

FAIL TO REACH AGREEMENT

Manufacturers and Machinists Are at War.

A GENERAL STRIKE ORDERED

Will Affect 100,000 Workmen and Extend Throughout the United States and May Reach Other Countries.

Chicago, March 20.—After the conference between representatives of the International Association of Machinists and the Administrative Council of the National Metal Trades Association, ended at 10:30 this morning, President James O'Connell, of the union, declared that strikes would be called immediately in all parts of the United States and Canada. Such strikes will involve 100,000 men and cause to be shut down for an indefinite period plants having an aggregate capacity of millions of dollars. Chicago labor troubles are responsible for the disagreement, which is expected to precipitate the general machinists' strike. Were it not for the fact that leaders of the machinists' union refused to call off strikes that now exist in Chicago, Columbus, O., and Paterson, N. J., the manufacturers and leaders, it is believed, would have come to an amicable agreement and arbitration would have been permanently established between the National Metal Trades Association and the International Association of Machinists.

The members of the executive board of the Machinists' Union, however, refused to call off the Chicago strike, as they declared that if they did, the Chicago local union would secede from the International Association. When the refusal of the machinists to end the strike was presented to the manufacturers, they issued an ultimatum to the labor leaders, and on their refusal to agree to its provisions, all negotiations were broken off.

Before leaving the rooms in which the joint conference was being held, President James O'Connell, of the International Union, declared that the union would begin immediately to call strikes in all parts of the country. The first of these strikes will be called in Cleveland. After all the large cities shall have been tied up, strikes will be called in the machine shops of all the railroads in the country.

After meeting in separate conferences, all the afternoon, the manufacturers and the labor leaders began a joint meeting at 8 P. M., at which the manufacturers submitted to the machinists a proposal for arbitration. They asked that all strikes and lock outs be called off pending the arbitration of the difficulties by a committee consisting of the presidents of the two organizations and two members from each association, whose decision shall be accepted as final.

On the second proposition the two associations were united. The labor leaders refused to agree to the first proposition, and submitted a demand for immediate and separate arbitration of the Chicago difficulties. This the manufacturers refused to ratify, and the conference broke up, both sides making what amounted to a formal declaration of war. The declaration of machinists took the form of threats of an international strike made by President O'Connell and Organizer Reed. The manufacturers then presented their side of the question in a set of resolutions in which they declared that "the form of joint agreement this day unanimously adopted by the administrative council of the National Metal Trades Association and presented to the executive officers of the International Association of Machinists is the best and only proposition which the National Metal Trades Association has to make, and that the committee again presents the agreement of the executive committee to the International Association of Machinists, and requests them to accept the same by affixing their official signatures and notify them that this association is ready to sign the agreement jointly with them."

The union of the International Association of Machinists met today and endorsed the action of the officers.

In view of the failure of all efforts for a settlement of the machinists' strike, National President James O'Connell announced tonight that the last details of plans for calling a national strike this week of 70,000 union machinists were being perfected. Mr. O'Connell had put himself in communication during the day with the local unions in several of the big cities East and West. He declares that all is in readiness for a general walk out before April 1.

Terrorized by Regulators.

Atlanta, Ga., March 19.—A special to the Constitution from Columbia, S. C., says: The station agent and other citizens of Neeches, Orangeburg county, telegraphed the governor at midnight begging for troops to protect them from white regulators, who had twice visited the town, beat the people, white and black, and promised to return tomorrow and kill them. Work on the surrounding farms has been stopped and people driven from their business. The governor telegraphed the sheriff to ride across the country with a posse and give protection until troops could be sent tomorrow if needed.

BOER SYMPATHIZERS.

New York Mass Meeting Addressed by Montagu White.

New York, March 19.—There was a meeting of Boer sympathizers at Cooper Union tonight, at which George H. van Hoesen presided. Montagu White, the Boer representative; John E. Mulholland and P. L. Wessels, a representative of the Orange Free State, made speeches. Mr. Van Hoesen prophesied that "not until all the Boers are in their graves or all the English are in flight will the war be over."

