

RAILROADS TO BE RETURNED TO OWNERS MAR. 1

President Makes Proclamation—Notice Gives Time To Prepare for The Change.

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portion and property of whatever kind taken or held under such federal control and not heretofore relinquished and restore the same to the possession and control of their respective owners.
"Walker D. Hines, director general of railroads, or his successor in office is hereby authorized and directed, through such agent and agencies as he may determine, in any manner not inconsistent with the provisions of said act of March 1, 1918, to adjust, settle and close all matters, including the making of agreements for compensation and all questions and disputes of whatever nature arising out of or in connection with federal control, until otherwise provided by proclamation of the president or by act of congress and generally to perform as fully in all respects as the president is authorized to do all and singular the acts and things necessary or proper in order to carry into effect this proclamation and the relinquishment of said railroads, systems of transportation and property.
"For the purpose of accounting and for all other purposes, this proclamation shall become effective on the first day of March, 1920, at 12:01 a. m.
"In witness, whereof, I have hereunto set my hand caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.
"Done by the president, through Newton D. Baker, secretary of war, in the District of Columbia, this 24th day of December, the year of our Lord, one thousand, nine hundred and nineteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the one hundred and forty-fourth.
(Signed) WOODROW WILSON, by the president; Robert Lansing, secretary of state; Newton D. Baker, secretary of war.
Hines Sends Wire.
Director General Hines sent the following telegram tonight to all officers and employees of railroads in federal control:
"The proclamation which the president has issued fixes March 1 as the date for transfer of the railroads back to the possession and control of the railroad companies. I appeal to every officer and every employee to redouble his efforts to produce the best and the most economical railroad service possible during the remaining period of federal control.
"During the unusually heavy business of the past few months and the extraordinary difficulties created by the coal strike, the officers and employees have done especially fine work, so that with more confidence than ever before, I express the hope that all of us will give the very best account of ourselves in this remaining period in our common interest and in the public interest. I extend my warmest wishes for a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.
"Makes New Wage Problem.
President Wilson's proclamation returning the railroads to private control March 1 lends a new aspect to wage problems now before Director General Hines.
In the opinion of railroad administration officials, the president's order, made public last night, should tranquillize the labor situation, inasmuch as the time of government control is extended by two full months. Union officers who have been pressing for a settlement of their demands before the roads were back on the supposition that the

transfer would be made on January 1, the date originally set, have not indicated their plans.
Only One Wage Demand.
The only wage demands now before Mr. Hines are those of the 500,000 shophmen, who were refused a general increase of 25 per cent last summer. President Wilson and the director general taking the position that the war cycle of advancing wages and increasing living costs must come to an end and the government be given a fair chance to compel a return to normal profits. President Jewell and the executive council of the six shop crafts recently renewed their demands. They were asked to await an official report by Attorney General Palmer, since made public, of the trend of prices.
Mr. Palmer's report showed that the customary upward march of prices during the fall months had been much less this year than in the past, and expressed the conviction that the next two months would show substantial results in reducing the inflation of living costs. The cost of living question, therefore, still is unsettled in the minds of high government officials and will not be settled until after government control of the railroad systems had expired. It remains to be seen what the attitude of the director general will take of the shophmen's renewed demand for more money in the light of the attorney general's statement.
Workers Want Action.
It is understood the shop workers were represented to be growing restless over the lack of action on their demands.
Deeds of railroad clerks for more money now are before the board of railway wages and working conditions, which has not indicated when a report to the director general may be expected. Extension of the federal control of the railroads necessitate the placing of additional contracts by the administration, inasmuch as purchases up to this time generally have been for delivery up to the end of the year. Some rails and ties will have to be bought, also other materials for maintenance work. Orders by Mr. Hines for an inventory of materials on hand as of January 1, will be changed to have the inventories as of March 1. The information will be used in settling accounts with the roads.

