

## EFFORT AT PEACE

### Seattle Strike Referred to Committee.

### CONFERENCE IS ABORTIVE

### Recognition of Union Is Still in Dispute.

### BOTH SIDES REMAIN FIRM

### Seven Men, Headed by Humes, Will Try to Reach Settlement—Rain Dampens Ardor of Unruly and Keeps Order.

SEATTLE, March 28.—The fact that the officials of the Seattle Electric Company, representatives of organized labor and a delegation of business and professional men were in conference, trying to settle the strike, had a quieting effect upon the situation today. The heavy downpour of rain also served to dampen the ardor of some and thinned out the crowd on Pike street to a mere handful. The striking street-car men expected much of the meeting. They would like to see the strike settled, and they say it could be settled in ten minutes if President Furth will just say that the company will recognize the union. That is just what Mr. Furth will not say, however, and the two parties to the conflict are just as far apart as ever. The committee of business men succeeded in its efforts to bring the two sides together in a conference, but the meeting was barren of results. Representatives of each side made a statement as to the position of each, but as there was no middle ground proposed upon which the two factions could be asked to unite, there was nothing said or done that would indicate an early settlement of the difficulty.

Referred to Committee. The conference held in the offices of the company at 11 o'clock this morning demonstrated that there were too many fingers in the pie to make much progress. There was too much speech-making and not enough suggestions of how best to settle the strike. After remaining in session in the directors' room for two hours and a half, it was decided to leave the whole matter to a committee of seven. Mayor Humes is to act as chairman. This committee will meet at the Chamber of Commerce rooms tomorrow morning at 10:30 o'clock to see if some basis of settlement can be agreed upon.

Vital Point in Dispute. The representatives of organized labor said they were willing to submit all differences to arbitration except the recognition of the union. This they insist upon. This granted, they say the details can be quickly arranged. As this is the one thing the officials of the company say they will not consider, the gap seems just as wide today as the first day of the strike.

One Conductor Returns. Conductor Logan, who quit a Queen Anne Hill car after the accident on First avenue Friday, showed up at the barn for work again this morning. He was induced to go back to the barn twice during the afternoon, but each time he came out again, after taking a short breathing spell and screwing his courage up to the sticking point.

An incident that created a lot of comment among the street-car men was when Conductor Ira Mills, wearing his blue uniform and cap showing his number, took a car out of the barn this morning. Mills did not join the union, but he quit work when the others did, and had not been seen around until yesterday. He reported at the barn and told Inspector Carson that he considered it his duty to help the company out in its time of need. He ran his car all day. The strikers boarded the car at frequent intervals and labored with Mills to get him to quit, but he turned a deaf ear to all their pleadings. Before becoming a street-car man Mills was a preacher at Fremont.

A man named McHugh went out as a conductor on a Kinnear Park car in the morning. The strikers finally persuaded him to take the car back, and when he consented a great cheer went up from the crowd. He was in the barn only a little while, however, when he brought the car out again. The strikers tried to get a policeman to take him off the car. The officer smiled and stood fast.

Two cars were run on the Yeaser line during the day, and two cars were kept on the Green Lake line most of the afternoon. The men handling them were either more experienced or the absence of the big crowd gave them confidence, for the cars were run much faster and with a more touch than any day since the strike began.

The strikers say that nearly all the old

## PRIDE IS HURT

### Germany Angry at Dewey's Comparison.

### WRATH IN NEWSPAPERS

### They Intimate That Uncle Sam's Head Is Enlarged.

### BY EASY VICTORY OVER SPAIN

### Officials Say No Diplomatic Protest Will Be Made—Dewey Explains to Roosevelt That No Harm Was Meant.

Admiral Dewey's comparison of the American and German navies has hurt German pride, and the newspapers on the other side say the United States has become conceited.

No diplomatic protest is likely to be made, say German officials. If it should be, President Roosevelt has Admiral Dewey's assurance that no offense was meant, and it is said to be satisfied with it.

BERLIN, March 28.—The German Foreign Office officials say they do not believe a diplomatic incident will result from the recent interview with Admiral Dewey published in a newspaper of Newark, N. J., and containing references to the German Navy and Emperor. The officials say they are reluctant to believe that the Admiral was correctly quoted, "especially in view of the good will he showed toward Germany in the messages exchanged with Prince Henry."

The Foreign Office officials add that should the interview turn out to be true it "will probably prove somewhat disturbing to the pleasant relations with the United States." No official information has been received on the subject from Washington.