Referring to his interview with regard to the probable destruction of Johannesburg by the Boers, he said: "A nation making war cannot provide a drawing room for its enemy. The Boers would neither have lost nor gained by the destruction of Bloemfontein; but the case of Johannesburg is different, as it would provide splendid barracks accommodation for the British, and by reason of its location and other advantages an invaluable base for operations."

As to the reported statement of the British that President Kruger would be held personally responsible for any destruction of property he said:

"President Kruger is well able to take care of himself, and if he is not, I call upon you to take care of him."

Mr. Wessels spoke briefly, beginning with a reference to the reverence with which the Boers regard their women, and the fact that the women have been fighting in the trenches. He declared the Boers had demonstrated and would demonstrate their right and fitness to govern themselves. He charged England with supplying the natives with guns to use against the Dutch; with falsifying the surveys, in order to get possession of the diamond fields; with mistreating the natives and Boers, and with other reprehensible things. He concluded with an appeal that America intervene to stop hostilities, and reiterated the statement that European nations would have intervened if they had but known how the United States stands.

THE CUBAN PROBLEM.

Will Be Taken Up When Puerto Rico Is Out of the Way.

New York, March 19.—A special to the Times from Washington says: Four weeks hence, the year allowed by the treaty of peace with Spain for the Spanish inhabitants of Cuba to decide whether they will be Cuban or Spanish citizens will expire. Immediately after that date, April 11, according to the plan laid down by the administration at the opening of the present session of congress, preparations are to be made for the holding of municipal elections and ultimately for the election of a convention which will decide upon the Cuban form of government. To that government, according to the original programme, the United States is to surrender the control of the island.

Whether that programme will be carried out in its entirety cannot certainly be said. The senate committee on Cuban affairs has the matter before it. The plan was Senator Foraker's, and he secured the consent of the administration to it at a time when powerful interests were contending for a different policy, and when they had progressed so far that the plan had been announced to the public as the president's plan. Senator Foraker is confident that it will be adopted, and it is understood that this is the reason why he is so anxious for the immediate adoption of a civil government for Puerto Rico, with or without a tariff annex. He wants Puerto Rico out of the way, it is said, in time for the bigger Cuban problem to have a free field.

Senator Platt, of Connecticut, has started for Cuba with Senators Aldrich and Teller. Senator Platt is chairman of committee on relations with Cuba, and he, with Senators Aldrich and Teller, form a subcommittee which has been delegated to go to Cuba and study the situation. Nothing has been said about the duration of the stay the three senators will make. It is understood, however, that their visit relates to the plebiscite of April 11.

INTERVIEW WITH ITO.

Rumors of War Between Russia and Japan Are Unfounded.

New York, March 17.—A dispatch to the Herald from Yokohama says: Marquis Ito, Japanese ex-prime minister in an interview, said:

"The rumors of war between Russia and Japan are unfounded newspaper reports. An agreement exists between Russia and Japan to the effect that neither power will encroach upon Korea, and we must believe that Russia is sincere. The new Russian minister to Korea has come to Tokio and our relations are most friendly."

Speaking about the South African war, Marquis Ito said:

"The outcome of the struggle will be to increase England's greatness and arouse new interest in the armies which her colonies have developed. England will have trained soldiers all over the globe."

"The policy of Japan is not a colonial one. The Japanese army and navy are intended to defend Japan and her interests, not for conquest. Japan has no money for war or aggrandizement. The new development of commerce in the East renders it necessary for each nation to protect its interests with a show of power."

BOERS AT KROONSTAD.

Buller With 25,000 Men to Attempt to Force Biggarsberg Range.

London, March 21.—Kroonstad, where the Boers are concentrating, is 30 miles from Bloemfontein. It is surrounded by a country of hills and jungles.

General Gatacre is now resting at Springfontein, preliminary to joining Lord Roberts.

General Buller's bill work before Ladysmith has given him an experience which is about to be used in forcing the Biggarsberg range. It is believed that 25,000 of his 40,000 men are about to engage General Botha's force, and the next news of fighting will probably come from Natal.