Congressional Leaders Approve Wilson's Actions

Washington, Dec. 24.—Leaders in congress generally expressed approval of the president's action in postponing return of the railroads.
"I think the president has done the right thing," said Senator Cummins, chairman of the senate interstate commerce committee and chairman of the subcommittee which framed the legislation known as the Cummins bill. "It would have been very unfortunate if the roads had been turned back before necessary legislation was enacted. Legislation to meet conditions in connection with the reversion of the properties undoubtedly will be sent to the president within the next month. It may be possible to complete the legislation before the end of January."
Regional Director Says Wilson Acted Wisely
St. Louis, Dec. 25.—B. F. Bush, southwest regional railroad director and corporate president of the Missouri Pacific, asserted President Wilson acted wisely in not returning the railroads to private ownership before March 1.
"The roads are in no condition to be turned to private control and it would be unwise to return them at this time," he said. "By March 1, however, I believe they will be in such condition that private control can be assumed with little or no inconvenience to the public."
Christmas Festival Enjoyed by All Omaha
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home, House of Hope and other institutions were beneficiaries of remembrances of holiday cheer.
Omaha made the most of the day and "peace on earth and good will to men" seemed really to prevail throughout this great metropolis.
Sing Christmas Carols.
The Community Service League and V. M. C. A. girls, numbering about 75, carried the message of Yuletide to all parts of the city Christmas eve. The large trucks donated by the Rotary and Kiwanis clubs and Nebraska White company carried the singers and a beautifully decorated tree lighted by the DeLo Light company through the downtown districts.
Starting at 6 Christmas carols were sung on the streets after which the singers went to several hospitals and the detention home for girls. Great interest was shown in the plan for community singing of Christmas carols.
President's Day Quiet; Signs the Edge Bill
Washington, Dec. 25.—The national capital, officially and privately, spent a quiet Christmas. All departments of the government were closed and congress was in the midst of its two week recess.
The only official act of the day was the signature by President Wilson of the Edge bill, passed by congress just before the holiday recess and designed to promote American participation in foreign trade.
With the exception of attaching his signature to the bill, the president rested, spending most of the forenoon in the White House garden and at noon eating a Christmas dinner in his room.
During the afternoon, while Mrs. Wilson drove out to present gifts to friends of the family and to the children living along the road to the Country club where the president before his illness played golf. Mr. Wilson read the large number of Christmas messages which he received from all parts of the United States and from abroad.
Members of the cabinet and other high government officials spent the day at their homes.

100 Million to Man Rockefeller's Gift

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for similar reasons be deterred from devoting their lives to teaching.
"While this gift is made for the general corporate purposes of the board, I should cordially endorse a decision to use the principal as well as the income as promptly and largely as may seem wise for the purpose of co-operating with the higher institutions of learning in raising sums specifically devoted to the increase of teachers' salaries."
Colleges Ask Aid.
In commenting upon the gift, Dr. Wallace Buttrick, president of the board, said that since the end of the war it had received from colleges and universities applications for aid, which would practically exhaust the working capital of the board. He added that Mr. Rockefeller had realized the emergency which exists.
In transmitting his gift to the Rockefeller foundation "to promote the well being of mankind throughout the world," Mr. Rockefeller imposed no restrictions, although he expressed special interest "in the work being done throughout the world in combating disease through the improvement of medical education." Alluding to a gift of \$20,000,000 for this purpose which he made to the general education board this year, he said:
"My attention has been called to the needs of some of the medical schools in Canada, but as the activities of the general education board are by its character limited to the United States, I understand that gifts may not be used for Canadian schools.
"To Help Canadians.
"The Canadian people are our near neighbors. They are closely bound to us by ties of race, language and international friendship and they have without stint sacrificed themselves, their youth and their resources to the end that democracy might be saved and extended. For these reasons, if the board should see fit to use any part of this new gift in promoting medical education in Canada, such action would meet with my cordial approval."
In asserting \$5,000,000 would be set aside for Canadian schools Dr. Vincent said:
"From this sum appropriations will be made by the foundation to medical schools on condition that they raise additional funds for other sources. It is hoped that \$5,000,000 thus employed by the foundation at this time will give a distinct impetus to the development of medical education in Canada."

