

STRIKES OF COAL MINERS MUST STOP

Government Will Employ Whatever Powers Are Necessary, Says Dr. Garfield.

SENDS SHARP TELEGRAM.

Miners and Operators of Middle West Reminded of Their Pledge Not to Let Output Diminish.

Washington, Oct. 17.—Whatever powers are necessary will be employed by the federal government to stop the strikes of coal miners in the Middle West and prevent interruption of the nation's fuel production.

This warning was given to-day by Fuel Administrator Garfield in a sharp telegram to miners and operators in the fields involved reminding them of their pledge not to allow the output of coal to be diminished and declaring that any attempt to bring pressure to bear upon him to force a revision of coal prices would result in postponement of a decision on that question.

Dr. Garfield was in conference during the day with John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers of America, who reported that so far the strikes in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Pennsylvania were local in character, though they were threatening to spread. "I expressed the hope that the men could be induced to return to work."

NO INTERFERENCE TOLERATED. The fuel administrator did not comment upon his warning or go into detail about the steps he proposed to take if it is not heeded, further than to say that while the country is at war no interference with fuel production is tolerated. "Congress has empowered the President to take over mines and operate them if he deems it necessary."

Mr. White reported that a considerable number of men were out in Springfield and Peoria districts, in Franklin and Williamson counties and in the Belleville coal district of Illinois. In Indiana, he said, six mines were idle because the men demanded wage increases and in the Bergfeld district of Ohio, several mines were shut down.

HISTORY OF THE CASE. Under the recent agreement reached at a conference here between the operators and men a new wage scale granting substantial increases was agreed on. The operators entered into the agreement conditional upon an advance in prices being allowed by the government. The fuel administration refused to consent to such an arrangement, and the operators, according to the administration, finally agreed without that stipulation. The question of allowing an increase in price for coal produced is in the hands of a committee of the administration.

Fuel administration officials say the men now striking want the increased wages to take effect immediately instead of at the next pay period, November 1. In a statement to-night Dr. Garfield said the fuel administration and the railroads are energetically working on the problem of getting access to the mines and that there is every hope that the coal shortage will be gradually remedied. He said that whether the increased demand for coal will be met by an increase of supply will depend upon ear supply, the energy and patriotism of the miners, coal operators and laborers, and also upon the speedy recognition by every citizen that he is responsible for conservation and limitation in the use of coal to the utmost possible extent.

ASK SPECIAL RECEIVERS FOR A. W. GRAY'S SONS

Bankruptcy Petition Blocks Auction Sale of Middletown Springs Plant.

Montpelier, Oct. 17.—A hearing took place to-night before Judge Harland B. Howe in the bankruptcy court of creditors of the A. W. Gray's Sons of Middletown Springs asking that a temporary receiver be appointed in order that the business may be operated. The hearing was held in the courtroom of the court as a desirable man for the appointment.

An involuntary petition in bankruptcy was filed to-day at Rutland by the Ruggles Machine company of Poultry, Gray Knapp and L. G. Threl of Middletown Springs, through Cowles & Stearns of Burlington, asking that the Gray Sons be adjudicated bankrupts. The matter of the appointment of a temporary receiver will be decided Thursday. Judge Howe announced, following the hearing, that the receiver if appointed be named at \$15,000.

Gray Sons is a Vermont corporation manufacturing threshing machines and is well known in New England. A sale was about to take place in Rutland to-day when the petition in bankruptcy was filed, stopping proceedings. It is claimed that the assets of the company amount to \$200,000, while the liabilities are only about half that amount, which caused the creditors to take action. The Ruggles Machine company's claim is \$12,000. Adjudication has not yet taken place.

Rutland, Oct. 17.—The auction sale of the A. W. Gray's Sons Manufacturing company plant at Middletown Springs, which was ordered for to-day by Judge F. M. Butler of this city, was held ineffectual attempts to arrange a settlement had been made between the creditors and the receiver was stopped two hours before the time of the sale by the involuntary petition in bankruptcy against the concern. It is a violation of the federal laws to sell any property involved in bankruptcy proceedings.

WILL BUILD NO ARMORY.

Graham, after Conference with Military Authorities, Deems It Unwise.

Montpelier, Oct. 17.—Gov. H. F. Graham has announced that no armory will be constructed in Vermont this year. This is the result of a conference with Gen. L. S. Tillam and other military authorities. It seems unwise this year at least, with the war conditions, high price of labor and other matters in the war problem to construct an armory. The last Legislature gave authority by appropriating \$35,000 for that purpose, but it will not be used.

