

UNDERWOOD URGES RAIL WAGE BOARD

Alabama Senator Contends Congress Has Right to Fix Compensation

TO PUT END TO UNREST

Washington, Sept. 4.—The creation by Congress of a permanent governmental commission to fix and adjust the wages of all railroad employees was urged in the Senate today by Senator Oscar W. Underwood, of Alabama.

The only way fairly to settle the railroad wage question now and prevent it from recurring and threatening a disruption of the industry and finances of the country at some future time, Senator Underwood said, is to appoint a governmental commission with power to fix wages with a view to observing the rights of the railroads, the workers and the public, and with authority to fix railroad rates.

Such a commission must be formed in the interest of the men involved, the industry of the people, and the peace of the nation, he said.

Indorses Garrison's View Mr. Garrison, president of the Order of Railroad Conductors, was right, Senator Underwood said, in asserting that the proper way to deal with the railroad wage situation and other strike matters is to prevent the disease, not simply to cure the patient.

The matter can be adjusted in fairness to labor, capital and the public only through a commission to investigate the rate of wages, the earning power of the railroads, the cost of living, the burden that rests on the shipping public, with power to fix wages and rates, said Underwood.

Congress cannot settle the present wage question, the enactment of a compulsory arbitration law is impracticable and undesirable, and the courts have no knowledge or the time to settle it, he said.

"Industrial wars between labor and capital must ultimately find a solution that will stand for industrial peace without resort to force to settle the matters in dispute, or we must admit that the advance of civilization has come to a halt," said Senator Underwood.

Right to Regulate Wages He then argued at length that Congress has the right to regulate railroad rates and delegate the power to a commission, and that it follows that Congress can also delegate the power to regulate railroad wages.

"The great difficulty that confronts the country is the settlement of its labor disputes, and the fact that on the present time we have found no sound basis on which to rest the settlement," continued Senator Underwood. "At times, particularly in the distant past, capital has contended that labor had no right to advance capital here to run its business. On the other hand, labor has contended that it was fighting its way from industrial slavery to industrial independence, and that it must have a free hand with which to work out its destiny, and labor today contends that there must be no restraint placed on the right of collective bargaining with the employers of labor, even though the result of the system will lead inevitably to industrial war."

Labor Has Valid Rights "It cannot be denied, notwithstanding the express declaration of Congress, that labor is a thing of value and is bought and sold. Being a thing of value, not unlike property of value, it is entitled to its right and share of rights in the last analysis should be recognized and protected by law, but as property has been recognized and protected."

"We have at last reached an era where there is no property right that is not recognized and where the courts provide a remedy to protect every right. Yet in this age of advanced civilization we hesitate to protect with the law the right—the principal right of man, the right that must always go hand in hand with liberty of person and freedom of action—the right of a free man to earn a living wage."

"Without this right labor must always occupy a servile position or must maintain the right itself by force. We must recognize that labor and capital are still largely left to settle their controversies by the primitive methods of strikes, boycotts and lockouts," continued Senator Underwood.

GET COMMITTEE POSTS

Eight Chosen for Republican Congressional Membership Washington, Sept. 4.—Eight new members were elected to the Republican congressional committee last night at a party conference.

Representatives Tinsler, Kansas, and McLaughlin, Nebraska, both new members, were selected. The others were Representatives Ramseyer, Iowa; Riddick, Montana; Bowers, West Virginia, and Senator Fall, New Mexico.



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MARCH AIDS PREPAREDNESS

Says Proper Measures Would Have Kept Us Out of War

Washington, Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—Germany never would have provoked the United States into entering the conflict if war expenditures of the War Department alone had been used for preparedness in time of peace, the House military committee was told today by General March, chief of staff. He appeared at hearings on plans for a permanent military policy.

Interest on the fourteen billion dollars count for the War Department, the general said, would finance the future military program advocated, which calls for universal training and a regular army of 375,000 men.

World-wide interest prompted the department to propose a large army, General March said, explaining that the regular army would be the skeleton or nucleus for a field army of 1,250,000 men.

"It would be a practical sized force for invasion in a moderate-sized war," declared General March. "It also would provide a first line of defense from attack and behind which we could train on a big war."

To carry out the War Department plans, expenditures of \$603,000,000 would be necessary the first year but the maximum annual cost would not exceed \$300,000,000, General March said.

CAN'T GET ENOUGH SUGAR

No Hope for Abundance in Near Future, Says Zabriskie

Washington, Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—Sugar shortages now experienced in many parts of the country cannot be relieved for some time, says George A. Zabriskie, president of the United States sugar plantation board, said in a letter received today by Senator Hitchcock, Democrat, Nebraska.

