

FARM STRIKE TRUCE CALLED BY LEADERS; TAKES EFFECT TODAY

Cessation in Iowa Is Ordered
Pending Conference of Gov-
ernors at Sioux City Sept. 9.

LIVES CALLED IN JEOPARDY

Shooting and Tear Gassing of
Fourteen Farmers at Chero-
kee Is Cited in Order.

RENO ASSAILED AT MEETING

His Opponents Charge Misuse of
Funds at Des Moines Gather-
ing of Dairy Cooperative.

By **LOUIS STARK.**

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

DES MOINES, Aug. 31.—The farmers' "holiday" which was to have forced up the price of farm products to "production cost" in thirty days was halted tonight following the shooting of fourteen pickets earlier in the day in Cherokee County.

Milo Reno, national chairman of the Farmers' Holiday Association and John Chalmers, committee chairman, in a joint telegram to all offices of the association announced that a "temporary truce" had been called because of the shooting and in view of the Governors' conference set for Sept. 9 at Sioux City.

The sentiment here is that the announcement spells a virtual admission of defeat for the movement which began on Aug. 8 and which was accompanied by many acts of violence in encounters between pickets and deputy sheriffs.

The decision to call off the strike followed by a few hours an admonition from Governor Turner that "law and order must be maintained and the highways kept open."

Setbacks Discourage Leaders.

Two additional setbacks today discouraged the leaders of the farm holiday movement. One was the refusal of the strongly organized Des Moines Cooperative Dairy Marketing Association to take part in the milk blockade.

The other was the scant attendance at the State fair of a meeting called by the farmers' union to broadcast the objects of the holiday movement. Glenn B. Miller, president of the Iowa Farmers' Union was to have spoken at the fair, the occasion being farmers' union day. There were only twenty-eight persons in the tent when the time for speaking arrived, and Mr. Miller canceled the speech "because the band to draw the crowd did not show up."

Mr. Reno, who was scathingly assailed at the cooperative dairy meeting today, was under the care of a doctor this evening and had canceled all his speaking engagements.

Neither Mr. Chalmers nor any of his associates would say whether the strike would be resumed after the meeting of the Governors' conference if a program to increase prices of farm products is not agreed on at that meeting.

Much skepticism prevails here as to whether the meeting will be held. The call was issued last Saturday by Governor Green of South Dakota, who asked the Governors of fifteen States to meet in Sioux City to discuss a plan to raise the price of agricultural products.

Acceptances were received from Governor Olsen of Minnesota, a Farmer-Labor party executive, who favors drastic measures, even to the extent of martial law, to prevent the sale of farm products until prices go up. Others who accepted were Governor Turner of Iowa and Governors White of Ohio and Murray of Oklahoma. Governor White will send his Secretary of Agriculture and Governor Murray will send a representa-

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tive. Governor Bryan of Nebraska turned the invitation down.

Order to Halt Strike.

The telegram sent by Messrs. Reno and Chalmers to the county organization for widespread circulation was as follows:

"You are hereby notified that a temporary truce has been declared in the farmers' holiday movement in Iowa, such truce effective Sept. 1 and pending the Governors' conference in Sioux City Sept. 9."

"Notify all members at once. We will not jeopardize the lives of unarmed farmers in such attacks as occurred at Cherokee last night."

Backbone of Movement Broken.

With the defection of Reno and his associates the backbone of the farmers' "holiday" is likely to collapse in the other States where steps have been taken to call a strike. The movement attained its greatest proportions in Sioux City two weeks ago, when several score arrests were made. In Council Bluffs last week tear gas was used by sheriff's deputies to rout pickets and sixty-five arrests were made. Two days ago this county, Polk, was the scene of clashes between deputies conveying trucks and pickets determined to stop the entry of milk into the city.

Pickets in Council Bluffs who were advised of the order suspending the strike refused tonight to obey it.

"We will not lose what we have won," they said.

On the South Dakota side near Sioux City a trucker who tried to get live stock through the blockade barely escaped with his clothes. Milk only has been allowed to enter Sioux City since the price settlement was reached last Saturday.

Roused by Cherokee Shooting.

Violence broke out again today at several scattering points where pickets of the farm strike were patrolling roads. One hundred special deputy sheriffs late this afternoon guarded the Cherokee County

Court House, about thirty miles south of Sioux City, on hearing that a band of farmers intent on reprisal for gassing of fourteen of their number early this morning were on the march.

At Sioux Centre in the Northwest corner of the State, vigilantes surrounded a creamery when it was reported that several hundred pickets from Sioux City were on their way to forcibly close its operations.

Twelve hundred members of the Des Moines Cooperative Dairy Market Association, farmers who sell milk to local distributors, heard attacks today on Milo Reno, president of the Iowa Farmers' Union and leader in the "holiday" movement to stop all selling until prices go up. At a turbulent meeting in a local theatre here the charge was made that the Farmer's Union Mutual Insurance Company, of which Reno is president, had borrowed \$175,000 from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and that some of this money was being used to finance the "holiday." The allegation was also made that an additional \$100,000 loan was being requested from the R. F. C.

Other officers of the company asserted on behalf of Mr. Reno that last March the insurance company had borrowed \$90,000 from the R. F. C. That any of the borrowed money was being used to finance the "holiday" was denied.

The meeting voted overwhelmingly to ignore the "holiday" and to continue shipping milk into Des Moines. After much argument motions to investigate the management of the association were voted down. On member charged that the attack on Reno was staged as a ruse to detract the attention of the members from the milk situation.

Peter Winkel, manager of the Sioux City Cooperative Live Stock Marketing Association, accused Reno of mismanaging the Farmers' Union Live Stock Cooperative of Chicago. "The farmers' union has been bled white and he is now looking for a new cow to milk," said Winkel.

"These men taking part in this movement are not builders but wreckers," shouted Addison Parker. He alleged that Reno was receiving salaries from life and automobile insurance companies.

F. H. Mackaman said that while he opposed the "holiday," he thought attacks on Reno were meant to draw the members away from the real issue, the milk situation.