

STEVENS HOLDS ON

CHIEF ENGINEER OF CANAL SATISFIED WITH JOB

No Intention of resigning

HE EMPHATICALLY CONTRADICTS PERSISTENT RUMOR

Government Willing That Part of Big Waterway Should Be Done by Contract—Views of Secretary Taft.

PANAMA.—It being persistently rumored in the canal zone that Chief Engineer John F. Stevens intended resigning, Mr. Stevens in an interview said:

"You can deny the report. There is absolutely no truth in it. I am satisfied with my work in every way, and God willing, I will remain here until the canal is finished."

Mr. Stevens went to Colon to examine the preliminary work on the system which is to furnish the water supply of Colon, which will be completed next December.

WASHINGTON.—The government of the United States is willing to enter into contracts with corporations or individuals for the construction of any portion or all of the Panama canal. This statement was made by Secretary Taft while discussing conditions upon the isthmus and the policy of the government. There is some doubt in his mind whether any concern would be willing to undertake the excavation of the Culebra cut because of the magnitude of that work. It is not the excavation that will be so difficult, so much as the disposition of the earth taken from the cut. But as to the other work the government will be ready to enter into contracts for its completion as soon as it is determined what type of canal shall be constructed. It is stated that contracts could not be made during the preliminary stages of the work because the government had to prosecute the construction until its officers knew what was to be done and has a sufficient knowledge of the materials and make judicious contracts.

Secretary Taft did not mean to declare the policy of the government on the matter of canal construction, but to assert that if it were found feasible to let contracts that course, will be pursued. He made the following statement:

"The question whether the canal will be built by contract it is not, of course, possible to determine. Mr. Wallace, the former chief engineer of the canal, expressed a tentative opinion that much of the work, except the Culebra cut, could be let by contract. It is impossible, however, to make plans for this until the data are obtained, which are now being secured.

"I have not discussed the matter with Mr. Shouts or with Mr. Stevens, because the matter has not come up for settlement. I give you only the impression that I received from conversations with Mr. Wallace on the ground. There is nothing in the policy pursued which would prevent the letting of any part of the work by contract. If found to be profitable to the government.

STRIKE AFFECTS ALL RUSSIA.

MOSCOW.—Traffic on seven of the main trunk arteries of commerce radiating from Moscow was completely paralyzed by the railroad strike, and the commercial heart of Russia has been shut off from all communication with the rest of the empire, except the narrow section to the northwestward, including St. Petersburg and the Baltic provinces. Though the government has ordered the railroad battalions of the army to proceed to Moscow and take the places of the strikers for the purpose of restoring traffic, the revolutionists, by a sudden and unexpected blow, have shown their ability to lay their hands on the throats of the nation's commercial life. The employees of four railroads struck and only the lines running over the Nicholas road to St. Petersburg and over the Windau and Rybinsk road to Riga and other Baltic ports are open. Traffic is at a standstill on the Kazan line and the line to Yaroslavl and Archangel. The strikers forced the employees of the general offices and financial departments of three lines, the Windau and Rybinsk, the Moscow and Brest Litovsk and the Kieff and Voronezh to quit work.

PLEADS FOR THE INDIANS

DR. LYMAN ABBOTT SAYS THEY SHOULD BE SAVED

A Booker T. Washington Needed for the Red Men as Well as the Black-Lake Mohonk Conference Opens

LAKE MOHONK, N. Y.—The Lake Mohonk conference of friends of the Indians and other dependent peoples was opened by Alfred K. Smiley. It was on Mr. Smiley's invitation that persons particularly interested in the Filipinos, the Hawaiians and the Porto Ricans joined with those especially interested in the Indians, in the yearly meetings at Lake Mohonk.

The Rev. Dr. Lyman Abbott, editor of the Outlook, was introduced as the presiding officer. He delivered the presidential address saying in part:

"It is the American conscience that creates the Indian problem. The American conscience asks not 'What shall we do?' but 'What ought we to do?'"

