

Guarantees Rejected by France

Action Against Germany Looms Following Failure of Reparations to Reach Acceptable Compromise.

Moratorium Is Expected

Paris, Aug. 27.—(By A. P.)—Premier Poincaré has rejected the eleventh hour guarantee offered by the German government and independent measures by France against Germany seemed assured after failure of the reparations commission to obtain in Berlin the basis of a compromise acceptable to France.

In well informed French circles it is considered reasonably certain that the reparations commission will grant a moratorium for the rest of the year, with the final German proposals as an additional guarantee.

The German proposals, handed to the reparations commission just before it left for Paris, provided for a contract between the German government and the biggest German industrialists, including Hugo Stinnes, for delivery during the period of a moratorium of products of the Ruhr mines and wood from the state's forests. Germany would guarantee the full delivery, and penalties would be enforced against the industrialists in the event the schedule was not lived up to.

Poincaré Rejects Plan.

Details of the scheme were to be submitted by Germany next week, but the French premier rejected the plan after a conference with M. Du Bois and M. Mauciere. The premier's opposition is said to be due to the fact that he believes the scheme made the industrialists more important than the government and since the business party in Germany is in a position to dictate to the government, refusal to carry out the contract would leave the German government powerless to act, and France would be as bad off as before.

British Optimism Which Continued Even Up to This Afternoon, Has Given Way to Frank Gloom Over the Situation.

The British think the proposal fairly meet M. Poincaré's demand for the German mines and forests by actually giving France the products of these natural resources without handing the district over to political control. The district in control of France, it is contended by the British, would only add chaos to the already critical situation.

Says Germany Sincere.

Sir John Bradbury, just before the meeting of the reparations commission, told the Associated Press he was convinced that Germany was really trying to meet the French view, and he urged that the French government meet Germany half way. He informed the commission that the German financial situation was desperate and that social disorder in its entirety in Germany was threatened.

The French reported that they were amazed to see great evidences of prosperity in Germany, and declared that a large number of Germans who apparently had discarded their own currency, were using dollars instead.

The reparations commission held a two-hour session to hear these reports, but it is not likely that any decision will be taken for several days.

Sir John Bradbury recommended to the commission that the proposal in cash payments should be granted until Germany stabilized the mark and balanced its budget. But the French solidly opposed this recommendation.

Would Act as Bridge.

The British view is that at best a moratorium can only act as a bridge until the whole question is again discussed at the projected November conference on interrelated debts and indemnities.

Such a meeting is imperative, in the view of Sir John and the other British officials.

Despite the gloom in British quarters, the British representatives are making every effort to avoid a direct vote by the commission, because they feel that occupation of the Ruhr or any other repressive measure against Germany at this time would only hasten the impending collapse of Germany and produce no cash for France.

On the other hand, the French government is convinced that Germany can find 150,000,000 gold marks for the August, September and October payments. By that time, officials believe, another allied conference will have to discuss a new general reparations agreement.

If the commission grants a moratorium with the guarantees just offered, France will reject the decision and assume liberty of action, it is authoritatively declared. If the commission refuses a moratorium, France will also act in a different manner. The commission will meet again Sunday.

Lions Club Organized

Central City, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.)—A Lion club, with charter membership of 30, was organized in this city last week. Orlando Jones, representing Lion's International, was the speaker at Sunday sessions with Rev. M. J. Harby and Rev. W. B. Stone.

Brethren Assembly Closes

Week's Services at Beatrice. Beatrice, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.)—The Brethren assembly at Chauteau park closed Sunday evening after a week's services. Ministers of the Brethren churches assisted in the closing services. Among the speakers at Sunday sessions were Rev. M. J. Harby and Rev. W. B. Stone.

Lincoln and Douglas Live Again at Scene of Famous Debate in 1858

Political Drama of 64 Years Ago P. P. Pickens, Illinois—Nebraska States in Parade Precincts.

