

SITUATION IS UNCHANGED

Only One Development of Importance Yesterday

FRANK P. SARGENT HELD

A Long Interview With the President and Departed for Philadelphia

IS BELIEVED TO BEAR SIGNIFICANT MESSAGE TO MITCHELL URGING HIM TO END THE STRIKE IN THE CAUSE OF HUMANITY.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—There was only one development of importance in the coal strike situation today. Frank P. Sargent, Commissioner of Immigration, and for many years Chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, had a long interview with President Roosevelt today, and left Washington very soon after. It is said that Sargent is to meet Mitchell in Philadelphia and deliver a message of the President urging the miners to end the strike in the interest of the public. While many propositions have been under discussion, it is almost certain that the administration is taking up only one at a time. The present plan contemplates the end of the strike by the action of President Mitchell and his associates, and a full investigation of mining conditions later.

No hope is entertained that anything can be accomplished through the coal operators.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 6.—There is a general impression here that Labor Commissioner Wright today carried a message from President Roosevelt to Mr. Mitchell. A rumor which cannot be confirmed is in circulation that President Roosevelt has appealed to Mitchell to end the strike in the cause of humanity.

Bryan Approves.

Lincoln, Neb., Oct. 6.—In a statement made tonight, W. J. Bryan says President Roosevelt should be commended for his efforts to settle the miners' strike. He urges the President to call an extra session of Congress.

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 6.—Governor Stone will neither affirm nor deny the report from Washington that he has been asked by President Roosevelt to call an extra session of the General Assembly to settle the coal strike. He still declines to discuss the situation or the prospects of an early settlement of the differences between the operators and miners.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 6.—President Mitchell left here at 4:30 this morning, presumably for Philadelphia. The utmost secrecy is being maintained as to the object of his visit. The entire Wyoming Valley was quiet today. As far as can be learned no more men went to work at any of the collieries. The Sterling washery, at Plymouth, made an attempt to start up, but no men reported for work.

Washington, Oct. 6.—At the headquarters of the Federation of Labor it

was stated that President Mitchell would not be in Washington today, but probably would be tomorrow. No information could be obtained as to whether his coming had any bearing on the White House conference of yesterday, or whether he has any new proposition to offer looking to a settlement of the strike.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 6.—It is rumored here that President Mitchell went to Philadelphia to meet Senators Quay and Penrose, who are representing the President in an effort to end the strike. It is stated that Mr. Mitchell will return here tonight.

A MUSICAL TRIO

TOURING THE COUNTRY UNDER AUSPICES OF VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA.

Capt. C. E. Horgensen and wife, and Miss Myrtle Nash, who have been holding open air services in Salem since Sunday morning, departed last night for Portland.

The trio is traveling through the Northwest, doing mission work in the larger cities. They are gifted musicians, and drew quite a large crowd here, as the Captain says they do wherever they stop. Their work is similar to that of the Salvation Army, but instead of the conspicuous bass drum and familiar hymns of the Salvationists, the instruments of these mission workers consist of a cornet, alto and baritone, and their tunes those of old battle songs, which, the Captain says, at once stir up the emotions of all classes and hold a crowd far better than any others.

The work of these people is among the poor and lowly, and they tell some very pathetic tales of experiences in the larger cities of the country. Captain Horgensen has been in the work five years, and says he thinks the condition of the poor in the slum districts of Chicago are more deplorable than in any other city in the United States.

BOGOTA TO SAIL

COLOMBIAN WARSHIP TO LEAVE SAN FRANCISCO TOMORROW ON DANGEROUS VOYAGE.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 6.—At noon tomorrow the Colombian gunboat Bogota will sail for Panama. Such are the orders issued by Captain Marmaduke, and it is likely that the little warship will get away. The vessel has been delayed owing to failure to get a full crew.

TWO PATIENTS.

John Johnson, of Astoria, a native of Sweden, was brought to the Insane Asylum yesterday by Deputy Wm. B. Young and Fred Moore, guard. He is a laborer, 28 years of age, and his mind has been affected for seven or eight years. Agnes Alma Jansen, also of Astoria, a native of Denmark and 44 years of age, was brought to the Asylum by Sheriff Thos. Linnville and Chester Smith.

DEATH OF PROMINENT LAWYER.

MILWAUKEE, Oct. 6.—Newton S. Murphy, aged 69, a well-known lawyer and former partner of United States Senator Matthew S. Carpenter, is dead at his home in this city, after a three weeks' illness. Mr. Murphy was also at one time proprietor of the Milwaukee Sentinel.

SUMNER'S ULTIMATUM.