Referring to the remarks on the recent American naval maneuvers in the West Indian waters, the officials say they appear to have been "ill chosen, since Germany has no interests in the West Indies, and it would seem that the maneuvers could with greater aptitude be alluded to as against England, because England, on the other hand, has territory there."

The interview with Admiral Dewey has angered the newspapers here. Even those of a usually moderate tone refer to it in a bitter manner. For instance, the *Vossische Zeitung* says:

"The American Navy is evidently suffering from a disease of infancy—lack of modesty. Its leader evinces something unspeakably immature. One can only stand amazed that such intemperate conduct should take root in a people of Germanic origin. Such behavior would not excite wonder if it had occurred in some Central or South American Republic or Hayti. Admiral Dewey is a worthy imitation of Captain Coghlan, who, at a New York club, gave a bombastic toast bristling with insults to Germany, and warmed up the exploded story that Admiral Dewey compelled the German fleet at Manila to lie to when it refused to respect the blockade. Captain Coghlan, however, seems to have spoken from Admiral Dewey's own heart."

"Captain Coghlan was disciplined, and President McKinley expressed to the German Ambassador his regret that the incident occurred. The same thing must perhaps be done now, in order that super-heated Dewey may be cooled down. Political Generals and Admirals, at any rate, are not a sign of wholesome political conditions."

The *Tagblatt Zeitung* sees in Admiral Dewey's words confirmation of "his oft-repeated assertion that the United States' easy victory over Spain has produced a certain exaggerated military self-conceit."

The *Tagblatt* adds the information that the vessels on the American station, after

## WORK THAT WINS

### Building of a Modern Newspaper.

### STORY OF THE OREGONIAN

### How It Has Climbed the Journalistic Ladder.

### AGAINST MANY DIFFICULTIES

### Rudimentary Principles of Journalism Illustrated by Local Applications—Pre-Eminence of Character in Every Walk of Life.

The Pacific Monthly of Portland contains in its April number, just issued from the press, an article on the Oregonian's position and history, from the pen of Mr. E. G. Jones, of The Oregonian's staff, illustrated with portraits of the publisher and editor, and views of the newspaper's building in 1853 and its building of today. The article is as follows:

The Oregonian occupies a unique position in the field of the Pacific Northwest, a territory that embraces within its limits the Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Western Montana and British Columbia. While a number of other strong papers are published in this field, the Oregonian enjoys the distinction of being the only paper that claims a general circulation reaching to the outermost borders of this vast territory.

The special distinction accorded the Oregonian by newspaper men generally is that its immediate field, where its influence is supreme, is a recognition based on the merits of the Oregonian as a medium for the dissemination of legitimate news, and on the ability of its editorial utterances. The policy of The Oregonian has not encouraged a resort to those sensational features of journalism, features that have added so largely to the circulation of some of the best known metropolitan papers of the East. It is a matter of pride to the people of Portland that it has not been found necessary to recognize the sensational to insure The Oregonian that rapid increase of circulation in the country affairs. It is a matter of pride to the people of Portland that it has followed the efforts of the management to publish a paper of standing and ability; a paper that is a credit alike to the men who have made The Oregonian what it is, and to the city in which The Oregonian has grown and prospered.

There is no business where the element of the personal equation plays a more prominent part than it does in journalism. This assertion is made, too, in the face of the fact that modern journalism does not encourage strength of editorial utterance. The weakness of any business venture is likely to be found in ideals or fixed methods that appeal the strongest to its management; ideals based on the one element of strength that made possible its first signal success. Here are found the limitations of human endeavor that invariably lead to decadence if not downfall, where energy and ability have not the mainstay of reasonable conservatism and good sense as a prop for enthusiastic effort to maintain a success that is once attained. This applies with striking force to the art of publishing a successful newspaper.

An able writer, for instance, may make his influence felt in his work on some prominent paper during a critical issue in the country affairs. It is a time when opinions count; a time when the vast body of men who make up the voting population, and who seldom think clearly on big subjects are looking for effective leadership. Through the able efforts of such an editor under propitious circumstances, attention may be drawn to his paper beyond its actual merits as a news medium. The wise publisher knows, however, that a paper which first attains a prominence which is the direct result of strength and clearness of editorial utterance cannot hope to maintain its position on the prestige of its editorial ability alone. During average times the readers of any paper ask for something more than opinions. It may be stated even, that strength of editorial utterance cannot safely overshadow the merits of a news service which a paper is able to offer. Noisy every prominent paper in the United States that was once prominent as a tribute to its editorial strength has fallen behind in the race for first place among big and successful newspapers.

