

DIRECTOR GENERAL HINES WILL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANSWER TO EMPLOYES

Will Then Report to President Who Will Approve or Disapprove of the Decision - Both the Railroad Administration and White House Officials Regard Situation as Extremely Grave - Long Conference Held With Secretary Tumulty - Another Conference This Afternoon.

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Director General Hines will make answer to the wage demand of the 2,000,000 railroad workers on his own responsibility and from the standpoint of the railroad administration and will then report to the President, it was said today at the white house.

Mr. Wilson then will approve or disapprove the decision. Heretofore the President generally has passed upon wage decisions before the railroad administration's answer was given to the union representatives.

No reason was assigned for the departure from the usual custom in this case. In the light of the urgent demands of the trainmen and the strike call issued by officers of the Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees, both railroad administration and white house officials regard the situation as extremely grave.

Mr. Hines has held a long conference with Secretary Tumulty who has submitted a memorandum on the subject to the president. Mr. Wilson still has this memorandum before him.

Conferees between Mr. Hines and the brotherhood officers were to have been resumed this morning, but at the appointed hour neither side was ready to go ahead and the meeting was postponed until 3:30 o'clock this afternoon.

CONFERENCE WILL DETERMINE WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The result of the railroad wage conference today between Director General Hines and representatives of the employees' unions probably will determine whether the rail transportation systems are to be tied up by a strike before the government surrenders control.

The situation was regarded as critical by the railroad administration and union officials. At the conference, which in effect is a wage negotiation between the government and more than 2,000,000 railroad workers, vigorous efforts will be made to reach an agreeable settlement.

A new statement of what the unions of operating employes regard as essential to their well being has been presented to Mr. Hines, who announced that he would make answer today. W. G. Lee, president of the trainmen, continued to press the demands of his organization, which has served a thirty-day notice, effective February 23, of abrogation of the existing wage control and has taken a strike vote said to be largely in favor of cessation of work if the demands are not met.

SIMS SAYS HE DIDN'T SAY IT

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—The question of exactly what was said in the conversation between Rear Admiral William S. Sims and three members of congress in Paris during the war probably will lead the senate committee investigating the award of naval decorations to prolong the hearing in justice to both sides.

Admiral Sims denied that he had made statements belittling the participation of the American army and navy in the war as attributed to him by Representative Byrnes, of South Carolina, one of the trio who talked with the admiral in Paris, and substantiated in part by Senator Glass, who was a representative at the time of his visit to France. Senator Glass, however, explained that he did not understand Admiral Sims to wish to "discredit the army" but had believed he was "simply telling us what he had heard and thought to be true."

Representative Whaley, of South Carolina, the third member of the congressional party, who was unable to appear before the committee because of illness, has requested that he be allowed to testify Monday. Chairman Hale, however, has not set a definite date for resumption of the investigation.

GERMANS WILL MAKE PUBLIC THE LIST

(By The Associated Press.) BERLIN, Tuesday, Feb. 10.—The government announced today it would make public an installment from the list of persons demanded by the allies for extradition and also issue the list in book form for the purpose of "forestalling any attempt to confuse the public by biased reports."

As the alleged mistreatment of entente prisoners in German camps figure largely in the allied indictment, the ministry of justice has ordered prompt investigation of the prison camp archives and the opening of the cases where camp officers were charged with misconduct. The civil courts will be given full access to the records of the military courts which operated during the war and the ministry in the possession of the military authorities.

CLEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF THOS. A. EDISON

Orange, New Jersey, Makes Gala Day of Birthday of Noted Inventor - Number "73" Plays Important Role in Day's Proceedings.

(By The Associated Press.) ORANGE, N. J., Feb. 11. — Municipal buildings, places of business and private homes here were decorated with flags and bunting today in honor of the seventy third birthday of Thomas A. Edison. Mayor William A. Lord in a public proclamation extended to Mr. Edison the city's congratulations and expressed the hope that he would celebrate many more birthdays and continue "in good health and further unexampled usefulness to mankind."

The Edison Pioneers, an organization of men associated with the inventor since 1885, tendered him a luncheon. This evening, Mr. Edison with members of his family will be the guest at a ball to be given by the Thomas A. Edison Association.