PRO-GERMAN AGENTS IN U. S. ORGANIZED TO DEFEAT BIG LOAN

Propaganda Has Borne Fruit from Minnesota to Texas in Scattered Localities, It Is Asserted—Methods Used Are Indirect, Such as Seeking to Misrepresent Patriotism of National Army and Efforts to Prevent Banks Handling Bonds—Movement, However, Has Not Prevented Conscripts from Subscribing \$26,000,000.

Washington, Oct. 17.—Pro-German agents in the United States, according to reports to the treasury department, have directed their energies toward defeating the Liberty Loan. Their organized propaganda has borne fruit, from Minnesota to Texas, it is asserted, in scattered localities, where weak efforts have been made, not openly, but by indirect methods, to discourage subscriptions.

The work of the pro-German agents, officials assert, has been carried on for more than two weeks. Some of the workers have had the tendency, reports to the treasury indicate, to conduct their operations here in the national capital. Official recognition of the propaganda against the loan was voiced to-day by Col. Herbert M. Lord, representing the war department at the war risk insurance conference at which the details of the new soldiers' and sailors' insurance law are being explained to officers and enlisted men from the various cantonments.

COLONEL LORD'S ANNOUNCEMENT. "There has been organized effort," said Colonel Lord, who was chairman of to-day's meeting, "to discourage and defeat the loan."

This effort, he added, has been made by "seeking to misrepresent the patriotism of the national army." An official account of the proceedings of the conference, which was behind closed doors, issued to-night by the treasury department, reads as follows: "In convincing refutation of the slander, which was to the effect that the men of the national army opposed the war, Colonel Lord announced that subscriptions from the army for the loan already aggregate \$26,000,000 and that some of the subscriptions were written in foreign language. "The announcement caused great enthusiasm among the delegates from the army and navy marine corps and coast guard (attending this conference), 200 of whom swarmed up to the platform following the address and signed war insurance applications, all of which, except 40, were for the maximum of \$10,000."

THE METHODS EMPLOYED. Assembled from various sources, the efforts of workers against the loan appear to have been directed along four main channels: Attempts to discourage prospective buyers of Liberty bonds. Efforts to prevent certain banks from handling the bonds.

The publication, in certain newspapers and other mediums of publicity, of editorials and articles which, while not directly opposing loan subscriptions, tend to discourage buyers. The prevention, so far as local and sporadic efforts can prevent, of the placing of Liberty Loan posters and advertising literature where it will be most beneficial.

Attempts to discourage buyers by the personal plea method have been confined mostly to the East. Instances have been brought to the attention of officials where buyers have been approached, apparently in a spirit of great friendship, and advised not to buy the bonds. Efforts to prevent banks from handling the bonds have centered chiefly in Wisconsin, Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Montana, Missouri and Oklahoma. The president of a Wisconsin bank has advised the treasury that his depositor, mostly Germans or of German parentage, have withdrawn many thousands of dollars from his bank because he aided the first Liberty Loan.

It is believed, too, that the destroyer must have been steaming slowly over her beat, for at top speed these craft present an almost unhittable target to the submarine.

WAR SUMMARY. The Germans are entirely in possession of the island of Oesel at the head of the Baltic, and the British and French still there cut off from communication with Petrograd. Small naval engagements continue in adjacent waters, and German air craft are carrying out reconnaissance over the Baltic and the east. Perna, an important gulf port north of Riga and due east of Oesel island, has been bombed by German naval airplanes.

The Berlin war office announces that large quantities of booty were captured on Oesel and that more than 1,100 prisoners were taken by the Germans Wednesday.

On the mainland to the south of Riga the British and French activity in the part of the Germans, who at one point endeavored to throw pontoon bridges over the Dvina river. The Russian artillery, however, prevented the bridging of the river, which probably indicates that the Germans are preparing for a big naval demonstration against the Russians from the Baltic, comes from Malmo, in southern Sweden. It says a large number of German war craft were observed Monday and Tuesday and that the belief prevails that they are reinforcements for the German Baltic fleet.

As yet the expected renewal of the offensive by the British and French against Belgium has not eventuated. Heavy bombardments and reconnoitering encounters still prevail. There have been only bombardments on the southern front in France and in the Austro-Italian theatre, where the front is from the sea to the Austrians and Germans are heavily shelling each other.

There has been a noticeable return of bombing operations by the British airmen in Belgium and by the Germans against French positions. British aviators have dropped tons of bombs on Bruges and also have loosed explosives on a factory near Saarbrücken. German airmen have bombed Dunkirk, at the former place killing ten persons and wounding forty.

German submarines of mines last week were responsible for the sinking of eight British merchantmen, as compared with sixteen the previous week.

The Italian Parliament has just convened and probably will discuss in its first session rioting which occurred in Turin August as a result of fuel shortage and political discontent and also the general food crisis throughout Italy. In the Turin riots news of which has been received for the first time, large numbers of persons are said to have been killed, machine guns and bombs dropped from airplanes being used to put down the disorder.

