

## GREAT BRITAIN, STRIKE RIDDEN, DIFFICULT TO PUT BOUNDS ON; AREA OF INDUSTRIAL UNREST

### Workers Dissatisfied With the Government's Apathy Regarding the Establishment of a Shorter Working Week—General Strike Throughout Scotland Threatened Today—Policemen Quit Today Unless Their Demands Are Acceded to.

(Special Cable to The N. Y. Tribune and The St. John Standard.)  
By F. A. Wray.

London, Jan. 26.—Whether due to the strain of overwork, the high cost of living or post-war irritability, the fact is clear today that the whole of Great Britain is completely strike ridden, and it is difficult to put bounds on the area of industrial unrest.

The inside cause of the calamity with which the country is threatened is the workers' dissatisfaction with the government's apathy regarding the establishment of a shorter working week, but the underlying factors are probably those enumerated above.

Today all currents seem to be flowing in one channel. The developments in the situation within the past twenty-four hours are:

1. There is a threatened general strike of engineers over the 47-hour week. This originated in local trouble in London, but spread England-wide. There is a strong movement among the unions to bring the present strikers back to work until they are ready for a possible general strike two weeks hence.
2. One hundred and fifty thousand Yorkshire miners arranged to strike tomorrow as a protest against the lockout of 40,000 men and boys for taking 20 minutes' lunch time. Unless a settlement is reached before Saturday noon, the leaders intend to call out all engine-men, firemen and boilermen. (An agreement has been reached with these men.)
3. The railwaymen delegates, representing 160 branches of the national union, decided to call a general strike February 9, "unless the 54-hour day as a national program is enforced immediately." With J. H. Thomas, the most steady factor in the railway workers' movement, absent on a tour of the continent, this move gives rise to extreme anxiety.
4. A general strike threatens throughout Scotland, beginning next Monday, unless the workers' demands for a forty-eight hour week is granted.
5. The two largest coal pits in England, at Mansfield and Rufford, are idle today because twenty-five men were served with notices for the

## STORM THREATENS THE FIRST SESSION PEACE CONFERENCE ON THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS

### Although a Cloud No Bigger Than a Man's Hand It Looked at One Time as Though There Would be a General Alignment of Small Powers Against the Five Great Powers—Averted by the Skilful Generalship of M. Clemenceau—The Session One of Impressive Dignity.

Paris, Jan. 26.—The peace conference Saturday weathered its first storm and under the inspiration of a speech by President Wilson and skilful guidance by M. Clemenceau, the chairman, unanimously adopted the resolution declaring for a league of nations.

The conference also went on record in favor of incorporating the league as an integral part of the general treaty of peace and admitting to the league "every civilized nation which can be relied on to promote its objects."

Belgium, Serbia, Rumania, Portugal, Brazil, Siam, China and Czecho-Slovakia protested against the various committees being largely restricted to the great powers and asked for proportionate representation privileges, particularly on bodies dealing with the league of nations, labor and reparations for war damages.

Although it was a cloud no bigger than a man's hand, it threatened at one time to grow into a general alignment of the small powers against the five great powers. This, however, was averted by M. Clemenceau's good tempered and skilful direction.

The sessions had the same impressive dignity as the opening session, with a picturesque setting of Arabs and Indians in their turbans and tunics, as well as a distinguished array of prime ministers and other world figures. President Wilson, for the first time was accompanied by the entire American delegation, Colonel House having recovered sufficiently from his illness to be present.

Although it had been expected that Premier Lloyd George would open the discussion on the league of nations, President Wilson had this honor. The president in a brief address, and the resolution, favoring the league, was adopted without dissent after the proposal had been seconded by Premier Orlando for Italy, Paul Huynmans for Belgium and Mr. Lu for China.

When the other resolutions were brought up and the outstanding questions were made, M. Clemenceau made a plea for harmony and on his assurance that the Supreme Council would give attention to the viewpoint of the small nations, all proposed amendments were withdrawn, and the resolutions were adopted unanimously.

**Presents Resolution.**

President Wilson outlined the plan of a league of nations and presented the resolution for the league of nations. "Select classes of men no longer direct the affairs of the world," said the president, "but the fortunes of the world are now in the hands of the plain people. The wish of the people, therefore, must be heard. The war had swept away those old foundations by which a country represented itself as a power in a game. Nothing but emancipation from the old system, he contended, would accomplish real peace.