MANILA, Oct. 6.—General Sumner, in command of the American forces in Mindanao Island, has sent his ultimatum to the Sultan of Bacolod, saying for him to cease his opposition to the Americans.

CHALLENGED TO DEBATE

Senator Hanna Will Discuss Tariff Issues

WITH MAYOR JOHNSON

William Randolph Hearst Declares Himself Upon Political Issues

HE FAVORS PUBLIC OWNERSHIP OF UTILITIES AND THE ELECTION OF UNITED STATES SENATORS BY VOTE OF THE PEOPLE.

CLEVELAND, O., Oct. 6.—Senator Hanna today challenged Tom Johnson to debate on the tariff, the subject to be discussed from a strictly economic standpoint, and with no reference to monopolies. Mayor Johnson immediately replied that he would accept the challenge.

NEW YORK, Oct. 6.—In a speech today accepting the Democratic nomination for Congress in the Eleventh district, William Randolph Hearst announced himself as in favor of the public ownership of certain public utilities, specifying, as a natural beginning, railroads and telegraph.

Existing conditions, he declared, made it advisable for the Government to take possession of and manage the coal mines for the people's benefit. He favored the election of United States Senators by popular vote as a means to end dealing with monopolies that "compel the payment of an extortionate price by the public."

GOVERNORS CALL TROOPS

TO QUELL RIOTING COAL STRIKERS IN PENNSYLVANIA AND NEW YORK.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 6.—Governor Stone late tonight ordered out the entire division of the National Guard of Pennsylvania to duty in the anthracite coal region. The soldiers will be in the field tomorrow. The order calling out the Guards says:

"In certain portions of the counties of Luzerne, Schuylkill, Carbon, Lackawanna, Susquehanna, Northumberland and Cumberland, tumults and riots frequently occur. Men who desire to work have been beaten and driven away and their families threatened. Railroad trains have been threatened and stoned and tracks torn up. The civil authorities are unable to maintain order and have called upon the Governor and the Commander-in-Chief of the National Guard for troops. The situation grows more serious each day. The public peace and good order will be preserved upon all occasions throughout the several counties, and no interference whatever will be permitted with the officers and men in the discharge of their duty under this order. The dignity and authority of the State must be maintained, and her power to suppress all lawlessness within her borders be asserted."

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 6.—Governor Odell late tonight issued an order directing the entire Second Regiment, composed of six separate companies, from Albany and Plattsburg, to protect the property of the Hudson Valley Railroad Company, upon whose lines the strike has been in progress for some weeks.

BIG MORMON CONFERENCE

NOW IN PROGRESS IN SALT LAKE CITY—THE REMARKABLE GROWTH OF CHURCH.

SALT LAKE, Oct. 6.—The annual conference of the Church of Latter Day Saints, with one exception the largest ever held, closed this afternoon. The Mormon Church has a mission in every civilized country in the world, and nearly all of them were represented in the conference just closed, which was composed of Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, Canada and Mexico, where the church flourishes, were represented by thousands. It is estimated that 40,000 people have attended the conference meetings. The growth of the church has been remarkable the past year. It is no longer the policy of the Mormon church to encourage emigrants to come into the church in Utah, but rather to establish communities in a State where converts are made. The growth of the church is said to be especially in the central and Northwestern States.

President Smith, in addressing the conference today, declared that Mormons, when ill, should be nursed by people of their own church, and that no one but their own faith should attend them.

A STATE DIPLOMA.

State School Superintendent J. H. Ackerman yesterday issued a state life diploma to Miss Lizzie Palmer, of Dusty, Oregon. The young lady is a graduate of the Ashland Normal School.

STATE MILITARY BOARD.

The regular quarterly meeting of the State Military Board was held in the Capitol yesterday. Nothing of importance came up, and after attending to the routine business the meeting adjourned until the first Monday in January.

Legal Blanks, Statesman Job Office.

FIRE FIEND IS AT WORK

Gervias Has a Destructive Fire on Sunday Night

ENTIRE BUSINESS SECTION

Struck by the Fierce Flames and Quickly Swept Away

ONLY ONE STORE REMAINING OF THE ENTIRE MERCANTILE DISTRICT—THE POSTOFFICE. TWO WAREHOUSES AND NEWSPAPER WERE REDUCED TO ASHES.

GERVAIS, Or., Oct. 6.—Gervais, the live and hustling little city on French Prairie, is in sackcloth and ashes—literally in ashes—as the result of a holocaust that swept the business portion of the place off the face of the earth on Sunday night. The town is sorely stricken, and the citizens, grave-faced and thoughtful, are seriously studying the needs of the time.

