

VETERANS' RELIEF BETTERMENT BEGUN

Administrative Machinery Is
to Be Consolidated.

SPECIAL PROBES MEET

President in Statement Asks Com-
mission Also to Investigate
Charges of Abuses.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 5.—Progress in solving the government's problem of caring for ex-service men, whether sick or disabled, or physically fit but having financial claims to be adjusted, was made today at the first meeting of President Harding's special commission, headed by Charles G. Dawes of Chicago.

It was agreed that the administrative machinery, operating separately for soldiers' relief, should be consolidated under one central authority, probably a new executive officer who would be responsible to the president. Heads of all soldier relief bureaus said they favored the general idea of a consolidated service bureau. The endorsement, Chairman Dawes said, promised quick solution of the problem as it related to the general administration of aid for men alleged to have suffered under the system of divided governmental responsibility.

Plan in General Indorsed.
Among those who expressed general indorsement of the plan were Surgeon-General Cummings of the public health service; R. H. Hallett, acting director of the war department; and L. L. Lammkin, director of the federal division of vocational education.

Mr. Lammkin also favored placing the public health service completely in charge of the proposed new executive head, to the exclusion of all but soldier work.

Brigadier-General C. E. Sawyer, who appeared as the president's personal representative, declared emphatically that the public health service should be retained as an entity. He was supported by others of his profession. Chairman Dawes, however, expressed the belief that this service could be placed under the one directing head without endangering public health.

Probe to Be Completed.
It was stated authoritatively tonight that the commission would complete its investigation and present its recommendations to President Harding by the week end.

The commission met tonight in executive session to consider testimony heard today.

Dr. T. W. Salmon of the Rockefeller institute told the committee one-half of the government's beds were unsuitable for tubercular cases. "We know there are 4000 such patients," he said, "and 5000 mental sufferers who are without treatment by the government because they refuse to go into charitable institutions."

The question of hospital facilities resulted in a request from T. W. Miller, alien property custodian, that Chairman Dawes poll the commission to ascertain whether it favored asking congress to increase its last appropriation of \$18,000,000 and provide a permanent hospital building programme. The question was unanimously endorsed, with the proviso that the request be made in case the agreement for consolidated service is incorporated in the final report submitted to President Harding.

Numerous Complaints Cited.
"I have asked you to meet and make an investigation into the administration of the law for caring for the crippled and injured soldiers of the last world war," said the president's statement, which Mr. Dawes read. "There have been numerous complaints that the government is neglecting the healing care of these defenders, to whom it owes every consideration, and there is further complaint that there is tardiness in dealing with them and their claims which grew out of their service."

"I should like you to make diligent inquiry of department heads or with those associated with them, an effort to find out just where the government agencies are in any way lacking in authority, neglectful or failing to carry out their duty, the questioned intent of congress in its enactment of laws and the making of appropriations. There need be no inquiry into the intent of the government, because I think it is well understood that every agency desires to deal justly and generously with those of its defenders who were injured in the nation's defense."

Abuses Inquiry Is Asked.
"I think it would be well, while you are making inquiry as to the failure to care for these men, that you also make inquiry into the abuses which have developed and look carefully into the regulations adopted so that you may know their probable effect in the future. It is well to realize that the American people want to prove the republic's gratitude to these men."

"The regulations adopted at this time are likely to be in effect for a full half century to come. In order to deal justly with these men and carry out a permanent policy it is exceedingly important to start on a firm foundation."

Situation Held Deplorable.
Mr. Dawes told his commission that it was known that "a deplorable situation exists." "The situation," he said, "is one which the president and congress were anxious to remedy."

armed with pit props and stones attacked and overwhelmed the police and volunteer pump workers, five policemen and several civilians were injured, while the plant was wrecked and adjacent haystacks set afire. In West Benhar, Scotland, similar scenes occurred. The police were overpowered.

In several other places striking miners forced volunteers to cease work.

