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GATHER IN FORCE

DELEGATES TO THE PEACE CONVENTION OF COAL MINERS.

About One-Fourth of the Representatives Now at Wilkesbarre and Others Are Arriving Rapidly.

PROSPECTS FOR SETTLEMENT

GENERALLY REGARDED AS BEING OF A FAVORABLE NATURE.

There May Be Some Minor Objections in the Convention, but Mr. Mitchell's Advice Will Prevail.

SOME ANXIETY ABOUT PLACES

THIS PHASE PRESENTS A DIFFICULT PROBLEM TO SETTLE.

Some Concerted Opposition May Arise from It—Views of the District Presidents—Other Features.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Oct. 19.—Delegates to the anthracite mine workers' convention which will meet in the Nesbitt Theater in this city at 10 o'clock to-morrow forenoon for the purpose of accepting or rejecting the proposition of the President of the United States to end the strike and submit all grievances to the arbitration commission appointed by him, began arriving here to-day, and about one-quarter of the 700 or 800 delegates to the convention are now in the city.

Strike headquarters, which had been extremely quiet since the excitement of last week, began to be lively before noon to-day. Many of the delegates are instructed in various features of the settlement, but a majority of them will follow the advice and judgment of President Mitchell. There is nothing on the surface to-night that gives the slightest indication that the convention will not vote to send the men to work this week, with the probabilities still in favor of Thursday as the day of resumption. A noticeable thing among the delegates was their cheerfulness. It was quite evident to observers that they will be glad to get together and decide to return to work after the weary idleness of more than five months.

All of the delegates who were spoken to regarding the action of to-morrow's convention appeared to have no fear that a hitch might occur which would disarrange the present peaceful trend of affairs. A good many of the delegates say they have instructions on certain matters which they will place before the convention. As already stated in these dispatches, the principal question, outside the great question of accepting or rejecting President Roosevelt's proposition, will be that of strikers getting their old places. A large number of the men fear that in the general rush to return to the mines some of them may fail to get work. They want some assurance from the convention that they will be able to get the positions they occupied before the suspension was ordered. It is likely this element from the three districts will join forces and make a concerted fight on the floor of the convention for some specific action. In the face of the fact that the operators are on record that they will not dismiss one man who stood by them during the struggle, it will be a serious problem to solve. The debate, it is believed, will take up a great deal of the time of the convention, which is expected to last not more than two days.

The meeting, in all likelihood, will be held behind closed doors, after formal organization is effected. President Mitchell will be elected chairman, and during the first session, in an opening speech to the delegates, he will lay the plan of arbitration submitted by the President of the United States before them for action. He will recommend that it be accepted, and the men return to work as the coal companies can provide work. National Secretary W. B. Wilson will be selected as secretary, and he will have as assistants the district secretaries.

The first delegates to make their appearance came from Bernice, a remote point in the anthracite coal field, where the small coal beds are of semi-bituminous character. At noon a big delegation, headed by District Secretary George Fettlon and Organizer Paul Pulaski, arrived over the Central Railroad of New Jersey from the Shamokin and Schuylkill regions.

There were no reports of disturbances at military headquarters to-day from any region affected by the strike.

President Mitchell had many callers today. Most of the delegates who arrived to-day called and paid their respects and congratulated him on the near ending of the struggle. Among Mr. Mitchell's callers was Mayor Samuel Jones, of Toledo, O.

WILL END ON TUESDAY.

This Is District President Nicholl's Forecast of the Convention.

SCRANTON, Pa., Oct. 19.—District President Nicholls, of the United Mine Workers, when asked to-day how long the convention would probably last, said he expected it would adjourn some time Tuesday. He expressed the opinion that there would not be any very great opposition to the acceptance of the proposition.

F. E. Clark, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., grand chief of the Order of Railway Conductors, who was chosen as one of the arbitrators of the miners' strike disputes, was here today. He said he had not yet received official notice of his selection, as he has been on the road for two weeks, but expects to find it awaiting him when he arrives home to-morrow. Mr. Clark said he would certainly accept, if for no other reason than to avoid the complication and delay that might result from one of the commissioners declining. Mr. Clark came here to attend a union meeting that has been called to discuss grievances which the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad men seek to have redressed, but which meeting it was decided to postpone until after the mine strike is out of the way. Mr. Clark met with the local lodge of conductors and left for home to-night.

UNANIMOUS ACCEPTANCE.

District President Fahy Says the Convention Will Vote for It.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Oct. 19.—Headed by John Fahy, president of the Ninth district, sixty delegates left here to-day for Wilkesbarre to attend the United Mine Workers' convention there to-morrow. President Fahy said he expected the convention to vote unanimously in support of Mitchell's advice to them to accept the services of President Roosevelt's special commission.

