SHERIFFS GUARD PITTSBURG PLANTS FROM STRIKERS

PITTSBURG, April 24. Deputy sheriffs guarding the plant of the Westinghouse Electric & Manufacturing company at East Pittsburg, where 15,000 men are out on strike, used their clubs today to force a way through strike pickets for workmen trying to enter the shops. The principal fighting was at a bridge, where the pickets linked hands across the street along which the workmen passed. It was said that between 2000 and 3000 workers succeeded in getting inside the works. Seventy-six metal manufacturing companies in Pittsburg and vicinity announced they would not reduce the working hours in their respective shops.

The companies, said to employ a total of almost 100,000 men, considered the eight-hour question last week after the employes of a number of shops had demanded an eight-hour day, and it had become known that other demands were in preparation.

One of the principal entrances to the works is by a bridge owned jointly by the electric company and the Pennsylvania railroad. Threats to dynamite it were heard on the streets and a strong force of deputies was placed around the structure.

All saloons in the village were ordered closed until night. This precaution was taken as this is payday and about $700,000 is to be distributed among the workmen.

WITHYCOMBE WANTS TO KEEP CANTINE

SALEM, Or., April 24.—After holding a conference with the members of the state highway commission and the advisory board, Governor James Withycombe announced today that he would refuse to dismiss E. I. Cantine as assistant state highway engineer. State Engineer John H. Lewis had recommended the dismissal on the grounds of economy and harmony in the highway department.

MOVE ARMY NEARER BORDER

(Continued from page one)

or army officials could talk to him and satisfy themselves of his identity.

Withdrawal of the advanced forces in Mexico to the Casas Grandes region, 100 miles south of the border, is regarded by war department officials as due to the plan of redisposition of troops General Funston has been authorized to make. Secretary Baker made it clear today, however, that General Funston had been given full discretion and that he was not advised specifically of the steps to be taken.

Communication Shortened

Army officers pointed out that the retirement suggested would cut the communication lines to 100 miles from the present border base. The shorter line could be maintained with ease, they said, regardless of the use of railways, of weather conditions or of the attitude of Carranza military commanders. The American forces would then be able to take care of themselves without undue risk, whatever the developments in Mexico. They would also be able to defend border towns.

If General Funston's purpose is to establish his advanced base around Casas Grandes, a strip of territory 300 miles long would be relinquished as the present most advanced American post is near Parral, 100 miles south of the border. It is in this territory that General Carranza would be required to demonstrate his ability to secure complete control, to stamp out banditism, and, if possible, to capture or kill Villa before a complete withdrawal from Mexico would be ordered.

Influence Upon Carranza

The presence of troops in Mexico probably will have a decided influence upon diplomatic negotiations with General Carranza. Some officials believe that if a considerable part of the territory now covered by American forces is turned back to the de facto government to police, the Carranza forces will be spurred to great activity in chasing the bandits.

Eliseo Arredondo, Carranza's ambassador-designate, sought an interview with Secretary Lansing today in regard to the government's plan to permit General Funston to redispose his forces.

It was believed Mr. Arredondo would be told that while there was no change in this government's friendly purposes, there was also no change in its determination to see that raids on American border towns by Mexican bandits be prevented.

FOREST SERVICE CLASSIFIES LANDS NATIONAL FOREST

Announcement is made by the district forester, Portland, Or., of the final classification by the secretary of Agriculture, of practically all the lands within the Oregon national forest. This forest covers a total area of 1,110,520 acres, lying between the Columbia river and Mt. Jefferson and includes the Bull Run reserve and the Columbia Gorge Park.

This classification is a part of the classification work which is being carried on by the forest service to cover all the national forests within the state, and practically finishes the work upon the Oregon national forest. The lands in the Wasco project were classified in 1915; the Bull Run reserve is closed to the public by act of congress, and does not, therefore, require further classification. The Columbia Gorge park has already been classified and is set aside by secretary's order, December 24, 1915, as a recreation ground for the use of the public. The balance of the area within the national forest boundary, and the subject of the present report, covers approximately 897,422 acres, and with the exception of 1180 acres (which were not classified) the whole area was pronounced by the secretary to be chiefly valuable for forest purposes and not suitable for opening to entry under the homestead acts of June 11, 1906, and August 10, 1912. It is said that most of the agricultural lands within this forest were taken up within two years after the passage of the act of June 11, 1906.

In general the topography of this 897,422 acres is very rough; it is heavily timbered, in many places running as high as 100,000 feet b. m. to the acre, and the high altitude makes agricultural pursuits impractical. There are also several high peaks within this area, such as Mount Hood, Olallie Butte, Battle Ax mountain and Mount Wilson. In fact, the greater part of the area is above 3000 feet elevation.

MANN ATTEMPTS TO DELAY ARMY BILL

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Another objection today by Republican Leader Mann to sending the army bill to conference led to an announcement by Democratic Leader Kitchin that a rule to discharge the military committee from further consideration of the bill will be brought in today and under it the speaker will be empowered to name house conferees at once.

The objection today to the speeding up of the army bill apparently widened the breach between republicans and democrats.