The president saw American soldiers in the street—soldiers who had come, not alone for war, but as crusaders in a great cause," and he added, "and I, like them, must be a crusader. Whatever it costs to accomplish that end."

After declaring that the conference was for the purpose of a settlement arising out of the war, and to make peace for the world, President Wilson said: "A league of nations seems necessary for both purposes. There are many questions which we feel cannot ultimately be worked out here, that may require subsequent consideration; subsequent alterations even to some degree."

He described how the war burden was borne by the people as well as by

## ALL RUSSIAN FACTIONS APPEAR ADVERSE TO ACCEPTING THE INVITATION OF SUPREME COUNCIL

### Believed Council Will Pursue a Watchful Waiting Policy—It is Certain That the Powers Cannot be Brought to Undertake a Joint Military Expedition in Russia in Force Now, if at All—Will Not Hold Meeting Where Bolsheviks Can Spread Their Doctrine by Speeches.

Paris, Jan. 26. (By The A. P.)—The general opinion expressed this evening was that the wireless message sent yesterday by M. Tchitcherin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Soviet government, in Russia, is the only direct expression provoked thus far by the peace conference's wireless invitation to the Russian faction and that this fact must be taken as indicating that the final attitude of the Bolshevik government is hostile to a meeting under the conditions proposed.

It is regarded possible that a more formal reply will be received from the Bolsheviks, but the dissatisfaction expressed by the Soviet commissioner for foreign affairs, is considered as amounting to a rejection of the invitation. It was indicated by Stephen Pichon, the French foreign minister, in an interview today, that it rests with the supreme council to decide upon the course to be followed in case the Princes' Island meeting is abandoned.

It is declared that the supreme council will not consent to hold the meeting anywhere where the Bolsheviks will have an opportunity to indulge in speeches calculated to spread their doctrine among the peoples of the Entente countries and the United States. Such opinions as could be gathered today in Paris regarding the probable course to be pursued were to the effect that the supreme council will adopt a waiting policy. It was considered certain by those who gave opinions on the situation that the powers cannot be brought to undertake a joint military expedition in Russia in force now, if at all. Each of the great powers has declined to send such a force of its own men, and the American position in opposition to an expedition is declared to be even more pronounced than that of any other nation, though there have been intimations that the Entente powers looked to the United States to undertake the operation in view of the fact that the Entente powers have suffered more losses as a result of the war.

The Bolsheviks, however, do not reject the principles of arbitration. Vladimir Bourzoff, a well known Russian revolutionist, in an article in the Matin, says that the Russian parties, opposed to the Bolsheviks, will positively refuse to attend the conference on Princes' Island, and, because they look on the Bolsheviks as traitors to the Fatherland and

## PREMIER EISNER IS DISAPPOINTED

### The German Elections Were Not to His Liking and He Voices His Disapproval of Results.

Amsterdam, Friday, Jan. 24.—Kurt Eisner, the Bavarian Premier, in a speech at Munich, according to the Koelnische Zeitung, voiced disappointment over the results of the German elections.

"Clericalism is threatening Bavaria," said Eisner, "Bavarianism reigns in Prussia, which is already warring against the Poles. Ludendorff rules in Berlin. Such a state of affairs is intolerable. It is disgraceful that even a meeting of workmen in Munich received the news of the death of Dr. Karl Liebknecht and Rosa Luxemburg with cheers."

The recent elections the Eisner party and the Independent Socialists secured only four of the 160 delegates.

## PICHON TALKS TO THE NEWSPAPERMEN

### Nothing Has Been Heard from the Invitation to Russian Factions to Meet in Conference.

Paris, Jan. 26.—(By The Associated Press)—Stephen Pichon, the French Foreign Minister, received the Associated Press and a number of British, American, Italian and Japanese newspaper correspondents at his private office in the Foreign Office today, and talked freely and frankly of the status of the big foreign questions as they are affected by the conference. The meeting was in the same room where the council of the great powers meets, and, for a time, the press representatives of the great powers found themselves occupying the same environment as the Supreme Council.

"We have no response from any of the Russian elements," said the minister, answering the first question relative to the invitation to the Russians to meet at Princes' Island for a conference with the Allied and Associated Powers. "We have seen reports in the papers giving the views of the Russian governments in Paris, and the published despatch of M. Louquet, leader of the French minority socialists, relative to the Bolsheviks, but beyond these press publications, nothing has been received from any groups or elements."