The leaders of the Afrikanerbond are circulating a petition in Cape Colony asking the imperial government not to take away the independence of the Boers.

Thirty-two thousand additional troops for South Africa are now at sea.

Canadians at Carnarvon.

Carnarvon, Cape Colony, March 21.—The Canadian mounted rifles, under Colonel Herchiner, and the Canadian Artillery, commanded by Colonel Drury, have arrived here with a contingent of yeomanry. The presence of this force here has had an excellent effect in the district. It is said that a large force of insurgents is in the vicinity of Van Wyck's Vlei.

Settlement of Sulu Disputes.

New York, March 21.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: To prevent friction with the sultan of the Sulu archipelago, measures have been taken by the American authorities in the Philippines for the adjudication of any questions that may arise which cannot be disposed of by the provisions of the treaty which he and General Bates entered into several months ago.

Colonel Pettit, who succeeded General Bates as commanding general of the department of Mindanao and the Sulu archipelago, has issued this order, a copy of which has just reached the war department:

"It is directed that all cases in dispute between the sultan and his subjects and the United States which come in conflict with the provisions of the treaty, be referred by the commanding officers at S'Assi and Bonago to the military commander at Sulu, who will take such action as he may deem best, making a full report to the district commander."

Medals to Spanish War Veterans.

Washington, March 20.—The National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, on Wednesday evening will present medals to such members of the District of Columbia Society as served in the war with Spain. Senator Lodge will deliver the address. This action is taken in accordance with a resolution adopted at the last congress of the society at Detroit, authorizing a committee to procure from the government an old Spanish gun or plate from one of the captured ships, to strike medals from the same and distribute them to members of the society who served in the late war.

Fast Mail Wrecked.

Montgomery, Ala., March 21.—The fast mail on the Plant system, which left here last night, was wrecked about a mile and a half from Ozark. William Keller, a commercial traveler from Savannah, Ga., and Conductor Reed, were fatally injured. Others injured are: R. L. Todd, division passenger agent of the Plant system, Montgomery; Jack Cornalzer, Southeastern passenger agent of the Mobile & Montgomery, and C. L. Mitchell, a merchant of Zerk. The train was slowing up for a bridge when the rear truck of the tender jumped the track and the entire train, except the last sleeper, left the rails. Two passenger coaches and two sleepers turned over and rolled down an embankment.

Victory for American Shipowners.

Vancouver, B. C., March 21.—An important ruling was received today from the secretary of the treasury, at Washington, by the collector of customs in Vancouver. This was to the effect that in future no American goods will be allowed to go north in Canadian vessels to Skagway for local consumption there without payment of the regular duties. This is a victory for American shipowners.

Boxing Bout Ended Fatally.

Santa Cruz, Cal., March 20.—Frank Cass, 18 years old, was killed at Levin lakes today in a friendly boxing bout with Bert Whidden. In the eighth round Whidden struck Cass with a six-ounce glove on the left side of the neck. Death resulted in half an hour. Cass weighed 170 pounds, being 20 pounds heavier than Whidden.

Applications for the War Loan.

London, March 21.—In the house of commons today the chancellor of the exchequer announced that the total number of applications for the war loan was 39,800, and that the subscriptions were £335,500,000. The largest application, he added, was for £10,000,000.

Victoria Wheat Crop Short.

Melbourne, March 21.—The official statistics of the wheat crop in Victoria show only 15,000,000 bushels, instead of 21,000,000 bushels, which was the estimate before the harvest. The exportable surplus will be 6,650,000 bushels, instead of 12,000,000.

TWELFTH CENSUS.

Duties and Requirements of the 50,000 Enumerators—Four Schedules Instead of Ten.

