

ROUTE FOR ALASKA RAILROAD IS PICKED AND WORK TO BEGIN

Seward-Fairbanks Line Chosen for New Government System in Far North it is Announced.

EDS TO START CONSTRUCTION

Over Million Paid for Property Over Which First Stage of Way to Be Built.

STATEMENT OF SECRETARY LANE

WASHINGTON, April 10.—The Seward-Fairbanks route has been selected for the government railway in Alaska, Secretary Lane announced today. The property of the Alaska Northern Railway company from Seward, over the first stage of the journey, has been purchased for \$1,150,000.

The government system, the statement adds, will include a thirty-eight-mile branch to tap the Matanuska coal fields. W. C. Edes is designated as chairman of the Alaskan Engineering commission, which will build the road by the president's order. The estimated cost of the entire system is given at \$26,500,000. Congress provided not to exceed \$35,000,000.

To Begin at Once.

Secretary Lane said construction work would be begun at once, and that probably forty miles of the extension of the Alaska Northern from Ship Creek would be completed this year. Construction will be carried on under contract, individual contractors building separate units of roadway. In one of the orders signed by the president the Alaskan commission was instructed to guard particularly the health of the men at work, and to adopt a system of compensation for accidents similar to that in force on the Panama canal.

The interior department says in part: "The route adopted is known as the Seward route, and extends from Seward on Resurrection bay to Fairbanks on the Tanana river, a distance of 471 miles. This route includes the existing Alaska Northern railroad, which runs from Seward through the Kopeck peninsula for a distance of seventy-one miles to Turnagain arm.

Price of Route.

This route is to be bought from its present owners by the government for \$1,150,000, \$500,000 of which will be paid on July 1, 1915, and the remainder July 1, 1916. The contract for the purchase of this road, was signed by Secretary Lane and today approved by the president, subject to approval of the Senate. From Turnagain arm the route is to be extended through the Seward valley and across Broad pass to the Tanana river and from there on to Fairbanks. A side line is to run from Matanuska Junction into the Matanuska coal field, a distance of thirty-eight miles. The road is to be built with its present base at Ship Creek, on Cook's inlet, and from this point it is expected that the Matanuska coal will be shipped during the greater portion of the year. The grade from the Matanuska field to Ship Creek is four-tenths of 1 per cent.

The Alaska Northern has been purchased for a price less than its physical valuation, as estimated by the Alaskan engineering commission and by the engineers of the Interstate Commerce commission. It is to be put into operation (Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

Roosevelt's Anti-Peace Letter is Too Hot to Publish

CHICAGO, April 10.—Publication of the fact that Theodore Roosevelt had written a letter denouncing the woman's peace propaganda caused a sharp discussion among leaders of the movement here today. The letter, reposed in the custody of Mrs. William L. Thomas, secretary of the woman's party, and who refused to allow its publication. "There were sentences in the letter that it would be unwise to make public," said Mrs. Thomas. "Although Roosevelt has said that he would be delighted to have the letter published, yet I think it unwise to make it public."

The Weather

Temperature at Omaha Yesterday. Forecast 71 F. p. m. Sunday. Fair, not much change in temperature.

Table with 2 columns: Hours, Degrees. Shows temperature fluctuations from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.

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Table with 2 columns: Comparative Local Record. Shows historical weather data for Omaha from 1815 to 1912.

RUSSIA'S MILITARY HERO—General Radko Dimitoff, in command of the forces which, after a long siege, captured the Austrian fortress at Przemysl. This is the first picture of him to reach this country.



FRANCE ACQUITS CAPTAIN KILLING WIFE WHO STAYED

Court-Martial Frees French Army Officer Slaying Spouse Refusing to Leave Him.

HE FEARED TO BE CASHIERED

Woman Persisted in Remaining After All Ordered Not to Receive Mates.

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WRECK

Herral, an officer in the French cavalry, was tried by court martial today for killing his wife at Compiègne last November because she persisted in following the army to be near him, in direct violation of orders issued by the military authorities and was acquitted.

When Captain Herral was sent to the front, his wife, to whom he was stationed at Compiègne and went there to visit him. The French commander in chief had just issued a circular prohibiting all officers and soldiers from receiving their wives during the campaign.

For some time after the crime, Herral was a mental and physical wreck and it was feared he would not survive. Recently however, the captain recovered and was turned over to the military police by hospital authorities for the trial by court martial which was held today.

American Attorneys Defend Alleged Spy Using Invisible Ink

LONDON, April 10.—Anton Kuperle, who was recently arrested by the British authorities and is being held for trial on the charge of espionage, says he was born in Germany in 1884 and that he became a naturalized American citizen in Brooklyn in 1912. He also says that when in America he was a salesman.

