

RAIL COMPANIES, EMPLOYEES, HAVE MORAL OBLIGATION TO PERFORM, SAYS LABOR HEAD

(By Associated Press)
BOSTON, Mass., Jan. 27.—Railway managements and their employes have a moral obligation to avoid interruption of traffic and the United States Railroad Labor Board is endeavoring to lead both carriers and rail workers to carry out the obligation, Ben W. Hooper, vice-chairman of the labor board declared today before the Boston Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Hooper, G. W. V. Hanger, public member, and W. L. McMenimen, labor member of the board, were guests of the chamber at a luncheon, where Mr. Hooper voiced the opinion that America had passed through "the winter of our discontent" and was now "standing on tiptoe, with the slogan of the vernacular on her lips, 'Let's go.'"

"The hard pull is over," the former governor of Tennessee said. "The farmer is the only man in the country who has really defeated. He alone did not have the parachute of organization to retard his descent and break his fall. The next time this country takes an international joyride in the Zeppelin of war, the farmer will have his parachute along with him and will not be invited to step out on a storm cloud and slide down on a rainbow."

Mr. Hooper said he expected the number of railway employees to be largely increased in the spring, that revenues would be enlarged by increased business and that conditions probably would justify a reduction of rates "which is so essential to the restoration of normal business."

In return to normal, Gov. Hooper said, the railroads had accomplished

the transition without any general strike or serious disturbance. "As a rule, both managements and employes have co-operated cordially in carrying out the Transportation Act," Mr. Hooper said. "This has not been easy for either side. The railroads have had to contend with financial difficulties, and have been continually subjected to the temptation of taking the bit in their teeth and trying to get relief by independent action more quickly than the labor board considered it just and reasonable to give to them. Only a few carriers have succumbed to this temptation, and, in every instance, friction and discontent have resulted."

Complain About Rights.
"The complaints of the employes have been that certain carriers, to avoid dealing with labor organizations, have disregarded the rights of the majority guaranteed by the Transportation Act, that certain carriers have evaded the board's wage orders by having receivers in charge put into effect wage orders of the courts without submitting the matter to the board and that certain carriers have evaded wage decisions of the board by contracting or claiming to contract certain classes of their work to independent contractors."

"Whatever may be the merit of these contentions of the employes, it is evident that they involve provocative situations. Under somewhat trying circumstances, the employes have exhibited commendable self-restraint. On the other hand, practically all the carriers have promptly put into effect decisions of the labor board with which they were not in thorough accord and have struggled patiently and courageously with discouraging conditions."

The Overseas Women

By FREDERICK J. HASKIN

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 27.—Those who said that the women who went overseas would come back changed seem to have been right. Overseas women, back from huts and canteens, have not been content to settle down to the old routine of work and play. The thrill of being in contact with a World War is not easily forgotten.

Because of the memories of that thrill, small groups of the women who had been across began to form, and when they got together they talked not so much about "what we did" as what it would be interesting to do now. Out of these scattered little clubs in various cities there has recently grown up a new national organization called the Women's Overseas Service League, with units in a number of cities and states.

The organization last week presented a request to congress asking that the league be incorporated, and the bill authorizing this has been passed upon favorably by the judiciary committee.

The president of the local unit explained to us that overseas women entered service in response to the government's call, and by a national charter they will receive national recognition for their services. The overseas women, she pointed out, are a unique body: "Such a group of women, who held positions directly connected with war operations, never existed before, and we hope there never will be need for such a group again. But we wish to remain in existence so that we

may be ready for service and to preserve the comradeship of the war days."

According to the bill before congress, only women who served overseas for the allied cause at some time between Aug. 1, 1914, and Jan. 1, 1920, are eligible. This makes eligible overseas women of all the various war councils and associations. It excludes, however, women who have gone to Europe to do reconstruction work since Jan. 1, 1920.

The reason for the existence of the new league is set forth in the bill: "That the purpose of this corporation shall be to keep alive and develop the spirit that prompted overseas service, to maintain the ties of comradeship born of that service and to assist and further any patriotic work; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to

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According to a report from the Vatican, it was the dying wish of Pope Benedict that Cardinal Lefebvre (above) be his successor.

work for the welfare of the army and navy; to assist in any way in their power men and women who served and were wounded or incapacitated in the World War; to foster and promote friendship and understanding between

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America and the allies in the World War."

Some of the units are already at work carrying out this purpose. The girls cannot work as they did in France or Poland, because most of them have positions and interests that take up their time, but in a few hours snatched here and there the overseas girls are carrying on.

Some units have undertaken to keep the soldiers and veterans in an institution cheerful by supplying them with books, games, music and entertainment. The Seattle unit has opened a service men's information bureau and reading room for the men of that city. Summer picnics for the men in a public health hospital were another popular project engineered by this unit last fall.

Another group has an employment bureau for ex-soldiers. Omaha girls back from overseas have given benefits of various sorts to help a new vocational school and hospital for ex-service men. The list could be extended indefinitely. The girls look about the home town to find some phase of welfare that needs help, and then they go quietly to work.

The overseas girl learned to work efficiently under what would have been regarded as impossible conditions in peace time. Every member of an overseas league unit has this background of experience and tradition, and that accounts for the amount of work the units are able to do in spare time.

There are no novices at welfare work among them. Every member is at home in some line of social service, whether it is in a library, canteen, hospital or recreation center.

Help Unemployment

Scattered after their war service, the girls could have made very little use of their experience. Organized, they are at hand wherever a call comes. Already, there have been several requests for their assistance. In the New York unemployment crisis, the local unit of overseas women was asked to help the city find employment for the destitute. Colonel Forbes of the Veterans' Bureau also called on the league to help him in his clean-up campaign to adjust claims that had not been decided by the bureau.

The league expects to interest itself in several lines of welfare work with which no other organization seems to be concerned. For instance, there are overseas girls themselves who suffered from their war service. If their injuries could be shown directly due to service some provision was made for them. But in a few cases, women have developed tuberculosis or nervous troubles which could not be definitely connected with war experiences, but which nevertheless were probably brought on by strain and hardship abroad. The league hopes, when possible, to help such girls in their rehabilitation difficulties.

Almost all organizations of this post-



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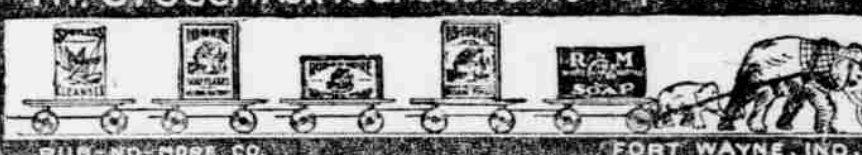
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