In the census building a great room is now the scene of bustling activity, the work of preparing portfolios for use by enumerators in the coming count of the population being fairly under way. These portfolios, of whitish-brown pasteboard, hinged together with black cloth, are 18 inches long and 10 wide and tied with four sets of tape. The tape used is not that "red tape" which to the ordinary mind signifies circumlocution and delay. The law requires speed in the census of 1900 and common every day white cotton tape will fasten the schedule-filled portfolios in their round from habitation to habitation. For convenient, accurate and rapid enumeration the United States has been divided into 300 supervisors' districts, and these in turn into about 50,000 enumeration districts, or E. D.'s, as they are called in the census office. Each of the 50,000 enumerators is yet to be appointed, so on the portfolios a blank space is left for his name.

The last census found the unhappy enumerator loaded down with from 10 to 13 schedules, each having voluminous instructions, to master which required considerable mental ability and power of memory. That census was taken under a law which required enumerators to ask many obnoxious questions. The census act of 1900 happily for all does not require these disagreeable queries.

Four schedules, not 10, cover enumerator's inquiries in 1900; schedules requiring information about population, vital statistics, manufactures and agriculture. In cities the enumerator will seldom need the agricultural, or in the rural districts the manufacturing schedule, so he will infrequently carry more than three.

A general realization by American citizens of their personal interest in a successful prosecution of the canvass by this white-tape army should arouse sentiments of local interest and pride in each enumeration district citizens would concern themselves about the selection of their registrar and local arbiter.

The white-tape army should be made up of men of a high standard. They should be quick, competent, courteous, tactful and truthful.

Cosmopolis Sawmill.

The Gray's Harbor, Wash., Commercial Company's sawmill plant at Cosmopolis, employs 500 men, with 100 men working on improvements; has a \$31,000 monthly payroll; has a mess house that takes care of 400 men; scores of dwellings for rent to employees at a nominal sum, and which, in connection with the plant, presents nearly a mile of frontage on Chehalis river. The company is now constructing a new planing mill, a box factory, a tank factory, a finished lumber storing shed, new dry kilns, and making numerous other additions. During 1899 its output was 45,000,000 feet of lumber and 90,000,000 shingles.

Sea Lions Wanted.

J. E. W. Macfarland, superintendent of the new oil and guano factory, at Astoria, Or., is going to try an experiment this summer, that will meet the approval of the fishermen and the fishing interests generally. He will be willing to pay a good price to fishermen for all the sea lions that they may kill, as he believes that he can extract oil from them profitably, for they are always very fat when they come into the river. The matter will be brought up at the next meeting of the Fishermen's Union for discussion.

Northwest Notes.

Polk county, Or., has 2,508 voters; of them, 1,156 have registered.

La Grande, Or., has a school population of 1,377 between the ages of 4 and 20.

Miss Oza Waldrop, actress, is the daughter of Rev. Joe Waldrop, of Prineville, Or.

Walter Benn, a Siletz Indian, is under bonds at Toledo, Or., to answer a charge of grand larceny.

A number of strangers are investigating the timber resources in the mountains west of Pedee.

Papers throughout Oregon are still urging voters to register. More than half of them are not yet on the books.

A. J. Smith is said to have given option to parties on his 32 acres of oyster land on Oyster bay, Wash., the price to be \$15,000.

The Brownsville, Or., Times says the Calapooia river continues to make inroads on land in the eastern part of town, though the water is not high.

Tacoma druggists have organized a society which will join the Retail Druggists' Association of America. One of its objects is to prevent the sale of patent medicines and drugs in department stores.

A. F. Garr is a Toledo, Or., man who went to the residence of his wife, from whom he had separated, and "while she was absent at church, broke open the door with an ax, loaded a wagon with what he wanted and took it away." Mrs. Garr will take legal proceedings against him.

ADVICES ARE CHEERFUL.

Trade Review Makes a Favorable Showing.

Bradstreet's says: Trade advice are, as a whole, cheerful, and the stretch of values is apparently unabated, though some soft spots still present themselves. A permanent feature this week has been the increase in strength of values of farm products, nearly all the cereals, pork products and cotton advancing, while materials for manufacture, and the products thereof, have generally remained steady or unchanged.