Kuperle being indicted, the crown has designated the attorneys for the American consul general to defend him. These attorneys are the ones who defended CMI Hans Lady, a German lieutenant, who had lived in New York and Omaha and who was executed in the Tower of London after having been found guilty by a court-martial on charges of having communicated with the enemy.

Kuperle is charged with having written and signed his own name to many letters to persons on the continent, conveying information concerning the movements of British troops. The information is alleged to have been written with invisible ink between the lines.

NEW YORK, April 10.—Anton Kuperle, awaiting trial in London on a charge of espionage, may be the man known by that name who left Brooklyn five months ago for London, after telling his acquaintances and friends that he was going into business in London.

New Charge Against Los Angeles Chief

LOS ANGELES, Cal., April 10.—Charles E. Sebastian, chief of police, who was indicted several days ago on the charge of having contributed to the delinquency of Edith Serkin, a minor, was indicted today for alleged offenses against Victoria Desparte, delinquent girl. Miss Desparte also was indicted. The charge against her is perjury.

Miss Desparte told Judge Taft of the superior court yesterday that the previous statements she made against Sebastian were false. The grand jury, however, went ahead and indicted the chief and then indicted the girl.

Strike of Dockers at Birkenhead Ends

LONDON, April 10.—The formation of a dockers' battalion, coupled with the threat of the executives of the unions to suspend the strikers, had the anticipated effect at Birkenhead today and the week-end strike of the dockers collapsed. After refusing for six weeks to work overtime on Saturdays, the men have given in and practically the entire body is helping today to relieve the freight congestion.

ROCK ISLAND MINORITY LOSES FIGHT IN COURT

CHICAGO, April 10.—Judge Carpenter in the United States district court today denied an injunction, restraining the annual meeting of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad from being held in this city next Monday. The application was filed yesterday by minority stockholders, who asserted that they had been hindered in their attempts to gain proxies.

German Official Report Asserts All French Attacks Repulsed

BERLIN, April 10.—(Via London.)—The official war office statement of today follows:

"The losses taken at Drel Graachten (in Belgium) was increased to 6 officers, 122 men and 5 machine guns. "In Champagne, north of Beausjour, our troops evacuated trenches taken on April 4, which were destroyed yesterday by French heavy artillery. French attacks in this district were repulsed. "Fights between the Meuse and Moselle continued with the same fierceness. Near the villages of Fromesey and Guesnyville, east of Verdun, which the French report had been taken by them, no fighting has taken place up to the present time. The villages are situated in front of our positions. "Between the Orne and the heights of the Meuse, the French suffered a heavy defeat yesterday. All their attacks broke down under our fire. In the Combres hill they obtained a temporary foothold in certain of our outer line trenches, but were partly driven back again by a night attack. These battles continue. "Attacks against our positions north

of St. Mihiel also were entirely without success. Minor advances on the front at Alilly and Apremont were repulsed. Engagements at Fierey were of a less lively character, probably on account of the heavy losses suffered by the enemy. Two machine guns were captured by us. "On the front at Remenauville and in the forest of Le Pretre all French attacks were repulsed. On the western border of Le Pretre forest the enemy finally lost that part of our position which they penetrated at the end of March. "A repeated attempt to wrest from us the village of Besange La Grande, south-west of Chateau Salines, was paid for by the French with the loss of a company, which was completely routed, while two officers and 101 men remained prisoners in our hands. "The situation in the Vosges was unchanged. "In the eastern theater: The Russians had no luck with their attacks to the east and to the south of Kalvary. They everywhere were repulsed with heavy losses. Otherwise the situation in the eastern arena was unchanged."

PUBLIC THE JUDGE IN LABOR STRIKES

Kruttchnitt Says it is Final Arbitrer of All Industrial Disputes.

HARRIMAN AIDE ON STAND

CHICAGO, April 10.—Julius Kruttchnitt, first assistant to the late E. H. Harriman, and himself one of the leading railroad authorities of the country, today expressed to the United States Commission on Industrial Relations the opinion that the only solution of labor troubles in the designing of a vehicle through the public, "which is almost always right," shall decide the merits of controversies.

"One of the duties of this commission," said Commissioner James O'Connell to Mr. Kruttchnitt, who was the first witness at today's session, "is to ascertain the causes of industrial unrest and to recommend a remedy if possible. What is your opinion?"

