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**London Under Rationing System.**

**War Measures Food Act Re-introduced -- Great Railway Strike Responsible--Strike Leaders Bluff Employees -- Government Operating Trains--No Sailings From United States While Strike Lasts.**

**ON RATIONS AGAIN.**

LONDON, Sept. 29. London today faced stricter food rationing than for a year. Regulations which were winked at even before the armistice when supplies started coming in in larger quantities to-day were clamped down hard on all kinds of meat and butter and sugar. Cured meats which were only slightly rationed during the war, to-day were placed in the same category as other meats. Fish was not placed upon the ration edict, but the lack of transportation is affecting the supply. It is roughly estimated that there is a fourteen week's food supply in the country, if it is conserved. Restrictionists have eliminated butter from their menus, and restricted bread to one role per meal. The familiar miniature war steaks again are in evidence.

**WOULD HAVE BEEN AVERTED IF BALLOT TAKEN.**

LONDON, Sept. 29. (Reuter's.)—Secretary Appleton of the General Federation of the trade unions, interviewed by Reuter, said that in view of the fact that no issue was involved between the railwaymen and the government until the end of December, he believed that if the railwaymen had balloted there would have been no strike. Mr. Appleton said that he was of the opinion that the effect of the strike on other trades will not be certain for some days.

**DECISION DELAYED.**

LONDON, Sept. 29. The transport workers federation to-night postponed decision on the question whether a general strike of tramway, omnibus, dock and riverside workers should be called. The postponement was due to the absence of a number of delegates who could not reach the meeting owing to the railway strike.

**THE STRIKE SITUATION.**

LONDON, Sept. 29. (Reuter's.)—The following official statement was issued to-day: "The general situation is improving, government measures are working satisfactorily and food distribution is proceeding smoothly. Offers of voluntary assistance are still pouring in." J. H. Thomas, secretary of the railwaymen's union, announces that there has been no development in the situation

and that no direct or indirect negotiations for a settlement are taking place. At midday to-day the situation had not materially changed and with the transport workers and busmen still working, the element of surprise has not proved so successful as was anticipated. Rationing of foodstuffs and petrol and other drastic government measures have been a steady influence and to a superficial view things have been going on in a limited way much as usual, but the future hold many uncertainties. The transport workers and busmen are apparently eager to come out in sympathy with the railway men and as far as the situation in London with its nineteen millions of concentrated humanity is concerned, there is no doubt an extension of the strike in that direction would to a great extent cause paralysis in the metropolis. The authorities of course, are making every preparation but there are obvious limits to its organizing powers without the aid of transportation. Much will depend on the Government's power to maintain some sort of a train service and the outlook in this respect seems to be improving.

**ALL SAILINGS CANCELLED.**

WASHINGTON, Sept. 29. All sailings to ports in Great Britain have been cancelled by the Shipping Board because of the strike of railway workers there.

**SOLDIERS TO ASSIST.**

LONDON, Sept. 29. Government officials were decidedly optimistic this morning in their expressions regarding the trend of the strike. The correspondent was officially informed that the machinery for the distribution of food is working so well that it is possible to announce that adequate supplies are absolutely guaranteed to the country. More than 100 trains are operating in the various districts and the number is increasing to-day, some of the operatives being volunteers and other union men who oppose the strike. The Government's attitude is unchanged. The Associated Press was told. It proposes to govern and not be run by a section of the community. Public sentiment, it was stated, is absolutely with the Government which is being deluged by offers of voluntary service from all parts of the country. Hundreds of thousands have already volunteered

ed, including large numbers of organizations of discharged soldiers and sailors who were tendering their services as bodies. The possibility of a spread of the strike to a few other unions is not overlooked, but no anxiety is expressed over this.

**NOT DELAYED BY STRIKERS.**

LONDON, Sept. 29. The Cunard Line steamer Saxonia sailed from Tilbury for New York to-day, notwithstanding the inconveniences created by the railroad strike. The vessel had on board 2000 passengers. Most of them motored to London Bridge from where they were taken by river steamers down stream to Tilbury on board the Saxonia.

**PART SERVICE KEPT UP.**

LONDON, Sept. 29. Two attempts to wreck the London to Brighton trains by boulders on the line are reported. The military are now on guard on the line. Strikers in Scotland have held up two trains, and one fireman was injured. The London and Brighton Company deny that seventy-five per cent. of drivers and firemen have resumed work, which it is reported they had offered. Except on certain of the trunk lines to the north, trains are now running on nearly every railway. An official report states that the Great Western service is almost normal. Many up-river residents are travelling to and from the city by the river. The London Electricians' Union has decided to take no action at present. At a meeting, the Livery men pledged their support of the Government, and demanded the immediate reassembly of Parliament. An extraordinarily large number of volunteers are coming forward. The position of the underground railways is much more hopeful. The power station at Chelsea is fully manned by volunteers. The renewal of the power will also enable the starting of the Surrey trams, considerably relieving the position of Southern London. Troops are being transported to important centres by destroyers, which are also conveying some mails. The sympathetic strike of the fish porters at Billingsgate has ended, and plentiful supplies of fish are arriving. Despite the promising signs, Secretary Bromley of the Drivers' and Firemen's Union, asserts the struggle will be long and most severe.

**Prize Winners.**

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**SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT.**—With great pleasure it is announced that the Newfoundland Highlanders' Association, represented by Mr. Carl Trapnell, has agreed to supply performers to this Theatre during the coming week. Amounts equalling fees paid to professional singers will be donated to the Association Fund. By request of several lovers of music, Mr. Carl Trapnell will sing to-night "THE ROSARY."



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