

MILLION BRITISH MINERS STRIKE FOR HIGHER WAGES

ALL COLLIERIES NOW CLOSED

Operators Refused to Treat with Men on Minimum Scale Proposition and Intervention by Government Proved Futile—Tie-up is Most Complete

Price of Coal is Already Soaring and All Industry is British Isles Affected—At Least Another Million Workmen Lose Employment.

LONDON, Feb. 29.—Eight hundred forty-eight thousand miners and their assistants, employed in the coal mines throughout the British Islands, quit work at 4 o'clock this afternoon, according to reports received here by Premier Asquith. It is predicted that a million men will be out by midnight.

Orders for the strike followed negotiations between government officials, mine owners and the men, which had been pending for a week. To stave off the threatened strike the British cabinet met in a last effort today to induce the coal operators to grant the men the minimum wage scale for each district.

Refused to Treat with Men. The operators refused absolutely to treat with the men on this proposition, claiming that the minimum wage was unfair to them. The miners stood pat and when efforts failed to bring about a settlement of the dispute, the strike leaders issued orders for the men to quit work today, when the present working agreement expired.

Reports received up to a late hour show that the walk-out of the miners is complete. Strike leaders declare that the tie-up of the coal industry will affect other industries to such an extent that it will throw at least another million men in other lines of business out of employment.

Price of Coal Soars. Official notification of the strike had hardly been received here before requests from operators, demanding protection for the collieries, reached government officials. The strike leaders assert that the strike will be conducted in an orderly manner and that there will be no necessity for calling out the troops.

The price of coal is already soaring, the operators refusing absolutely to fill any orders outside government needs.

The strike followed demands by the men for a minimum wage for all regardless of the nature of their duties. The mine owners, while agreeing to a minimum wage scale in abnormal instances, positively refused to concede the demand as a general thing.

TACOMA HOLDS TAFT CONFEST

TACOMA, Wn., Feb. 29.—"Wait till election day." This is consolation today of the progressives who failed mostly of invitation even to the dollar banquet called last night by Chairman B. W. Coiner of the republican state central committee. The banquet was dominated by the stand-pat politicians.

A poll of the banqueters showed 127 for Taft, 46 for Roosevelt and seven scattering.

Only one "progressive," George H. Walker, of Seattle, was on the program, he being assigned the harmless theme, "Get together."

The Taft campaign was started at the opening of the banquet by Chairman Coiner proposing a toast to the president, which was drunk, and Governor Hay was called upon to speak to the theme "The President," which added more eulogies. The conclusion by the governor made a fitting opportunity to rick a toast to the governor of the state and this was accomplished as per schedule.

NEW DEMOCRATIC LEADER



GEORGE M. PALMER

George M. Palmer has been elected as the new chairman of the New York State Democratic Committee to take the place of Norman E. Mack. Mr. Palmer has been prominently identified with democratic politics for years.

SPEEDY END OF LAWRENCE STRIKE NOW EXPECTED

LAWRENCE, Mass., Feb. 29.—Early settlement of the strike of textile workers is expected to follow a semi-official announcement that President Wood of the American Woolen Mills had wired from Boston notifying his assistants here that the strike must be settled at once. It is expected the mill owners will submit to the strikers some sort of a compromise agreement before the end of the week.

How the collapse of the mill owners' fight against the strikers is coming is illustrated by the scarcity of arrests which daily are becoming fewer. On Saturday forty men, women and children were dragged to jail. On Monday thirty more were arrested. On Tuesday forty-two were charged with picketing and obstructing the sidewalks. Yesterday, with the federal government investigators here, having come as the result of the publicity given the outrages by the United Press, only two strikers were arrested.

ROOSEVELT ACCUSED BY LA FOLLETTE MEN

PORTLAND, Feb. 29.—Following up his charge that Colonel Roosevelt "double-crossed" Robert La Follette by announcing his own candidacy for the presidential nomination after he had urged La Follette to enter the race, Walter Houser, La Follette's campaign manager here today came forth with a statement virtually charging that Governor Johnson aided in the alleged knifing of the Wisconsin man. He further asserted that the Roosevelt boom was started in Ohio by Dan Hanna, son of the late Mark Hanna, heavily interested in the steel trust, and that George Perkins higher still in trust councils, and Hanna are actively backing Roosevelt today.