A force of men worked at the local mines to-day preparing railroads, setting up new prop timber and establishing new ventilation, so that the mines can be started up as soon as the miners are ready to go to work.

Wright at the White House.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The Hon. Carroll D. Wright, who is the recorder of the arbitration committee appointed by the President to consider the differences between the mine operators and the miners, spent half an hour at the White House to-night. He discussed in a general way with President Roosevelt the work of the commission and the existing condition of affairs as reflected in newspaper reports.

BURNED MANY BARNS.

Minnesota Youth Who Was Rejected by Several Damsels.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Oct. 19.—Sheriff Dreger to-day lodged Adolph Kadelberth in jail here for having set fire to the barns and warehouses on half a dozen farms near Loretto, in this county. The prisoner declares disappointment in love crazed him. Successive rejection of his wooing by women of his neighborhood preyed on his mind. He became convinced that their parents were in league to rob him of the prospect of happiness. So, he explains, he sought revenge in fire.

The farmhouses of Charles Piper and Jacob Spurzem, whose daughters had most recently rejected Kadelberch, were first fired. Then the torch was applied to the barns of Leonard Miller and Charles Thomas. At the latter's farm Kadelberch was captured.

Meanwhile word had been sent along the Rockford road that Kadelberch had become crazy and was trying to burn up Hennepin county. Hundreds of farmers stood guard over their homes all last night with shotguns, Sheriff Winterholter concealing the fact of Kadelberch's arrest for fear of violence until relieved of his prisoner by Sheriff Dreger.

RECOVERED HER JEWELS.

Duluth Woman Who Lost Pearl Necklace and Diamonds.

DULUTH, Minn., Oct. 19.—Mrs. T. D. Merrill, who last Wednesday lost a pearl necklace and diamonds valued at $7,000, to-day recovered the jewels. The gems were in a jewel case which Mrs. Merrill kept in a safety deposit vault at one of the banks. On Wednesday she took the case from the vault and, going into the bank, placed the jewels on the counter while she wrote a check and got it cashed. She then left the bank, forgetting her valuable property, but returned quickly to find it gone. The police were notified and a reward of $500 was offered for the return of the jewels.

To-day a stranger went to the Merrill home and delivered the gems to their owner. He refused to receive the reward and declined to give his name or to tell how the jewels came into his possession. The police believe that some one was tempted and took the jewel case under the impulse of the moment, later becoming conscience-stricken and returning the property to its rightful owner.

NOT PERMANENTLY ORDERED.

Minister Wu Corrects a Report About His Term of Service.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—Alluding to reports that have been circulated that he was to remain in Washington permanently, Mr. Wu Tingfang, the Chinese minister, said to-night:

"I was notified that my successor was appointed. Later I was notified that I was to remain in Washington temporarily. Further than that I know nothing of the plans of my government relating to this post. I may remain three weeks, or three months or a year. I do not know how long my term of service here is to be. The situation is quite unusual. Shortly after the appointment of my successor came the announcement that he was not to be here immediately. The temporary extension of my term has doubtless been mistaken, by persons not familiar with the order, for a permanent appointment."

STORY OF A TRAGEDY

FRANKLIN BUSCH HAYS WRITES OF GEORGE FITZGERALD'S DEATH.

In Letter to His Father He Says the Shooting Was Accidental and Result of a Prank.

Dr. Franklin W. Hays yesterday received a letter from his son, Franklin Busch Hays, who is a student in Professor David K. Goss's American college at Strassburg, Alsace, Germany, giving an account of the deplorable death of George Fitzgerald, son of P. H. Fitzgerald, of Indianapolis, at Strassburg on Oct. 4. The letter shows that the tragic death was entirely the result of an accident. Dr. Hays is confident that Professor Goss exercised all possible precaution, and attributes the accident to the irressitible tendency of boys to tamper with dangerous weapons. He considers that no blame attaches to Professor Goss, and that the distressing event grew out of circumstances beyond his control. The letter follows:

"You have probably heard of the most sorrowful accident that occurred here some time ago. This is a short account of it. Saturday morning, Oct. 4, about 9 o'clock, George Fitzgerald, the younger of the two brothers, aged fourteen, was accidentally, while playing with Donald Goss, shot and killed by the latter.

"The two were in Donald's room (it may have been George's, I am not at present sure) when George picked up a rapier and ran at Don, who was lying on the bed, saying, laughingly, 'Look how quickly I could kill you.' Don took a revolver lying on the bed by him, and, thinking that it was empty, pulled the trigger three times. The third time it went off, shooting George through the great artery leading down from the heart.

