

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

THE WEATHER

Fair; Cold

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U. S. RAILROADS UNDER GOVERNMENT CONTROL

PEACE TERMS ON WHICH TEUTONS WILL END WAR **OUTLINED BY CZERNIN**

Favor General Peace Without Forcible Annexations or Indemnities, But Will Not Bind Themselves to Such

Terms Unless All Russia's Allies Will Recognize and Carry Them Out.

(By Associated Press.)

Virtual accepiance of the peace terms offered by Russia to placate their opponents. Seven was made by the central powers in a statement issued to the members of the social revolutionist peace conference Tuesday by Count Czernin, the Austro-Hun- party, which has a majority of the garian foreign minister, provided Russia's allies also recognize constituent assembly, have been adthem and carry them out honestly toward the central powers.

Shortest and Most Convenient

Routes: Formerly Competi-

tion Reduced Efficiency.

(By Associated Press.)

be pursued to an extreme limit, of-

ficials pointed out today, without en-

dangering the revenues of any line.

Earnings will be pooled and paid out

on the basis of pre-war returns re-

gardless of how much freight a rail-

Competition Loses Efficiency.

Under the new plan it might be di-

crossing on to Chicago offered at the

Will Relieve Congestion.

tibe better facilities for moving.

portant than the moving of freight.

congestion.

Under the government pooling

Interstate Commerce commission

officials will work closely with Secre-

tary McAdoo on a comprehensive

tem will not be hard to devise and

that with a skeleton plan outlined rail-

road officials themselves can carry

LATE WAR

BULLETINS

UKRAINIANS WINNING.

Eleventh armies on the Roumanian

sisted were disarmed and a quantity

London, Dec. 27 .- Ukrainian forces,

olan a railroad with its lines congest-

terests of the roads.

road actually moves.

AGREEABLE TO KAISER. Peace without forcible annexations and indemnities is agreeable to the central powers and they will conclude a general peace immediately on conditions equally just to all the belligerents. The return of Germany's lost colonies is made an essential part

of the German conditions. The United States and the entente allies up to this time have not recognized the Bolsheviki government or agreed to the terms Russia proffered at the beginning of the Brest-Litovsk

Will Sign Terms.

Petrograd, Wednesday, Dec. 26 .-The central powers, Count Czernin, the Austro-Hungarian foreign minister, told the peace conference at Brest-Litovsk yesterday solemnly declares their resolve immediately to sign terms which will terminate the war on conditions equally just to all belligerents. The central powers also annexations and indemnities. They routes regardles of the individual incould not bind themselves to such terms without a guarantee that Russia's allies would recognize them and earry them out honestly toward the will be pooled, this system can be

central powers. Basic Terms of Peace.

Count Czernin declared that the central powers believed that the basic principles uttered by the Russian delegates could be the basis of such a peace. He said they shared Russia's condemnation of a continuation of the war for the sake of conquest.

It is necessary to indicate most clearly, however, the count added, that the Russian proposals could be realized only in the event that all belligerents obligated themselves to adhere to the terms of such a peace.

The Austro-Hungarian foreign minister declared that the central powers did not intend to forcibly annex territories seized during the war nor to deprive nations of political independence lost in the war.

The question of the subjection of nationalities who have not political independence to another country cannot be solved internationally and must be met by each government and its people in the manner established by the constitution of that government. The protection of the right of minorities is an essential part of the right of peoples to self-definition.

In the event of a mutual refusal to meet war expenditures and pay damages caused by the war, Count Czernin continued, each belligerent shall bear only the expense of its subjects made prisoner and damages caused to property of civilian subjects by deliberate violations of international law on the part of the adversary. The creation of a special fund for this purpose, as suggested by Russia, could be discussed only in the event that (Continued on Page Two, Column Two.)

The Weather

For Nebraska—Fair and continued cold.

Temperatures at Omaha Yesterday.

Hour.

Deg.



1 pam..... 2 p. m..... 3 p. m..... 1 p. m.....

Highest yesterday .. 28
Lowest yesterday .. 0
Mean temperature .. 13
Precipitation00 Temperature and precipitation departures from the normal: Normal temperature

Reports from Stations at 7 P. M. Temp High- Rain 7 p. m est fall. Station and State of Weather. Cheyenne, cloudy Davenport, cloudy Dehver, cloudy Des Moines, pt. cloudy Dodge City, clear Lander, clear North Platte, pt. cloudy Pueblo, part cloudy... Rapid City, cloudy Santa Fe, clear Sheridan, cloudy

indicates below zero.
L. A. WELSH, Meteorologist.

GERMANS REPULSED.

losses, leaving prisoners.

BOLSHEVIKI ADMITRIVALS

Seek to Placate Political Opponents Who Have Majority in Constituent Assembly.