ENGLISH NOBLE JILTED BY STAGE BEAUTY

WINDSOR, England, Feb. 29.—Left "waiting at the church," Eric Loder, a scion of British nobility, today was put in a ridiculous position when Gabriella Ray, a famous stage beauty, jilted him at the last moment, much to the amusement of London society, which was out in force to attend the widely heralded ceremony. The bridegroom, the choir and the priest were in readiness at the Catholic church, where the marriage was to take place, but the bride failed to appear. She refused all explanation.

MERRICK IS CANDIDATE FOR COUNTY JUDGE

Well Known Orchardist, Banker and Former Councilman Consents to Make the Race for the Republican Nomination.

Case of Office Seeking the Man—Eminently Qualified for Position—Has Lived Here for Past Eight Years—Promoted Natatorium Bldg.

F. E. Merrick, orchardist, banker and large property owner, former city councilman and one of the owners of the Natatorium building, at the request of many leading citizens from various sections of Jackson county, has consented to become a candidate for the republican nomination for county judge, against former judge, George W. Dunn, of Ashland.

Mr. Merrick will be the candidate of the progressives and his platform will be one of progress and economy. He stands pledged to business methods and systems in the conduct of the office. It is plainly a case of the office seeking the man.

Mr. Merrick came here from the Dakotas eight years ago. He has been a heavy investor in orchard property and only last month sold his largest grove, the famous Merrick orchard, three miles northeast of Medford. He helped promote the Natatorium and has been prominent in business and social life of the valley. He is a director in the Medford National bank, and for four years past has been councilman from the first ward. He was a member of the water committee that selected and built Medford's gravity water system, and is widely known as an enterprising and progressive business man.

The announcement of his candidacy has been received with great satisfaction throughout the county.

TED AND TAFT DELEGATES FIGHT

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS, Mo., Feb. 29.—The first actual clash between Taft and Roosevelt delegates to the national convention came here today and resulted, after scenes of wild turmoil, in what was practically a drawn battle. The fight came at the Third district congressional republican convention. Trouble started when the doors to the convention hall were locked on all but Taft delegates, who were at once seated by the congressional committee. In the scene which followed fist fights were barely averted, and the Roosevelt faction, barred from the hall, erected a platform in the street, intending to hold a separate convention there.

This was later made unnecessary when the Roosevelt men moved into the rear of the convention hall, elected a separate committee on credentials and, amid a hubbub that sounded for blocks around, adjourned after electing two delegates and alternates.

The Taft forces also elected delegates and the dispute will come before the Chicago convention for settlement.

SACCHARINE AGAIN MADE CONTRABAND

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—By a vote of two to one, three members of the cabinet having authority in pure food cases today held that foods containing saccharine are "adulterated with deleterious ingredients."

Secretaries Nagel and Wilson held saccharine dangerous, Secretary MacVeagh opposing them.

At Colon late this afternoon Knox will board the cruiser Washington and set sail for Port Limon, Costa Rica.

JOHNSON NOT CANDIDATE AT PRESENT TIME

California Governor Denies Charges That He Sacrificed La Follette to Become Teddy's Running Mate — Does Not Deny He May Be Named.

Speaks on Popular Government to Ohio Constitutional Convention—Defends Initiative, referendum and Recall—Says Judges Liable to Error.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 29.—"I am not at this time a candidate for the republican nomination for the vice presidency."

This was the summing up by Governor Hiram Johnson of California here today of reports that he is to be Colonel Roosevelt's running mate in case the latter is chosen at Chicago. Johnson made his statement to the United Press, but qualified it by saying that, while he did not expect to be in the vice presidential race, "I would be demagogue if I said I would not accept." He continued:

Is Not a Candidate.

"You may say this: 'I am not a candidate at this time. I am more interested in other things—particularly in the defeat of Taft for re-nomination. I followed the president for several days on his recent trip through California and found that he was looking only at the financial side of things and neglecting the human side.'"

"The people are for Roosevelt—the politicians are against him. The only question is whether the people or the politicians shall have their way."

Addresses Convention.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Feb. 29.—Convincing argument in favor of the initiative, referendum and recall was made here today by Governor Johnson. (Continued on Page 6.)

DAY DESERTS BRIDE OF WEEK

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 29.—The police are searching today for John A. Day, whose bride of a week alleges that he deserted her, carrying with him her jewels and her savings of about \$1,000.