RAN TO THE DOOR.

"George ran to the door, saying something that was not comprehended and then ran down the corridor toward his room, but fell in a heap just before he reached it.

"Donald went to all the rooms on the third floor, on which the accident occurred, hunting somebody, but not succeeding, ran up to the next floor and into one of the rooms where Bert and Walter Vonnegut were, crying that he had shot Dough (George's nickname) in the leg, and for God's sake to hurry down.

"It happened that Mr. Goss was just turning the corner of the hall and that I was coming upstairs from the dining room. Strangely enough, we all met almost, or, in fact, where George fell. All of us thought that he was pretending. For some time the younger boys had been playing with swords, revolvers and other dangerous weapons in a most reckless way and pretending to be seriously hurt.

"John Fitzgerald and Mr. Goss carried him in and put him on his bed. He was then unconscious and blood was running from his right eye. The doctor who had been summoned got there about ten minutes after the occurrence. A few minutes later George died. Mr. Goss will go back with the body with John Fitzgerald and his sister. They will sail on the Columbia on Oct 10."

Fatal Fire at Beaumont.

BEAUMONT, Tex., Oct. 19.—Fire in the oil field this morning destroyed half a dozen derricks and a settling tank. The tank exploded, inflicting such injuries on a workman named February that he died in a short time. The monetary loss was not large.

Grant Ordered to Washington.

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—Brigadier General Frederick Dent Grant, U. S. A., who has been visiting his relatives in this city since last Friday, left for Washington to-night under telegraphic orders from the War Department. He had expected to go direct to San Antonio.

VICTORY IN SIGHT

REPRESENTATIVE OVERSTREET REVIEWS GENERAL SITUATION.

A Busy People, Immense Crops and Thriving Manufactories Are Important Factors.

SAFE REPUBLICAN MAJORITY

REPORTS FROM CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS SATISFACTORY.

Coal Strike as an Issue Falls Flat Since President Roosevelt's Courageous Stand.

MANY ISSUES PRESENTED

DEMOCRATS PURSUE FLEETING PHANTOMS IN EVERY DISTRICT.

Mr. Overstreet Arrives Home to Take Up Active Campaign Work—His Itinerary.

Representative Jesse Overstreet and wife arrived in Indianapolis yesterday afternoon from New York, where Mr. Overstreet has been busy with the Republican national congressional committee for several months. Mr. and Mrs. Overstreet will be here until after the election, and will stay at the Denison. Mr. Overstreet will speak at the Shaw meeting to-night, and a number of other dates have been arranged for him. Several noon meetings have also been arranged. Following is his itinerary for the next two weeks:

21st—Irvington.
22d—Southport and the O. P. Morton Club.
24th—East End Republican Club and Tuxedo.
25th—Bridgeport and Clermont.
27th—Haughville town hall.
28th—Cumberland.
29th—North Indianapolis.
30th—West Newton and West Indianapolis.
31st—Brightwood and Sixteenth and Yandes street.
Nov. 1—South Side Republican Club.

Concerning his work in New York Mr. Overstreet yesterday said:

"I have been closely confined at our committee headquarters throughout the summer, and am delighted to be able to return home. It is my intention to remain at home until Congress shall convene in December, unless I shall be called again to New York on account of my work with the national committee.

"The campaign has been an exceedingly difficult one. The conditions have been greatly similar to those which prevailed in 1898, although at that time the interest in the Spanish war played a prominent part in the campaign.

"The people have been exceedingly busy in all lines of business and have not cared much for politics. There has been no relaxation in any line of business, while the immense crops of the West and the great increase in our manufactures have so stimulated both domestic and foreign trade that we have had much trouble in awakening the people to the real dangers of the political situation. In addition there have been a number of embarrassing conditions in several States which have had no particular relation to national politics, but have been of such character as to involve nominees for Congress to such an extent as to make a number of districts quite doubtful. The absence of an overtowering question upon which public attention would be centered in national campaigns has permitted the development of a great variety of campaign issues in different districts, which necessarily adds to the complications of the general contest.

"The leading issue of the Democrats in some districts has been the attack upon the Philippine policy of the administration, in which they still berate and criticise the army. In other districts the only issue is the issue of the trusts. In others free trade and revision of the tariff. In some the money question is still the leading subject, and in a few districts we are advised that the Democrats are still insisting that the hard times from '93 to '96 had their origin in the administration of President Harrison, and cite as a proof the old, hackneyed argument that the secretary of the treasury under President Harrison's administration was upon the point of issuing bonds when the administration closed. This variety of issues and character of contests has made our work very heavy.

SETTLEMENT OF STRIKE.