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It is believed that the noted speaker who have been advertised will all be here, without exception, and some of the officers and workers who are at the head of the affair will undoubtedly have two of the busiest days of their lives to see that the entire program is carried out without a hitch.

U. S. DESTROYER IS TORPEDOED

One Man Killed and Five Injured—Boat Makes Port Despite Damage.

PROBABLY NO BATTLE.

Germans Now Hold Entire Island of Oesel and Are Preparing for Big Naval Demonstration in Baltic.

Washington, Oct. 17.—An American destroyer on patrol duty in the war zone was torpedoed by an enemy submarine yesterday and had one man killed and five wounded. She managed to make port in spite of severe damage.

Vice-Admiral Sims cabled a brief report of the incident to the navy department late to-day. He gave few details, but it is assumed there was no light and that the U.S. boat made good her escape after launching a torpedo without showing herself. Gunner's Mate Osmond Kelly Ingram was the man killed. He was blown overboard by the explosion and his body was not recovered.

Ingram's mother, Mrs. Betty Ingram, lives at Pratt City, Ala. In accordance with the policy of secrecy concerning American naval operations the department did not divulge the name of the destroyer or the exact place of the encounter.

None of the wounded was seriously hurt. They are: Herman H. Pankratz, gunner's mate, St. Louis; William E. Merritt, seaman, New York city; Frank W. Kruse, fireman, Toledo; Patrick Rutledge, oiler, New York city; and William Selmer, fireman, Dundas, Minn.

FIRST U. S. WARSHIP HIT.

This is the first time an American warship has been hit by the enemy since the war began. Destroyers conveying troops and merchantmen have engaged submarines and are believed to have accounted for some of them, and the ships patrolling the European shipping lanes undoubtedly have had many in search of merchant vessels. Nothing has been heard, but until yesterday none had been touched by a hostile shot.

Naval gun crews on armed American merchantmen have not been so fortunate. Many of them have had to abandon their charges and take to the boats, usually after an unwarned torpedo attack, and one officer and 13 men now are in German prison camps.

In all the navy has lost one officer and 10 men. Only one man of American fighting forces actually killed in action.

PROBABLY CHANCE ENCOUNTER. Naval officers do not doubt that the torpedoed destroyer was taken unawares by the submarine and had no chance to bring her guns into play. They think it probable that the boat, cruising in search of merchant vessels, stumbled upon the patrolling destroyer and was fortunate enough to get into position to launch a torpedo and dive to safety without ever showing more than the smoke of her searchlight.

It is believed, too, that the destroyer must have been steaming slowly over her beat, for at top speed these craft present an almost unhittable target to the submarine.

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HAPPENINGS IN VT.; NEWS BY COUNTIES

MIDDLEBURY. Bertha Prieur, the young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Prieur, was taken to the Mary Fletcher hospital Tuesday night at 11 o'clock.

A pretty home wedding took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Dow Thursday afternoon when their oldest daughter, Ruth Violette, was united in marriage to Frank Hinkley, Bachelor of Mr. and Mrs. Marshall Baker of Brandon. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. G. M. Moody of the Methodist Church of this village. Only members of the immediate families were present. The bride party was unattended. The bride was gowned in dark green tulle and white. The house was trimmed with white flowers and running pine. Refreshments were served. Mr. and Mrs. Baker left by automobile for a short wedding trip, after which they will reside in Danby.—Joseph Calvi went to the Mary Fletcher hospital Thursday and on Friday morning was operated upon for gall stones.—The date of the annual meeting of the Addison County Fish and Game League has been changed to Wednesday, October 31. Business meeting at 5:30; dinner and speeches in the evening.

About 40 of the friends of Charles J. Matthews gathered at the home of his son, Frederick Matthews, Tuesday evening and after their arrival there an escort was sent to the home of his father just across the road. The elder Mr. Matthews and his wife were escorted to the home of their son, where he was given a birthday surprise in honor of Mr. Matthews' 62nd birthday. The Foote street orchestra furnished music. Refreshments were served.—The Farmer's Players appeared at the town hall Tuesday evening at the home of the spouses of the Century club, it being the first of their course.—Peter Fields has gone to Vergennes to spend two weeks with his son, Felix Fields.—Miss Doris Kendall has returned from Florence, where she has been visiting at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel E. Kendall.—George Lee, foreman of the Middlebury Marble company's plant, has returned from a visit with Mr. and Mrs. Merritt Sheldon in Pawlet.—The mission being conducted by the Redemptorist fathers to New York city is moving along successfully. Large congregations attend the two morning masses every day and every evening the church is well filled with people of all denominations.—Louis Dumas has returned from Bridport after a month at his former home there and is to remain in Middlebury through the fall and winter.—After a month's visit to relatives in Middlebury and Rippon, Harold Dragon on Wednesday returned to Worcester, Mass., where he has been engaged in hospital work for four months.

