

GOMPERS OFFERS 7-HOUR DAY PLAN

Labor Leader, in Address to Miners, Proposes New War-Time Measure.

U. S. OFFICIALS PRAISED

Shortening of Work Period Put Forward as Preferable to Suspension of Industrial Activities by Fuel Administration.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Jan. 23.—After a spirited contest the proposition to give all districts in the coal industry of the country representation in conferences where a basic wage agreement is made, or a policy formulated that is applicable to other districts, was defeated in the convention of the United Mine Workers today by a vote of 355 to 554.

The proposition had been before the convention for three days and was opposed by district and international officers as a menace to the life of the organization.

The fight was resumed today after Samuel Gompers, of the American Federation of Labor, had made a speech in which he suggested a universal seven-hour day during the war to conserve fuel, instead of the present plan of having idle Mondays.

Mr. Gompers' speech to the miners was regarded as labor's message to the country on the action of the Fuel Administration.

He prefaced his declaration for a seven-hour day with a defense of those in high governmental station who may have made mistakes.

Purpose Declared Patriotic. They are prompted, he said, by the patriotic purpose to win the war. To expect the great transition from peace to war to be made without mistakes, he said, was asking the impossible.

Continuing, Mr. Gompers said: "The order issued a few days ago I regard as an absolute necessity. The jam had occurred and was increasing and something had to be done to relieve the situation. If the ice king has interfered there is no help for it."

"I think there is one mistake in the making, and I trust it will be changed or modified. I refer to the closing of the industrial plants of our country one additional day each week."

"I think it is a mistake to have a whole day, such as Monday, idle, and involving from Saturday afternoon until Tuesday morning. I believe if the order were changed so that instead of there being a whole day, there was a day's work, the same power would proclaim a universal seven-hour day during the war, better results would follow."

"We would have practically the same results in the conservation of fuel and all other useful commodities. It would not do violence to the history, the traditions, the work and the practical operation of industry and commerce."

No Middle Course Remains. Mr. Gompers said there can be no neutrality in this war. You have got to be either for or against the democracy," he declared. Labor must make victory sure for democracy, but he sounded the warning that labor would not surrender the standards of life except to save the Republic; that no sacrifices would be made solely to fill the pockets of the rich with large profits.

He said there was one organization that had so conducted itself that it was now without power to make a showing, much less a fight. While Mr. Gompers did not name the organization, delegates said he plainly meant the Industrial Workers of the World.

Loyal Unity Promised. From the convention hall of the miners Mr. Gompers went to the State Capitol, where he spoke at the meeting of the Indiana State Council of Defense.

After listening to speeches on the Mooney case in San Francisco by Edward D. Nolan, one of the defendants, and Edwin V. McKenney, an attorney, the convention adopted a resolution pledging the moral and financial support of the organization to the defense of those involved.

The resolution also requested that President Wilson intervene to prevent a "gross miscarriage of justice."

8-HOUR COMMISSION REPORTS Recommendations Withheld in Findings of Board.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—The eight-day commission, headed by Major-General Goethals today made its report of conditions it found to have been brought about by operation of the Adams and other express and mail railroads of the Nation. No recommendations were offered in the report, which declares that abnormal traffic conditions of the railroads make comparison of conditions impossible.

"We find," the report continued, "that the railroads in actual practice have applied the eight-hour day as a basis for reckoning compensation of the following employees: Engineers, firemen, conductors, assistant conductors, baggage men, brakemen and flagmen in road and yard service, and general hostlers.

The average number of these employees was 308,372, which is 17.37 per cent of the total number of railway employees."

These figures, the report says, apply to railroads having an annual operating revenue of \$1,000,000 or more. "In road service actual experience has shown a much less marked change in operation, but considering the repeated statement of representatives of the railroads that train operation would not be affected by the eight-hour law, the replies of the carriers were somewhat surprising in revealing hundreds of instances of an actual shortening of the hours of road employees."

Pointing out that the speed basis of the actual eight-hour day is approximately 12 1/2 miles an hour, the report concludes: "A railroad cannot speed up all the freight trains to 12 1/2 miles an hour, including delays, by any universal method. But by close attention to the

DR. RUSSELL R. OWENS, OF RAYMOND, WASH., REPORTED AMONG DEAD IN AMERICAN EXPEDITIONARY FORCES.



Word has been received by Lester H. Owens, a freshman student at North Pacific College of Dentistry, of the death "somewhere in France" of his brother, Dr. Russell R. Owens, of Raymond, Wash., a graduate from the college in the 1917 class and a member of the Delta Sigma Delta fraternity.