"Several weeks ago there seemed to have been a concerted action to make the unfortunate coal strike the one leading issue, and to use it as a means of arousing prejudice against the Republican party. This was notable in the effort of ex-Senator Hill, of New York, who controlled the Democratic State convention of that State, in its declaration for 'government ownership of the mines.' This latter effort, however, has completely collapsed since the splendid and courageous work of President Roosevelt in bringing about an amicable settlement of that situation. Republican leaders worked faithfully to accomplish that result, but the President is entitled to the credit of its final success. The settlement of the strike has bewildered the Democracy, who had relied much upon it for an issue.

"Various embarrassments in the different districts have been very generally cleared away, and I have no hesitancy in claiming the election of a safe Republican majority in the Fifty-eighth Congress. I do not care to go into details, nor to tabulate the districts which we will carry. The present officers of our committee have never made that character of a forecast. I am absolutely confident, however, that we will win by a very safe majority. This, however, is based upon the assumption that energy and care will characterize our efforts throughout the congressional districts in the country during the remaining days of the campaign.

"The Pacific slope and the Northwest are safe. We have more than an even chance for gains in Kansas and Nebraska, and will certainly hold our own in the middle West. The general healthy tone of business and the settlement of the coal strike clears the situation greatly in the East, where we will not suffer losses, which we feared early in the campaign. The great popularity of President Roosevelt and the courageous and candid manner in which he has acted, has strengthened the Republicans immensely. In the early summer the sentiment in New York was against the Republican cause, but the sentiment has unquestionably changed of late, and the opinion prevails there very generally that, not only will the Republicans win, but they deserve to win.

GOOD MEETINGS.

"Governor Odell will be elected in New York by a very complimentary majority, and the Republicans will suffer no loss in that State in the congressional vote.

"The gentlemen who are engaged in the speaking campaign for us are reporting good meetings, and much better attendance of late than at the beginning of the campaign. Interest seems to be increased, which indicates a reasonably fair vote. The inability of the Democrats to unite on sensible issues and their tendency to take up with socialistic views continues to alienate the business vote from that party, while the conservative attitude of the Republicans toward all of our political problems continues to inspire confidence. It now seems that the Republicans will carry the larger per cent. of the so-called business vote. Capital still relies upon Republican policies for security and labor yet looks to the Republican party as a guarantee of employment. There is, therefore, no appearance of loss to our party from either of these votes.

"Off-year elections are as a rule against the party in power, and even if the party in power succeeds it is usually by a reduced majority. In my opinion, however, judging from present conditions, our party will be almost, if not quite, as strong in the next Congress as in the present.

"I have been greatly interested in the movement to obtain contributions for the technical institute fund with which to purchase the arsenal property. The failure of this project would always be regretted by Indianapolis. I am sincerely anxious that it shall succeed. Very recently the management of the Columbia University of New York announced that it would need $10,000,000 to perfect its plans for that university. Yet in less than five days the dred and fifty thousand dollars for Indianapolis is a less burden than $10,000,000 to New York, and the perfecting of the plans for the technical institute will prove of as much benefit to Indianapolis as the benefit to New York from Columbia University. The secretary of war has advised me within the last few days that all reasonable time and opportunity will be afforded us to make suitable provision for the purchase of the arsenal grounds at a price sufficient for the technical institute as well as the army post.

"These two projects will prove of immeasurable value to Indianapolis, and the failure of either will forever remove from us the opportunity which we now have. The success of these projects will be very gratifying to all of us."

EIGHT MEN SCALDED.

Accident at Benwood Steel Works Will Result in Three Deaths.

WHEELING, W. Va., Oct. 19.—By the parting of a steam pipe at the Riverside plant of the National tube works in Benwood, this afternoon, eight men were scalded and three or four of them will die. They are:

WILLIAM ANDERSON, burned about face and body, spine injured; will die.

HENRY WESTENHAVER, head and body burned, right arm broken; will die.

W. H. JONES, horribly burned about face and shoulders; will die.

SAMUEL L. GRADY, face, arms and upper portion of body seriously burned.

ARTHUR HALFPENNY, face, neck and arms burned.

FRANK BARTULA, face and body scalded.

M. H. BURKE, scalded about upper part of body.

ED CARSONS, burns on face and head; will recover.

Four of the men were carpenters and four laborers. They were placing a partition in the boiler room of the new blast furnace, and were working on a scaffold. A twelve-inch copper pipe, supplying the blasting engines with steam from the boilers, broke without warning, and escaping steam filled the room.

QUAKERS IN HARMONY

BRANCHES OF THE SECT READY FOR FEDERATION.

The Meeting in This City Will Be Most Important Friends' Conference in 250 Years.