The number "73" which played a prominent part in the day's proceedings was promptly recognized as the telegraph code for "good wishes" by Mr. Edison, who was an operator in his youth.

CROWN PRINCE ACTED ON SPUR OF MOMENT

(By Associated Press.) AMSTERDAM, Tuesday, Feb. 10.—Former Crown Prince Wilhelm, of Germany, sent his telegram to the heads of allied governments offering to surrender in place of Germans demanded in the allied extradition list, almost on the impulse of the moment, according to an interview with Major von Mulheim, the former crown prince's adjutant, published in the Telegraf.

"The former heir to the German throne," said the major, after confirming reports that a telegram had been sent, "took his resolution without thinking long about it. The return of Baron von Lersner from Paris and the serious situation which has arisen in Berlin in consequence prompted the Prince to send his telegram. He hopes by this to avert serious difficulties for Germany."

Dutch newspapers describe William's action as a "beautiful gesture."

FRANCE REFUSES BIG TOBACCO MONOPOLY

(By The Associated Press.) PARIS, Feb. 11.—Proposals by four great tobacco growers' associations in the United States for an immediate loan of 60,000,000 francs in return for a concession involving a tobacco monopoly in France were made several months ago but were rejected by Louis Klotz, then minister of finance, according to the Journal.

In amplifying its information regarding the proposed grant the newspaper has learned, it asserts, that the proposition has been renewed since Frederick Francois Marsal assumed the portfolio of finance. It has been discussed at greater length by the present cabinet because of the seriousness of the situation in the financial world, according to the newspaper, which says that the loan of forty billion francs was for the tobacco monopoly and the additional 20,000,000,000 was to be conditional upon the granting of a monopoly for the sale of matches.

Government experts estimate the profit from the sale of tobacco in France is about 500,000,000 francs per year. A match monopoly, it is declared, would never be a paying venture, because matches are manufactured in this country. Some profits, however, were made during the war when matches were purchased in foreign countries by the government which acted merely as a sales agent. The Journal, says Hugh C. Wallace, American ambassador, made unofficial representations to the French government endorsing the monopoly proposition.

BOXING RECOGNIZED AS SPORT AT CAROLINA

CHAPEL HILL, N. C., Feb. 11.—Boxing has been recognized as a collegiate sport by the University of North Carolina, it was announced today, and under the direction of Thomas J. Browne, formerly United States army captain and head of the central army school at Camp Gordon, for training athletic directors 150 freshmen have begun studying the difference between a left hook and a right cross and the relation of shifty foot work to the cauliflower ear.

The instruction is part of the athletic work compulsory for all first year men. Automatic mechanism maintains absolutely constant the arc light in a meter that has been invented for testing the colors of fabrics.

DEFENSE HAS FLOOR IN SOCIALIST TRIAL

Considerable Interest Aroused By Use of Name, "R. N. Nathan" - Prosecution Closed Its Case Yesterday Afternoon.

(By The Associated Press.) ALBANY, N. Y., Feb. 11. — The defense had the floor today at the trial of the five suspended socialist assemblymen charged with disloyalty, the prosecution having closed its case late yesterday afternoon. Reading by the defense of further excerpts from documentary evidence introduced by counsel for the assembly judiciary committee which is conducting the hearings, is expected to consume the forenoon. Until this has been completed, attorneys for the defense contend their opponents cannot technically "rest" their case.

Considerable interest has been aroused by constant mention by the defense of "R. N. Nathan." The latest time the name came up was yesterday, when Seymour Stedman asked an agent of the joint legislative committee investigating radicalism in this state whether he had met such a person during a "raid" on the Russian soviet "embassy" in New York. Mr. Stedman during a recess declined to state who "Nathan" might be, but it has been reported he might be a British service agent.

From socialist sources has come the report that "information" has been received that British operatives were interested in raids on Russian commercial organizations in order that they might flash to commercial London reports as to the ability of Russia to pay for supplies she is seeking.

