

PRESIDENT HARDING TO USE POWER TO MAINTAIN TRANSPORTATION AND PROTECT RIGHTS OF WORKERS

No Matter What Clouds May Gather or Hardships May Be Necessary, Government by Law Must and Will Be Sustained, Says President in Message to Congress—Federal Commission to Make Investigation of Coal Industry Recommended.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 18.—(By the Associated Press.)—The text of President Harding's address to congress on the industrial situation was as follows: Gentlemen of the Congress: It is manifestly my duty to bring to your attention the industrial situation which confronts the country. The situation growing out of the prevailing railway and coal mining strikes is so serious, so menacing to the nation's welfare that I should be remiss if I failed frankly to lay the matter before you and at the same time acquaint you and the whole people with such efforts as the executive branch of the government has made by the voluntary efforts of its good offices to effect a settlement.

PRINCIPAL POINTS IN PRESIDENT HARDING'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS ON STRIKE SITUATION.

Right of employees and employers to conduct their business recognized and "warfare on unions of labor" deplored. National investigation for constructive recommendations as to conduct of coal industry declared necessary. Government commission to advise as to fair wages and conditions recommended. Immediate legislation to establish temporarily a "national coal agency" with necessary capital to purchase, sell and distribute coal urged. Each-Cummings act in establishing railroad labor board declared inadequate, with little or no power to enforce decisions. Action recommended to make board's decisions "enforceable and effective against carriers and employees alike."

Workers' Rights Denied. Another development is so significant that the hardships of the moment may well be endured to rivet popular attention to the necessary settlement. It is fundamental to all freedom that all men have unquestioned rights to lawful pursuits, to work and to live and choose their own means of livelihood. In these strikes these rights have been denied by assault and violence, by armed lawlessness. In many communities the municipal authorities have been unable to maintain law and order. Liberty is a mockery and the law a matter of community contempt. It is fair to say that the great mass of organized workmen do not approve but they seem helpless to hinder. These conditions cannot remain in free America. If free men surrender to mobocracy and the freedom of a hundred millions is surrendered to the small minority who would have their will.

There is existing law by which to settle the prevailing disputes. There are statutes forbidding conspiracy to hinder interstate commerce. There are laws to assure the highest possible safety of railway service. It is my purpose to invoke these laws, civil and criminal, against all offenders. The legal safeguarding against like menaces and influences, when worked out when no passion sways, when no prejudice influences, when the public welfare may be asserted against any and every interest, is the duty of the government beyond that of the government itself. One specific thing I must ask at your hands at the earliest possible moment. There is pending a bill to provide for the better protection of aliens and for the enforcement of their rights. It is a measure, in short to create a jurisdiction for the federal courts through which the national government will have appropriate power to protect aliens in the rights secured to them by law. I have been dealing with crimes which affect our foreign relations. The matter has been before congress on many previous occasions. President Tyler in his first annual message declared it a measure as "the government is charged with the maintenance of peace and the preservation of amicable relations with the nations of the world. It is our duty to question all the reasonable and proper means of maintaining the peace and preserving the rights of our citizens. President Harrison asked for the same jurisdiction. It has been encountered several times which grew out of the lynchings of 1891. President McKinley, dealing with a like problem in 1898, asked for the same jurisdiction. President Roosevelt asked for the same jurisdiction in 1905 and President Taft pointed out the defect in the present jurisdiction. It was not until his inaugural address in 1909. He declared that it puts our government in a position to perform our promise. We cannot permit the possible failure of justice due to local prejudice in any state or municipal government to expose us to the risk of which might be avoided if federal jurisdiction were assured by suitable legislation by congress."

of the impressions of many cases of unjustified profits in the industry and because public interest demands investigation and demands the findings of facts be given to the public. I am asking at your hands the authority to create a commission to make a searching investigation into the whole coal industry, with provision for its lawful activities and bestowal of authority. At the end of every phase of coal production, sale and distribution, I am asking on behalf of the miners, mine operators and the American public that the way to continuity of production and the better economic condition of the industry be pointed out. The necessity for such a searching national investigation with constructive recommendations is imperative. The coal industry is in a clearing, but unless we find a cure for the economic ills which shall be faced with like meaning, the industry will be in a state of confusion. I am asking at your hands the authority to create a commission to make a searching investigation into the whole coal industry, with provision for its lawful activities and bestowal of authority. At the end of every phase of coal production, sale and distribution, I am asking on behalf of the miners, mine operators and the American public that the way to continuity of production and the better economic condition of the industry be pointed out.