SESSIONS BEGIN TO-MORROW

DELEGATES FROM ALL YEARLY MEETINGS WILL COME.

The Topics to Be Considered Are Vital for the Church's Future—The Programme.

The most important meeting of the orthodox Friends since their church was established in America, 250 years ago, will be held in this city this week. The first session will be held Tuesday evening and the conference will continue through till Monday. The conference is what is known as the Five Years Meeting of the Yearly Meetings of Friends in America. It is a delegate body, composed of 170 representatives of the thirteen yearly meetings in America. Three five years meetings have been held, but this one will differ from others in that a new and uniform discipline and constitution will be adopted to govern the entire church body. Heretofore each yearly meeting has retained a distinct individuality and has been independent of any concerted action, but this conference will cement the yearly meetings together and make them subject to one administrative body, with perhaps certain provisions of autonomy.

The history of the Friends' Church has been remarkable in many respects, the democratic idea of government being the predominant feature. For 250 years the Friends have prospered without any affiliation and virtually no communication with each other except by epistolary documents read at the several yearly meetings. The yearly meetings exchanged epistles, advising each other of what they were doing, but in no way were the meetings officially connected. Since the last five years meeting forms of a uniform discipline and constitution providing for the unification of the church and a consolidated movement were sent to the different yearly meetings for consideration. The constitution provided that if seven of the yearly meetings adopted a new constitution it would be placed in effect. Ten of the yearly meetings voted to adopt the constitution and the three remaining yearly meetings have taken no action. They will send delegates, however, and it is expected that these three will soon be in the federated movement.

SOME OPPOSITION.

There was some opposition to the proposed movement when it was first presented, but this has diminished until now the sentiment is about unanimous in favor of the federation. The only objection to the movement was that it might interfere with the democracy of the yearly meetings. Any objectionable features along this line will be eliminated by a liberal constitution, so that no organization will lose its individuality. The movement is purely to consolidate the church so that it will be under one head.

The delegates to the convention will come from all parts of the United States and Canada. They will represent more than 100,000 Friends. The largest representation will be from the Indiana Yearly Meeting, which is the largest in America, and the next from the Western Yearly Meeting, which includes Indianapolis, and is next to the largest. Baltimore Yearly Meeting has the smallest membership. Besides the delegates who will attend, large crowds are expected from over the State, Indiana being the stronghold of the Quakers. The meetings will be held in the Friends' Church at Thirteenth and Alabama streets. Seats will be reserved for the delegates, and the remainder of the auditorium and

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WORLD'S MISSIONS

WORKERS IN THEM GATHER TO CONFER OVER METHODS.

Representatives of Churches and Auxiliary Organizations Meet to Advance Evangelistic Work.

METHODISTS BY THE THOUSAND

GATHER IN CLEVELAND UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF BISHOPS.

Mission Societies of the Church Hold Another Great Convention in Kansas City for the Same Purpose.

EPISCOPAL MISSION COUNCIL

IT MEETS AT PHILADELPHIA FOR DISCUSSION OF WORK.

National Meeting of W. C. T. U. at Portland—Christian Convention at Omaha—Other Church News.

CLEVELAND, Oct. 19.—The missionary forces of the Methodist Episcopal Church, numbering 2,000 persons, will convene Tuesday afternoon in the Grays' Armory for the first convention of its kind ever held. The several interests of the church will have delegations and leaders present. Missionary work will be the principal topic of discussion. Among the bishops who will be present and address the convention are Moore, of China; Hartzell, of Africa; Vincent, of Europe; McCabe, of South America, and Thoburn, of India. Home bishops who will speak are Foss and Fowler.

Other speakers will be the Rev. Dr. J. M. Buckley, of New York; Dr. J. W. Bashford, of Ohio; John R. Mott and Robert E. Speer. The convention will last until Friday. An interesting feature will be an exhibit of curios and maps, etc., brought by missionaries from their far-away fields of labor.

The convention will be called to order by Bishop Edward G. Andrews, of New York.

Methodists at Kansas City.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Oct. 19.—The pulpits of the Methodist Episcopal churches of this city, Kansas City, Kan., Independence, Mo., and Rosedale, Kan., were filled to-day by delegates to the Women's Home Missionary Society's convention. As a rule the attendance at the different churches was large and the congregations were pleased by the women speakers, many of whom are noted orators. The delegates who delivered sermons are either national officers of the missionary society, deaconesses, matrons of missionary homes or missionaries. Mrs. Jane Bancroft Robinson, of Detroit, first vice president of the national board of managers and secretary of the bureau of deaconesses, delivered an address at the Independence-avenue Methodist Church which proved to be one of the most interesting of the day.