STRIKE IS DECLARED SUICIDAL
Speakers in Both House and Commons Oppose Walkout.

LONDON, April 5.—Earl Curzon, secretary for foreign affairs, speaking in the house of lords today in behalf of the government, declared that the stoppage of the coal trade was "calamitous, deplorable and suicidal." A compromise was impossible on a subsidy or state control; the question, he said, had ceased to be one of wages and had become one of state policy, affecting every industry.

The house agreed to a resolution making operative the emergency powers and adjourned.

Sir Robert Horne, new chancellor of the exchequer, speaking in the house of commons today concerning the stoppage of coal mining, painted a gloomy picture of the results of the strike. He declared a stoppage of coal production now was far more serious than would ordinarily be the case.

"We had just come through a winter of the most serious depression and were only just discerning the first flicker of reviving trade," he declared. "That flicker has been extinguished. The effect is not merely on our general trade and industry, but on the coal industry itself."

A result of the last strike was to rob us of many markets to which our coal used to go. For the first time in history American coal came to Europe in large quantities. Ten million tons of American coal came to Europe last year and in October one million tons went to France.

John R. Clynes, chairman of the parliamentary labor party, spoke in a conciliatory tone. He defended the miners and declared placing the blame for the strike on them, but appealed to the government to mediate.

PACIFICATION IS DESIRED
Lloyd George Declares Dangerous Dispute Is Facing Nation.

LONDON, April 5.—(By the Associated Press.)—Lloyd George, replying in the house of commons today in the debate on the coal situation, declared that all that was wanted was to arrive at pacification in a very dangerous dispute, if it could be done in a way compatible with the interests of the nation. He contended, however, that subsidizing a great industry out of taxation was wrong in principle and indefensible, especially at present, in view of the heavy taxation and the condition of the exchequer.

He recalled that the loss before March 31 on government control of the mines was more than \$1,000,000 weekly.

The premier would not express any opinion as to whether the wages were adequate or inadequate.

The government would be willing, he continued, to undertake anything it could do in promoting an understanding between the miners and the owners, but it was essential that the miner should give every facility and assistance to prevent the pits from being destroyed.

LOSS OF EXPORTS PROBABLE
Gain for United States Foreseen if Strike Lasts Very Long.

NEW YORK, April 5.—The United States bids fair to win the English coal export trade if the strike in Great Britain lasts any length of time, said a statement issued here tonight by the Wholesale Coal Trade association.

"Foreign buyers have been much displeased by the recurring troubles in the British coal mines and the subsequent interrupted shipments on contracts," read the statement. "Americans are very anxious to secure this business."

ROAD BILL UP MONDAY
MR. MCARTHUR TO ASK FOR CONTINUED APPROPRIATION.

Proposed Amendment Changing Date of Inauguration and Convening of Congress to Appear.

THE OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, D. C., April 5.—Representative McArthur will reintroduce next Monday his bill making an appropriation for the construction of a highway building instead of authorizing an appropriation of \$100,000 a year for four years, as did the bill offered in the last congress. This one will call for only \$75,000,000 a year over the same period.

VIVIANI'S GUEST AT WHITE HOUSE

Dinner in French Envoy's Honor Given by President.

TREATY HOPE STILL HELD

Separate Peace by America With Germany Not Yet Believed to Be Best for France.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 5.—Rene Viviani, envoy extraordinary of France, was the guest of President and Mrs. Harding at a dinner in his honor at the White House tonight.

Ambassador and Madame Jusserand also were present, as were Vice-President and Mrs. Coolidge, Speaker and Mrs. Gillett, Secretary and Mrs. Hughes, Senator Lodge, chairman of the foreign relations committee; Representative Porter, chairman of the house foreign affairs committee; Under-Secretary of State and Mrs. Fletcher and Myron T. Herrick of Ohio, who had been mentioned as the next ambassador to France.