## LONDON STILL IN FERMENT

### No Indications at Late Hour Last Night of Threatened Strike Being Averted Today

London, Jan. 26.—Industrial ferment continues. Another conference of the Railway Union, representing nearly the whole kingdom, was held in London today, and a strong feeling was expressed regarding the government's continued neglect to deal adequately with the situation.

## AGAINST AUTOCRACY AND ASK MODERN FORM OF GOVERNMENT

### Governments of Siberia, Caucasus and Crimea Appeal to the Allied and Associated Governments for Help and Justice—Want to be Assured the Widest Possible Autonomy and the Maintenance of the Unity of the Nation.

Paris, Jan. 26.—The Governments of Siberia, the Caucasus and the Crimea have addressed to the Russian representatives gathered in Paris, a declaration to be presented to the Allied and Associated Governments. It is in the form of an appeal for help and justice.

The Governments, in addressing the Allies and Associated Governments, say that they are equally against past and present autocracy, and that they are only aiming to establish through Russia a modern, progressive and democratic form of government, granting to all racial sects cultural freedom on the broadest lines, thus insuring the widest possible autonomy and the maintenance of the unity of the nation.

## Territories That Were Warned To Cease Warring

By Hampton Hunt.  
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Paris, Jan. 26.—The official warning, issued by the peace conference against continuation of hostilities in certain unnamed territories refers first, it is authoritatively stated, to the Banat, Romania, which is claimed by Rumania and the Serbs; secondly, to certain districts of Silesia, claimed alike by Poland and the Czecho-Slovaks; thirdly, to Dalmatia, which is occupied by Italy, but is claimed by the Jugo Slavs; and fourthly, to the City of Fiume, occupied by Allied troops, but claimed by both Italy and the Jugo Slavs.

## ESSEQUIBO HAD 571 HOSPITAL CASES

Docked at Halifax Sunday and Passengers Entrained for Their Various Districts.

Halifax, Jan. 26.—The hospital steamer Essequebo docked this morning shortly before nine o'clock, and her passengers very soon afterwards began coming ashore. The Essequebo left Liverpool on January 13 and arrived at Halifax the evening of January 24. She had a fairly rough passage. Speed in departure is not possible from a hospital ship as it is with a transport bringing unwounded returned soldiers. The first train to leave with Essequebo passengers was for Vancouver, which pulled out about 10:30 o'clock in the afternoon, and the remaining troops left on two trains at intervals of about an hour and a half afterwards.

The Essequebo had 571 in total, made up of 26 officers, 30 nursing sisters and 528 other ranks. There were seven cot cases all for Winnipeg, and of those on board 341 were classed as convalescent cases. A passenger, well known in Halifax, was Lieut.-Col. J. S. Carrothers, son-in-law of Senator Crosby. A Roman Catholic chaplain who returned was Capt. C. D. O'Gorman of Bishop's house, Pembroke. Before going overseas he was assistant to the parish priest in that place in the diocese of Pembroke. Father O'Gorman went overseas in October, 1917, and in France was attached to the 8th Canadian Stationary Hospital with the Independent air force. Another officer who returned was Major F. H. C. McDonald of Toronto.

## SLEET STORM AT FREDERICTON

### Telephone, Telegraph and Electric Light Wires Were Put Out of Commission Several Hours.

Special to The Standard.  
Fredericton, Jan. 26.—The Right Rev. Dr. Roper, Anglican Bishop of London, Ont., preached to a large congregation in the Cathedral here today.

The firemen were called out about seven o'clock this evening for a slight blaze on the roof of the residence of Dr. Ross, Charlotte street. The damage done was slight.

The telegraph, telephone and electric light wires which were more or less put out of commission by the recent storm are once more working at normal. It is estimated the damage done to the wires will reach several thousands of dollars.

## BOLSHEVIKI TALK AT MONTREAL

### Speaker at Meeting of Laborers Says Beyonds Are Only Solution of Unemployment Question.

Montreal, Que., Jan. 26.—Isidore Boulticq, who was arrested on Friday for an inflammatory speech at a meeting of the unemployed and who was released next day, after having provided his British citizenship, again addressed a meeting today in which he hinted at the use of beyonds as a solution of the unemployment question that had been expressed by a previous speaker, Albert St. Martin.