Need for Inquiry Evident. The need for such investigation and independent consideration is revealed by both operators and mine workers. The Cleveland agreement so recently made. The government will gladly co-operate with the industry in this program so far as it is to the public interest. It is my conviction that no lasting satisfaction or worth-while settlement can be reached unless there is a government commission, independent of the industry, clothed with authority by the congress to search deeply, so that it may advise as to fair wages and as to conditions of labor and mining. The enactment of laws to protect the public in the future. The present total exhaustion of stocks of coal, the crippled condition of the industry, the situation that has arisen and might grow worse in our great cities, due to the non-use of the country, suffering which might arise in the northwest through failure to meet winter needs by adequate transportation, all these, added to the possibility of outrageous profiteering, in spite of the most zealous voluntary efforts of the government to restrain them, make it necessary to ask you to consider at once some form of temporary control of distribution and prices.

Government's Efforts Fail. It is to be noted that when the suspension began large stocks of coal were on hand, mined at wages higher than those paid during the war. There was only the buying impelled by the government, but a belief that coal must yield to the post-war readjustment. When the stocks on hand began to diminish as to menace industry and hinder transportation, the government initiated a series of expedient measures. These included individual and district tenders of settlement on the parts of some of the operators. Instances of settlement were wholly unavailing. The dominant groups among the operators were insistent on having district agreements. The government was demanding a nation-wide settlement. The government, being without authority to enforce a strike settlement in the coal industry, could only volunteer its good offices in finding a way of adjustment. Accordingly, a conference of the coal operators' associations of the general and district officials of the United Mine Workers was called to meet in Washington on July 1. The designation of representation was made to the various operators' organizations and there was nationwide representation, except from the non-use on fields of the country. Before the joint meeting I expressed the deep concern of the country and invited them to meet a conference table and end the disputes. I thought there was hope. The operators were asking for their district or territorial conferences; the workers demanded national settlement on old basis.

Curb on Profiteering Sought. The administration earnestly has sought to restrain profiteering and to secure the rightful distribution of such coal as has been available in the emergency. There was no legal power for price control. There has been cordial co-operation in many fields, a fine revelation of business conscience stronger than the temptation to profit by a people's misfortune. There have been instances of that refusal, I rejoice to make grateful acknowledgment of those who preferred to contribute to national welfare rather than profit by a nation's distress. If it may have your approval, I recommend immediate provision for temporary national coal agency with needed capital to purchase, sell and distribute coal, which is carried by the railroad labor board directly affecting approximately 600,000 men. The agency's decision is not for discussion here. The decision has been lost sight of in subsequent developments. In an event, it was always possible to appeal for rehearing and it is always a safe assumption that a government agency of adjustment deciding unjustly will be quick to make right any wrong. The railroad labor board was created by congress for the express purpose of hearing and deciding disputes between the carriers and their employees, so that no controversy need lead to interruption in interstate transportation.

Proposals Declined. The disputants all endorsed the suggestion of a fact-finding commission. The anthracite operators promptly accepted the entire program. The mine workers refused to resume work under the arbitration plan. The majority of the operators and operators filed an acceptance, but a considerable minority declined the proposal. Under the circumstances, having authority to demand compliance, the government had no other course than to invite a resumption of production under the rights and authorities to the controversy with assurance of government protection of each and every one in his lawful pursuits. This fact was communicated to the governors of all coal-producing states and with two exceptions assurances of maintained law and order were promptly given. In some instances concrete proof of effective readiness to protect all men, strikers and non-striker workmen alike, was promptly given. But little or no production followed. The simple but incontrovertible truth was revealed that, except for such work as is done by non-organized miners, the country is at the mercy of the United Mine Workers.

Rail Disputes Inevitable. It was inevitable that many wage disputes should arise. Wages had mounted upward, necessarily and justly, during the war upheaval. Likewise the cost of transportation so that the higher wages might be paid. It was inevitable that some readjustments should follow. Usually these readjustments were readjustments that the government neither advocated nor opposed. It only held that the labor board and the administrative government should be heard and decide disputes and its authority must be sustained. The law contemplates that it be so, whether the carriers or the employees are aggrieved. Inapplicable, a number of decisions of this board had been ignored by the carriers. In one instance, however, had a decision, challenged by a carrier, been brought to the attention of the department of justice and this decision was promptly carried to the courts and has been sustained in the federal court of appeal. The public or the carriers had no knowledge of the ignored decisions in other cases because they did not hinder transportation. It is my duty to bring to your attention that many of the carriers to abide by decisions of the board were brought to my attention. It could more fairly appraise the feelings of the strikers, though they had a remedy without seeking to paralyze interstate commerce.

Law Held Inadequate. The law creating the railroad labor board is inadequate. Contrary to popular impression, it has little or no power to enforce its decisions. It cannot make a strike and manifestly congress deliberately omitted the enactment of compulsory arbitration. The decision of the board must be made enforceable against carriers and employees alike. Better protection of aliens and enforcement of treaty rights through a measure to give federal courts jurisdiction in protecting aliens recommended. Harding concludes: "No matter what clouds may gather, no matter what storms may ensue, what sacrifices may be necessary, government by law must and will be sustained. Wherefore I am resolved to use all the power of the government to maintain protection and sustain the right of men to work."