Mrs. Clinton B. Fisk, president of the board of managers of the missionary society, delivered her annual address to the board at the Grand-avenue Methodist Church and the corresponding secretary and treasurer gave abstracts of their annual reports.

National German Epworth League.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 19.—The ninth annual biennial convention of the National German Epworth League, which began Thursday, ended this evening with a mass meeting at Salem Church. Before adjourning the following officers were elected for two years: President, Dr. F. Hunz; secretary, Dr. E. S. Hovighorst; treasurer, H. C. Dickhaut. The place of holding the next convention was left to the executive committee.

FIRST MEETINGS HELD.

Episcopal Council of Missions Gathers at Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 19.—Preliminary to the annual meeting of the Missionary Council of the Protestant Episcopal Church, which will begin here on Tuesday, services were held to-day in ten churches, the visiting clergymen addressing the Sunday school children on missionary topics. Bishops and clergymen from every part of the country have arrived and many more will reach this city to-morrow.

Among the bishops who addressed the Sunday school meetings to-day were Bishop Van Buren, Porto Rico; Bishop Kendrick, New Mexico; Bishop White, Michigan City; Bishop Peterkin, West Virginia; Bishop Brewer, Montana; Bishop Barton, Lexington, Ky., and Bishop Francis, Indianapolis.

The membership of the Missionary Council consists of all the bishops of the Episcopal Church, together with all the members of the board of managers of the Domestic and Foreign Missionary Society and other clergymen and laymen selected by the general and diocesan conventions.

The objects of the Missionary Council are given as follows: First, to bring clergy and laity of the Protestant Episcopal Church together, mainly for the purpose of consultation as to the best means of filling the church's mission; second, to discuss and suggest plans for directing effectively the missionary forces of the church; third, through common worship, to lead church people to larger realization of their corporate and individual responsibility for prayer, service and gifts for the extension of God's kingdom.

Daily sessions will be held by the council until Thursday night.

CHRISTIANS AT OMAHA.

Great Communion Service Participated In by 14,000 Persons.

OMAHA, Neb., Oct. 19.—To-day's communion service at the Coliseum, in connection with the national convention of the Christian Church, was probably the most elaborate ever held. It was estimated that 12,000 persons were in the auditorium, and there was an overflow meeting of 2,000 on the outside, where the sacrament was administered in open air. Ninety-six assistants marched down the aisles with the bread and wine and so perfect was the arrangement that the vast audience was served in twenty-three minutes.

Preceding the communion Mrs. Princess Long, of California, sang a solo appropriately chosen, after which the Rev. T. E. Cramblett, president of Bethany College, of West Virginia, delivered a sermon on the "Lord's Supper," explanatory of the service and its institution.

Almost a Catastrophe.

OMAHA, Neb., Oct. 19.—A catastrophe was narrowly averted at the First Christian Church to-day, when the 500 people who gathered to hear the Rev. Allen Wilson, of Irvington, Ind., barely escaped being thrown into the basement, twenty-five feet below, by the giving way of rotten timbers in the floor. The audience passed out quietly, however, on being notified of their peril and all escaped unhurt.

The Rev. Harry G. Hill, pastor of the church, notified the audience that the floors were unsafe and requested the people to retire as quietly as possible, asking that the ladies be permitted to first get out of the building. Those in the audience did not know of their real peril until they were all out of the building, when it was learned that the floor had settled five inches and that the gallery was in a tottering condition.

The church, which was an old building, was rendered useless and probably will have to be rebuilt.

The Rev. Allen Wilson lives at No. 62 Whittier place and has a local reputation as an evangelist.

NATIONAL W. C. T. U.

Address by Lady Henry Somerset—Arraignment of Bishop Potter.

PORTLAND, Me., Oct. 19.—Delegates to the National Woman's Christian Temperance Union to-day attended services arranged in nearly all the churches for their benefit. At St. Luke's Episcopal Church the Rev. Henry S. Sanders, vicar of Bromley, London, and warden for the Duxhurst Home for Inebriates, preached. Mrs. Stevens, the national president, presided, and Miss Elizabeth Greenwood, of New York, world's and national superintendent of the evangelistic department, gave the annual sermon at the Jefferson Theater, and Lady Henry Somerset made an address to-night at the City Hall.

Lady Somerset spoke at some length. She said: "I well remember my former visit to Portland, when I stood in this selfsame spot and addressed an audience. There are many here to-night who were present on that occasion. There was a good grayhead present, now laid to rest, the head of the founder of prohibition (Neal Dow), who had labored for the cause for many long years and has now gone to his well-earned reward. Then, too, there was that womanly woman who stood for everything that was good, everything that was lovely and everything of good report, Frances Willard. While these two are not president in bodily form, yet they are undoubtedly present in spirit. The only difference is that their message comes to the hearts of those who bow before their God and pray to Him in secret.