Freeport, Ill., Aug. 27.—(By A. P.)—Lincoln and Douglas live again in Freeport. On a high stage erected near the scene of their famous debate of 1858, characters in the historical drama of 64 years ago appeared. Besides Lincoln, who was impersonated by the Rev. John R. Pickens, Episcopal rector, and Douglas, impersonated by Stephen A. Douglas of Freeport, who claims kinship to the "Little Giant" other characters impersonated were Col. Thomas J. Turner, republican moderator of the debate of 1858; Col. James Mitchell, democratic moderator, and Robert K. Hill, afterward member of congress, who took a monographic report of the Lincoln-Douglas debate.

The pageant was preceded by a parade in which were girls representing the 32 states of the union in 1858 and Nebraska representing Kansas and Nebraska, states in which turmoil over slavery raged in days of Lincoln and Douglas, together with mounted heralds, a mounted escort, and other attendants.

Ox Carts In Parade.

Ox carts and other vehicles creaked their way along the thoroughfares to the boulder marking the site of the debate. The procession passed down Stephenson street past the historic Brewster house, hasty at which Lincoln and Douglas were guests 64 years ago, and where Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi and Karl C. Schuyler of Denver, who participated in today's debate, were being entertained. Schuyler occupied the room Lincoln used and Harrison the one in which Douglas had his headquarters, the bostly standing practically as it did in 1858. A crowd estimated at 50,000 heard the debate at Taylor park today between Senator Harrison and Mr. Schuyler, who discussed the issues of the day. While both eulogized the great political leaders, who debated here years ago, they also devoted a large portion of their speeches to discussion of present day problems.

Prohibition of Strikes.

Schuyler, who spoke first, suggested the prohibition of strikes and lockouts by law and, if necessary, by constitutional amendment. This evoked the reply from Senator Harrison that such a plan was not practicable. Senator Harrison declared there would be strikes and lockouts as long as some men had to work for a living and other men conducted industries that required the labor of great numbers of workers.

He Suggested that the quickest way to end the strike would be to bring the leaders of both sides to Washington, make them show their hands and then, if one side or the other refused to yield to reasonable demands, to inform the American people and let them judge.

He believed labor should have the right to organize, just as bankers, manufacturers and business groups did, and he indicated he believed toilers have the right to strike when they have exhausted every other means to obtain justice.

Shop Employee Is Kidnaped and Put in Shallow Pool

Alliance Brakemen Held for Seizing Workman—Many Charges May Be Preferred, Officers Say.

Alliance, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.) Victor L. Jackson and Harry Goss, local Burlington brakemen, are held in the county jail in connection with an alleged assault on Frank Curry, an employe at the railroad shops. According to officers, charges including kidnaping, robbery, assault and battery, interference with the United States postal laws and violation of the federal injunction issued by Federal Judge Woodruff for the protection of railroad employes, will likely be placed against both men.

According to the story told by Curry, he was seized on the street and forced to accompany the men in Jackson's automobile to a point 24 miles north of Alliance. On the way, he said, he was blindfolded and his shoes removed. He was taken from the automobile and thrown into a shallow pool of water. He crawled out of the pool several times, and each time was beaten and thrown back in. He also reported that the men robbed him of a check for \$25, took his postoffice key and some postal receipts. Finally he was left alone and his assailants drove off in the car, leaving him blindfolded, he said.

The case is in the hands of United States Deputy Marshal Toland of Omaha, who declined to state what steps would be taken, except to declare he had a "clean cut case" against the brakemen.

The arrest of Jackson and Goss is the second one in connection with the railroad strike here.

Sunday School Pupils to Picnic at Fairbury

Fairbury, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.)—Approximately 2,000 Sunday school pupils of Jefferson county will meet Thursday for a county picnic at the Fairbury park. Rev. Elmore, a former resident of India, now living in Lincoln has been secured as speaker of the day.

A United States flag will be awarded to the Sunday school having the largest percentage of attendance and a conquest flag awarded to the school leading in community singing.

The Fairbury juvenile band will furnish the music.

Filly Editor Breaks Leg While Swinging in Grove

Beatrice, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.)—George Edson, editor of the Filly Spotlight, struck a tree while swinging in the grove just north of Filly, breaking his leg. His brother, Bert Edson, of the Steinauer Star, got out this week's issue of the paper.

House Hunting?

Read the list of desirable houses, apartments and housekeeping suites—rooms also—that are offered for rent in the "Want" Ad columns of The Omaha Bee.