Edward and Charles Marks of Newbury, N. Y., are in town buying of their expect to ship home to Orange county, N. Y. The prevailing price is \$1 per bushel.—A. E. Osgood of Burlington, P. G. Brown and Miss Camille Thurber of Boston and John Bradshaw of Youngtown, Ohio, are in town.

VERGENNES.

Quite a number of farmers report the bean crop as a failure this year. One farmer reports having paid out \$100 for seed and having practically nothing in return, and another farmer reports planting \$50 worth of seed and remarking that the crop would not be worth 40 cents. The failure of the crop is laid to the rainy weather and early frosts.

Bert Waterman was found dead in his chair Sunday evening at the home of his son, Dr. Vance W. Waterman. Mr. Waterman, who was a former resident of Burlington, sustained a shock three years ago, and was brought here to the home of his son, where he has since resided. He was apparently as well as usual when his death was the result of a shock. He was 62 years of age.—Manly D. Marshall of Whitehall is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Cary H. Marshall.—Mrs. Cornell, wife of the Rev. G. C. Cornell, died suddenly Sunday morning. On Friday afternoon she gave birth to a son and was doing well but complications set in that caused her death. The funeral was held Tuesday forenoon at eleven o'clock at Panton Methodist Episcopal Church and was in charge of the Rev. G. C. Cornell.

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"Such is the new blockade formula which must be strictly applied and which will make it impossible for Germany to continue the struggle," said one declaration of the conference. "The extent to which the United States will be influenced by the decisions of the London conference has not been revealed, but that this government is in accord with the general opinion was that hereafter the neutrals should be compelled to furnish the allies with goods of their own production which they cannot consume, in exchange for supplies from the allies. Further they will be required to use their own ships for this trade."

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DISCUSS NEW PLAN FOR NEXT DRAFT

Officials Favor Arrangement Establishing Various Grades of Dependency.

STRICTLY SELECTIVE.

Men Would Be Tabulated According to Status as Providers for Dependents and Value in Industries.

Washington, Oct. 17.—A comprehensive new plan for applying the army selective draft which would tabulate first only men without dependents and of no particular value to war industries, and establish various grades of dependency; and industrial value from which future drafts would be made strictly on the selective basis has been worked out tentatively by the provost marshal general's office and discussed with the President.

The plan it was learned to-day was submitted recently to a conference of civilians who directed exemption board activities in a number of States and received the endorsement of most of them, who are now discussing the proposed plan with their State governors.

IT WILL BE TABULATED. It is proposed to formulate in each local draft district a table of all registrants, placing each in a column denoting his dependents and industrial value. For instance, a man with a wife and two children, and a job in a horizontal column or classification would be based on dependency. Men with no dependents would be placed in the first class, those with dependents, distant relatives, in the second class, those with wives in the third class, those with a wife and one child in the fourth, and so on.

Similarly the vertical columns might represent certain industries arranged according to their respective merit as war necessities. Industrial classes under consideration in this condition are farmers, shipyard employes, munition workers, railway and telephone employes, miners, steel plant, and motor industry workmen, and certain other individual plants or industry branches to be designated from time to time by the President or the war department as temporarily essential.

The latter classification might include plants making military clothing, harness, first aid materials, and other professions such as chemists and other scientific men more needed for war research than to carry arms.

FIXES STATUS OF EACH MAN. Thus the table with horizontal dependency classifications and vertical industrial classifications would hold a place for each registrant as according with his dependency or industrial value claims.

In selecting men for examination, boards would first take physically fit, having neither dependents nor value in essential war industries. When this class was exhausted draft authorities would draw on the classes having the slightest dependency claims and the least value in essential industries. Theoretically, the draft would work down through the table, to the classes of men with dependents and highest industrial value.

No class would be exempted as such, but the valuable men would be placed so that they would not be called until the need for soldiers became more urgent and the less essential classes were exhausted.

MORE DEPRIVATIONS FOR NEUTRAL NATIONS

Allies Determined That Germany Shall Get Nothing from Outside.

Washington, Oct. 17.—Neutral nations, and particularly those in Europe, must be prepared to share even greater deprivations and burdens made necessary by the war under the decision of the recent allied conference at London.

Details of the general opinion was that hereafter the neutrals should be compelled to furnish the allies with goods of their own production which they cannot consume, in exchange for supplies from the allies. Further they will be required to use their own ships for this trade.

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