"The temperance question is becoming a great and burning question and is nearer to the hearts of all of us now than it ever was before. The time has come to put aside theories of principles and crystallize them into action, and when that time comes it is a crucial time and it means war against the powers that be."

Lady Somerset called on the church people to rise up and band together and stand on the side of temperance. Lady Henry arraigned Bishop Potter for published words, a part of which she read from a newspaper, that the poor people and laboring men live such contracted and monotonous lives that he does not much blame them for occasionally getting drunk just to even things up. This was greeted with a storm of hisses.

OF THE CHURCH MILITANT.

Boer Preacher Addresses a Large Congregation in St. Louis.

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 19.—The Rev. Dr. Otto De Thompson, the Boer leader, addressed a large gathering at Salem Reformed Church this afternoon on the subject of foreign missionary work. His remarks were in German.

Dr. De Thompson was a pastor of the Reformed Church of the Transvaal when the war was begun. He took command of a division of 3,000 men, was wounded four times and at last compelled to surrender to the British under General Maxwell in the battle at Veldt river.

Dr. De Thompson is in this country for the purpose of establishing a colony of exiled Boers in Arkansas and Oklahoma.

DEATH IN AN EXPLOSION

TWO PERSONS KILLED IN THE WRECKING OF A TUGBOAT.

Four Others Injured, One Fatally—Bursting Boiler Tubes Cause an Accident on the Mississippi.

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Oct. 19.—Two persons were killed, one fatally and three slightly injured in an explosion which partially wrecked the tugboat Fred Neills, of St. Louis, near Mound City, Ark., early today.

—The Dead.—

MRS. JOSIE HILL, St. Louis, badly scalded; died in hospital.

WILLIAM PHILLIPS, Memphis, second engineer, badly scalded; died in hospital.

—The Injured.—

WILLIE GILLEM, negro porter, will die.

TOM MANNING, deckhand, scalded.

CAPT. THOMAS LEDGER, St. Louis, scalded.

FRANK HILL, St. Louis, chief engineer, husband of Mrs. Hill, slightly scalded.

The Nellis, which was put in commission at Plaquemine, La., thirty days ago, had eleven persons on board at the time of the accident. The boat left Memphis last night bound for Thebes, Ill., where she was to be used in constructing a railroad bridge. She tied up near Mound City.

The explosion was caused by three boiler flues giving way. The upper deck of the tug was wrecked, but she probably can be repaired.

Mrs. Hill left five children, all of whom were on board the vessel.

STRIKE ORDERED OFF.

Federation of Labor Takes Radical Action at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Oct. 19.—The Chicago Federation of Labor went on record as a strike breaker to-day, when, by an almost unanimous vote of the delegates, the striking members of the Wholesale Grocers' Employes' Union were ordered to return to work pending the settlement of their trouble by arbitration. Five large stores had been tied up, and two more were threatened.

This action on the part of the Federation was brought about by the fact that its executive board was a party to an agreement between the wholesale grocers and their men, which was drawn up in September. The paper contained provisions for the arbitration of all difficulties, and the strike was called on Friday before any such arbitration had taken place. The members of the striking union who were present left the hall in a body.

Commercial Telegraphers' Union.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—There was organized in this city to-day a lodge of the International Union of Commercial Telegraphers. One hundred telegraphers enrolled their names and paid their dues for the first quarter and permanent officers were elected. The organizers of the lodge say it is the purpose of the international union to procure for operators better pay and a reduction in the number of hours constituting a day's work.

Strike of Wood Carvers Ended.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.—The strike inaugurated some time ago among the wood carvers employed by a New York firm having the contract for the carvings at the White House has been declared off. The strikers' demand that the carvings shall be dressed by hand and not by machinery was granted. It is said that President Roosevelt exerted his good offices to bring about the end of the strike.

Burned Himself to Death.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Oct. 19.—While intoxicated last night Jack Tanner, colored, started a fire which burned him to death and destroyed the section house at Muir Station. Returning from this city, where he drank freely, he found the door to the house locked and crawled in a window. In retiring he turned over a lamp, fired the house and perished.

VERY HEAVY LOSS

BRITISH FORCES COMPELLED TO RETREAT BY THE MULLA.

Heavy Fighting in the Brush of Somaliland Leaves the Columns in a Precarious Situation.

ANXIETY OVER THE OUTCOME

SWAYNE'S FORCE IS YET A LONG MARCH FROM SAFETY.