In case you do not succeed by this plan, insert an advertisement of your own in the "Want to Rent" column. Instead of trading about the city, wearing out your patience, energy and shoe leather, let an Omaha Bee "Want" Ad find a home for you.

Remember, The Omaha Bee "Want" Ads bring better results at lesser cost.

Strength of Army Is Cut Almost Half

Enlisted Personnel Reduced to 125,000 Men, as Provided in Last Appropriation Act of Congress.

Washington, Aug. 27.—After months of reduction and reorganization, the enlisted personnel of the regular army of the United States has now been decreased to 125,000 men, as provided for in the army appropriation act.

Omaha Bee Leased Wire.

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By reaching this figure, the War department announced, the army in a little more than a year has been cut almost in half, at least 100,000 enlisted men or 45 per cent of the post-war strength having been released.

The problem of the department has been to make 125,000 men do the work that 225,000 men were doing as an enormous one, almost impossible from the standpoint of perfecting adequate defense for the country and its possessions, but reorganization plans finally have been worked out and are now being effected.

Duties of Army.

These are the missions which the army must perform:

Train and develop the National guard and the organized reserves, the two great branches of the citizen soldier.

Maintain the necessary schools for the training of officers and enlisted men of the three component parts (regular army, National guard and organized reserves) of the army of the United States.

Maintain the administrative overhead for the three-part army.

Provide a peacetime garrison for our continental coast defenses.

Provide peace and war garrisons for our overseas possessions.

Maintain a well-trained force for emergency purposes and to serve as a model and demonstrating force for the two bodies of citizen soldiers.

The existing strength is 155,000 less than the number authorized by the national defense act and 102,000 less than the authorized prewar strength before the three-part army was created.

Distribution of Forces.

Distribution of the 125,000 enlisted men, the army announces, has been made as follows:

Infantry, 46,423; cavalry, 9,871; field artillery, 17,173; coast artillery, 12,026; air service, 8,500; engineers, 5,020; signal corps, 2,184; quartermaster, 8,000; financial department, 393; ordnance department, 2,307; chemical war service, 445; medical department, 6,850; detached enlisted men's list, 5,704; unallotted, 104.

Under this allotment the authorized strength of the combat troops is now 128,803, less than the authorized strength less than prewar authorized strength.

Twenty-eight thousand two hundred and seventy-seven American soldiers have been allotted overseas possessions, the regular army being held responsible not only for the maintenance of law and order and the protection of life and property, but also for the holding of these strategic positions in event of an emergency. The enlisted strength of overseas garrisons has been apportioned as follows:

Philippines, 4,512; Hawaii, 13,735; Panama, 8,856; Porto Rico, 1,174.

96,723 Left in U. S.

As a result of this allotment there remains for use in the United States (including the forces in Germany) a total of 96,723 enlisted men for the performance of the many duties assigned under the national defense act. The territorial distribution follows:

First Corps Area—Eighteenth infantry brigade.

Second Corps Area—First division (distributed with a few units stationed in the First and Third corps areas).

Third Corps Area—Sixteenth infantry brigade.

Fourth Corps Area—Eighth infantry brigade.

Fifth Corps Area—Tenth infantry brigade.

Sixth Corps Area—Twelfth infantry brigade.

Seventh Corps Area—Fourteenth infantry brigade.

Eighth Corps Area—Second division.

Ninth Corps Area—Third division.

"Wets" Ahead on Early Returns From Sweden

Stockholm, Aug. 27.—The vote on the proposed constitutional amendment to establish prohibition in Sweden shows on precincts reported up to this hour the following results:

Wets—33,654.

Drys—28,462.

Stockholm has gone two to one for the wets. The above results include country precincts.

House Appropriates \$2,500 to Exterminate Bugs From Capitol

Washington, Aug. 27.—Congress was not able to make much headway with strike legislation, but the house succeeded in putting through a bill appropriating \$2,500 "to exterminate insects in the capitol."

Representative Gurnea, Texas, wanted to know whether the bill applied only to the house or whether it was intended to drive the bugs out of the senate wing as well.

"It covers the whole capitol," responded Representative Ireland, Illinois, chairman of the committee on accounts. "Bugs are numerous on both sides of the building."