Broadway Giddy With Liquid Joy Christmas

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bell boy laden with bottled liquid delight. There was no law to prevent the public from bringing its private liquor into the restaurants, and there was no law to prevent the restaurant owners from adding "cocktail" charges to the bills, either.
Beer—real beer—was rarer in New York than Grecian wine. Scotch was about as common as bottled star dust. "Red-eye" was the drink these days. It was of the triple-action, high-tension TNT variety and only to be had where one had slightly more than a nodding acquaintance with a bartender.
Cocktails Sold Openly.
Cocktails were being sold openly in some places along Broadway. Their cost was from \$1 to \$1.50 a sip. Some of the smaller houses sold cocktails, chiefly Manhattan and Martinis, only if the customer purchased a pint bottle of whisky along with his dinner. The cost per bottle ranged from \$15 to \$20.
In one quaint little place off Broadway, frequented by morning newspaper men and other night workers, there was gin to be had. It came in coffee cups and cost 75 cents a gulp, and was watered stock at that.
"New York is dying hard," said one well known hotel man just back from a trip throughout the country. "The west takes prohibition as a sort of joke, but then everybody seems to have a private supply. Hence their humor. New York never thought prohibition could happen. It has. It is going to be a dull, dry world and New York is growing and drinking all it can get. This new year will not be dry, however, for it is the city's last chance to celebrate and every Manhattanite knows it. About the dawn of January 2, 1920 the town will begin sobering up on ginger ale."

Thieves Get More Than \$1,000 for Day's Work

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Lake street, and took a revolver valued at \$20.
W. C. Dagwell, 1419 Sherwood avenue, told the police a parcel containing a \$14 bathrobe was stolen from him in the Central market.
Robbery at Convent.
The Catholic sisters, at 8208 North Thirty-first street, reported that some one broke a window in the convent there and stole a pair of fur gloves valued at \$25.
John Holts, 1024 Capitol avenue, reported the loss of \$25 worth of clothing to burglars.
A. Keiser, 1020 Lincoln avenue, reported that he was held up in his place of business, 1022 South Thirtieth street, by a white man. Keiser says he seized a gun and attempted to rout the robber. The highwayman struck him over the head and inflicted a deep wound. Nothing was stolen.
Two tires were stolen from the automobile of Dr. S. Levy, 246 Brandeis Theater building. Dr. Levy valued the tires at \$50.
Mrs. Luda McIntire, 703 1/2 North Sixteenth street, told the police some one stole a rug valued at \$12 from her hallway.
Sam Risenman, 2308-10 Cumming street, reported that some one stole a tire from the rear of his car. The value of the tire was \$35.
J. Shainholz said some one stole his overcoat from the Y. M. C. A. lobby. Shainholz valued the coat at \$50.
Virgil Johnson, Brandeis stores employee, said his leather overcoat, value \$63, was taken from a locker at the store.

And the next day after Christmas -- You'll Find Her Shopping at Lamond's 1/2 Price Sale of Coats and Suits Meet Her There-- Friday and Saturday

Smart Wear for Women
2nd Floor Securities Dept.

To Fortify the System Against Grip. Take LEXATIVE BROMIDE Tablets, which destroy germs, act as a Tonic, Influenza, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Pertussis, Measles, Typhoid, Cholera, Typhus, Malaria, and all other diseases of the bowels.

SOLDIER GANGS USE WOMEN AS DECOYS TO ROB

Startling State of Affairs at French Front Told of By Major.

New York, Dec. 25.—Murders and robberies committed in Lemans by gangs of American and French soldiers, using women as decoys, were described by Maj. George Armstrong of Detroit who served as assistant provost marshal in the American troop area.
Major Armstrong was called by the defense as a witness at the court-martial of Capt. Karl W. Detzer of the 308th military police company, who is charged with cruelty to prisoners while directing criminal investigation work in Lemans.
Major Armstrong testified that he had direct charge of 2,200 military policemen in Lemans from August, 1918, until January, 1919, and that during this period 1,500,000 Americans passed through the area.
A large lawless element was at work, he said, and while he was in Lemans 25 murders were committed and chateaux robbed of thousands of dollars worth of furnishings.
The thugs, he said, were known as the "River gang," "Chateau gang," "Jewelry gang" and other designations denoting their "specialty."
All the thugs, he said, were arrested by the military police and are now serving sentences of two to 15 years. Notwithstanding the character of the men with whom they had to deal, he said, all M. P.'s in the area were ordered not to strike prisoners except in self-defense.