Dr. Owens was a private in Company R, 161st Infantry. Dean Miller says Dr. Owens was an excellent student and one of the youngest members of the 1917 class. After graduation he successfully passed the Washington State Board examinations and opened an office at Raymond, Wash., where his mother, Mrs. Mary L. Owens, now resides.

problem of reducing delays and with sufficient incentive the conditions as to hours of work, road train service can be improved to local conditions."

LABOR TROUBLES REPORTED Strikes in Argentina Paralyze Shipping at Buenos Aires.

BUENOS AIRES, Jan. 23.—There are more or less serious labor disturbances throughout the country. The shipping in the port has nearly been paralyzed as the result of a strike. A general strike on the Central Cordoba railway is threatened. Bands of the workmen who have already gone out have burned 45 carloads of wood which it was intended to use as fuel.

Labor Standards Board Dissolved. WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Dissolution of the board of control for labor standards, created to keep army clothing contracts away from plants employing sweatshop methods, was announced today by Secretary Baker with the explanation that the primary purpose of the board had been accomplished and hereafter its duties could be performed by the quartermaster general's office.

Some of the activities of the board have been the subject of controversy in the congressional war inquiries because certain firms failed to get contracts. The board's rulings have stood, however, and its dissolution is said to be only a part of the department's general policy to bring its work directly under the military establishment.

STATE TOLD NOT TO PAY Nature of Contract Makes Payment of Amounts Unnecessary.

SALEM, Or., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Attorney General Brown today advised Secretary of State Olcott not to pay a claim of \$791.92 submitted by the Warren Construction Company, for payment of premiums on a contract bond for faithful performance of a contract and also for premiums on accident insurance policies taken out by the company to protect men working for its concern on force account highway work.

The Attorney General holds that the State is not liable for the payment of these two accounts because of the nature of the contract entered into between the company and the State.

WOMAN IS GOOD SHOT Mrs. Wilma Pearl Crouse Shows Policemen How to Use Revolvers.

Mrs. Wilma Pearl Crouse is a "loneliness" in police circles today, for yesterday afternoon she descended into the basement of the central station, slammed away with a revolver at 10 yards and hit the target 10 times with 10 shots.

Mrs. Crouse made a record of 43 out of a possible 106, thereby placing her in the class with the best 10 shots among the officers and men of the bureau. This, too, was her first trial with a revolver, although she is a good shot with a rifle.

Lumber Company Managers to Meet. GATEWAY, Or., Jan. 24.—(Special.)—Tum-a-Lum Lumber Company managers and their wives from the different points in Central Oregon are leaving this morning for Walla Walla, Wash., to attend the annual meet of the company, which occurs from the 25th to the 27th inclusive.

Shipyard Employee Arrested. Thomas Love, a shipyard employee, was arrested at the Union Station last night by Patrolman Stason and charged with violating the prohibition law. The police say Love was carrying a suitcase containing 12 quarts of whiskey.

Y. M. C. A. Engineer Loses Fingers. Frank Senwick, engineer at the Y. M. C. A., sustaining the loss of two of his fingers on the left hand last night when he was caught by a planer in the Y. M. C. A. building. He was taken to the Good Samaritan hospital.

BELGIUM DEMANDS FULL INDEPENDENCE

Reply to Pope Calls for Absolute Political, Economic and Territorial Rights.

PROPOSAL LONG STUDIED

King Albert Sends Word to Vatican That His Country Will Abide by Decision to Act Only With Its Allies.

HAVRE, Jan. 23.—The Belgian government's terms of peace so far as they concern Belgium itself, set forth in her reply to Pope Benedict's peace note, made public today, are in substance absolute political, economic and territorial independence.

"At the same time," the Belgian people, so rudely tried, are suffering. I beg your holiness to believe in my filial and respectful attachment. "ALBERT."

The letter was dated December 27, 1917. "The note of the Belgian government says: "The royal government, as soon as it received the message of Your Holiness to the heads of the belligerents, hastened to reply that it would study with the greatest deference the propositions the document exposed in such elevating language."

"At the same time it desired particularly to express its lively and profound gratitude for the particular interest the Holy Father manifested in the Belgian nation and of which the document was new and precious proof."

Reparation Held Vital. "At the outset of his message the Holy Father took pains to declare he had forced himself to maintain perfect impartiality toward all the belligerents, which renders more significant the judgment of His Holiness when he concluded in favor of the total re-establishment of Belgium and its independence, and also recognized the right of Belgium for reparation for damages and the cost of the war."

