



The Star-Independent

LXXXVI— No. 66 18 PAGES

HARRISBURG, PA., SATURDAY EVENING, MARCH 17, 1917.

Single Copy, 2 Cents HOME EDITION

TRUCE PROPOSED AS MEANS TO PREVENT RAILWAY STRIKE

PIN HOPE ON A LAST HOUR CONFERENCE

Federal Mediators Hit on Definite Proposal Upon Which It Is Believed Labor Chiefs and Railway Managers Can Agree; Coporations Said to Have Been Supported Unofficially by Representatives; tion Encouraging

New York, March 17. — The prospect that the great railroad strike due to be inaugurated within a few hours would be prevented or at least that a truce would be declared, brightened this afternoon when shortly before 2 o'clock Secretary Lane, member of the mediation committee of the Council of National Defense, announced that the situation was encouraging.

Mr. Lane said he would have an important statement to make at 3 o'clock. The announcement came soon after the mediation committee had finished a three hours' conference with the brotherhood chiefs of railroad employes. At about the same time the committee of railway managers was summoned to the hotel where the mediation committee had been in conference with the brotherhood leaders.

Whether a joint conference of both sides of the controversy was planned or whether the mediation committee would confer with the managers alone could not be definitely learned. Newspapers were barred by hotel employes from approaching the rooms where the activities were going on and there were conflicting reports as to precisely what the next step in the negotiations would be.

There was reason to believe, however, that Secretary Lane had a concrete proposal for submission to the railroad managers which he expected would meet with their approval. This proposal, it was

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St. Patrick's Day Recalls Local Flood in 1865

Old residents recalled to-day that on St. Patrick's Day, 1865, five feet of water covered the southern district of Harrisburg, extending to near Washington street. Augustus Blacksmith, the oldest member of THE HARRISBURG TELEGRAPH family, who resided in Paxton street, was a passenger in a boat that carried him from the flooded district and enabled him to reach his accustomed place in the composing room of the Harrisburg Telegraph, then located in Third street, next to the Hotel Columbus.

COAL CASE ORDER EFFECTIVE The order of the Public Service Commission in the anthracite coal cases becomes effective to-day as notice was given that the appeals had been withdrawn. The Philadelphia Transit cases will be taken up later in the month.

SEVENTEEN WANT PARDONS The calendar of the State Board of Pardons for Wednesday contains seventeen new cases but no application in first degree murder cases. There are seven cases for rehearing.

THE WEATHER

For Harrisburg and vicinity: Light rain this morning; cloudy to-night; Sunday fair and colder; lowest temperature to-night about 36 degrees.

For Eastern Pennsylvania: Rain to-night; Sunday fair in south, cloudy in north; extreme winds strong south and southwest.

River The Upper North and Upper West branches will probably rise somewhat to-night, the rise extending to the lower portions during Sunday and Sunday night. Other streams of the system will fall slowly or remain nearly stationary. A stage of about 48 feet is indicated for Harrisburg Sunday morning.

General Conditions Precipitation in the form of rain, sleet and snow have fallen generally east of the Rocky Mountains in the last twenty-four hours, except in the extreme southern districts with strong winds and gales in the Lake Region and in the Ohio, middle and upper Mississippi valleys.

Temperatures 8 a. m., 34 degrees above zero. Sun rises, 6:13 a. m. Moon New moon, March 30. River Stage: 7.6 feet above low-water mark.

Yesterday's Weather Highest temperature, 47. Lowest temperature, 34. Mean temperature, 40. Normal temperature, 38.

PA. LAD PRAYS FOR FORGIVENESS AS SHIP SINKS

Otis Tucker Ran Away From Home in Little Town of This State

The local police department this morning received an appeal from University Park, Iowa, asking that an effort be made to locate the relatives of Otis Tucker, who went down with the steamship Saloniki, 250 miles from Malta.

A clipping was enclosed from a University Park paper giving an account of the sinking of the ship as told by two young men who were aboard, but escaped.

Seek to Spare Mother They say that Tucker, a boy about 14, was last seen on deck, praying aloud that he might be forgiven for leaving his home in Pennsylvania without his parents' consent. He spoke of a mother in a Pennsylvania town whom he desired should be told how he had died. After the ship had sunk he was not among those who were picked up. The survivors were unable to remember the name of the town.

Zeppelin Attack Over London Causes Little Excitement in Capital

London, March 17.—The air raid last night was the first visit of Zeppelins in many months and it seemed to have been expected as it failed to cause any excitement even among the home-going theatergoers. The raiders were favored by a dark and moonless night.