"How shall sixty millions of people themselves imperfectly civilized, civilize three hundred thousand men and women, foreign in race, in language, in customs and in religion?"

"Civilization includes three processes. First in the establishment of a just government, so that fundamental rights shall be adequately protected. Under the reservation system the Indian was denied all these rights. Thanks largely to the influence of this conference, treaties with tribes are no longer made; the tribal relation is no longer recognized.

"The second step in the development of a people is adequate provision for their education. But these two processes are not sufficient to solve the Indian problem, because just government and secular education are often sufficient to civilize a people.

I received last week from Miss Annie Beecher Scoville, a letter describing certain conditions as she found them at the Winnebago agency in Nebraska. It said:

"This tribe fifteen or twenty years ago was considered one of the thriftiest, hardest working tribes in the country, so we got their land allotted and the Dawes bill gave them citizenship. At once a system of leasing lands and buying their votes began to grow and the people were weakened by a worse system than rations. Three years ago an order went into effect that their land could be sold and since that all work has ceased. Drink and gambling are running riot.

"The evils here described are aggravated as a result of the decision of the United States supreme court that the Indian who has received his allotment of land and becomes a citizen cannot longer be prevented from purchasing liquor under reservation regulations. Civilization carries evils as well as benefits. The remedy is not lessened development but larger, broader, better development. The Indians must be developed into a full grown man, but the development of the man's moral nature giving him the power of self-control is a third but equally essential element in civilization. We must furnish him with the inspiration which the ten commandments call for.

"This triple process, essential to civilization and to free institutions, receives an illustration in our own dealings with the negro race. The country is beginning to see that to make the negro safe to his neighbor and to himself, to make him a civilized human being, moral development must keep pace with the intellectual culture and with the political emancipation.

"This, then, seems to me to be the problem which in the future will press most heavily upon the friends of the Indian.

"First—We must do for the Indian what we are beginning to do for our public schools in the states; insist upon something more than merely academic qualifications in the teacher. We can do something to create a public opinion which shall keep the Indian schools out of political influences and which shall give to them teachers imbued with the spirit of a General Armstrong or a Booker Washington and thus make the government schools morally and inspirationally, as well as intellectually, educative.

LOST IN A STORM

CANADIAN BARGE GOES DOWN IN BAY OF SAGINAW

Bad Weather On The Lakes

HURON, ERIE AND MICHIGAN ARE SWEPT BY GALE

Casualties to Steamers and Smaller Boats Numerous, and Many Cases of Grounding With Loss of Life

DETROIT.—The barge Minedosa of Kingston, Ont., was lost in Saginaw bay with all her crew including Captain Phillips and wife.

ROGERS CITY, Mich.—The steam barge Joseph Fay of Cleveland owned by the Bradley estate, sprang a leak while fighting the furious gale on Lake Huron, on this port, and was beached by Captain Fletcher at Forty Mile Point Light, six miles from the city. The tremendous seas washed off the pilot house after the steamer struck the beach and Captain Fletcher and most of the crew of fourteen men drifted ashore clinging to it. All the members reached shore in safety, except Mate David Size, who was drowned.

The barge Rhodes, which has been in tow of the Fay, was parted from her consort during the storm and grave fears are felt for the safety of the barge and her crew of six men. It is thought that the crew may have succeeded in making sail and reaching the Straights of Mackinaw.

DETROIT, Mich.—The lower lakes were swept by the heaviest storm of the season. Navigation across the line lakes Crossing at the mouth of the Detroit river is entirely suspended for all but light draft craft, the forty mile southwest wind having lowered the stage of the water at the crossing to sixteen feet ten inches, the lowest in many years. The wind reached forty miles an hour here and is blowing thirty miles and slowly increasing in velocity.

MENOMINEE, Mich.—It is estimated that \$150,000 damage was caused to docks, lumber, logs and shipping by the fierce inshore wind.

Huge volumes of spray dashed forty feet high and wrecked everything along the shore fifty feet from the water line.

