteed carnings with regard to its determination to require an enormous amount of money enter into no agreement Railroads will continue to provide from government funds. In the Unit-la government which does not repreed States, the government will pay indisent the free will of the governed will be compelled to obtain the apfreight and will stand increases if hey reople. This would dispose of any hope the Germans might have that

are found necessary. the Russians could induce America Railroad experts estimate that the mission will pass on the size of the government plan to guarantee earning to subscribe to the peace treaty issue and the director-general will conivalent to average net operating in which they are now trying to ardetermine the interest rate, which come of the last three years will cost range. As for the German colonies, could not be less than four per cent the government about \$100,000,000 yext, the American gove"nment has never year, which can be raised by increase recorded itself on the subject and in freight rates. In addition to this

In his dual position of secretary or Lloyd-George recently delared that Conmerce commit. railroads, Mr. McAdoo would be in the brotherhoods for a 40 per cent. ad. was a subject for the peace concost, the recent demand of railroad No provision is made in Count the railroads on or before December Czernin's terms for the return to reads will leave decision in this mat. France of Alsace-Lorraine, which is kostile artillery activity north 31. and it is expected that the mail-

curities issued under his approval ter to the government. President Wilson planned to confer must be met as a preliminary to any ported today, to the British war of-(Continued on Page 5 wo)

message to Congress.

WILSONS ACTION

Taking Over of Railroads United States and her co-belligerent Ends An Uncertain Situation, They Say

(By Associated Press).

headquarters here, today expressed plicated factors of the peace treaty, between Norfolk and New Bern and them on account of enemy pressure

Sharp criticism for the shortage of winter overcoats was made by Sena-

of the German plenioptentiaries is tors who declared orders for clothing were not followed up to insure as long as possible without any exdeliveries. General Sharpe said orders for overcoats were placed in sufficient time for making of cloth-

with

tive. This is accompanied by a de-

ing, but that delayed deliveries held up clothing manufacturers. to believe their government really is Senator Frelinghuysen! declared |

> Quartermaster General and the Council of National Defense.

Practically every contract for over. ion Feleign Minister. The Teutonic coats was delayed, General Sharpe allies, however, cannot bind themselvsaid, by trouble in getting cloth and es to the Russian terms unless Russtrikes in the clothing factories. The SIP's allies also recognize them and independence to another country candecision to send forces to France Central Powers. sooner than expected was another cause.

Senator Weeks brought out that thentral Powers and they will conclude, the supplies committee of the Coun- a general peace immediately on coning scraps from army cloth at six erents. The Central Powers chare people to self-definition.

own, General Sharpe said. At the the German conditions for peace. six cent rate, the private contractors eral Sharpe said, he would not have signed the contract.

Little to Report.

(By Associated Press).

have expressed opposition to a German made peace. President Wilson London, Dec. 27 .- "Except for some and Lloyd-George recently have declarand regarded here as a condition that east of Ypres," Field Marshal Haig re pcace agreement; an understanding fice, "there was nothing to report last sible.

Meanwhile the Bolsheviki are taking measures to placate their opponents. mise with the Ukrainian Rada.

France—Italians Forced to

Give Ground-Low Ship-

ping Losses

Military operations are confined gen-Snow has fallen along the British front in France. Paris reports two attacks on the Verdun front but says the Germans were unable to break through.

After recapturing lost positions on nation's rail their approval of the action of Presi-From public declarations of German including Wilmington, the Fuel Ad- and were forced to retire. The battle roads to bring about uniform will be as try's railroad lines. The action of derstood that as "guarantees" Ger- the coal producers to provide an ad- Cermans have been unable to follow

ter, told the peace conference at TO ITALIAN FRON'I Brest-Litovsk yesterday, solemnly declare their resolve to immediately Snow Along British Front in sign terms which will terminate the war on conditions equally just to all belligerents. The Central Powers also favor a general peace without forcible annexations and indemnities. Virtual acceptance of the peace They could not bind themselves to the delay was due in part to change terms offered by Russia was made by such terms without a guarantee that

in cloth specifications resulting from the Central Powers in a statement is Russia's allies would recognize them sued to the peace conference Tuesday and carry out honestly toward the by Count Czernin, the Austro Hungar- Central Powers, The question of the subjection of nationalities who have not political

must be met by each government Teace without forcible annexations and its people in the manner and indemnities is agreeable to the established by the constitution of the right of minorities is cil recommended a contract for sort- ditions equally just to all the bellig- an essential part of the right of

cents a pound and that it was found Russian condemnation of a prelonga. In the event of a mutual refusal excessive and annuled. Two cents tion of the war for the purpose of con. to meet war expenditures and pay was later reported as a fair price. A quest. Count Czernin agrees that peo. damages caused by the war, Count Mr. Kaplan, said to be a brother of n'e have the right of self-definition, Czernin continued, each belligerent a member of the Coucil's committee, but says that subject nationalities must shall bear only the expense of its was mentioned as a member of the so've their problem under the laws of subjects made prisoner and damages fim that got the six cent contract. the countries under whose sway they caused to property of civilian sub-The government intends establish- live. The return of Germany's lost jects by deliberate violations of ining a scrap cloth sorting plant of its colonies is made an essential part of ternational law on the part of the adversary. The creation of a special The United States and the Entente fund for this purpose as suggested profits were estimated by General Allies up to this time have not recog- by Russia, could be discussed only Sharpe at \$400,000 a year. If he had laized the lawful right of the Bolshev- in event that the other belligerents known all the facts at the time, Gen-tiki government to rule Russia and they join in the peace negotiations within have not agreed to the terms Russia a certain time. profferred at the beginning of the