The foregoing dispatch indicates that London was attacked by Zeppelins. At 12:30 o'clock last night an official communication was issued in London stating that an air raid had taken place over the southeastern counties of England and was still in progress. A further communication it was said, would be issued during the morning, but this is presumably being held up by the censor.

ERIN GO BRAGH!



THE WEARING OF THE GREEN Oh, Paddy dear, and did you hear the news that's going round? The shamrock is forbid by law to grow on Irish ground; St. Patrick's Day no more we'll keep, his colors can't be seen. For there's a bloody law agin' the wearing of the green, and he took me by the hand. And he said, "How is poor old Ireland, and how does she stand?" She's the most distressful country that ever yet was seen. They're hanging men and women for the wearing of the green.

Oh, if the color we must wear is England's cruel red, Sure Ireland's sons will ne'er forget the blood that we have shed! You may take the shamrock from your hat and cast it on the sod, But 'twill take root and flourish there, though under foot 'tis trod. When law can stop the blades of grass from growing as they grow, And when the leaves in summer time their verdure dare not show Then I will change the color I wear in my caubeen; But till that day, please God, I'll stick to wearing of the green.

HARRISBURG TO BE SELF-SUSTAINING IF STRIKE COMES

Advantageous Location in Agricultural District Would Stave Off Starvation

Harrisburg, located as it is in the heart of a rich agricultural section, would not be hit as hard by a general railroad strike as many other less advantageously-situated towns. The city, it is believed, would prove self-sustaining as far as staple food products are concerned. In case of a general tie-up enough hard coal could be freighted overland from the upper Dauphin county mines to keep many of the mills and industrial plants running part time but the price would be virtually prohibitive.

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BAPAUME FALLS TO BRITISH IN FIERCE BATTLE

London, March 17.—Bapaume, on the Franco-Belgian front, has been captured by the British, Reuter's agency reports. Reuter's correspondent at British headquarters in France telegraphs that the towns of Le Transloy and Achiet-le-Petit are also reported to be in the hands of the British.

"Our troops entered Bapaume this morning after stiff fighting," Reuter's correspondent telegraphs. "The place was in flames, the Germans having evidently made all plans for setting fire to it when forced to retreat."

"Our troops are reported to be beyond the town."

Bapaume Objective Point Bapaume has been considered from the first the British objective in the

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POLICE AND FIRE ALARM WIRING TO GO UNDERGROUND

Now Getting Estimates For Cables to Replace Overhead Network

Removal of at least 150 poles and many overhead electric wires in the city will be part of the additional improvement work to be done this year to beautify the city and minimize danger.

Much of the wiring in North Court street for fire and police alarms is to be placed in underground conduits. Two thousand five hundred dollars was provided in the annual budget to complete some of this work which will be in charge of City Electrician Clark E. Diehl.

To Remove Arc Lights Estimates are being made on the cost of cables, and removal of wires will be stated as soon as possible. Another improvement will be the removal of overhead arc lights in North Third street from Calder to Rely, in Federal Square and at the Philadelphia and Reading Railway station. These will be replaced with single or cluster lights on standards with underground wiring.

ERIE DIRECTOR TELLS OF ITTNER'S SERVICES THERE

Letter Makes Interesting Reference to Effort For Local Architect

The Municipal League, which is conducting an investigation into the qualities of William E. Ittner, of St. Louis, the architect selected by the special advisory committee of the School Board to plan the new high school buildings for Harrisburg, to-day made public a letter from Marvin E. Griswold, of the Griswold Manufacturing

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Brotherhoods to Direct Strike From Pittsburgh

Pittsburgh, March 17.—Pittsburgh will be one of the centers from which the threatened railroad strike will be directed, according to announcement made to-day at the local headquarters of the railroad brotherhoods. Officers of the four brotherhoods will come to Pittsburgh to-morrow to attend a meeting of employes of all railroads east and west of this city. Two brotherhood officials, it was announced, will remain here to direct activities.

Somme operations, so far as any one place could be so classed. For months the progress of General Haig's armies has been measured in distances from Bapaume as they drew closer and closer to it, creating a salient here and another there, crushing in the sides and forcing back the German lines.

The movement halted by the advent of winter with the British advanced line still several miles from the objective, has been greatly accelerated during several weeks past by the retirement operation of the Germans on the Somme front, beginning late in February. From day to day with only brief intervals the retirement has been kept up, assisted at times by strong pressure from the British until early

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HERSHEY WORKERS GET AN ADVANCE OF TEN PER CENT.