"Already in his consistorial allocution of January 23, 1915, the Holy Father had proclaimed the justness of the claims of Belgium and he had condescended to give the Belgian government the assurance that in formulating the highest principle of the invasion of Belgium he had directly in view."

"The honest people of all countries will rejoice with the Belgian government that the injustice of which Belgium was the victim and the necessity for reparation have been proclaimed and that the highest principle of Christianity remains watchful amidst the passion and conflicts of men."

Allies to Be Considered. "At the beginning of September the royal government declared its intention that it must reserve decision regarding its action on the propositions contained in the message until the powers at war with Belgium had decided upon their war aims. It added that in any case Belgium would make no pronouncement on general peace conditions and the organization of international relations except in full accord with the powers guaranteeing its independence that have done honor to the name of Belgium and whose army fight with hers for the cause of right."

"Nothing has modified the situation that existed at the time the royal government made known that point of view to his holiness. However, Belgium seizes eagerly the occasion furnished by his holiness to repeat before the civilized world what it wrote nearly a year ago to President Wilson: "Before the German ultimatum Belgium applied only to live on good terms with all its neighbors. She practiced with scrupulous loyalty toward each of them the duties imposed by this neutrality."

"How was she recompensed by Germany for the confidence she showed in her? If there is a country that has defied its existence it assuredly is Belgium. She desires passionately that an end be brought to the unheard sufferings of its population, but she would defend only a peace that would assure her at the same time equitable reparation and security and guarantees for the future."

Demands Set Forth. "The integrity of Belgium, the territory of the mother country and colonies, political, economic and military independence without condition or restriction, reparation for damage suffered and the guarantees against a renewal of the aggression of 1914—such remain the indispensable conditions of a just peace so far as concerns Belgium. Any settlement that would not recognize them would shake the very foundations of justice, since it would forevermore be established that might creates a claim for its author and may become a source of profit."

"Since the Royal Government a year ago formulated its conditions, it permits itself to recall that the Reichstag voted resolutions calling peace negotiations, the chancellor and ministers of foreign affairs have followed each other in the German empire and more points in Central Oregon are leaving this morning for Walla Walla, Wash., and have published notes replying to the message of his holiness, but never a word has been pronounced and never a line written clearly recognizing the indisputable rights of Belgium that his holiness has not ceased to recognize and proclaim."

INVESTIGATION IS ORDERED Payroll Irregularities at Bull Run to Be Looked Into.

Apparent irregularities in the handling of payrolls at the Bull Run headquarters of the Water Bureau were ordered investigated yesterday by the City Council. Complaints were made to

the Council by Mrs. H. B. Chalfant to the effect that men laying off are paid full salary, with the understanding that the money so received be paid over to men engaged to work in their places while they are off. It is said that Mr. Chalfant, who was discharged recently, received a check for the full amount of his salary, whereas he had laid off two days and another man, a city employe, had taken his place. Mrs. Chalfant, who represented her husband before the Council yesterday, said that her husband was instructed to pay the two days' pay over to the substitute. It was said that this plan enabled an evasion of the provision of the city charter against a man being on the city payroll twice at the same time. City Commissioner Mann reported that the transactions are being investigated and a report will be made to the Council.

TEAM WORK IS URGED

CO-OPERATION PLEA AT IMPLEMENT DEALERS' CONVENTION. Ben R. Vardaman, Milton A. Miller, Commissioner Bigelow and Frank B. White Among Speakers.

Co-operation between merchants and consumers was urged by all the speakers at yesterday's session in the Imperial Hotel of the twelfth annual convention of the Oregon Retail Hardware and Implement Dealers' Association.

Ben R. Vardaman, in the morning session, dwelt upon the necessity of this co-operation, and emphasized the importance of increasing efficiency by betterment of living conditions. Any betterment of living conditions in the community, he pointed out, is a direct benefit to all the business of the community.

Milton A. Miller, Collector of Internal Revenue, gave a patriotic address on "Our Country at War," and R. T. Jacob, also of the Internal Revenue Department, discussed and explained the Federal income and war tax laws.

At the opening of the afternoon session Commissioner Bigelow told what has been done in Portland in the way of fire prevention in the past three years, urging that the same results can be accomplished in any city or town in Oregon by means of the same. The saving in fire loss since fire prevention started in 1915, said Mr. Bigelow, has paid two and one-half times the total cost of maintaining the Fire Bureau. The per capita loss, he said, has been reduced from \$8.75 to 93 cents per year.