Kaufman Buys McClure's And Will Edit Magazine

New York, Dec. 25.—McClure's Magazine has been bought by Herbert Kaufman, poet, author and editorial writer, it was announced by Frederick L. Collins, president of the company. All the stocks of McClure's publications, incorporated, went to Mr. Kaufman in the purchase, Mr. Collins said.
Mr. Kaufman will be editor of the magazine, it was stated, and no other change in the staff is contemplated.

Says Denikine's Force Must Flee to Roumania

Geneva, Dec. 25.—The retreat of General Denikine's volunteers has been complete, according to a Bureau dispatch. The only recourse, the dispatch adds, is to seek refuge in Roumania.

D'Olier Sends Greetings to American Legion Officers

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 25.—Department commanders, executive committee members, alternates and adjutants of the American Legion were sent holiday greetings by Franklin D'Olier, national commander. He thanked them for their co-operation and warned against "any future overzealous, thoughtless or unfair act which can weaken the legion's influence for national betterment."

"Frisco Pete" Escapes From Officer on Train

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farmhouses for miles around said they had seen nothing of the fugitive.
May Be in Omaha.
Sheriff Mike Clark is of the belief that "Frisco Pete" is in Omaha. "He was thinly clad," said Clark yesterday. "Johnson had taken what money he had. He didn't inquire at any farmhouses for food, as nearly as we can learn. We are tracing all cars stolen in the vicinity between Plattsmouth and Omaha in the belief that Frisco will steal a car and return to his friends in Omaha for help and protection."
"The police and my men are on the lookout for him here and I believe he will be caught soon."
"Frisco Pete" and Dave Gikinsky were arrested shortly after the Storz home had been robbed in broad daylight.
After a hearing in police court they were bound over to district court for trial. A maid in the Storz home identified them as the men who represented themselves to be officers of the law and took the six cases of wine from the Storz basement.

Few Prisoners Escape.

When the case was called in district court, Wegworth failed to appear. He was arrested recently in Tulsa on a Mann act charge. The Tulsa police allege that he took a girl named "June" from Omaha to Tulsa for immoral purposes. The case was dismissed and he was turned over to Deputy Sheriff Johnson.
According to Sheriff Clark, but three men have ever escaped from his deputies. "Two men escaped in a similar manner from a deputy this summer while being brought to Omaha from St. Joseph. They were later caught. The police caught one and deputy sheriffs caught the other. "Frisco Pete" is the third. A man charged with insanity but who was later dismissed from the charge, ran down the court house steps one day, but came back later. The next prisoner who escapes will take the deputy's job with him.

Police Break Up Parade in Garb of Prisoners

Wearing "Stripes" and Manacles Marchers Stage Plea for Political Convicts.

New York, Dec. 25.—The Christmas day celebration of the League for Amnesty for Political Prisoners, met with disaster today when police, soldiers and irate citizens broke it up. Several hundred men and women, placarded and "single filed" for the start of their "walk" on Fifth avenue, dwindled to about 50 persons, divided into two wandering bodies which found their way "home" to the parish house of the Church of the Ascension in West Eleventh street after many hours of wandering.
Church congregations emerged from services at noon without finding the league's carollers, who were to sing for them in manacles and in prison garb. An all-day vigil at Trinity church downtown saw no demonstrations there. Police warnings of drastic action to be taken if attempts to violate the law were made brought changes in the league's Christmas program, notable for omissions, it was said.
Placards carried by the "walkers" were destroyed wholesale by the police and volunteer assistants. A number of arrests were made for disobedience of police orders, and constant interruptions by police and civilians resulted in disruption of the "procession" beyond all recognition within a quarter of a mile of its start.
The route of the "walkers" was to have been up Fifth avenue. At Twenty-ninth street, it made another effort to get on Fifth avenue and succeeded in "walking" a whole block there before the police went into action again and diverted the line to Broadway. At Herald Square the straggling column split, one continuing to Forty-second street and Bryant Park and by various ways, back to Eleventh street. The second line, numbering less than 20 persons, managed to get into Fifth avenue and continue along it for half a mile despite interruptions which met it at every crossing.
What was left of the demonstration gathered in the Parish House of the Church of the Ascension and discussed a proposition for protest against "brutality" of the police of Greater New York.
In a recently invented device to enable golfers to practice hangs a strip of paper that serves as a target and is punctured by an accurately driven ball.

