

MINERS ACCEPT PRESIDENT'S PROPOSAL FOR SETTLEMENT OF COAL STRIKE TODAY

ACTION CLOSES LONG STRUGGLE WITH OWNERS

Wilson's Proposal Accepted As Definite, Concrete And Practical Basis For Solution Of Difficulties.

Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 10.—The most far-reaching industrial struggle in America's history ended today when chiefs of the United Mine Workers of America, meeting here, accepted the proposed agreement submitted by President Wilson.

Following the meeting, John L. Lewis, issued the following statement: "The United Mine Workers representatives agreed to accept the president's proposal as a basis of settlement of the coal strike. They did so because it provides a definite, concrete and practical method by which adjustment of their claims for an increase in wages and improved conditions of employment may be brought about. The United Mine Workers have full confidence in the president of the United States and profound regard for his good will and judgment."

Proposal Different.
"The president's proposal differs from any proposal heretofore proposed in that it leaves nothing in doubt as far as a plan of adjustment and details thereof is concerned. The scheme proposed by Dr. Garfield left no hope for the mine workers other than the acceptance of an increase of mining prices of 14 per cent."

Four hundred thousand bituminous coal miners who have been on strike for five weeks and five days will return to work immediately, union leaders said and normal production is expected the early part of next week.

The men will return to work with a promise of an immediate increase of 14 per cent in wages. There will be no immediate increase in the price of coal to consumers.

Commission Provided.
Under the agreement, the president will appoint a commission of three, one miner and one a mine operator, which will investigate the entire coal industry. This commission will report within sixty days, recommending wage and coal price adjustments and whatever other changes are believed necessary in the coal industry. The miners' original demands included a six-hour day, a five day week and a 25 per cent increase in wages.

No change is made in the number of hours of work under the agreement adopted today, although the commission will investigate the conditions and may recommend shorter hours.

Miners Satisfied.
Coal mine operators have indicated that the president's plan is entirely satisfactory to them.

Termination of the coal strike brings to an end an industrial crisis which forced hundreds of thousands of workers into idleness. Many industries, unable to get coal, were forced to close their doors and lay off employees.

While the miners have come a long way from procuring their original demands, they look to the commission which President Wilson will appoint to give an increase in wages which will total at least 31 per cent and shorten the working day.

STORM CLOSES CITY SCHOOLS; ONLY FEW STUDENTS ATTEND
Schools in Salem were closed today. And they will remain closed Thursday and possibly Friday. Announcement as to whether they will open Friday will be made tomorrow, city superintendent of schools John W. Todd, said today.

When only about one fourth of the pupils reported for work at the schools this morning they were permitted to return home, and the schools were closed for the day. They will reopen as soon as the storm lessens, making it possible for the children to get about.

Williamette university remained open today, with about half the usual attendance. Attached at the school said today that unless the storm increases much more school will not be closed.

Weather Forecast
Tonight and Thursday rain or snow, warmer. Minimum 20. Maximum 30. Snowfall 17 1/2 inches. Total snowfall 22 inches.

Listen for the Carrier's Whistle. If you do not receive your Capital Journal promptly, phone 81 before 6:30 o'clock and one will be sent you.

AVERAGE CIRCULATION FOR NOVEMBER, 1919
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ELECTIONS MAY BE COMBINED STATES OLCOTT

Opinion Of Attorney General On Legality Of Holding Special And Primary Together Is Sought.

If, in the opinion of Attorney General Brown, a special election can legally be held on the same day as a primary election making use of the one set of election officials for both elections, Governor Olcott will recommend to the state legislature when it convenes in special session in January, a special election be called for May 21st next for the consideration of the restoration of capital punishment in Oregon. Governor Olcott stated today that he had asked the attorney general for an opinion on this question.

In the primary election, it is pointed out, provision is made only for the exercise of the voting privilege by members of the two dominant political parties. In order that all voters, regardless of party affiliations, may exercise the right of franchise, it would be necessary to call a special election and provide a separate ballot aside from the primary nominating ballot.

Capital Punishment.
While the governor is opposed to any plan involving any material additional expense he believes that there is sufficient demand for a restoration of capital punishment at this time to put the issue up to the people if the proposed arrangement can be made.

"I would be strictly opposed to calling a special election for this purpose if it were necessary to have the election on any other day than the day of the primary election," said the governor. "A special election held on some day other than the primary election would necessitate an expenditure of approximately \$100,000. If it were held on primary election day, however, the same general election machinery used for the primary election could be used for the special election. This also would avoid the expense of printing up additional ballots and incidental expense of all kinds, would amount to only a few thousands of dollars. If it can be done in that way I would be in favor of the people being allowed to pass upon the question at that time."

Held On Primary Day.
Governor Olcott has been advised by Attorney General Brown that in event a special election could be held on primary day the mere fact that constitutional amendments were passed providing for the restoration of capital punishment would not in itself be sufficient to actually restore that form of punishment. It will be necessary, the attorney general has stated, for the legislature either to re-enact old statutes or enact new ones providing for the operation of the death penalty.

Following the passage in 1914 of the constitutional amendment inhibiting the exercise of the death penalty in the state the legislature repealed some of the statutes covering the subject of capital punishment and consequently no such laws exist upon the statute books today. The attorney general has informed the governor, however, that at the special session in January those old laws could be re-enacted or new ones substituted for them but such laws would not be effective until the people had definitely restored capital punishment by enactment of a constitutional amendment.

When that could be effected then the laws passed by the special session would automatically become in full force and effect.

LOVELL EXPLAINS BIG STATE TAX INCREASE
Explaining why the state tax levy of this year is to be \$1,369,806 in excess of what it was last year, Frank Lovell, state tax commissioner, is today sending the following letter to the assessors of all Oregon counties: "The secretary of state levy in a few days. You will note it is larger than last year for the following reasons: 1. The act of 1919, which provided for a 10 per cent increase in the tax levy, is in effect. 2. The act of 1918, which provided for a 10 per cent increase in the tax levy, is in effect. 3. The act of 1917, which provided for a 10 per cent increase in the tax levy, is in effect. 4. The act of 1916, which provided for a 10 per cent increase in the tax levy, is in effect. 5. The act of 1915, which provided for a 10 per cent increase in the tax levy, is in effect. 6. The act of 1914, which provided for a 10 per cent increase in the tax levy, is in effect. 7. The act of 1913, which provided for a 10 per cent increase in the tax levy, is in effect. 8. 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