An expert bug catcher will be employed to snare the insects and drive them from the capitol. He will be instructed to devote his attention largely to cockroaches.

Agreement Reached on Bonus Bill

Senate to Vote on Compensation Measure Tuesday—Debate on Amendments Limited to 20 Minutes.

Washington, Aug. 27.—A unanimous consent agreement to take up the soldiers' bonus bill Monday and pass it to a final vote was entered into by the senate.

With a view to getting a vote late Tuesday it was agreed that after 6 p. m. Monday no senator should speak more than once nor longer than 20 minutes on any amendment.

The unanimous consent agreement was proposed by Senator Robinson, democrat, Arkansas, but it imposed no limitation on debate on the bill itself. It was suggested, however, that there might be a move to that end later should it prove necessary.

Will Not Oppose Action.

Sensors Underwood, democrat, Alabama, and Borah, republican, Idaho, said they would offer no objection to speedy action. Senator Underwood gave formal notice that his fight would be against the passage of the measure over President Harding's veto in the event that it was returned to congress with executive disapproval.

By common understanding the senate did not undertake to bring to a vote any of the several amendments thus far offered. Senator McNary, republican, Oregon, presented his amendment proposing the reclamation bill as a part of the bonus, with preference given veterans in reclamation work and final assistance for them in developing homesteads on the reclaimed lands.

In promising to support any bill that would give former service men the justice to which he believed they were entitled, Senator Ashurst, democrat, Arizona, told the senate it would be forced to decide among other things, whether it would listen to the "cry of commercialization of patriotism" when it had not done that at the end of the war.

Other Claims Paid.

Congress, he said, had proceeded to vote, and had made no apology for doing so to pay shipping claims, claims of uniform makers and other equipment for the service men. It had done so, he said, on the statement that those contractors would have made profit had the war not ended. There was no cry of commercialization of patriotism then, he said. It was called "business."

"But these were inanimate objects," he went on. "Those claims must be met and met promptly, but the soldier, the man who fired the shots, must wait. It is commercialization of patriotism when his compensation is to be adjusted."

The Arizona senator said he must remind the senate that the original demand for the bonus came not from the former service men, but from men and women who believed that the service men were entitled to the bonus.

Ransell Supports Bill.

Also supporting the bill, Senator Ransell, Louisiana, told the senate that if congress wished to settle its obligations to the veterans it could find means to do so and that if it did not there were "a thousand excuses to hide behind."

"It seems to me," he said, "that as long as the war was on there was no end to the amount of money the United States could raise to foot its bills, but now when victory is won and the national security assured, we suddenly become too poor to adjust the soldiers' salaries on an equitable basis. In the meantime, however, our government has seen fit to repaid about \$615,000,000 a year."

"The shameful conduct of this government toward its soldiers since the war," Senator Ransell continued, "stands out in bold contrast when compared with the treatment of other soldiers at the hands of their countries."

Alliance Farmer Slashes Throat in Wife's Presence

Alliance, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.) William Rust, Jr., 49, committed suicide at his farm, 10 miles northeast of Alliance, at 6 Friday morning by slashing his throat with a razor.

He had just finished breakfast, when he slashed his throat in the presence of his wife and a son, Hall Rust, 18. They tried to take the razor away from him, but their efforts were too late. He fell on the dining room floor and died within a few minutes.

Rust was a prominent farmer in Box Butte county and owned a large farm. He is survived by his wife and son, his father, five brothers and three sisters. Funeral services will be held at the Methodist church Monday afternoon at 2:30.

Taxpayers in Merriek County Saved \$59,956

Central City, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.)—The county board of supervisors of Merriek county, in session as the county board of equalization, was instrumental in saving the taxpayers of this county \$59,956 over last year's levy. The 1921 levy amounted to \$91,874 while the levy for 1922 was \$31,918. In terms of mills the levy was reduced from 2.88 to 1.

Nationalists Defy Police

Munch, Aug. 27.—Nationalist associations, in defiance of the police, held a demonstration protesting against the "Berlin settlement" of the debt war. During the affair there were conflicts between nationalists and communists. A report was current that a coup d'etat against the government of Premier Leuchensfeld was imminent, but it lacked confirmation.