"Frank B. White gave a 'chalk talk' on the subject of 'Holding the Trade in the Local Trade Center.' He built his lecture around 12 topics, which he urged his hearers to remember and put in practice. His topics were: 'The Value of Time,' 'The Success of Persistence,' 'The Pleasure of Work,' 'Reminiscent of Work,' 'The Power of Character,' 'The Power of Kindness,' 'The Influence of Example,' 'The Obligation of Duty,' 'The Wisdom of Economy,' 'The Virtue of Patience,' 'The Joy of Originating,' and 'The Improvement of Talent.'"

This morning's session includes addresses by G. Clark, manager of the Home Industry League of the Portland Chamber of Commerce, and G. Clifford Barlow, president of the Oregon Retail Hardware and Implement Dealers' Association.

In the afternoon session Ben R. Vardaman will discuss salesmanship, and J. C. H. Reynolds, of Spokane, will speak on the subject of "The Art of Selling."

The afternoon session will end tomorrow night at a dinner and jinks tendered to visitors by Portland jobbers.

POKER PALACES EXPOSED San Francisco Woman Tells of Resorts Where Women Are Welcomed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Startling disclosures of all-night poker palaces frequented by women made by Mrs. Lillian S. Dwyer, wife of W. R. Dwyer, a picture framer, testifying today before Superior Judge Nourse in the divorce action brought by her husband.

The husband charged that his wife frequently remained away from home all night, leaving him either to cook his own meals or go to a restaurant. Mrs. Dwyer began a cross action, alleging that her husband taught her how to play poker for money. It was during the midst of this testimony that Mrs. Dwyer disclosed the existence of the gambling places where she played until the "wee small hours."

One of the resorts, she said, was conducted by a Mrs. Ware and has frequently been raided by the police. Another, she testified, is conducted by a Mrs. Walters in the rear of a store, and her husband charged that she squandered his salary and incurred debts because of her fondness for poker.

DEFENSE PLAN APPROVED Representative McArthur Has Conference With Colonel Roosevelt.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Jan. 23.—Representative McArthur today had a half-hour conference with Colonel Roosevelt discussing with him military defense in general, and the necessity for additional defense of the Pacific Coast in particular.

The Colonel said Congress should lose time in providing adequate defense for all important harbors on the Pacific Coast, and very firmly approved of Mr. McArthur's plan of getting the Coast delegates together to work for the establishment of naval bases in all their states.

Colonel Roosevelt also said the time had come when a substantial fleet should be permanently stationed on the West Coast.

TACOMA PASTOR TO LEAVE Rev. Delmer H. Trimble Will Go to Champaign, Ill.

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 23.—(Special.)—Announcement was made today that Rev. Delmer H. Trimble, pastor of the First Methodist Church, is soon to leave his pastorate in Tacoma to go to the First Methodist Church in Champaign, Ill. Rev. Mr. Trimble is exchanging places with Dr. R. H. Schuett, now pastor of the First Methodist Church in Champaign, who will come to Tacoma.

Rev. Mr. Trimble was formerly pastor of the First Methodist Church of Portland and the First Methodist Church of Eugene. He came to Tacoma from Portland, exchanging pulpits with Rev. Thomas Lane.

"LOVE FEAST" IS TONIGHT Admission to Old Methodist Church Custom Is by Ticket Only.

There will be an old-fashioned Methodist "love feast" at the First Methodist Church tonight, starting at 7:45 o'clock. Admission will be by ticket only, the tickets being handed out by the pastor, Dr. Joshua Stansfield. The custom is a half century old in the Methodist Church and an interesting time is promised for tonight.

Great Shoe Sale - Men of Portland are finding out that it pays them big to come to this store for footwear of reliable quality. There has been intensified activity in the men's department since the first day of this sale. Come and take advantage with others of the many reductions on good shoes. MEN'S FINE LACE SHOES, in beautiful cocoa brown or black calf leather, with Neolin or leather soles; a wonderful shoe value at the very special price of \$6.95. Special Sale of Fine Shoes for Women - Beautiful, stylish shoes in Laird, Schober & Co.'s make—some with long black domino calf vamps and gray buck tops—others with cocoa brown calf vamps and tops in sand, ivory or taupe buck. Every width from AAA to D, and every size from 2 1/2 to 9. Wonderful values in regular \$12.00 and \$12.50 shoes for \$9.95 only.

ROSENTHAL'S - Sole Portland Agents Hanan Shoes. Many Lines of Men's and Women's Shoes at Similar Reductions. 129 Tenth Street. Bet. Washington and Alder.