"I have observed a great many strikes, and in the end public opinion decides justly, as a rule," replied the witness. "No strike that I recall ever succeeded with public opinion against it. The great American public settles them all. The older I grow the more I am convinced that the task of settling labor troubles is the task of keeping the public informed. "The establishment of a machine for the purpose should be comparatively simple. There is a publicity clause in the Canadian arbitration law and the Canadians have a machine for informing the public impartially of the merits of labor disputes. The Canadian public thus officially becomes a board of arbitration in all such cases. I do not favor compulsory arbitration; it has been a failure in New Zealand, where it was tried out for some years. "It was public opinion which decided the strike of 1911 in favor of the railroads. The board of mediation and conciliation at Washington seems a move in the right direction, but machinery for getting correct and impartial information to the great arbitration public is needed. "The government now controls the railroads, their earnings and even their expenses. It is only right, that labor disputes which may involve the railroads in additional expense shall be referred to it, so that, among other things, it may point out where money for increased wages is to come from."

History of Strike.

"Prior to the strike of 1911," said Mr. Kruttchnitt, "our relations with our workmen were pleasant. In May, 1911, however, we heard that the shop crafts, meeting at Salt Lake City, had decided to federate. We were informed of this later and federation officials asked for a conference. We replied that we had contracts with the industrial crafts and were prepared to deal with them as we always had done. This was not satisfactory to the federation. I saw Mr. Kline and Mr. Franklin of the men. "I told them that if the men felt that they must have the federation or trouble, I did not see how the Harriman lines could avoid the trouble. I said that if we accepted their plan we would have entered into an agreement with so strong a body that the companies would be helpless. We would be unable to grant any demands of the men. The grievances of a month in New Orleans might be enough to tie up every mile of our lines. "Calls Demanded Unreasonable. "They disagreed with this view and asked us to compel our men, within thirty days to join the federation. The federation was to govern apprenticeships and physical examinations and the looking up of records of applicants for work was to be eliminated. Some of our older men said the federation was the plan of young hotheads, but that if there was a strike the old conservative men would have to join it. "The strike," continued Mr. Kruttchnitt, "arose from a total disregard of the right of the employers. I said that they wouldn't try to carry their plan into their own homes, to forbid their wives, for instance, to disrobe an unsatisfactory cook. "I have done hard physical work myself and I sympathize with the men. For thirty-three years I got along nicely with my fellow workmen, but the demands of 1911 were too unjust to be tolerated."

ABANDONS MOVE AGAINST SERBIA

Troops Which Austria Had Intended to Use in Offensive Attack Sent to Italian Frontier.

RUSSIA IS AGAIN SOUNDED

GENEVA, April 10.—(Via Paris.)—Austria has abandoned the idea of launching a fresh offensive movement against Serbia, the Tribune says. It has learned from an absolutely reliable source, and will remain strictly on the defensive in order to send additional army corps to the Italian frontier.

The same authority is quoted as asserting that it was decided at Vienna to sound Russia on the subject of peace terms, but that it is impossible to know what the result has been.

Capture Artillery. The Russians made important captures of artillery and war munitions in the recent fighting in the Carpathians, according to dispatches to Swiss newspapers. In the county of Saros alone they took two batteries of twelve-inch mortars, four other batteries of different calibers, twenty quick firers and 700 shells for the twelve-inch guns.

Russia and Austria Negotiate.

MILAN, April 9.—(Via Paris, April 10.)—A special dispatch from Petrograd to Secolo says that the insistent reports heard in the Russian capital of negotiations for a separate peace with Austria are based upon the supposition that Gallia and probably some other territory would be exchanged with Russia for guarantees of preservation of Austrian integrity in the Transylvanian provinces. Sentiment in favor of a separate peace with Austria is said to be increasing in Russia.

Iowa Dems Will Not Go Dry with Bryan

DES MOINES, Ia., April 10.—Secretary Bryan will not run the democratic party in Iowa on the liquor question, was the declaration of Senator Hagermann, democrat, today in an impromptu debate between democrats in the Iowa senate, on his "local option" bill. The local option bill was defeated by a vote of 20 to 13.

Senator Hagermann's declaration was a reply to a statement by Senator Clark, democrat, and author of the anti-liquor law repeal bill, saying the Iowa branch of the democratic party will refuse launch to be the "spigot of a beer barrel," and praising the stand of Secretary Bryan for his temperance stand in a recent letter to a member of the state democratic central committee. "We will part company with Secretary Bryan on this local option issue," said Senator Hagermann. "The principle will be in the next state platform."

Young Man Killed In Accidental Way

MITCHELL, S. D., April 10.—(Special Telegram.)—George W. Winsor, son of F. H. Winsor, lawyer and city alderman, died as the result of an accident this afternoon. "He was a student in the University of Wisconsin until a few weeks ago when called home by ill health.

Italian Factions Plan Rival Mass Meetings Sunday

ROME, April 9.—(Via Paris, April 10.)—Both the parties which favor the intervention of Italy in the war and those which favor a continuance of neutrality have made preparations to hold mass meetings Sunday throughout the country, but the police have forbidden such gatherings. The leaders in both movements, however, insist that the meetings will be held either privately or in public squares. The authorities already are arranging police and military measures to prevent disorders.