Day who was publicity agent for the Astoria centennial and the Oregon state fair, met Miss Charlotte Adkins, an assistant in the office of a dentist, February 1. February 17 they were married. Four days later, the bride alleges, Day disappeared.

The police say the man cashed several bogus checks before departing.

Day is also known to the business men in this city, to their regret. He worked the bogus check game in this city one Saturday night securing a considerable sum. Among other places victimized was the Medford hotel, the Medford Cigar store and Meeker's. Although the police sent out descriptions of the man he succeeded in eluding them. Constable Singler of this city now has a warrant for him. He operated here in November.

MRS. JACK CUDAHY GUARDS WITH GUN

PASADENA, Cal., Feb. 29.—Mrs. Jack Cudahy, frightened because a masked burglar invaded her palatial home here last night, took out a permit to carry firearms today, and now guards her home with a big revolver.

The burglar cut the telephone wires to prevent the giving of an alarm.

Mrs. Wilson, who lives with Mrs. Cudahy, and the latter both saw the intruder, but were so frightened that they cannot furnish a good description of him. The burglar fled when the women screamed.

BRYAN FAVORS EITHER CLARK OR W. WILSON

Commoner Welcomed to Portland by Enthusiastic Crowd Headed by Governor West—Following Speeches, He Leaves for Tacoma.

"Either Champ Clark or Woodrow Wilson Are Available Candidates" Says Nebraskan, "But Nomination Harmon or Underwood Misfortune."

PORTLAND, Ore., Feb. 29.—William J. Bryan was given an enthusiastic welcome here this morning by a large crowd when he arrived in Portland from Boise.

He was officially welcomed by a large delegation of democrats, headed by Governor West. Following a series of speeches here this afternoon and evening Bryan will leave for Tacoma early tomorrow.

Speaking on the political situation Bryan said he favored either the nomination of Champ Clark or Governor Wilson, by the democrats. The selection of Governor Harmon or Oscar Underwood as the democratic standard bearer, the Nebraskan said, "would be unfortunate."

"Either Wilson or Clark are available candidates," said Bryan. He declined to state which of them he believed the most available.

Regarding the conditions in the republican camp Bryan said he believed the candidacy of Roosevelt improved the chances for the election of a democratic president.

KNOX INSPECTS CANAL AND SAILS NORTHWARD

PANAMA, Feb. 29.—Escorted by the engineering corps which is constructing the big ditch, Secretary of State Knox and his party today inspected the entire canal. Knox was nearly mired when inspecting the Gatun dam and laughed heartily at the figure he cut in hip rubber boots.

WILEY WON'T RESIGN POSITION

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Brand-new as absolutely false the stories widely circulated that he would resign his present position and seek the democratic vice presidential nomination, Dr. Harvey Wiley, government pure food expert, declared today that the reports of his intended giving up of his work in the chemistry bureau were the work of his enemies.

Dr. Wiley said: "These stories that I shall resign and seek political preferment are manufactured and circulated by anonymous. I cannot fight an enemy in the dark. Let him come into the daylight and I'll fight him."

Dr. Wiley said the story originated from the "same lobby that is circulating anonymous attacks on me, saying I 'protected' certain baking powder interests. I have asked Secretary Wilson to have the matter laid before congress. I should like to know the identity of the interests paying the expenses of this lobbying. The charge that I protected certain companies is false."

NO PRIMARIES FOR WASHINGTON G. O. P.

TACOMA, Wn., Feb. 29.—With standpatters in absolute control the state central republican committee here today endorsed President Taft and turned down presidential primaries.

The state convention will be held in Aberdeen on May 1, it was decided. With seven progressives back of him Thomas Murphine of Seattle led a fight for presidential primaries, but the standpatters sat on him.

"If you turn this down, it means a handpicked delegation to the national convention," said Murphine. Evidently the "commitment" didn't care.

ROOSEVELT IN PERSONAL CHARGE OF HIS CAMPAIGN

TRYING TO SUPPRESS MEXICAN OUTBREAKS



GENERAL F. I. MADERO

Outbreaks by rebel bands continue in the southern part of Mexico, and President Madero is making every effort to suppress the trouble. In Durango, which is in the danger zone, conditions are reported to be more settled.

REBELS READY TO MARCH ON FEDERAL ARMY

MEXICO CITY, Feb. 29.—His army swelled to an army of 2500 General Campa is today making active preparations for a march against Chihuahua, the capital of the state of that name. The rebels boast that they can take the city easily.