It was at 10:30 o'clock on Sunday evening, when the fire was discovered by a quartet of young men, coming from the postoffice where one of them—Deputy Postmaster R. M. Blanche—had taken the mail from the south-bound overland train. When first seen the fire was in the rear of the small building in the center of the southern-most of the two main business blocks of the city. An alarm was quickly sounded, and the people of the town turned out en masse, but before any attempt could be made to quench the flames, they had spread, with lightning-like rapidity, to the two adjoining buildings—the furniture store of John Weiss on one side, and the hardware store of P. A. Mangold on the other. The flames fairly leaped into the latter building, and in the back room where several canisters of powder and some barrels of oil were stored, a terrific explosion resulted, blowing out the front of the store building and scattering the fire, fed by burning oil, to the neighboring stores.

By this time a terrific confusion prevailed, as the citizens suddenly realized that the fire fiend had gotten beyond all human control. However, steps were quickly taken to suppress the flames and confine them to the block in which the fire originated. The city water tower, a large galvanized iron tank, standing in front of the burning block, and between the latter and the Southern Pacific station, was quickly brought into use, and water from this was soon playing on the flames. The little hand engine was also brought out and set on a well in the rear of the burning structures, and a stream of water was soon playing on the flames, but to no purpose, for the water seemed to make no impression on the seething furnace within the burning store buildings. The frame structures in the block were as dry as a bone—and a high wind from the south springing up at this moment, drove the flames across the intervening street, and fiercely licked up the next block in which the postoffice, the Star office and the drug store were located. At the same time the flames spread southward to the corner store of B. A. Nathman, destroying it in a remarkably short space of time; the flames also spread eastward, to a little barn and the house occupied by J. H. Roland adjoining the Nibler Hotel. While the flames were spreading southward and to the east, the big water tower to the west took fire, and the best source of water was soon cut off.

It was at this point when the strangest occurrence of the night took place. Fire suddenly broke out on the roof of the house of Louis Schafer, over an eighth of a mile from the scene of the conflagration, and the handsome structure was soon reduced to ashes, as were the outbuildings of the same property. In a few minutes after the water tower collapsed, the wells supplying water to the little hand engine failed, and Gervais, the enterprising little city of Marion county, was at the mercy of the fire fiend, and the citizens were helpless against the awful disaster that had overtaken them.

A portion of the crowd now gave up all attempts at suppressing the flames, and began to save the stocks of goods from the stores, while others placed in safety—or what was thought to be a place of safety—the household effects of those residences threatened by the fierce blaze. While this was under way, a force of men with buckets, wet sacks and blankets, was fiercely fighting incipient conflagrations on the roofs and walls of the four warehouses of McKinley Mitchell, on the south side of the railroad track, and on the southern Pacific passenger station, and with good effect, for these structures were saved, though the escape from destruction was a narrow one, and due to the heroic action of the fire-fighters.

When it became apparent that the fire was beyond control, Salem was telephoned to for aid, but it was soon found that no help could be expected from that city, as there was no railroad engine available to bring the department here. Portland was next appealed to, with like result. At this point the telephone and telegraph wires were severed, and Gervais was cut off from all outside communication, and left to work out her own salvation—with a lamentable lack of salvation in sight.

When the second block had been developed in flames—it took but a few minutes for the fierce blaze to do the work—the wind shifted to the east, and in a moment the fire leaped across the intervening 250 feet, and ignited the

roofs of the two warehouses on the south side of the track and north of the depot, as well as 200 cords of railroad wood near by, and in less time than it takes to write this paragraph, the two structures were enveloped in flames and were doomed.

The general merchandise store of Tansler & Co., north of the two burning blocks, the biggest store of the town, had also caught fire, and a large quantity of goods was saved, being piled on the streets at a safe distance from the fierce flames. There the fire burned itself out in its northward progress; the fire of the two warehouses was also confined to those two structures. The half dozen residences that had taken fire had burned themselves out, and about midnight—with in ninety minutes after the first alarm was sounded—the people of this place breathed easier, for the fire fiend had run its race, and while the business portion of the city was helplessly ruined, there was cause for rejoicing that the calamity had been no worse, that the residences, churches and schools had been spared, and that no lives had been lost.