REPUBLICANS LINING UP MEMBERS OF CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE ARE NAMED. Efforts to Be Made in Various Districts to Gain Control of House at Elections in November. WASHINGTON, Jan. 23.—Republican Senators and Representatives in joint conference tonight named the members of the Republican Congressional committee. Nominations for membership from some states, including those without Republican representation in Congress, were not ready tonight and they will be passed upon later by the committee itself. The members selected include: California, Representative Julius Kahn; Colorado, Representative Charles E. Timberlake; Idaho, Representative Addison T. Smith; Montana, Miss Jeanette Rankin; Nevada, Representative E. E. Roberts; Oregon, Representative Nicholas J. Sinnott; Washington, Representative Lindley H. Hadley, and Wyoming, Representative Frank W. Mondell. These individuals will direct the campaign activities in all the Congressional districts in an effort to secure the political control of the House at the polls next November. There will be a fight for the chairmanship when the committee holds its first meeting. Representative Woods, of Iowa, who is a candidate for re-election, is opposed by Representative Madden, of Illinois. mately 12,000 Minnesotans are quartered. Governor Burnquist tonight said he had found conditions at Fort Winfield Scott and the Presidio here entirely satisfactory. Poker Game Raided. A poker game was raided by Police-men Martin Spaug and Cameron last night at 255 First street. C. L. Ward was booked at police headquarters as the proprietor of the place, along with a dozen visitors.

VENUS PENCILS - THE standard by which all pencils are judged. 17 black degrees and 2 copying—all perfect! American Lead Pencil Co., N. Y. GOVERNOR VISITS CAMPS Minnesota Executive Finds Conditions Entirely Satisfactory. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 23.—Governor J. A. Burnquist, of Minnesota, heading a party of officials from that state who are visiting Army training camps throughout the country, left tonight for the north, where he and his companions will inspect Camp Lewis at American Lake, near Tacoma, Wash. Among the camps visited by Governor Burnquist was Camp Cody, near Deming, N. M., where, he said, approx-

DOES YOUR CAR CRANK HARD these cold mornings? ARE YOU DRAINING YOUR BATTERIES trying to get your starter to turn her over? DOES YOUR MOTOR OIL CONGEAL and fail to feed properly for the first 15 to 30 minutes while warming up? This is due to the use of a poor cold test oil which congeals or thickens up and does not flow freely in cold weather, making the motor stiff and causing undue wear through faulty lubrication. To overcome these troubles and get correct winter lubrication you must use an oil that flows freely at zero temperature—a zero cold test oil— ZEROLENE The Standard Oil for Motor Cars ZEROLENE, on account of its fluidity at zero temperature, keeps your motor flexible and easy to turn over in the coldest weather. Eliminates the sluggish action, lack of lubrication, and consequent wear on bearings and cylinders while your motor is warming up. It's a real zero cold test oil—correctly refined from California asphalt-base crude. Drain your crank-case and fill with ZEROLENE, then note the easier cranking and quicker acceleration that you obtain. Dealers Everywhere and at our Service Stations STANDARD OIL COMPANY (California) FORD OWNERS: Does your oil congeal between the clutch plates, making your motor extremely hard to crank, and causing your car to creep as if high gear were partially engaged? Drain your crank-case and fill up with ZEROLENE LIGHT and you can absolutely remedy this.

Chronic Indigestion May Cause Cancer

How to Relieve and Prevent. Chronic indigestion, dyspepsia or gastritis on account of the constant irritation is very likely to lead to stomach ulcers; which according to a leading authority may ultimately lead to cancer of the stomach. It is therefore evident that indigestion far from being a simple or trivial ailment is something which should be treated with the greatest seriousness—that every effort should be made to prevent the development of those ulcers which so often lead to such serious consequences. The surest way to relieve the most distressing dyspepsia is in two or three minutes by the use of a neutralizing stomachic—two things that keep the stomach constantly in a painlessly inflamed and distended condition—and for this purpose there is nothing quite so positive and instant in its action as a teaspoonful of Bi-nesta taken in half a glass of hot water immediately after eating or whenever pain is felt. Bi-nesta, which is also obtainable in the form of a grain tablet—two of which are equal to a spoonful of the powder instantly neutralizes the acid, stops the fermentation and forms a protective coating over the inflamed stomach lining thus promoting painless normal digestion and preventing the formation of the cancerous cells. These reasons together with the fact that Bi-nesta almost invariably relieves the most distressing dyspepsia in two or three minutes explain why it is now so widely used by physicians and in hospitals instead of dangerous pain-deadening drugs—Adv.