Third Increase in 18 Months; Factory Busy; Prosperous Days Ahead

Hershey, March 17.—The Hershey Chocolate Company at a meeting of the board of directors to-day voted an immediate increase of 10 per cent. to all time and piece work employes in the service of the company. About 1,500 people are affected.

This is the third increase of wages in eighteen months at the Hershey factory. The chocolate works was never busier than at present and prospects are bright for a prosperous spring and summer. Notice was posted at noon to-day of the increase.

Commissioner Gross to Talk at Forum Meeting

City Commissioner E. Z. Gross will address the Forum in Wesley A. M. E. Zion Church to-morrow afternoon at 3 o'clock, on "Good Citizenship." The choir of the Pine Street Presbyterian Church will sing. The meetings of the Forum during the past winter have been very largely attended.

RUSSIAN TROOPS TO DECIDE IF NATION IS TO BE REPUBLIC

Only Improbable Events Can Prevent Empire From Joining World's Great Democracies; Grand Duke Michael Accepts Throne Until Constitutional Assembly Marks Out Permanent Course For Government to Pursue; Czar's Son Reported Dead

Petrograd, March 16, via London, March 17.—Unless improbable events occur Russia has to-day become a republic. The outcome depends on how the manifesto of the new government is received by the six million soldiers at the front.

MYSTERY HANGS ABOUT FATE OF THE ROMANOFFS

Reports From Petrograd Conflict as to What Situation Really Is

Somewhat conflicting advices are coming out of Russia regarding the fate of the Romanoff dynasty. Dispatches this morning announced that Grand Duke Michael had accepted the throne from his brother, Nicholas II, subject to the consent of the Russian people expressed through a plebiscite.

Last night's advices reported the abdication of Nicholas II in favor of Grand Duke Michael and the subsequent abdication of Michael, thus bringing the Romanoff dynasty to an end. Of the abdication of Emperor Nicholas there can now be no possible doubt, as the text of his manifesto announcing it has been received from Petrograd. What has occurred in the case of Grand Duke Michael, however, is still far from clear.

The stirring news from Russia has attracted attention largely from the military operations of the belligerent powers. Nevertheless these are almost daily assuming greater scope and importance.

DEATH OF CZAR'S SON RUMORED IN PETROGRAD

House of Romanoff at End After 400 Years on Russian Throne

Petrograd, March 16, via London, March 17.—The autocracy which has held Russia in its grip since the beginning of history fell to-day. The House of Romanoff, which has ruled the empire for 400 years, came to an end with the abdication of Nicholas II, perhaps the weakest representative of his line. Following on the heels of this startling development came the rumor to-night of the death of the little son of the emperor, whose

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FRENCH DESTROY ZEPPELIN Paris, March 17.—A Zeppelin has been shot down in flames near Compiègne. All of its crew were lost. The Zeppelin was sighted shortly before dawn and was reached by French anti-aircraft guns at a great height, probably three miles. The airship caught fire and the wreckage, with the burned bodies of the crew, fell outside Compiègne.

RAILROAD STRIKE IS POSTPONED FOR FORTY-EIGHT HOURS

NEW YORK, MARCH 17.—SECRETARY LANE, OF THE FEDERAL MEDIATION COMMITTEE, ANNOUNCED AT 3:45 P. M. THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED TO POSTPONE THE RAILROAD STRIKE FOR 48 HOURS.

THIS IS VERY LIKELY DONE IN THE HOPE THAT THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT WILL BE READY TO HAND DOWN A DECISION IN THE EIGHT-HOUR LAW. THE COURT HAS BEEN WORKING ON THE DECISION FOR SOME TIME.

WOMAN IS MURDERED IN HOTEL

New York, March 17. — An autopsy performed to-day on the body of a young woman found dead in a Broadway hotel yesterday disclosed that she was murdered by strangulation. She is said to be a Brooklyn woman who had \$2,500 worth of jewelry.

READING PLACES EMBARGO

Philadelphia, March 17. — An embargo on all shipments except foodstuffs, livestock and railroad supplies originating on the lines of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway intended for trans-shipment to or from connecting lines was announced to-day by the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company.

TRAINS CANCELLED

Boston, March 17. — The New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad's Knickerbocker Limited, due to leave for New York at 1 p. m. and the Merchants' Limited scheduled for 5 p. m. were cancelled to-day on account of the strike situation.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

Arthur Howard Lehman, Steelton, and Ethel Grace Roddy, Anville.