(By Associated Press.)

The Bolsheviki are taking measures mitted to the council of national commissioners, as the ruling body in Russia is called. The Bolsheviki still retain 10 members in the council.

Allege American Plot. London, Dec. 27,-The Bolsheviki newspapers continue to print revelations of an alleged American plot to support General Kaledines, according to a Petrograd dispatch to the Morning Post, dated Tuesday. So far as Ambassador Francis is concerned, the dispatch adds, the whole ridiculous charge falls to the ground before the Shipments Now Will Go Over straightforward statement issued by the American ambassador on Tues-day. Colonel Kolpashnikoff never applied to the ambassador for any fund for any purpose, although fully empowered to draw as needed on the Red Cross account, he being connected with the American Red Cross. (By Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 28.—Under the Kolpashnikoff and American representraffic pooling plan worked out by tatives in Petrograd, the correspon-Secretary McAdoo as director general of railroads, freight will move any kind. The correspondent says favor a general peace without forcible over the shortest and most convenient that Colonel Kolpashnikoff assisted approvations and indemnities. They routes regardles of the individual in-Trotzky when he and Trotzky were traveling to Russia together, and

Since earnings as well as facilities adds: Trotzky's Personal Hatred. "The matter thus comes down to the personal element, which plays so

> in Russia today.' Colonel Kolpashnikoff, the correspondent says, is still in prison and has not been seen by any American official.

large a part in what is called politics

Railroad experts admit that there It is plain, according to the coris a great loss of efficiency in com- respondent of the Post, that in some petition. Freight often is billed over small bits of friction between the a particular line when it might be respective American missions in Roupetition. Freight often is billed over small bits of friction between the handled much more expeditiously mania and Russia, Trotzky found a over another. A shipper has a right to peg on which to hang a series of baseship his freight as he pleases, but less charges against Ambassador under government operation and traf- Francis and the American nation. fic pooling it matters not which road Trotzky's object is to discredit the receives his freight. It will move over entente allied governments through the line or lines best able to handle their representatives, and the meth-Two railroads running between ods he has adopted are calculated to New York and Chicago, for instance, intensify the hostility of the Russian might cross at some point in between, proletariat toward the allies, which Under the ordinary system, freight German agents always have fostered.

given to one road in New York would proceed all the way over that line, IOWA PREACHER verted to the other road at the cros-ALMOST HANGED sing point if the other road from the FOR HIS SPEECH

While admitting that competition slows up traffic in a situation such as exists at present, railroad men point months of friction between citizens, vestigated recently by a government of the fact that competition has members of the county Council of the property all the incorporate in his brought all the improvements in rail- Defense and pro-Germans of this big fees he charged. road facilities such as the airbrake community, late yesterday a sensaand other devices. But during the tion of new appliances is far less im- A. Starck and Fred Tenekheig, both ed will not be given more freight to handle if it appears it may add to the

actions of certain citizens. which both men refused to be sub- last heard of the case. operating plan. They believe a sys- ject to the Council of Defense. Tenekheig, 30, single, and said to be board, said information had come to worth \$45,000, had done little for the it that Bartos was charging exorbiwar, and Rev. Mr. Starck has been tant fees. out the details without a great deal before the Council of Defense repeatedly for alleged treasonable acts. Starck's escape from lynching was There was no necessity for this, as the Petrograd, have occupied the head-munit quarters of the Fourth, Eighth and hour.

southwestern front. Those who re- Officials Seize Sugar That Was to Be Given Away

of guns and rifles were seized. The Ukrainians have occupied the station Paterson, N. J., Dec. 27.-Three at Brailoff and disarmed the guards. hundred and seventy-five pounds of A telegram received in Petrograd sugar which were to be given away from Tomsk reports fighting in Ir-free last night to the patrons of a kutsk, Siberia. Cossacks and military local theater are now in the posescadets have engaged the garrison sion of the federal food administrathere for two days with alternating tion, and D. Nochinsohn, a wholesale grocer, must go before the United Paris, Dec. 27.—Three attacks were to answer a charge of hoarding the made by the Germans last night on commodity. When the theater adthe Verdun front east of the Meuse, vertised that it would give the sugar it is announced officially. At their away last night, an agent of the food third attempt the Germans succeeded administration seized it and served in reaching the French lines, but were the grocer with a summons after bedriven out immediately with heavy ing informed that the sugar had been purchased from Nochinsohn.

ALL LINES TO BE OPERATED AS ONE GIGANTIC SYSTEM AND DIRECTED BY THE SECRETARY OF TREASURY

Your Uncle Samuel's New Role



PROBES CASE OF WILBER LAWYER

Frank W. Bartos' Alleged Ac- Max, Her Hubby, Also Requires tivities Before Exemption Boards Investigated by Representatives of U.S.