Ireland Is Pictured As Most Prosperous Country in World

New York, Dec. 25.—Samuel S. McClure, publisher, arrived here after a three months' visit to Ireland, where he said he found a "paradise."
"Ireland is the most prosperous, comfortable and law-abiding country in the world," said Mr. McClure. "The people are well dressed and well housed. One has to read outside newspapers to learn of trouble and unsettled conditions there."
"I found that Irish banks have deposits of more than £100,000,000 and have been forced to form alliances with English banks in order to find an outlet for their money. There are 5,000,000 head of cattle in Ireland. Ireland has exported as much food to England since 1913 as either the United States or the Argentine Republic."
The average automobile owner drives no less than 4,000 miles a year, and buys a new model every third year.

Kansas Miners Disobey Order to Enter Mines

Pittsburg, Kan., Dec. 25.—Early reports show that not all of the Kansas coal miners who walked out yesterday in protest against the sending of Alexander Howat to jail were returning to work. It was announced at the headquarters of the operators' association that six mines had been reported idle.
No word has been received here as yet for a meeting of the executive board of the Kansas district of mine workers Friday to end the strike against the Central Coal and Coke company. This call is said to have been issued by Howat from Indianapolis yesterday.

Commission on Coal Problem Meets Monday

Washington, Dec. 25.—President Wilson has issued a call for a meeting here Monday of the special commission appointed to investigate wages and prices in the bituminous coal industry. The commission at that time is expected to lay plans for its inquiry, which probably will continue several weeks.

Did You Receive a Check For Christmas?



If so, why not invest it in a constant reminder of the donor?
A Piano, A Pianola or Vocalion
From Our Great Stock Will Last You a Lifetime.
CASH OR PAYMENT
OAKFORD Music Co. 1807 Farnam St. Omaha, Neb.

1508-1510 Douglas St. Julius Orkin 1508-1510 Douglas St.

Starting Friday A. M. Our Annual YEAR-END CLEARANCE

Offering Our Entire Stock of SUITS, COATS and DRESSES

At Reductions of 1/3 to 1/2 OFF

IT'S our annual clearing sale of our entire high class stock embracing Coats, Suits and Dresses of high quality and exclusive styles. This great event is an established custom of this business. When we announce a sale, you know that there are absolutely no fictitious values quoted--that every garment and price will be exactly as advertised. We have made our profits and are willing to take a loss now in order to clean up our stock quickly.

These will give you some idea the way prices have been reduced at this great sale

| COATS | SUITS | DRESSES |
|---|--|--|
| Up to \$39.50 Coats Now \$22.75 | Up to \$45.00 Suits Now \$24.75 | \$29.50 and \$25.00 Dresses Now \$14.75 |
| Up to \$59.50 Coats Now \$33.75 | Up to \$65.00 Suits Now \$38.75 | \$39.50 and \$35.00 Dresses Now \$19.75 |
| Up to \$69.50 Coats Now \$44.75 | Up to \$85.00 Suits Now \$48.75 | \$49.50 and \$45.00 Dresses Now \$24.75 |
| Up to \$89.50 Coats Now \$55.75 | Up to \$95.00 Suits Now \$58.75 | \$59.50 and \$55.00 Dresses Now \$28.75 |
| Up to \$115.00 Coats Now \$66.75 | Up to \$125.00 Suits Now \$68.75 | \$69.50 and \$65.00 Dresses Now \$38.75 |
| Up to \$135.00 Coats Now \$77.75 | All Our Higher Priced Suits Reduced in Same Proportions | \$85.00 and \$75.00 Dresses Now \$48.75 |