In a statement to the Associated Press today, M. Viviani indicated he had not yet abandoned the treaty of peace as a basis of discussion with American officials in connection with his mission of presenting the cause of France and sounding American public opinion on foreign policies. He is understood to be vexed by attempts made to interpret the conclusions formed by him during his conference with governmental officials, representing in his statement that no one was authorized to speak for him but himself.

While he has made it plain that he has offered no suggestions on behalf of France which could be interpreted as an attempt to influence the foreign policy of the United States, it is known he has not yet been convinced in his conversations with American officials that the conclusion of a bare peace would be in the United States with Germany would be a best affair France that "moral support" which it is his mission to obtain.

In presenting the viewpoint of France regarding the unfavorable reaction which the declaration of a separate peace by the United States might have on the relations of France with Germany, the envoy is understood to have held that he was not exceeding his mission.

YOUTH LAUGHS AT BARS

Lad Saws Way Out of Two "Escape-Proof" Jails.

EUREKA, Cal., April 5.—A record of having sawed his way out of two "escape proof" jails within a week has been set by William Clark, 16, a suspected burglar. Last night he escaped from the reinforced concrete and steel county jail through the expert use of a saw.

A few days before he used the same method in freeing himself from the city jail, which is made of brick and steel.

\$351,026 TO BE SPENT

(Continued From First Page.)
\$35,000 to apply on the road west of Pilot Rock toward Heppner. The commission promised to go ahead and build about 12 miles to Butter creek, and will ask the county for further co-operation when the present county bond money is counted. The commission has not decided whether improvement of the Cold Spring road, between the Columbia river and Pendleton, should be started at one end or the other, but will make this decision today. The indications are that the river end will be started first, as this would enable farmers to take their wheat to the river instead of climbing hills to Pendleton, as at present.

Promises Made to Lane.
Lane county—The state promises \$50 co-operation on the Blue river west section of the Mackenzie highway, on a one, two or three-year project. The Golden section of the Eugene-Lane road will be extended two miles on the west side of the mountain and when this is done all the grade will be needed.

Deschutes county—County plans another bond issue and wants The Dalles-California highway graded and cleared from the Allen ranch to the Klamath county line. It is 13 miles. Lane county also wants gravel on the central Oregon highway from Bend to the ward Morse Ridge and from Redmond west. The commission promised to match all the road money that the county spent last year, which may amount to \$100,000.

Lake county—The county wants graded 33 miles on the north and south road, from Crooked creek valley to Lakeview. The state wants a \$50 co-operation, but the county has not accepted, having been under the impression that federal aid would be given. The federal money has been shut off, as congress failed to pass a new road appropriation bill.

Citizens Need Outlets.
Grant county—The commission wants to open up the John Day highway from John Day town to the Wheeler county line in order to give the people a way out. The state will co-operate on a 50-50 basis on such amount as the state can afford to give, or until the legislature or congress acts. The commission refused to promise co-operation from Prairie City east on the mountain until owing to the great expense and the further reason that the road east from John Day would serve more people.

Contracts awarded yesterday on bridges follow:
Joseph county, across Deer creek, on Grants Pass-Crescent City highway. Jess Deck company of Rainier, \$15,083.
Joseph county, bridge across Wolf creek on Pacific highway, J. Elmer Nelson, \$4425.
Joseph county, crossing Altamont canal, The Dalles-California highway, H. M. Mack, \$8097.
Klamath county, crossing railroad near Dairy, Brian & Marshall, \$2022.50.
Marion-Polk counties, painting William-

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ette bridge at Salem, A. J. Anderson, \$1500.
Road contracts awarded:
Crook county, Prineville-Ochoco forest reserve, 17.03 miles grading, Greenwood & Dunn, \$114,963.
Some of the paving improvements on Pacific highway was awarded yesterday, the bids prepared by the engineer. They may be disposed of today, when the commission will open bids on a number of other road projects.

SCENIC HIGHWAY PROMISED

Bids to Be Asked for Medford-Crater Lake Improvement.