CHEBOYGAN, Mich.—A two-masted barge went ashore on Light-house point in the gale, and is now being pounded by the sea. The name of the boat and her condition cannot be learned, and assistance cannot reach her on account of the storm. It is thought it may be the barge Rhodes, which broke away from the Josh Fay on Lake Huron. The barge or tug Cognell, which has been aground near the entrance to the harbor for the past two days, was broken to pieces by the storm during the night and in the morning, not a trace of her could be seen. None of the crew was aboard.

Lake Euron is being lashed by a forty-two mile gale off Alpena, while reports from Lake Erie are that the wind is blowing thirty miles an hour. Grand Haven reports to the weather bureau here that a sixty mile wind prevailed on Lake Michigan.

MARINETTE, Wis.—The storm did \$50,000 damage along the north shore of the Menominee river. Logs have been washed away, boat houses torn to pieces and thousands of tons of coal washed into the bay. Many boats, tugs and gasoline launches were destroyed and quantities of logs in the storage booms were washed away. The seas ran right up on the streets of Marinette and Menominee. Fishermen along the shores of Green Bay lost heavily in nets and boats. There was no loss of life, as vessels, generally, it is believed the storm warnings.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—Reports from the harbors along the eastern shore of Lake Michigan indicate that the storm was the most terrific known on the Lake for many years.

The damage to harbors, piers, etc., will amount to thousands of dollars. At Holland the loss is estimated at \$200,000. The south pier at this harbor has been entirely washed away, and the south pier is gone in places. The lighthouse is so badly wrecked that it is about ready to tumble into the lake.

READY FOR STRIKE

RAILWAY MEN AT ST. PETERSBURG DECIDE TO GO OUT

Witte Receives Committee

ADVISES PEACEFUL STEPS AND PROMISES REFORMS

Situation Critical in Other Cities—Moscow Strike Is Spreading—Disorders in Russia Elsewhere

ST. PETERSBURG.—At a meeting of 8,000 railway men held in the university it was decided to declare a strike on all the railways operating with St. Petersburg. It also was decided at the meeting to send deputations to Prince Hilkoff, minister of railways and Count Witte president of the committee of ministers, and present to them an address demanding political reforms, included among them the convocation of a constituent assembly elected by direct universal suffrage. The meeting remained in session until the return of the deputations, the time being occupied by further discussions of the situation and the delivery of speeches of the most revolutionary character, all of which were loudly applauded. Those present included a large number of students.

The deputations returned toward midnight without having succeeded in seeing Prince Hilkoff, owing to his absence at Peterhof, where he was making a report of the railway troubles to Emperor Nicholas. They found Count Witte, who received them, but he insisted that the interview must be of a private character, he, as president of the committee of ministers, having no right to accept an address. He said, however, that he had no objections to the publication of the conversation. He pointed out that the address contained many demands which would not be realized in any country and also many which were worthy of attention. He said that a constituent assembly was quite impossible and contended that the suffrage and other political demands had nothing to do with the question of the railroads.

The count promised that liberty of meeting and of the press would be promptly granted and said that the continued application of martial law to the railroads was due to a misunderstanding and would be remedied. He declared that he was friendly to all reasonable demands for liberty and promised to confer with Prince Hilkoff as the finest means for dealing with the railroad question. At the same time he advised the deputations to end the strike.

Having listened to the report the meetings decided to postpone action until the deputation had an interview with Prince Hilkoff.

The strike situation is getting worse. Several more of the smaller lines were tied up. The Warsaw-Berlin line is still open but it is feared that it is in the grip of the strikers.

The few days' paralysis of freight traffic is already being severely felt in the affected districts. At Moscow there is danger of a famine. The prices of food are soaring. St. Petersburg is threatened with a meat famine. Only twenty-four head of cattle have arrived here in six days and there are about a thousand head in the yards. As the consumption is 700,000 pounds a day, unless relief arrives the capital will go without meat very soon. Fortunately, there is an ample supply of flour.