EDITOR JOHNSON IS AMBASSADOR TO ROME

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 11.—Robert Underwood Johnson, of New York, author and editor and one of the founders of the League to Enforce Peace has been selected by President Wilson as ambassador to Rome, to succeed Thomas Nelson Page, of Virginia, who resigned several months ago. The president is expected to send the nomination to the senate within a few days.

Mr. Johnson was originator of the Memorial to Keats and Shelley in Rome, originator and chairman of the American Poets' Ambulance in Italy in 1917, and author of Italian Rhapsody and other poems of Italy, published in 1917. He was decorated by the Italian government in 1895, was made Cavaliere of the crown of Italy.

Mr. Johnson was born in Washington 67 years ago and was editor of the Century Magazine from November 1909 to May 1913. He induced General Grant to write his memoirs and set on foot the movement which resulted in the creation of the Yosemite national park.

UNEARTH SCHEME TO STEAL SECURITIES

NEW YORK, Feb. 11. — The arrests of two brothers, who were employed as brokers' messengers today, made a total of six men held in connection with what the police declare was a plot to steal \$5,000,000 worth of securities in the financial district and take them to Canada, where it was expected a market would be found for them.

Herbert Banora, 19 years old, was accused of stealing Crucible Steel securities valued at \$145,000 entrusted to him to deliver to another firm an hour after he obtained a job as a broker's messenger last November. Some of the securities were recovered in Washington and Philadelphia and some in the office of David B. Sullivan, a New York broker, who is under indictment on a charge of obtaining loans on stolen securities.

UNPRECEDENTED DEMAND FOR GOLF BALLS

CHICAGO, Feb. 11.—An unprecedented demand for golf balls indicates there will be a record-breaking play this year, according to manufacturers here, who reported today that all factories are operating at full capacity and a number are working two and three shifts for the first time in their history.

Club manufacturers also reported the factories working at capacity. One factory reported its daily production of clubs was 8,000.

LINEBERGER-STOWE MILLS HAVE 145,000 SPINDLES AND CAPITAL OF \$7,000,000

During Past Six Months Six Mills Aggregating Over Five Million Dollars Capital Stock Have Been Organized in Belmont - History of Mills One of Success and Profit - A. C. Lineberger, R. L. and S. P. Stowe - New Mills to Begin Work in Summer.

From their premier position among the pioneer cotton-mill builders in Gaston county, the Lineberger-Stowe interests at Belmont have never been displaced and today they hold first rank among the mills of the county in number of spindles and capital stock. From the organization of the Chronicle mill in 1901 with a capital stock of only \$100,000 and R. L. Stowe as the chief promoter, the mill business at Belmont has grown to the magnificent total of eleven corporations in Belmont alone, representing approximately 145,000 spindles and an authorized capital stock of \$7,000,000.

Soon after the Chronicle mill was built came the Imperial and Majestic and Mr. A. C. Lineberger, of Tuckasee, one of the foremost cotton mill authorities in the South, became associated with the Belmont mills as president.

In addition to the presidency of the Belmont mills mentioned below, Mr. Lineberger is president of the Rowan cotton mills at Salisbury, a concern of 10,000 spindles and \$600,000 capital, manufacturing auto tire fabrics, and is interested in the Vance mills at Salisbury and Superior Yarn Mills at Statesville.

The growth of the mill business has been truly magical and the rise of the men connected therewith has been equally as wonderful. For instance, a few days ago there were organized in the town of Belmont within the space of 36 hours three new cotton mills with a combined capital stock of \$3,800,000. Listed on the board of directors of these mills are men who, 20 years ago, were nothing more than doffers and ordinary helpers in the first mills built hereabouts. Such facts as these are illustrative and typical of the cotton mills at Belmont. All the superintendents have risen from a low place in the ranks to positions commanding \$4,000 and \$5,000 yearly salaries.

A spirit of co-operation and harmony exists between employer and employe that is seldom found. The employeers are a staid, settled class, thrifty, progressive and educated. Many of them own their own homes, their own automobiles and carry bank and R. and L. deposits. For years they have enjoyed unexcelled educational opportunities. Soon, a new and modern school building is to be erected in the very heart of the mill district at Belmont.