A survey of the scene of the fire showed that the town was sadly disfigured. Two and one-half blocks of business houses were in ashes. Fully a half-dozen residences, and as many barns were burned. Two warehouses—McKinley Mitchell's potato house, and Meiring & Finney's grain house, in which were stored 20,000 bushels of oats—were destroyed; 200 cords of wood delivered to the railroad but not yet accepted, were burned; the postoffice, the Gervais Star office, and in fact all the stores but that of M. S. Pechner, were in ashes. Three telegraph poles near the depot were burned, the wires were down, and it was found a difficult matter to repair them. The wires were finally suspended from the nearest pole to the depot, and they hung so low that all trains had to stop before they reached the station, when the wires would be cut, and the trains allowed to pass.

Considerable quantities of the mercantile stocks were saved, but the percentage of the property taken out of the fire zone was very small. Among the heaviest losers are Tansler & Co., general merchandise, with a stock of \$18,000, only partially insured; B. A. Nathman, building and stock of hardware, \$5,000, with \$2,000 insurance; F. A. Mangold, hardware, \$3,800, insurance \$1,750; the Masonic Lodge, \$1,500, no insurance, all the lodges of the city meeting in the Masonic Hall—Masonic, Odd Fellows, A. O. U. W., Artisans, Kebabah, and Degree of Honor—lost their paraphernalia and fixtures, saving only the records.

Mr. Tansler, the leading general merchant, and his chief clerk, J. H. Roland, were out of town, as was Postmaster W. J. Clarke, who is also publisher of the Gervais Star. The postoffice and the newspaper office are a total loss, and Deputy Postmaster R. N. Blanche was doing business on the street until noon, when he moved into the city hall, where the drug store, the two hardware stores and Tansler's general store also found quarters.

The town will be rebuilt. The people are not in despair, though hard hit, and already steps are being taken to have the burned district rebuilt, and many of the new structures will be of brick, instead of the old wooden shacks that were destroyed today.

Conservative citizens place the loss by the fire at \$100,000, with an insurance of about \$20,000 to \$25,000. Among the losses are the following:

B. A. Nathman, building and stock of

(Continued on page 8.)

OLD VETERANS ENCAMPMENT

Battle Scarred Warriors Assemble in Nation's Capital

WHITE HOUSE GROUNDS

Are the Headquarters of Several Corps of the Organization

CAMP ROOSEVELT FORMALLY DEDICATED—ADDRESSES BY MEN OF NATIONAL FAME—AN AUTOMOBILE PARADE—REGATTA AND FIREWORKS.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6.—The ceremonies incident to the beginning of the 36th encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic, which commenced here today, were varied in character and mostly only semi-official. The only formal proceeding of the day was the dedication of Camp Roosevelt tents on the White House grounds, which will be headquarters of several corps of the organization during the week. The ceremonies there consisted of a number of addresses by men of national reputation, the chief speech being delivered by Secretary Hay, Commissioner McFarland also delivered an address. For the rest of the day the old soldiers busied themselves largely renewing old acquaintances of forty years, and in manifesting their appreciation of the welcome extended to them by the Capital City. Of this welcome they found generous evidence at every hand. The events of the day, outside of the dedication ceremonies at Camp Roosevelt, included a regatta on the Potomac, an automobile parade, a procession by Red Men of this city and neighboring cities and camp fires in the evening. Commander-in-Chief Torrance and his staff kept an open house all day at the Ebbitt House and received many hundreds of callers.

There are five places mentioned for the next encampment of the Grand Army—Atlantic City, Saratoga, Springfield, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Pittsburg. Candidates for Commander-in-Chief most frequently mentioned are General John S. Black, Chicago; John M. Clay, this city; General Daniel E. Sickles, New York, and Thomas J. Stewart, Norristown, Pa.

GOVERNOR NEILL DEAD.

COLUMBUS, O., Oct. 6.—Ex-Governor J. E. Neill died today after an illness of ten months, of cancer of the throat. A wife and daughter survive him. Mr. Neill was born in 1842. In 1877 President Hayes appointed him registrar of the land office at Salt Lake City, and in 1880 made him Governor of Idaho, which office he held for four years. He served through the Civil War, being mustered out as Colonel of the Forty-Sixth Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Legal Blanks, Statesman Job Office.

It's Always Bargain Day at



You don't have to wait for any particular day to get what you want at a reasonable price when you trade with us.

Our Spot Cash Plan of Business Enables us to Undersell Regular Stores.

Our object is to sell you goods that will give satisfaction so you'll come again.

You've all heard of the



Most of you have worn them. If you have, we are sure of your shoe trade, because they're the most reliable shoes on the market, and we sell them at "racket prices."

—We want to show you our new lines of—

Men's Clothing, Men's Overcoats, Boys' Suits, Boys' Overcoats, Hosiery and Underwear.

Salem's Cheapest Price Cash Store

E. T. BARNES, Prop.

Commercial and Chemeketa Sts.