GREAT CROWD ATTENDS DECLAMATORY CONTEST

CHADRON, Neb., April 10.—(Special Telegram.)—Winners in the northwest Nebraska declamatory contest tonight were as follows: Oratorical—First, Donald Rabolt, Chadron; second, Gustaf Graeff, Valentine. Dramatic—First, Fred Petersen, Crawford; second, Lucy Metzger, Valentine. Humorous—First, Prudence Maccupher, Crawford; second, Mardin Van Nopce, Valentine.

The first prizes were gold medals and the second gold pins. The first prizes winners will represent this district in the state contest in May. "Music was furnished by Mrs. O. J. Swetger and by the pupils of Miss Hennessey. "Extra trains were run from east and west, bringing in hundreds of visitors. The judges were: Prof. Anderson of Alliance, Prof. Richard of Hot Springs, S. D., and Miss Alma Steckelberg of the Chadron normal.

American Cotton Cargo is Burned

NAPLES, April 10.—(Via Paris, April 10.)—Six thousand bales of American cotton aboard the steamer San Guglielmo, were destroyed in the harbor here today. The loss is estimated at 1,000,000 lire (\$300,000). Firemen, customs guards and troops were unable to extinguish the flames before the cargo was ruined. The San Guglielmo, an Italian steamer of 3,600 tons, sailed from Galveston March 16 for Genoa and Naples by way of New York.

FRENCH TROOPS TAKE IMPORTANT POINT IN WOEVRE

Capture of Les Eparges Gives Them Key to Plains and Puts Heavy Pressure on Northern Flank of Germans.

ST. MIHIEL IS NOW IN DANGER

Southern Flank is Threatened by Advance of French from the River Meuse.

TEUTONS IN COUNTER ATTACKS

The Day's War News

OFFICIAL WAR REPORTS of today indicate that the fighting in France which started on Monday with a French attack between the Meuse and Moselle rivers has developed into a desperate struggle along a considerable portion of the western front.

AUSTRIA is reported to have abandoned its campaign against Serbia, preferring to close the offensive operations which were the immediate cause of the general European conflict.

RUSSIA is said to have made important captures of guns and war munitions in the Carpathians. POPULAR AGITATION in Italy concerning the attitude of that country has increased to a point which has necessitated energetic action by the authorities to prevent disorders.

FRENCH sailing vessel from London for New York has been sunk by a German submarine off the late of Wight.

LONDON, April 10.—The French, with the capture of Les Eparges, have obtained one of the main objects of their advance to the southwestward from Verdun. The position at Les Eparges dominates the plains of the Woevre and its occupation by the French is announced officially. Progress from Verdun means heavier pressure on the northern flank of the Germans holding St. Mihiel, while the southern flank is threatened by the French advance between Pont A Mousson and the Meuse.

In the southern part of this field of operations, the Germans are delivering almost continuous counter attacks. They have made fifteen assaults on one point. It is evident that the French are not only attempting to capture St. Mihiel, which always has been a danger point since its wedge was driven into the line of the allies, but are at the same time seeking to aid Russia by preventing the withdrawal of German corps for the relief of the hard pressed Austrian and German forces in the Carpathians.

Rumors that Austria is about to conclude a separate peace day in number and persistency every day. These are accompanied by evidence that Italy is showing increasing uneasiness over the situation.

American Legion Prepares to Extend Its Organization

NEW YORK, April 10.—R. Ormonds Power, president of the newly incorporated American Legion, announced today that the advisory council of the legion is sending out to 500 prominent citizens carefully selected from the various states, invitations to become advisory members of the organization. The advisory members will constitute the voting force of the corporation, who will not, of necessity, possess special qualifications for active service in case of war, as called for by the legion as a pre-requisite for enrollment.

The advisory council is composed of Jacob M. Dickinson, George van L. Meyer, Truman H. Newberry, Elihu Root, Thomas Roosevelt, Henry L. Stinson and Luke B. Wright. In a pamphlet which the legion will distribute throughout the country, it is emphasized that the legion "merely collects, co-ordinates and makes instantly available" for the national defense such material as already exists.

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UNIONISTS ARE URGED TO GO DRY AS WAR MEASURE

CHICAGO, April 10.—Chicago labor unions who were facing the possibility of extensive strikes within the next week, were urged by their officers today to adopt prohibition as a "war measure." Circular letters were sent in all members of the Building Trades organization, advising them to "go on the wagon." Axel Alex, business agent of the Lathers' union, explaining the project, said: "No strike was ever won at a saloon bar. Besides we must be very careful of our conduct because the public has been educated to regard union men as potential sluggers and highlanders."