Manufacturers of shoes are busy and weather conditions have rather favored the retailer by enabling him to dispose of some carried-over stock.

Wool is fairly steady, but manufacturers are out of the market and concessions can be obtained, though London advice are better.

Southern iron advice are of steady prices, and of rather more inquiry on export account. Except immediately in Chicago, where idleness of many thousands of men has caused dullness in the machinery and kindred trades, the Western iron situation seems a strong one.

Structural material is in better request and some very large contracts will shortly be placed.

Wheat, including flour, shipments of the week aggregate 2,277,450 bushels, against 2,280,578 bushels last week, 4,114,046 bushels in the corresponding week of 1899.

Business failures in the United States for the week number 190, as compared with 189 last week, 205 in this week a year ago, 233 in 1895, 233 in 1897, and 300 in 1896.

Business failures in Canada for the week number 28, as compared with 33 last week, 21 in this week a year ago, 23 in 1895, 36 in 1897 and 40 in 1896.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Markets.

Onions, new, \$2.25@2.50 per sack.
Lettuce, hot house, 45c per doz.
Potatoes, new, \$15@18.
Beets, per sack, 75c@85c.
Turnips, per sack, 60c.
Carrots, per sack, 50c.
Parsnips, per sack, 75c@85c.
Cauliflower, 75c@1 per dozen.
Cabbage, native and California, \$1.00@1.25 per 100 pounds.
Apples, \$1.25@1.50 per box.
Prunes, 60c per box.
Butter—Creamery, 28c per pound; dairy, 17@22c; ranch, 17c per pound.
Eggs—15@16c.
Cheese—Native, 15c.
Poultry—13@14c; dressed, 14@15c; spring, \$5.

Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$12.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$18.00@19.00.

Corn—Whole, \$23.00; cracked, \$23; feed meal, \$23.

Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$20.

Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.25; blended straight, \$3.00; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; graham, per barrel, \$3.00; whole wheat flour, \$3.00; rye flour, \$3.80@4.00.

Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$13.00; shorts, per ton, \$15.00.

Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$20; oil cake meal, per ton, \$30.00.

Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, 7½@8c; cows, 7c; mutton 8c; pork, 7½c; trimmed, 9c; veal, 8½@10c.

Hams—Large, 13c; small, 13½; breakfast bacon, 12½c; dry salt sides, 8c.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 52@53c; Valley, 52c; Bluestem, 55c per bushel. Flour—Best grades, \$3.00; graham, \$2.50; superfine, \$2.10 per barrel.

Oats—Choice white, 35@36c; choice gray, 34c per bushel.

Barley—Feed barley, \$14@15.00; brewing, \$17.00@17.50 per ton.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$13 per ton; middlings, \$19; shorts, \$15; chop, \$14 per ton.

Hay—Timothy, \$9@10; clover, \$7@7.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 50@55c; seconds, 42½@45c; dairy, 30@37½c; store, 25½@32½c.

Eggs—11c per dozen.

Cheese—Oregon full cream, 18c; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.50 per dozen; hens, \$5.00; springs, \$2.50@3.50; geese, \$6.50@7.50 for old; \$4.50@5.50; ducks, \$5.00@5.50 per dozen; turkeys, live, 10@11c per potad.

Potatoes—50@60c per sack; sweets, 2@2½c per pound.

Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 90c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, 1½c per pound; parsnips, \$1; onions, \$1.50@2.25; carrots, \$1.

Hops—3@8c per pound.

Wool—Valley, 12@13c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 8@14c; mohair, 27@30c per pound.

Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 4½c; dressed mutton, 7@7½c per pound; lambs, 7½c per pound.

Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$5.00; light and feeders, \$4.50; dressed, \$6.00@6.50 per 100 pounds.

Beef—Gross, top steers, \$4.00@4.50; cows, \$3.50@4.00; dressed beef, 6½@7½c per pound.

Veal—Large, 6½@7½c; small, 8@9c per pound.

Tallow—5@5½c; No. 2 and grease, 3½@4c per pound.