"The demand is enormous and largely in excess of refiners' ability to supply it from this time," said Mr. Zabriskie. "Complaints regarding the sugar shortage come from all sections of the country and we fear it will be practically impossible to relieve the situation to some time to come."

Sugar from old land crops, Mr. Zabriskie added, is entirely exhausted and shipments of the new crop "have been seriously embarrassed" by the marine strike.

RAIL LABORERS ASK RISE

Adjustment in Accordance With Wilson Principle is Sought

Washington, Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—Representatives of the 600,000 members of the United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way and Railroad Shop Laborers asked the railroad wage board today to adjust their wages in accordance with the principle laid down by President Wilson in approving adjustment last week to the railroad shopmen.

The board was told that the men adhered to the President's decision that there should be no general increases of wages until the government was actually seeking to return economic conditions to normal, but that they felt the principle in his existing as between the employees of different railroad systems should be corrected.

WILLIAMS OFFERS DIARY

Data Showing Washington Bank Reports Given Senate Committee

Washington, Sept. 4.—John Skelton Williams, controller of the currency, today laid before the Senate banking committee his personal diary and confidential reports relating to Washington banks. This will be considered in executive session.

The data was requested by Frank J. Hogan, counsel for the Riggs National Bank, of this city, in the controversy with the controller some years ago. He said it would substantiate charges that Mr. Williams had discriminated against the Riggs bank.

AMERICAN WATCH ON RHINE DOUBLED

Area of Territory to Be Guarded Twice as Large as Heretofore

NEW TROOPS FOR OVERSEA

By the Associated Press. Coblenz, Sept. 4.—Marshal Foch, the allied commander-in-chief, has decided upon the extent of the territory in the Rhineland to be held permanently by American forces. The area will be twice as large as that which has been under American jurisdiction since the last combat division left for home.

Announcement was made by the War Department August 29, that the Fifth Infantry, stationed at Camp Taylor, Ky., and the Fifteenth Infantry, at Camp Dix, N. J., had been ordered overseas, but that active movement orders had not been issued. The troops will report direct to headquarters of the army of occupation and proceed to Rhine for police duty during the plebiscite, if necessary develops.

CANTON BILLS

Washington, Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—Parts of the bills which will be necessary to maintain a peace order in the United States after September 30 for guarding German prisoners and other duties under the armistice were introduced today by the War Department. These are in addition to the combat forces on the Rhine and are as follows:

Regimental headquarters, headquarters and supply companies, Companies E, F, G and H of the Second Pioneer Infantry, Military Police Companies 202, 222, 226, 254, 265, 269, 285 and 306, Thirty-fifth Service Company, Motor Transport Companies 618, 658, 698, 617 and 703; Motorcycle Companies 301, 311, 325, 60 to 66, inclusive, 68, 71, 72, 73, 75 to 79, inclusive, 81, 82, 85, 87, 90, 118, 122, 202 to 214, inclusive, 216, 218 to 221, inclusive, 223, 227 to 230, inclusive, 232 to 243, inclusive, 245 to 253, inclusive, 255, 267, 268, 269, 272, 273 and 274; Administrative Service Companies 13, 123, 51, 107 and 73; Provisional Guard Companies 1 to 10, inclusive; Provisional Medical Units 2 and 3.

"The dates of return of all these organizations are indefinite," the announcement said, "due to the uncertainty of the time required to repatriate German prisoners of war."

Car Hits Child; Breaks Arm

Stepping from a car at Twenty-ninth street and Ridge avenue last night and attempting to cross the street, Elsie Maxwell, three years old, of 2232 North Twenty-eighth street, was struck by an other car. She was taken to the Women's Homeopathic Hospital suffering from a fractured arm and bruises.

STOCKMEN OPPOSE U. S. MEAT CONTROL

Commission Broker Tells Committee Packers Finance Cattle Business

GROWER TELLS OF RIVALRY

By the Associated Press. Washington, Sept. 4.—Further protests from stockmen against passage of legislation for control of the meat packing industry were heard today by the Senate agriculture committee.

At the same time the committee put into the record an open letter from the market committee of the American Live Stock Association to President Wilson suggesting federal control of the industry as a means of reducing the high cost of living.

Such control as was to be provided for said the letter should insure "in the future such industry of the enormous concentrated economic and financial power of the five great packers as the investigations of the federal trade commission show have occurred in the past."