Heroin Horror Deplored. My belief of this last-minute recommendation is impelled by a pitiable sense of federal impotence to deal with the shocking crime at Herrin, Ill., which so recently shocked and horrified the country. In that butchery of human beings, wrought in madness, it is alleged that two allies were murdered. The act adds to the outraged sense of American justice and humiliation which lies in the federal government's confessed lack of authority to punish unalterable crime. Had it happened any other land than our own and the wrath of righteous justice were not effectively expressed, we should have pitied the civilization that would tolerate an unprovoked and unrepentant government unable to meet out just punishment. Have felt the deep current of popular resentment that the federal government has not sought to enforce this law through a national shield, that the federal government has been tolerant of the mockery of voluntary activity which carries no punishment cannot act, under the law. But the bestowal of the jurisdiction necessary to act appropriately will open the way to punish barbarity and butchery. It is my duty to bring to your attention that the federal government has not sought to enforce this law through a national shield, that the federal government has been tolerant of the mockery of voluntary activity which carries no punishment cannot act, under the law. But the bestowal of the jurisdiction necessary to act appropriately will open the way to punish barbarity and butchery.

Breakdown Is Threatened. Under these conditions of hindrance and intimidation there has been such a lack of care of motive power that the deterioration of locomotives and the non-compliance with the safety requirements of the carriers are threatening the breakdown of transportation. This very serious menace is magnified by the millions of losses to fruit growers and other producers of perishable foodstuffs, and comparable losses to farmers who depend on transportation to market their grains at harvest time. Even worse is hindering the transport of available coal when industry is on the verge of paralysis because of a coal shortage, and life and health are menaced by a coal famine in the great centers of population. Surely the threatening conditions must impress the congress and the country that no body of men whether limited in numbers and responsible for railway management, or powerful in numbers and constitu-

NEW TODAY SHE PURR—SHE CLAW—YET MON DIEU HOW SHE CAN LOVE. Scenes of wild revelry, of beautiful women, audacious gowns, and the maddening dances of wild Apaches. While Paris Sleeps.

"THE BLACK PAINTER OF PARIS" ALSO "A SCANDAL IN BOHEMIA" BILLY LLOYD SINGING LATEST SONG HITS. DE LUXE SUNDAY CONCERT Direction SALVATORE SANTAELLA 12.40 NOON TOMORROW. Programme: "Capriccio Espagnole" (Caprice on Spanish Themes), "Alborada", "Cortana", Selection, "N. Rimsky-Korsakoff Op. 34", "Scene and Gypsy Song", "Prelude" (To Act II. of the Opera "Cyrano"), "Valse Bluette" (Air de "Der Geist des Wejvodas"), "Overture" (L. Grossmann).

COMING—GUY BATES POST in "THE MASQUERADER"—COMING NOW PLAYING TODAY. DIRECTION GUS A. METZGER.

all the power of the government to maintain transportation and sustain the right of men to work. by Mrs. Edna Geer, Linn superintendent, and E. H. Castle, Benton superintendent. The Linn and Benton institutes will take place on the same three days during the last week in November. In co-operating counties.

Gold Vein Is Found. GRANT'S PASS, Or. Aug. 18.—(Special.)—A small pocket of gold, seven miles from Kerby, yielded over \$1200 in free gold. Two prospectors stumbled on the vein and took the metal out in three days.

Institutes to Co-Operate. ALBANY, Or. Aug. 18.—(Special.)—Linn and Benton counties will join in bringing outside talent to the annual county teacher institutes next November. Such was the outcome of a conference held here.

Men Wanted Northern Pacific Railway Company Will Employ Men at Rates Prescribed by the United States Railroad Labor Board as Follows: MACHINISTS 70 cents per hour, BLACKSMITHS 70 cents per hour, SHEET METAL WORKERS 70 cents per hour, ELECTRICIANS 70 cents per hour, STATIONARY ENGINEERS Various Rates, STATIONARY FIREMEN Various Rates, BOILERMAKERS 70 to 70 1/2 cents per hour, PASSENGER CAR MEN 70 cents per hour, FREIGHT CAR MEN 63 cents per hour, HELPERS, ALL CLASSES 47 cents per hour.

Resinol ready for scalds and burns. Mechanics and helpers are allowed time and one-half for time worked in excess of eight hours per day. Strike conditions prevail. Young men who desire to learn these trades will be employed and given an opportunity to do so. A strike now exists on the Northern Pacific Ry. Apply to Any Roundhouse or Shops or Superintendent. NORTHERN PACIFIC RAILWAY AT TACOMA, WASH. Resinol products at all druggists.