Judged by the old standards every prominent newspaper published today is a compromise with the ideals of its editor. The man of great parts as an editorial writer has but little tolerance for the unrealities of things generally, for the attractive side-lights of life that appeal so strongly to the lesser man. On broad issues as affecting the destiny or the happiness of a people as a whole he sees clearly. His vision as a forecast of future events carries him to heights that the man groping in the depths of material things cannot hope to scale. He is ahead of his day, and just so far ahead as he may be of contemporary men and contemporary things just so far is he out of close touch with the interests from which his paper derives its principal support. He is seldom a popular man, and his cause has the weakness which we always find sooner or later where a following ties its destinies to individual leadership. It is in new and not too thickly populated countries that the editorial utterances of a strong paper have the most force in shaping the public opinion of a community that may be the seat of its publication.

All of this, however, cannot detract from the force of editorial utterance on any big paper. A man must have some strength of individuality to succeed, and a paper must have character to be respected. The moral force of a paper may exert in any community its influence in the character and ability of its editorials.

The great editors of the country in the past have been few. Knowledge alone does not make an editorial writer. A man may be walking encyclopedia of information, and yet be as dry and as dusty in his make-up as are the volumes he has pored over, and as lacking in inspiration for real accomplishment in newspaper work as the average graduate of a journalistic college. The combination of knowledge, strength of individuality, character and magnetic force that will permit a man to say a thing, or to write a thing, that is exceedingly rare. When such a man is found he is strong enough to defy all laws of conduct. As a writer, either on the editorial force of The Oregonian, or on a metropolitan paper in the largest Eastern population centers, he will make his presence felt.

Of the great editors of the country's history, Charles A. Dana was as much of a politician as he was a journalist. Even in his best days on the New York Sun the circulation of the Sun, compared with the circulation of modern papers of prominence, was small. The Sun is a good paper yet, but it is not in the lead of its contemporaries as it was during the height of the older Dana's career. Horace Greeley, great as was his ability as an editorial writer, drank the drugs of bitter disappointment in his later days. The paper that under his guidance held a place of national importance today attains to no prominence whatever. Henry Watterson, the most versatile, perhaps, of all the great editorial writers of the day, presides

### EXPLAINS TO PRESIDENT.

### Dewey Says He Meant No Reflection on Germany or Kaiser.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—At the instance of the President, Admiral Dewey called by appointment at the White House today and made a full explanation of the recent newspaper reports in which the Admiral was quoted as saying that the Caribbean Sea maneuvers were an object lesson to the Kaiser, more than to any other person.

The Admiral assured the President that he had no intention of reflecting in the interview on Germany, her Emperor or her navy, and, while the statements credited to him were substantially correct, he cautioned the interviewer against quoting him.

Admiral Dewey drove to the White House in his own carriage, accompanied by the Acting Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, Captain W. S. Cowles. At the close of the interview, the Admiral returned immediately to his Rhode Island-avenue home. The Admiral declined to make any statement for publication.

At the White House it was stated that the Admiral's explanation was satisfactory to the President. It is not believed that further official notice will be taken of the incident.

### GERMANY IS DISAPPOINTED.

### Does Not Understand Why American Fleet Shuns German Ports.

BERLIN, March 28.—The decision of President Roosevelt not to send the United States North Atlantic Squadron to Kiel for the regatta week is accepted officially as being wise, though Emperor William much desired the presence of the American warships to enliven the annual yachting season. It is understood here that the Washington view of the case was that the visit of the squadron to German waters would have been considered by the European Cabinets to be in the nature of a friendly demonstration, unless the warships also touched at other shores, and the United States Navy Department was not willing to enter upon a prolonged social campaign. The Germans added, however, that it is not understood why American ships "persistently stay away from German ports."

### Michigan Defeats Cornell.

ANN ARBOR, Mich., March 28.—Michigan won the annual indoor track meet from Cornell tonight by a score of 48½ points to 29½. The feature was Kellison's run for Michigan in the mile in 4:30 2-5, breaking the indoor record by six seconds.

### Equals World's Record.

BALTIMORE, March 28.—A. F. Duffy, of Georgetown University, won the 25-yard dash tonight in four seconds, equaling the world's record at the distance, by the Johns Hopkins University indoor games.