Principles proper for such regulation were "proposed in the Keeton and Kendrick bills," the letter added.

L. I. Russell, a commission broker, was the first witness today. He said that while 75 per cent of the cattle business was done on borrowed money much of which was furnished by the packers, he had never known of a case where the packers had forced a producer to sell his stock.

J. H. Birmingham, formerly a buyer for Swift & Co., now a cattle grower, asserted that the large packers were always in competition to buy livestock while J. E. Wood, a Wichita, Kan., cattle broker, told the committee there was "no earthly reason for taking refrigerators out from packers." He also attacked other proposals in the legislative bills.

Canton, O., Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—Justice William R. Day, of the United States Supreme Court, here today filed a writ asking for a stay of execution in the case of the state of Ohio against the Columbus Packing Company, in which seventy-five tons of pork said to have been held in violation of the law, was seized by the prosecuting attorney of Franklin county.

SENATE CONFIRMS PERSHING RANK

Members Rise While Casting Unanimous Vote to Make Him General

CHEERS FILL CHAMBER

By the Associated Press. Washington, Sept. 4.—Amid applause from senators and spectators the Senate today in open executive session unanimously confirmed the nomination of John J. Pershing to the permanent rank of general of the regular army as a reward for his services as commander of the American expeditionary force.

Chairman Wadsworth, in making the request for immediate consideration of the nomination in the unprecedented surroundings of an open executive session, declared General Pershing an "extraordinary force in history" in point of the number of men and the distance they were transported.

At the request of Senator Thomas, Democrat, Colorado, senators rose to record their votes, and when Vice President Marshall announced that the nomination had been confirmed, Senator Phelan, Democrat, California, led the applause which swept the floor and galleries.

New York, Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—The board of admirals will be asked at a special meeting tomorrow to make an appropriation of \$100,000 to cover the expenses of the reception to General Pershing and the First Division here next week. The funds will be used largely in the construction of a grand stand, it was said.

Final preparations for the reception to General Pershing when he arrives here on the Leviathan Monday and the parade of the First Division, with the American commander-in-chief at its head, were begun with the arrival here today of Major General James W. McAndrews, who has been officially designated by the War Department to take charge of the arrangements.

BURLESON BOOSTED BY POSTMASTERS

Attorney General Indorsed Also and Wilson Administration Lauded

LIKE DEMOCRATIC RALLY

Harrisburg, Sept. 4.—The administration of Postmaster General Burleson and the work of Attorney General A. Mitchell Palmer were commended and the policies of the Wilson administration endorsed by the Pennsylvania postmasters, in session here today.

A telegram of greeting was read from President Wilson. Postmaster General Burleson, who will be the last speaker on the program this afternoon, arrived today.

All interest now centers in the gathering of Democratic leaders here for the banquet this evening, the list including as speakers Vance McCoolick, former national chairman, William B. Wilson, secretary of labor, A. Mitchell Palmer, attorney general, and Mr. Burleson.

It is freely admitted that the banquet tonight will be more of a Democratic rally than a postmasters' convention, and it is said that Washington is especially desirous of getting public opinion in Pennsylvania on the President's policies in general, and the league of nations and peace treaty in particular, and that it is for this purpose that so many cabinet members have been sent here to meet the postmasters.

At the session this morning there were speeches by Postmaster E. M. Hirsch, of Tanawana; F. W. McFadden, McKeesport; Martin Klinger, Altoona; A. J. Palm, Meadville; W. M. Carter, Pottsville; and M. J. Porter, of Wayne.

The principal paper was read by Colin M. Selph, postmaster of Erie.

SHOPWORKERS VOTE STRIKE

Detroit, Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—The strike referendum of the United Brotherhood of maintenance of ways employees and shop laborers shows that 325,000 members favor a walkout unless their demands for a wage increase of approximately \$1 a day per man are granted. Five thousand voted against a strike. Union officials expressed confidence that an agreement will be reached.

STEEL WORKERS AGAIN MEET

Committee Will Renew Efforts to Confer With Employers

Washington, Sept. 4.—(By A. P.)—The special committee of the steel workers' union appointed to organize the employees of the United States Steel Corporation met here today with a view to renewing their effort to obtain a conference with officials of the corporation for discussion of wages, hours, working conditions and the right of collective bargaining.

Spokesmen for the committee said there was grave danger of a strike if the steel corporation officials continued to refuse to meet the committee. A vote of the workers, taken early in August, empowered the committee to set a date for a strike unless efforts to settle the differences were successful.

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