French Creator Visiting New York, Gives "Low Down" on Latest Styles

Paul Poiret Decries Ankle Length Skirts, With High Boots to Match Gowns, Proper Thing—Does Not Listen When Women Protest.

Omaha Bee Leased Wire. New York, Aug. 27.—Ankle length skirts. Draping of the gown to clothe the body without hiding its beautiful lines. High boots in colors to match gowns.

These are the last word in fashions for women as told by Paul Poiret of Paris, visiting New York for the first time since 1913.

M. Poiret smiled indulgently over all the fuss that has been made against long skirts and waved it aside with a graceful sweep of his artistic hand.

"There are always women who resist the fashion," he said, "but in the end they always follow it. They are usually about three years behind and so really out of fashion all the time."

Own Costume Knockout.

As an example of dress for the American man M. Poiret's costume of this morning would be a knockout. Over conventional enough grey trousers, shirt, collar and tie he wore a light tan lounging jacket of nearly knee length with high roll collar, unbuttoned at the throat. In the pocket on the upper left breast was a blue and brown striped silk kerchief. M. Poiret was shod with crimson boots, surmounted by tan spats.

"I was surprised and shocked," he said in telling of an hour's inspection of New York crowds at Times Square, "to see so many and so high short skirts. When I started the short skirt a terrific protest that it was immoral. Coming to this country, reputed to be so moral, I had not expected to find the exaggerated short skirt, but there it is at the same excessive degree of shortness which we had in Paris in 1917."

M. Poiret conceded that he had not been in America long enough to see what the leaders of fashion were wearing. But skirts must be long now, he said, and would eventually reach the ground. This he said, would come by degrees, ankle length being proper at this stage of the reversion from short skirts.

Pride of French Navy Goes Down in Quiberon Bay

All but Three of Crew of Huge Dreadnaught Accounted for—Vessel Considered Total Loss.

L'Orient, France, Aug. 27.—(By A. P.)—The battleship France, 23,000 tons, one of the prides of the French navy, struck a rock off Quiberon bay in the darkness of early morning and went to the bottom in 75 feet of water.

All but three of the 900 officers and men crew were rescued from rafts and lifeboats launched from the battleship before it took the final plunge.

The wrecked warship was one of four French battleships of the first line, returning from night maneuvers to anchorages at Port Haliguen, when at 1 this morning it ran on a short reef lying 25 feet below the surface. A great gash was torn in the steel hull of the dreadnaught. It remained afloat an hour, giving the crew enough time for hurried escape in boats. Then the doomed craft slowly settled, turned on its bottom and went down. It lies on the bottom and is considered a total wreck.

The wreck occurred in the tortuous water of Quiberon bay, 20 miles southeast of here on the Brittany coast. The swift currents abounding there are supposed to have swept the battleship slightly from its course. The deflection was sufficient, however, to carry it squarely and head on over the pointed rock known and charted but dangerously concealed beneath the water in this part of the bay. The water rushed into the wounded hulls and the short circuiting of the electric. The engine crew quickly took every precaution to avoid explosions.

Meanwhile, the crew began launching lifeboats while awaiting help from a sister dreadnaught, the Paris, and many torpedo boats and other small craft, which had been asked by wireless for help. The crew got off safely before the dreadnaught slumped over on its side and the 900 officers and men, afloat in boats and rafts, were taken aboard by other vessels. The rescue required several hours, and at noon it was announced that 15 members of the crew were missing. Twelve of these were found later, and a final roll call showed that only three were lost.

Train of Coal Wrecked on Burlington Line

McCook, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.)—Seventeen cars of coal were piled up in a wreck on the Burlington, near Parks, west of McCook, last night, delaying traffic for several hours. A track was built around the wreck and traffic resumed. Picking up coal will follow later. No one was hurt.

Fremont College Alumni Perfect Organization

A temporary organization of Fremont college alumni was perfected at a picnic lunch held in Elmwood park. Arthur Mullen was chosen temporary chairman and Dr. W. H. Mick, temporary secretary.