## PORT OF PORTLAND DREDGE TENDER

### JOHN M'CRACKEN.

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The Port of Portland dredge tender John M'Cracken, just completed at Seattle, left Seattle for this city last night in command of Captain McFarland. The M'Cracken will be used to tow and tend the dredges and pipe floats, and can also be used, if necessary, as a fireboat.

The M'Cracken is a 100-foot long, 20-foot wide, 10-foot deep, and will be used to tow and tend the dredges and pipe floats, and can also be used, if necessary, as a fireboat.

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## FURY OF GIANT

### Marks Liberated Flood in Mississippi.

### IT WIDENS THE CREVASSES

### Sweeps Resistless Over Rich Land of Delta.

### SWAMPS CITY OF GREENVILLE

### Efforts to Close Crevasse May Be Abandoned—Struggle at Hymelia Crevasse Continues, but Water Is Tearing Away Levee.

The flood in the Mississippi Valley is pouring through the crevasse at Greenville and Hymelia, tearing the gaps wider, despite superhuman efforts. Attempts to save the levee near Greenville may have to be abandoned. Almost the whole city of Greenville is under water and is in darkness. Already 1500 square miles are inundated in that vicinity. Should the efforts to close the Hymelia crevasse fail, the levee will fast melt away, but so far the river has risen, instead of falling, at New Orleans.

GREENVILLE, Miss., March 28.—The situation here tonight is quite as serious as it was last night and inch by inch the flood is spreading to new sections of the city; foot by foot the great crevasse in the levee five miles to the south of the city is widening, and mile after mile of fertile delta land is being covered by the waters as they rush inland from the gap. The developments of the night are awaited with uneasiness. At the crevasse forces of men have battled all day against the raging torrents, fighting for every foot of the levee that is being eaten away at either side of the crevasse by the seething waters. It is very probable that the efforts must be abandoned and the levee allowed to go, as the crevasse has grown wider with each hour, until tonight it is more than 300 yards across.

Whole City Under Water. In Greenville very little of the town is free from water and the rise continues, although the river itself has fallen more than a foot because of the crevasse. It seems probable that the entire city will suffer a disastrous deluge. Rescuing parties have been busy all day bringing persons in boats from the low-lying sections of the city to the higher sections, and thus far there has been no known loss of life. There have been many reports of families being drowned in their homes and individuals swept away, but without exception there has been no confirmation in this city of these reports. With the electric light plant disabled and the town in total darkness and with the water rising inch by inch, the night will be a fearful one for the people of Greenville. But these conditions themselves are not the most alarming feature of the situation, as a critical point has been developed in the levee 30 miles north of Greenville, at Catfish Point. A desperate effort is being made to hold the levee there and reports this afternoon from this point were hopeful, but the damage that would result from a break at Catfish Point would be so enormous that fear for the levee's safety must remain until the water subsides, even in the face of hopeful reports. Should the break occur at Catfish Point, there is no calculating what would happen to Greenville.

### Vast Area Is a Lake.

It is estimated that fully 100,000 miles of territory between Greenville and Vicksburg are under water, and the area is being made larger with each hour. The situation on the Arkansas side of the river remains unchanged and no break is now threatened. The water from the crevasse will flow into Fish Lake, Black Bayou, the Sunflower River and Deer Creek. It will overflow the greater part of Washington and Sharkey Counties and will entirely submerge Iaquenna County, with small portions of Yazoo and Warren. Many of the streams into which it finds its way are already swollen and full from backwater and continual rains. The Yazoo River, which is the final outlet of these waters, is already backing up stream and overflowing the lower portions of Iaquenna and Sharkey Counties, and as the flood is thus cut off from its natural outlet it will necessarily accumulate and back up in the upper country. It is probable that all communication will be shut off tonight.

### HYMELIA CREVASSE WIDENS.

Great Efforts Made to Close It—River Still Rising. NEW ORLEANS, March 28.—Though a great torrent of water is pouring through the break in the levee at Hymelia plantation, the river here shows little tendency to decline. The early morning reading was 26.1. By nightfall it was 26.2. If the efforts to close the Hymelia crevasse are abandoned, the levee, built of river mud, will doubtless melt rapidly and produce a crevasse rivaling that at Davis in 1854, when the river here fell with great rapidity. Work at the crevasse has progressed steadily during the day. Early in the morning some of the cribbing at the lower end yielded to the force of the current, but the line was raised and good headway was made. The lower end of the broken

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