Brest-Litovsk conference. Recent ut- gation expressed gratification at Ger-The chairman of the Russian deleterances of responsible allied leaders man willingness to make peace without annexations and idemnities and with the self-definition of peoples. ed that peace with Prussian military He demurred, however, at the Gerautocracy still in power was impos- man statement on self-definition as being incomplete. He said the war could not end without the re-establishment of the violated rights of Seven members of the social revolu- little and oppressed nationalities, and tionist party which has a majority of Russia would insist on guarantees the constituent assembly have been that their lawful rights would be admitted to the Council of National protected in a general peace treaty. Commissioners, as the ruling body in | Count Czernin explained the posi-Russia is called. The Bolsheviki still tion of the Central Powers in a state retain ten members in the council ment which he read at the second Emissaries of the Bolsheviki have fail- session of the peace concerence at ed in their attempt to effect a compro- 10 o'clock Tuesday evening. His statement follows:

"The delegations of the allied erally to the Italian Northern front. (Teutonic) powers, acting upon the clearly expressed will of their governments and peoples, will conclude as soon as possible, a general peace. The delegations, in complete accord with the repeatedly expressed viewpoint of their governments, think that the basic principles of the Russian delegation can be made the basis of such a peace.

"The delegations of the Quadruple Alliance are agreed immediately to cible annexations and indemnities.

declared by President Wilson in his night." In the light of the extraordinary HFIIFFefforts Germany has been making to rid those provinces of French inhabitants, it is believable here that Germany may propose a plebiscite of inhabitants, relying uopn the vote of German soldiers and imported Ger man population, but such a proposal probably would be rejected by the

Coal Mines to Provide for this Section

offcials note there is a reservation, 'almost inseparable from German di-, Washington, D. C., Dec. 27 .- As a New York, Dec. 27 .- Almost with plomacy, in the shape of "guaran" means of securing a better coal sup-

(By George H. Manning.)

Fuel Administration Orders

| to reduce large salaries retaining his cabinet post, in charge, and most of them agreed that the iod. |
|--|
| the contract system, been removed as British first sea lord delegation which condemns the con- |
| some measure the wages of This was appounded last night in a met their expectations. |
| pledge to restore the political inde- the coal operators have failed to and is succeed by Admiral Sir Ros- tinuation of the war purely for aims |
| workers. proclamation by President Wilson. ef. In the financial district, bankers pendence of countries occupied by the supply the roads with sufficient coal, siyn Wenz, who has been second of conquest. |
| to be "ssued while the section at noon Friday December 28. In order scalord amiral wemys is not as The statesmen of the allied |
| is in control will be at in- |
| hot luss than four per independence is regarded as vantage of the provision of common common common common common common common statements have emphasized |
| issues will be made un- nental United States, with its appur- guerantee of compensation to the aimed directly at the projected Pol-' law which permits them to selze coal but has had a varied war experience. British merchant shipping losses for |
| bordy of the director torances including steamship lines. guarantee of compensation to the aimed directly at the projected its law which permits them to solve total. |
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| All fines will be operated as a result of the percent of the percent of the since the week ending November 11, of the allies unswervingly have fol- |
| |
| lines of the subject kingdom which common law the railroads have been of 12 ships, 11 of more than 1,600 tens, and proclamation, President Wilson de- |
| Germ 7 and Austria already nave seizing coal consigned for commer- ane one of less than that tonnage, dictoly to sign torms of posses at soon |
| |
| as it re-assembled, for registration such and virginia an |
| anteeing of the name of the name of the name of the number |
| All earnings over and anteening. That the railroad properties sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the begartment not to commit the fausing a shortage to the public. Week ending December 9, in each of sociation Deposed to Woman Suffrage is the begartment not to commit the fausing a shortage to the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. State Department not to commit the fausing a shortage to the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. Sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the benefit of the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. Sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the benefit of the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. Sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the benefit of the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. Sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the benefit of the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. Sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the benefit of the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. Sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the benefit of the public. Week ending December 9, in each of out exception. Sociation Opposed to Woman Suffrage is the benefit of the public. The public is the public is the public is the public is the public. The public is the public |
| which 14 of more than 1,600 tons were out exception. |
| will be asked also to ap-of Federal control in as good repair swill be asked also to ap-of Federal control in as good repair swill be asked also to ap-of Federal control in as good repair to the depart- railroads mentioned and adequate the three three three such. The visit of the German Emperior to cate most clearly that the proposals |
| will be asked also to ap- of Federal control in as good rebair support of a bill introduced by Repre- |
| will be asked also to ap- of Federal control in as good repair a large sundry probably and as complete equipment as when large sundry probably and as complete equipment as when the immediate supply taken over by the government, and, frage organization to withdraw from frage organization to withdraw from |
| the immediate supply taken over by the government, and, remained to the new of his firmer of his fir |
| tock to handle the flood of second, that the roads shall receive a frage organization to withdraw from might be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the United them to have to take the coal international shall be conveyed to the coal shall be conveyed to the coal international shall be conveyed to the coal shall be coal shall be conveyed to the coal shall be conveyed to the coal shall be |
| Continued on Devel field on their node |
| unknown. [Unknown.] sufficient fuel for their needs, [Continued on Page Eight], [Continued on Page Eight], [Continued on Page Five]. |
| in seneral will have aucuse to environment the seneral s |
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Annarently Belgium is promised

freedom by Count Czernin if all the

other German demands are met. But