The meeting took place in the Labor V. Debs, and was attended by about 2,500 men who loudly cheered every reference to the Soviet government of Russia.

## RAISING BIG ARMY

London, Jan. 25.—Travelers reaching Copenhagen and Bergen from northern Russia, according to advices received here, say that the Bolsheviks are attempting to raise an army of two million men for a campaign in south Russia in the spring.

## DEB'S SENTENCE STANDS

Washington, Jan. 24.—A government brief was filed in the Supreme Court today upholding the action of the lower court in the case of Eugene V. Debs, the Socialist leader, sentenced to ten years imprisonment under the Espionage Act for statements made in a speech at Canton, Ohio, last June.

## TWO MEN BURIED BY FALL OF COAL

### After Three Hours of Work They Were Rescued—Escaped Serious Injury.

Special to The Standard.  
New Glasgow, N.S., Jan. 25.—An accident occurred at the Albion colliery today which might easily have resulted fatally, but, happily, did not. Messrs. Eric Armstrong, of Fox Brook, and Duncan Chisholm, Mountain Road, got buried in a fall of coal at the west ending. The fall released a body of gas, and the drafter men had to be called.

After three hours' hard work, the two men were rescued. Dr. John J. McDonald, New Glasgow, was called, and went down the mine right to the working place. Mr. Chisholm has been taken to the hospital. Mr. Armstrong was able to walk around and got off more easily than did Chisholm, who was in a position where he sustained more of the fall than his partner. No bones were broken in either man. It was a miraculous escape.

## FOOD BOARD ASKS FOR MAPLE SUGAR

### Urging Greater Activity in This Sweet Industry During the Coming Season—1919 Operations Should Surpass That of Last Season.

Ottawa, Jan. 26.—The Canada Food Board is calling into conference on Wednesday leaders in the maple sugar industry to consider means for increasing the production of maple syrup and maple sugar this spring. Last year, as the result of a similar campaign more producers went to work, the sugar harvest was better than ever before and though the unusually cold weather held back the flow of sap to some extent in certain districts the total production is estimated to have been increased by over twenty per cent. Figures recorded at the customs department of the Dominion government show that exports of maple sugar increased from 2,600,000 pounds in 1917 to 3,550,000 pounds in 1918, or 26 per cent, while in value the increase was 75 per cent.

"There is every need for the greatest possible production this year," said Chairman H. B. Thomson, in view of our war debt, and the drain upon the country's resources during the last four years. Natural production of all kinds is Canada's business duty. Maple sugar and maple syrup is our first crop of the year and efforts should be made to take full advantage of the run of maple sap this spring." Authorities declare that the mild winter and the unusual degree of moisture in the ground will increase the yield of sap in the trees this coming season and granted favorable weather in March and April, the result of the 1919 operations should surpass that of last year.

## SINN FEINERS GET THEIR PASSPORTS

(Special Cable to The N. Y. Tribune and The St. John Standard.)  
By Frederick Moore.

Paris, Jan. 26.—It is understood here that the Lord Mayor of Dublin, Councillor Byrnes and Alderman Kelly, all men of Sinn Fein proclivities, have received passports from the British government to come here and present to President Wilson the freedom of the city of Dublin.

## IN SANGUINARY FIGHTING CZECH TROOPS CAPTURE ODERBERG

### German Government Making All Preparations to Assure the Safety of Its People Against Poles as Well as Czechs, According to the Vorwaerts.

Amsterdam, Jan. 26.—Czech troops fighting between the Czechs and Poles at Oderberg, says: "We will not again let Germany be according to a despatch from the Prussian National Council. Oderberg is a town of 1500 population situated on the Oder river, on the frontier between Austria, Silesia and Prussia. The Vorwaerts, commenting on the

## BELFAST WITHOUT ELECTRIC LIGHTS

### Strike Among Municipal Workers Has Left the City Without Gas or Electricity.

Belfast, Jan. 26.—Owing to a strike in the dockyard and among municipal workers the entire city of Belfast was without gas or electricity today. There was no street car service and tonight the people had to do without electric lights. Church services were abandoned.

## WANTS INTERVENTION

Paris, Jan. 26.—Pope Benedict has requested intervention by Monsignor Ratti, Papal delegate at Warsaw, Archbishop Biezanski, of Poznan, and Archbishop Szepyski, of Lemberg, to end the conflict between the Ukrainians and Polish troops, according to a message received in Paris by the Polish National Council.