MOSCOW.—The strikes have damaged the water conduit between Moscow and Mytishchei and some sections of Moscow are without water.

The strike is spreading in all directions, Yaroslavl, Nishni, Novgorod, Sizaran, Sazratoff, Voronezh, Kharkoff, Smolensk, Ekaterineslav, Kieff and Smolensk are all affected. On the Moscow, Windau and Rybinsk line the evening express could only reach Pskovskoyaya station and the passengers were compelled to walk to Moscow. At the Moscow and Kazan station 2,000 passengers are waiting. They are being paid by the railroad administration, first and second class, fifty cents daily and the third class 25 cents.

NEBRASKA NOTES

Nearly all of the chicken pickers who quit work at Fishback's poultry house in Beatrice last week because they were dissatisfied with the wages paid have returned to work.

The large farm house of William Keiman, four miles west of Beatrice, has been destroyed by fire with most of its contents. Loss \$3,500, partially covered by insurance.

Elmo Stafford, a young man who was engaged in the business of sign painting at Fremont, has been killed in a railroad wreck at Herington, Kan. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Stafford live in Norfolk. No details are given. A brother in Texas will go to Herington and take the body to Fremont for burial. The dead man was traveling south to spend the winter.

The cucumber threshing is about finished at Wood River and this new industry has given work to hundreds in that city. The cucumbers are raised for seed. They are picked and thrown into a machine which smashes them into a pulp and separates the seed. Several hundred acres of squash have been raised for the same purpose.

Robbers entered R. P. Dunn's second-hand store at Beatrice and secured a small amount of goods. A Mexican named Kersand, supposed to be one of the robbers, and who resisted arrest was badly beaten by the officers before he was locked up. Nothing was found on his person to implicate him in the robbery.

Mrs. Henry Goettsch, a farmer's wife living at Pleasant Valley, about ten miles north of Rogers has been taken to the insane asylum at Norfolk. Mrs. Goettsch has been afflicted for a long time, having been in the asylum three times before. She is a woman about 40, years old and the mother of four children.

Two smooth young men represent themselves to be soliciting for the Chaldean church and displaying a letter of recommendation from the bishop of Kurdistan, are making a tour through northern Nebraska. They were refused endorsement in Norfolk by ministers who claim that the solicitors are nothing more than church impostors. A similar pair visited that section of the country last summer.

The Farmers' Elevator company at Piskerel, has decided to build an elevator to fight the trust. The trust recently offered to sell their elevator when it was seen that the farmers meant to erect. The farmers agreed to buy, but asked the trust to keep out of the field for twenty years. This the trust refused to do, hence the decision to build by the farmers.

Put in the sweat box at Grand Island in connection with the well founded charges that a steer had become crippled in a car while being shipped to Omaha, had been slaughtered and placed on sale in one of the local markets, Mr. Hein, a slaughterer, admitted that he killed such an animal for his employer, J. Clemens, dressed it, took it to market where it hung a day, but that on the next day, the meat being too badly bruised, he took it to the feeding pens several miles from that city and had fed it to hogs.

Two girls dead and their mother in a dying condition is the result of trying to start the kitchen fire with kerosene at the home of Fred Piel at Bladen. One daughter, aged 16, the other daughter a child of 4 years are dead. Mrs. Piel cannot live, as her body is terribly blistered and she is suffering from the horrible burns. The elder daughter was pouring oil on the fire, when the kerosene can exploded, the building catching fire, destroying the structure and nearly all of the contents. Neighbors rushed to the scene and carried out the inmates, of the burning home. Mrs. Piel was in bed having been in ill health for some time.

While Mrs. D. N. Jones, of Chadron, was driving toward Crawford her team became frightened and with a sudden curve threw her to the ground and running on with a year-old baby, went over a mile before the little one was thrown and instantly killed. The mother, though much hurt, started to follow as rapidly as she could, only to find her little child dead by the roadside. The team ran on for some distance and was caught by a neighbor, who returned with it to find the mother had fainted with the dead baby in her arms.