BRITAIN REPLIES TO AMERICAN PROTEST

WASHINGTON, April 24.—The British ambassador, Sir Cecil Spring Rice, today delivered to Secretary Lansing his government's reply to the American protest against interference with neutral commerce. Britain's contention is the main with her allies, but will partly disarm by herself as soon as peace. The note is a long argument in general defense of the action of the British navy in the war zone.

SOCIAL SERVICE EXPOSITION OPENS AT NAT TONIGHT

Almost every denomination in the country is represented in the great Social Service exposition to open tonight at the Medford Nat. "Never before in the history of the Protestant" says Bishop Edwin Hughes of the M. E. church "has so great and fine an exhibit of religious work been gathered together." There is a great movement among the churches in America to get together. This is the first step in that direction. Here all meet on a common ground and on an equal footing, the Presbyterians, Baptists, Congregationalists, Methodists, Episcopalians, Christian and what not.

Besides the many church agencies there will be found there many of the finest exhibits in existence of the National Social Service agencies including the National Child Labor committee, the joint Board of Sanitary Control, the National W. C. T. U., the Salvation Army, the Sabbath Day Alliance, the National Temperance society and many others.

Willard Exhibition

The wonderful polyglot petition prepared by Frances Willard to be presented to the world powers is there on exhibition. It contains over 7,500,000 names and is more than a mile and a half long. Never before has this been allowed to go on the road but the officers of the National W. C. T. U. feel that no better use of this great monument of efficient effort can be made than to have it go with the travelling exhibit of National Religion forces.

Forming part of the exhibit of the American Tract society is the original George Whitfield pulpit used in this country now nearly two hundred years ago.

In the Palestine section of the exposition will be found many curious and interesting relics among other things an ancient lamp over 4000 years old. The Palestine section of the exposition has recently come from the Grand Central Palace of New York City, where it was officially opened by President Woodrow Wilson. This is under the supervision of Dr. Allen Moore who was brought over to this country from England to conduct the Palestine section in the great missionary exhibit known as "The World in Boston." Dr. Moore followed Billy Sunday in his big tabernacle in Scranton recently and estimated to over 50,000 people.

Today's Program

The program for tonight is as follows:

7:00 p. m.—Conducted boat through exposition.

8:00 p. m.—Opening ceremony, official opening, by Ministerial alliance.

8:30 p. m.—Palestine wedding procession and realistic costume lecture by Dr. Allen Moore.

Eastern Dress. The Bethlehem dress. The Bethany dress. How Sarah and Ruth dressed. "The last piece of silver." The veil and the battles. Raiment or needle work. How Abraham dressed. Coat of many colors. The water cellar. The shepherd. The nondividing coat. "The Lord hath made bare his holy arm."

9:45 p. m.—Tableau of "Ten Virgins."

PRAISES WORK OF HIGH SCHOOLS OF SOUTHERN OREGON

Professor A. R. Sweetser, representing the extension department of the University of Oregon, who arrived in Rogue River valley last Wednesday, with a busy week in prospect, has apparently enjoyed the work so far, and will probably not be able to complete it before the latter part of this week. So far he has visited the high schools in Phoenix, Jacksonville and Medford, and on Saturday he addressed the Jackson County School masters' club in its session at Eagle Point. Today he will visit the high schools at Gold Hill and Grants Pass and on Tuesday evening and Wednesday he will address the Auxiliary club and other civic bodies at Ashland. His talk there will be on the destruction of such pests as rats, mice and flies. In the afternoon of Wednesday he will address the Southern Oregon Federation of Women's Clubs on the subject of "Heredity."

Professor Sweetser expresses only commendation for the progress he observes in the work of the high schools of southern Oregon. On Friday morning he visited the Medford high school and delivered an illustrated lecture on "Wild Flowers of Oregon," an especially interesting discourse and particularly valuable to the class in botany. The professor complimented the student body on its devoted attention to his talk and to the elucidation of vital points in the work of the student life.

The University of Oregon sends out lecturers to all parts of the state each year to examine the work of the high schools and the systems employed for substantial advancement. These lecturers all have edifying messages to students whom they meet and encouraging counsel to all. School superintendents and high school principals recognize the importance of this work, and students generally show marked appreciation of it.

"This southern Oregon territory is a beautiful country," said Professor Sweetser, "and its schools are a credit to the state. The proficiency and efficiency of your corps of teachers would earn a high mark of credit anywhere."

IMMIGRATION BILL WILL BE MODIFIED TO PLEASE JAPAN

WASHINGTON, April 24.—Japan's protest against inclusion in the pending immigration bill of a reference to the Root-Takahira agreement restricting immigration of Japanese laborers was discussed in conference today by Secretary Lansing, Chairman Stone of the senate foreign relations committee, and Chairman Smith of the immigration committee.

Senator Smith later called a meeting of his committee for Thursday, when, it was understood, an effort will be made to modify the bill so as to eliminate any objection the Japanese government may have.

"I see no reason to believe that a satisfactory solution cannot be easily reached," said Senator Smith.

The Japanese government is understood to regard as an affront an effort to enact into law the Root-Takahira agreement which it pledged itself to fulfill. The pending bill by inference, it is argued by Japan, classes Japanese still excluded like the Asiatics and then exempts them by saying that the exclusion provisions shall not apply to such as are covered by existing agreements as to passports. It has been suggested that an amendment eliminating this phrase might solve the problem.