Frank W. Bartos, former state senator and senior member of Bartos & ject to grave danger and risk if de-Audubon, Ia., Dec. 27 .- After Bartos, lawyers, Wilber, Neb., was in- prived of champagne.

The first intimation that Bartos was This information was brought out war, even they admit that the inven- tional attack was made upon Rev. W. making money out of his activities on in municipal court before Judges behalf of drafted men was received Holmes and Baldwin at the hearing when a Wilber farmer came into the of cases filed by Prosecutor McGuire of whom had ropes placed around exemption board rooms at Lincoln and against members of the Hoffmann their necks and were all but lynched stated Bartos had made out exemption company and Skeets Gallagher, anby the parents of boys who have papers for him and charged him \$250, other Orpheum performer who hap-gone to war and who have become in-He had offered the attorney \$25, which pened to be on the same train when furiated by the continued unpatriotic was refused, he said. L. B. Frye, of the Hoffmann company's baggage today and overshadowed all other war going to the Interstate Commerce the appellate board, advised the far- was raided last Sunday morning at This followed a public meeting, at mer to offer Bartos \$5. That was the Union depot,

E. M. Pollard, of the appellate

Fictum Case Cited.

Another case cited by the critics of Both men at different periods of the Bartos is that of Eman Fictum, a son braska prohibitory law. late afternoon had ropes placed about of a wealthy farmer who had neglected their necks and Tenekheig was to register. Information of this came dragged nearly a block to the public to the government, but before any acsquare, where he was released more tion could be taken, Bartos made a dead than alive and where he signed trip to Lincoln and asked the governor a check for \$1,000 for the Red Cross. for permission to let Fictum register. due to his wife, who ran screaming law allowed the young man to register. to the spot where they had led him. But his registering did not exempt and as she fell fainting to the ground him from arrest, and he is now awaitthe men turned their attention to her ing a hearing. According to a story and later let Starck free on condition circulated in Saline county, Bartos according to a report received from that he and his family leave the com- charged Fictum \$1,500 for his services. munity at once. He left within an Fictum says he paid \$250 and expects to pay more.

Another case is in connection with the son of H. D. Damkroger, president of the Farmers and Merchants bank of DeWitt. The son was drafted. (Continued on Page Two, Column Six.)

Girls Supplant Boys At Burlington Offices At Burlington headquarters girls

have taken the place of boys as messengers, not because they are considered more efficient, but because boys cannot be found to do the work. Boys who in the past have been doing messenger service have found other employment in other lines of work at higher wages, As a result, girls have been taken on to run errands and perform general messenger duties.

GERT HOFFMANN JUST MUST HAVE HER CHAMPAGNE

a Cocktail Now and Then, According to Testimony in Court.

Gertrude Hoffmann would be sub- suring railroad securities holders against loss.

the various exemption boards and the not have a nip of martini now and then.

Rule Car Is Home.

against grounds that the car on which he ar-

costs, as the evidence showed that he plains the situation soon in an adbrought four quarts of intoxicants to dress to congress. Omaha for the purpose of cheering contravene the law.

bottle of martini were found in the distribution of life's necessaries. personal effects of Gertrude and Max Hoffmann. Gertie was not required to tees in congress began a survey of mended to congress would specify that appear in court. On behalf of his the legislation they will prepare to the roads would remain subject to all wife Mr. Hoffmann offered in evidence carry the president's plans into effect, existing laws and regulations of the the fo'lowing telegram received in the morning from a New York City physician of the famous disciple of Cummins, in a statement declaring his terpsicho:e:

Says Necessary Stimulant.

"I prescribe champagne for Gertrude Hoffmann, one glass after each (Continued on Page Two, Column Five.)

Attorney General Reed

Appeals Omaha Strike Case Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 27 .- (Special.) Attorney General Reel has appealed the Omaha strike injunction He seeks to have all unions included in a permanent injunction against Omaha labor organizations. Only the teamsters were named in Leslie several weeks ago.

EXPECT REDUCTION IN OPERATING EXPENSES TO SAVE ONE BILLION

Enormous Salaries of Rail Managers to be Cut and Wages to Workers Increased; Government Will Sell Bonds to Buy New Equipment and Guarantee Earnings of All Properties Taken.

(By Associated Press.)

Washington, Dec. 27.-Order No. 1, to be issued shortly by Director General of Railroads McAdoo, will provide for the pooling of all traffic and facilities, the common use of terminals, tracks and equipment, the hauling of freight by the shortest route regardless of billing or routing, and the retention of all present officers and employes of railroads.

One effect of this order will be to give a number of railroads terminal facilities which they do not now have in big cities. The Baltimore & Ohio probably will enter New York

City at the Pennsylvania station.