SALEM, Or., April 5.—(Special.)—The state highway commission, at its meeting in May, will advertise for bids for the improvement of the Medford-Crater Lake highway at a cost of approximately \$250,000. The road to be included in the original improvement is between Agate and Trail and is about 14 miles in length. Bridges and grading for this stretch of road are now under contract.

Highway officials said that while the Medford-Crater Lake road was an expensive piece of improvement, it eventually would be macadamized and made one of the scenic routes of the northwest.

SALEM DISTRICT BONDS GO

Sale of Securities Approximating \$20,000 Reported.

SALEM, Or., April 5.—(Special.)—Members of a committee representing the Tillamook County club announced today that they had disposed of approximately \$20,000 of the Salem road district's \$80,000 quota of market road bonds. Salem banks have promised to take over \$50,000 of these bonds, while the remaining \$10,000 of the securities probably will be accepted by local capitalists.

Unless these bonds are purchased by people residing within the Salem road district a similar amount of money raised by taxation will be lost to the district.

MAN GETS ELECTRIC JOLT

Corvallis Resident Thrown From Top of Car to Ground.

CORVALLIS, Or., April 5.—(Special.)—Lester Hall of this city was seriously injured this afternoon by coming in contact with 1500 volts of electricity carried in the wires of a Southern Pacific electric train. He had climbed to the top of a car to secure a glove that had been tossed there by a companion. His head came in contact with the high voltage wires, knocking him senseless and precipitating his body to the asphalt pavement below.

He was taken to a hospital and given treatment with the pulmonary respiration being restored. Though badly burned about the face, arms and body, it is thought he will recover unless he suffers internal injuries from his fall not yet discovered.

LAND WILL BE OPENED

Preference Given by Government to Veterans of War.

HELENA, Mont., April 5.—Announcement of the opening to settlement of 23,049 acres of land in Beaverhead county, Montana, was made at the United States land office here today.

Filings of ex-service men and prior settlers (squatters) will be received on May 9 and after, and those of others on July 7 and thereafter. Application may be made 20 days before those dates.

PUSSYFOOT AGAIN ACTIVE

Prohibition Worker Will Invade Canada, and Later India.

COLUMBUS, O., April 5.—Fully recovered from the attack of bronchitis and laryngitis which compelled him to abandon a western speaking tour while in Iowa, William E. Passafium Johnson, internationally known prohibition worker, will go to Canada soon to fill several speaking engagements.

He will leave on April 16 for Europe and India, he said today.

Tax Collections \$146,662.

ASTORIA, Or., April 5.—(Special.)—Yesterday was a busy day at the sheriff's office, where more receipts were issued and a larger sum of tax money was collected than during any single previous day in the history of the county. The receipts numbered 513 and the collections totaled \$146,662.40. The collections on the 1920 roll during the week ending last Saturday night amounted to \$116,744.25.

Jitney Service Enjoined.

CHEHALIS Wash., April 5.—The North Coast Power company has obtained an injunction against C. E. Jackson to prevent his continuing to operate the Chehalis-Centralia jitney line which has been carrying passengers since in February. The order is temporary and the power company will ask that it be made permanent under a Chehalis ordinance.

S. & H. Green Stamps for Cash.

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KARMAN SAILS FOR CHINA

Ex-Commandant at Mare Island
Takes Charge of Legation.

SAN FRANCISCO, April 5.—Colonel Lincoln Karmann, ex-commandant of the marine corps unit at Mare Island, departed on the army transport Sherman today.

He will assume command of the marine corps unit at the American legation in Peking, China.

RIOTS, START IN BRITAIN

(Continued From First Page.)
The fashionable west-end district, supposedly in connection with plans to maintain order at the event of strike disturbances. Soldiers there were equipped with arms, steel helmets and full war-time paraphernalia.

In rioting at the Hart Hill collieries, near Edinburgh, where 500 miners



CHET OWENS AND FAMOUS ORCHESTRA
DANCING 8 TO 12
9:30 TO 12