A committee on organization, composed of Prof. Henry Eaton, Dr. W. H. Mick, H. G. Meyer, W. E. Granger and Mrs. Anna Hopkins, was chosen. Meetings were set, from the 40 members present, to Mrs. W. H. Clemmens, wife of the late Prof. W. H. Clemmens, founder of Fremont college.

Three-Day Fall Festival Planned at Central City

Central City, Neb., Aug. 27.—(Special.)—At the regular meeting of the Business Men's club plans were developed for a three-day fall festival, to be held in this city September 21 to 23.

Union May Oust C. & A. Strikers

President Lee Threatens to Revoke Charter of Trainmen at Roodhouse Unless They Return.

Roodhouse, Ill., Aug. 27.—(By A. P.)—No trains have been moved out of Roodhouse over the Chicago & Alton road since 6:45 Saturday night, when company officials resumed a train that left for Bloomington.

According to union men, 350 men have quit work. They maintain that they are not striking, but are refusing to operate trains because they believe conditions are not safe since their explanation in the several days ago which, union men say, was caused by bombs, but which railroad officials attribute to firecrackers.

Twelve passenger trains and about 25 freight trains operate in and out of here daily over the Chicago & Alton under normal conditions.

Service Is at Standstill

Members of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen who walked out on the Chicago & Alton at Roodhouse are in danger of having their charter revoked unless they return to work and remain there until proper action is taken. W. G. Lee, president of the organization, declared here tonight.

Mr. Lee said he had sent a telegram to the officers of lodge No. 44 at Roodhouse, advising them against the illegal action of the members in violation of the brotherhood constitution, "which of necessity must result in the loss of their membership."

The telegram was in reply to one sent by the lodge to Mr. Lee. Announcement that the heads of the Big Five brotherhoods would meet here Tuesday to discuss the shopmen's strike situation as it affects their organization, was made by Warren S. Stone, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

Strike Contrary to Law.

"I wonder that if it is true, the strike is contrary to our law," Mr. Lee said. "I told them if they go out illegally I will have to enforce our laws. I also advised against any action of the members in violation of the constitution of the brotherhood, which of necessity must result in the loss of their membership."

The trainmen's constitution provides that in case of grievances, the system general chairman must call a meeting of the executive committee for the system. The executive committee may vote a strike, which must be sanctioned by the president.

Mr. Stone returned from New York where, with the heads of the other transportation trades, he was unsuccessful in mediating the shopmen's controversy.

When told of reports that the engineers had joined in the strike at Roodhouse, Mr. Stone said he had not heard of it. He received an official report he declined to comment.

Sioux City Woman Dies as Train Strikes Buggy

Sioux City, Ia., Aug. 27.—Literally torn to pieces by the impact of a train collision at a crossing in Leeds, a suburb, when a speeding inbound Northwestern passenger train crashed into a buggy in which she was riding, Mrs. C. T. Hanson, 38 years a resident of Sioux City, was instantly killed.

The woman was carried for more than a quarter of a mile on the front of the locomotive after being hurled from the demolished carriage. The horse escaped injury.

Mrs. Hanson was born in Prairie Du Sac, Wis., in 1852. Her husband, who survives her, was a pioneer merchant of Leeds.

Rebels Kill Free State Officer Banding Mail

Dublin, Aug. 27.—(By A. P.)—National troops, operating in the Ballaghaderreen area of County Mayo, under Colonel Commandant McCabe, captured 12 irregulars, together with arms, ammunition, bombs, and two automobiles, according to an official statement. Among the prisoners were two of the irregular leaders in eastern Mayo named Corney and Josiah Kelly.

The statement adds that Lieutenant McCormack, who was killed in the ambush at Glasson, was "deliberately shot while handling his wounded comrade, Captain Rattigan."

Warden to Ship Pheasants to Points in Nebraska

Lincoln, Aug. 27.—(Special.)—George Koster, state fish and game warden, will ship 1,200 pheasants to various parts of the state this fall for breeding purposes.

A number of years ago several hundred pheasants were turned loose on Nebraska plains as an experiment. They have grown rapidly in numbers, especially in the North Loup country, and it is the aim of the state department of agriculture to increase these birds in such number that some day Nebraska hunters will find an open season on pheasants.

Plot to Blow Up Northern Pacific Roundhouse Foiled</