BROTHERHOOD CHIEFS CONFER. Heads of the four railroad brotherhoods conferred with President Wilson for an hour and a half late today, discussing in detail the part of the employes will play under government operation. A. B. Garretson, of the conductors, said afterwards that wage increases were not mentioned.

Mr. Garretson added that the brotherhools were behind the government operation plan nad the president had known it for two weeks. REDUCE LARGE SALARIES.

roads will be to reduce large salaries now being paid to the railway executives and increase in some measure the wages of the railway workers. Securities to be issued while the government is in control will be at in-terest rates not less than 4 per cent and the issues will be made under joint

authority of the director general and the Interstate Commerce commisson. U. S. TAKES SURPLUS EARNINGS.

One of the first acts of the government in beginning operation of rail-

President Wilson, when he outlines the government's plans in the forthcoming address to congress, will ask that the government be empowered to buy any quantity of new railroad securities. All earnings over and above an amount to be agreed upon will go to the government.

Congress will be asked also to appropriate a large fund-probably \$200,-000,000-for the immediate supply of rolling stock to handle the flood of traffic which has swamped the roads,

MAY TAKE EXPRESS.

body, the precise nature of which is to be determined by congress.

The director general will have authority to decide whether the govern-ment shall also assume operation and control of the express companies. President Wilson will recommend to congress that the railroads be guaranteed the average net income of the three years ending June 30, 1917, but any railroad may abide by its constitutional right and refuse to accept this basis of compensation. In that case the question will pass to an arbitrating

MAY SAVE A BILLION.

The equipment fund will also be used to pay any deficit of earnings this ear under the pre-war average or the amount agreed upon, but officials who have given the situation close study believe it may be unnecessary to expend any great sum in this way. They believe that the government by eliminating wasteful competition and unnecessary expenses under a common control, can save hundreds of millions of dollars. Some officials even estimate that the saving will be a billion dollars a year and that the government will be able to garner revenue from the government operation plan in addition to in-

SENATORS SAY M'ADOO CHOICE IS PARTISAN

Washington, Dec. 27.-Preliminaries for actual taking over of the railroads by the government at noon tomorrow moved forward swiftly proval of the director general before activities in the capital.

Although approved by the great majority of railroad men, there was The court dismissed the case some disposition toward criticism in Max Hoffmann on the congress, principally on the ground that the government proposed to alrived from Kansas City was his pri-vate car, and, therefore, was his home within the meaning of the Neeverything was prepared for enacting Mr. Gallagher was fined \$100 and necessary laws quickly after he ex-

Six bottles of champagne and one t lephone lines, if not, indeed, to the sitating actual government financing The Interstate Commerce commit-

ity, thought it would have been wiser to wait for legislation by congress. Senator Weeks, also a republican, declared the president had ample authority and added that while it was of no effect to criticise, the question might well arise as to whether the se-

lection of Secretary McAdoo was a good one.

tion of McAdoo. "I think it proper," said he, "to express my regret that this great appointment has not been a less part-isan one and was not given to one roads will not be fully determined. the permanent order issued by Judge whose experience and impartiality Naturally they will be under very would insure more confidence," (Continued on Page Two, Column Four.)

To Help Weak Lines,

Although in most cases earned dividends exceeding the guarantee will revert to the government, congress will be asked to make some provision for railroads whose pre-war earnings were abnormally low, by authorizing the payment of dividends in excess of those amounts on approval of the Interstate Commerce commission.

Railroads will continue to provide for their own issues of securities, but will be compelled to obtain the apcommission for final sanction. The commission will pass upon the size of the issue and the director general will determine the interest rate, which could not be less than 4 per cent under the proposed plan.

Work for McAdoo.

In his dual position of secretary of the treasury and director general of railroads Mr. McAdoo would be in the best position to pass on questions of securities interest rates. It also would be his duty to determine when Many members of the house and the government should purchase new his aged mother on Christmas day. He senate predicted that the step was securities issued under his approval, admitted those circumstances, but the only the beginning of government and this plan would prevent the rail court held that sentiment should not operation and control and that it securities from interfering with future would soon extend to telegraph and issues of Liberty bonds without neces-

> of the railroads. The legislation which will be recom-The criticism in congress was heard Interstate Commerce commission. from the republican side. Senator Those who have given careful thought to the situation believe the director doubt that the president had author- general will not modify the existing order radically at first, but eventually will go far toward centralizing authority under the federal govenment.

State Commissions.

The Association of State Railroad Commissioners will give full support to the new plan so long as its functions are not reduced materially but it is expected to protest against being Acting Republican Leader Gillette, deprived of adjusting minor questions of the house, also assailed the select of rates and rules within its terri-

> Until Mr. McAdoo outlines his plans the status of express companies