"The three new mills at Belmont organized last August, the Crescent, Acme and Sterling, will all be running soon, I think," said Mr. A. C. Lineberger in conversation with a Daily Gazette man last night. "First shipments of machinery are due to begin arriving in March and we hope to be spinning yarn in July or August," he added.

"It takes almost a year exactly these times to get a mill started," added another prominent cotton mill man of Belmont. "If I remember correctly we ran cotton through the Climax within six months after ground was broken for the mill, but that was in the good old days when labor could be had for \$1.25 per day."

Asked as to the probable date of the beginning of operations of the Linford, Perfection and Stowe Spinning Company, the three newest mills, Mr. Lineberger was not in a position to say, although it was evident from his conversation that they may start operations sooner than is generally believed.

A peculiar fact about the names of the cotton mills at Belmont is that the majority of them bear names that represent superlative qualities, a fact that may or not have something to do with the superlative value of their stock. For instance, there is nothing positive or comparative about Imperial, National, Majestic, Sterling, Climax, Acme, is there? Each name connotes that which is paramount and highest of its kind, the peak, the summit, the summum bonum, so to speak. It would seem that there is a limit to these superlatives in the naming of the mills, but evidently not so in the mind of D. P. Stowe, secretary and treasurer, who calls his mill the Perfection.

All the mills at Belmont manufacture fine yarns, the managers being among the first in this section to recognize the vast difference in the selling power of fine and coarse yarns.

A list of the mills with officers, directors, spindles and capital stock is as follows:

Linford Mills, Inc. Officers: A. C. Lineberger, Pres., W. B. Puett, Vice-Pres., J. E. Ford, secretary and treasurer. Directors: A. C. Lineberger, W. B. Puett, J. E. Ford, C. L. Bumgardner, C. E. Tucker, W. C. Wilkinson, Karl Kale and S. P. Stowe. Spindles, 10,000. Capital stock, \$1,000,000.

Perfection Spinning Co. Officers: A. C. Lineberger, Pres., W. C. Wilkinson, Vice-Pres., D. P. Stowe, Sec.-Treas. Directors: A. C. Lineberger, W. C. Wilkinson, D. P. Stowe, R. B. Suggs.

(Continued on page 8.)

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(Continued on page 8.)

PEOPLE OF SCHLESWIG VOTE OVERWHELMINGLY TO RETURN TO DENMARK

Danes Receive News With Wildest Rejoicings - Say It Is Victory For Principle of Self Determination.

OPENHAGEN, Feb. 11. — Latest reports as to the result of the plebiscite yesterday in Schleswig, show that Denmark secured 72,733 votes against 24,793 for Germany. Only a few districts have not been heard from.

PUBLICATION PROHIBITED.

FLENSBURG, Feb. 11.—Publications of the final result of the plebiscite held in Schleswig to determine the future status of that district has been prohibited until this evening by the international commission in control here.

GREAT REJOICING BY DANES.

APENRADE, Schleswig, Tuesday, Feb. 10.—Overwhelming victory for the Danes in this zone of the province of Schleswig, the future status of which is to be determined by the plebiscite held turns received here. County districts showed large majorities for Denmark, while the vote in towns showed larger figures than the Danish estimates.

Dander, Apenrade and Sonderberg, however, have been carried by the Germans.

News of the vote is being received with wildest rejoicings by the Danes in this city. Minister Hansen, hero of the Danish inhabitants of Schleswig, addressed a meeting saying:

"This is a great victory for the principles of self-determination, for which thoughtful men of Schleswig have wished for one hundred years, but which few statesmen had the wisdom to advocate a reply."

GERMANS CLAIM SUCCESS.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—Indications of German success are claimed on the face of the first reports from the Schleswig plebiscite, according to a despatch received by the Exchange Telegraph Company from Amsterdam quoting a Flensburg message to the Handelsbald.

90 PER CENT VOTE.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 11.—In spite of the bad weather which prevailed yesterday more than ninety per cent of the people in the first Schleswig plebiscite zone voted during the day, and about 75 per cent voted in favor of Danish sovereignty. In the country districts there were virtually no German votes, only descendants of German settlers casting their ballots in favor of Germany.

An artificial cork is being made in Sweden from cork waste and a binding paste.