Macedonian Meetings in Sofia and Philippopolis Protest Against the Horrors of Turkish Misrule.

STATUS OF RUMANIAN JEWS

REPORT ON THEIR CONDITION MADE TO A LONDON PAPER.

British Soldiers Clamor for Back Pay—Austrian Temperance Bill—Foreigners Expelled from Fez.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The Foreign Office has issued an undated dispatch from Col. Cobbs, commanding one of the columns of British forces operating against the Mad Mullah in Somaliland. The dispatch was forwarded through the British vice consul at Berbera, Somaliland. The British forces engaged were composed entirely of native troops and levies. Colonel Cobbs says:

"My force reached Erego this morning. When about one day's march north of Mudug I was attacked in the thick bush. Two advances were made and the enemy was beaten back in the morning. Their losses were heavy and we captured 100 rifles. Our force then proceeded to collect animals for transportation purposes and to join the detachment at the stockade camp. In the afternoon a reconnoissance was made, and, after sharp fighting, the enemy was again driven off.

"I deeply regret to report the following casualties: Colonel Phillips and Captain Angus and fifty men killed and about one hundred men wounded. The latter include Captain Howard and Lieutenant Everett, but both are doing well. There were severe losses among the transport and riding camels. The force will reach the stockade camp to-morrow and will advance to attack the enemy."

The vice consul also telegraphs the substance of a later dispatch from Colonel Swayne, who says that as a result of the fighting at Erego on Oct. 6, which was very severe, the Somali levies are considerably shaken. The Mullah, who is said to be in communication with Kail and Inger, in the direction of the Webbe river, is bringing up reinforcements from all sides.

Colonel Swayne is much hampered owing to the necessity of transporting the wounded and water. He is retiring on Bohotle. He asks that 600 further reliable troops be dispatched from Berbera forthwith.

Severe Blow to the British.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The severe reverse in Somaliland places the small British force there, of about 3,000 men, of doubtful reliability in an exceeding perilous situation. Since the beginning of Colonel Swayne's second campaign against the Mullah, last May, little has been heard of the expedition. The present dispatches seem to show that he was retreating from the Italian frontier northward when the Mullah attacked him at Erego. Last December the Mullah was reported to have about 12,000 men, mostly mounted, a large percentage of whom were armed with rifles; it is possible that he now commands about 15,000 men. With this large force harrassing him Colonel Swayne has to retreat to Bohotle, 150 miles, and probably still 100 miles further, to Burao, the principal British frontier post. This march must be made under a scorching sun and over an arid and roadless desert, even if the retreat is successful. The gravest anxiety will be felt until further news is received. The entire expedition will have to be repeated on a much larger scale.

Colonel Swayne is accompanied by over twenty white officers and has with him some Maxim guns and some seven-pounders.

The Mullah's success will set the whole Ogaden and Dolbahanta country aflame. Trade returns at Berbera and Bulhar have shown an enormous decrease since the operations of the Mullah cut off access to the rich markets of Ogaden and Dolbahanta.

It was announced by Lord Lansdowne, foreign secretary, in Parliament last summer that the Italians were co-operating with Colonel Swayne, but, as the dispatch made public to-day does not mention Italian help, it is supposed that some local difficulty was found in arranging for the co-operation.

The Times and other newspapers this morning published editorial articles on the Somaliland situation and warn the government against any further half-heartedness or half measures, which they say have already cost so dear, in either breaking the back of the present rising or in the future pacification of the country.

British Soldiers Want Their Pay.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—There was a demonstration in Hyde Park to-day by several thousand reservists from South Africa, who demanded prompt payment of their arrears in pay and assistance to obtain work.

ON THE BERLIN BOERSE.

End of American Strike and Dearer Money Cause Depression.

BERLIN, Oct. 19.—Almost all the departments of the Boerse, and especially industrials, were weak last week. The announcement of the plans for the settlement of the American coal strike has been taken generally as unfavorable to the German iron trade, because of the consequent cessation of German iron exports to the United States. Many operators, however, point out that the recent shipments to the United States were not remunerative in so much as American buyers offered the lowest prices. A more serious bear factor for irons, however, was found in the numerous price reductions on half rolled iron goods, and the publication of more annual reports which disappointed the market. The foregoing factors resulted in an average drop in irons of about 5 points. Coal shares showed considerable resisting power during the week owing to increasing coal exports to France. This increase brought the daily loadings in the Essen district to the highest figure for several years. Nevertheless, coal shares were several points lower. Foreign rentes were inactive. Domestic loans were weak on higher money rates and because of the plan for the nationalizing of Prussian railroads, which necessitates an increased issue of Prussian consols. The rise in money is partly due to large offerings in American bills and part-