Insurrecto leaders today predicted that they would be joined in a few hours by General Orozco, whom they claim has deserted Madero. His term of service expires today, and it is reported that he has had frequent breaks with the Madero administration.

When the rebels leave for Chihuahua they will leave a garrison at Juarez of only 200 men, and it is believed that as soon as Campa's main force leaves the town, Madero will attempt to retake it.

Madero today officially closed the Juarez custom house. Colonel Salazar, of the Vasquistas, as promptly officially re-opened.

The American custom house is accepting goods exported through the Juarez custom house.

READING IS WEAKEST FEATURE OF MARKET

NEW YORK, Feb. 29.—The stock market opened with fractional declines. Reading was the weak feature, being down nearly a point. Later the market made slight recoveries. American Telephone and Louisville and Nashville led the list with good gains. The coal strike in England had little effect on the American market except to give pause to those traders committed to the long account.

The market steady. Bonds were firm.

AMERICAN YOUTH HELD AS SPY IN MEXICO

SAN DIEGO, Cal., Feb. 29.—Charged with being a spy Leonard Napiersky, 19 years old of San Diego is today a prisoner in the little cantel at Tia Juana and will be taken to Ensenada, for trial, according to the officials in charge of the Mexican town, across the border near here.

United States officials who have attempted to interview the youthful prisoner have been denied this privilege. The local police have been notified, and will take the matter up with the Mexican consul here.

At Tia Juana the natives declare the boy is not guilty. It is said he was with the insurrectos at Tia Juana last May.

SENATOR DIXON TO BE MANAGER

Former President Begins Work in Earnest—Wants Names of Committee Printed—After Ten Days' Rest Hunt for Delegates Begins.

Wm. H. Barnes, Standpat Leader in Consultation With Colonel—Understood to Favor Delivering New York Delegation.

NEW YORK, Feb. 29.—Theodore Roosevelt will take the warpath in ten days time when, after a rest at Oyster Bay, he will start out on a personally conducted hunt for the delegates to the republican national convention, and incidentally for the scalp of William Howard Taft.

This announcement was made here today after Colonel Roosevelt had taken luncheon with Senator Dixon of Montana, who, it was arranged, will announce this evening that he will take charge of the Roosevelt boom.

Takes Personal Charge.

Roosevelt today assumed active personal charge of his own campaign to secure the republican presidential nomination by the national convention in Chicago June 18.

Arriving at his office in the Outlook, the colonel summoned Oliver Carpenter, who will manage the New York Roosevelt committee, and demanded to know why the names of the supporters of the Roosevelt committee were not published.

Later Colonel Roosevelt conferred with Medill McCormick of Chicago, United States Senator Dixon of Montana and Frank Knox, chairman of the Michigan state republican committee.

Dixon to Manage.

It is understood Roosevelt asked Senator Dixon to manage his boom, and that he requested Knox to take charge of the Chicago headquarters of his campaign.

After leaving the conference with Colonel Roosevelt, McCormick denied that he was disgruntled because Roosevelt had favored Senator Dixon as his campaign manager.

William H. Barnes, junior, of Albany, standpat leader, also conferred with Colonel Roosevelt today regarding plans for securing the New York delegation for Roosevelt. It is understood that Barnes will assist in return for his support of Roosevelt that Vice President James S. Sherman of Utah again be nominated as Roosevelt's running mate on the presidential ticket.

KILLS MAN IN WIFE'S HOME

OAKLAND, Cal., Feb. 29.—Harry Prescott, a sewing machine agent, is under arrest here today charged with the killing last night at the home of his wife, of Harry S. Thompson, an employe of the Western Casket company. The killing, which the police say, Prescott admits, was caused by the alleged unfaithfulness of his wife.

Prescott and his wife are separated. Mrs. Prescott late yesterday, according to the story of her sister, met Thompson on Broadway. The two went to a theater and later went to the home of Mrs. Prescott. Prescott followed them and hid in the house. Shortly after Mrs. Prescott and Thompson arrived at her home she went to the bathroom and Thompson went to an adjoining room. Finding him there, Prescott opened fire.

Valdez Bill Approved.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 29.—Senator Jones' bill for an appropriation of \$55,000 to protect Valdez from glacial floods was approved today by the senate committee on commerce.