

GENERAL STRIKE IS AUTHORIZED BY THE ENGINEMEN

ANNOUNCEMENT IS MADE BY UNION'S EXECUTIVE

W. S. Carter, President of the Brotherhood of Firemen and Enginemen Makes Statement.

EXACT HOUR OF WALKOUT NOT MADE KNOWN AS YET

Decision to Quit Work Is Reached at a Meeting of Forty-Three Members of the Western Federated Board of the Brotherhood, Each Member Representing a Western Railroad.

Chicago, March 14.—At midnight tonight W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen said that a strike of 25,000 firemen on practically all the western railroads had been called.

Mr. Carter said the decision to strike had been reached at a meeting of 43 members of the Western Federated board of the brotherhood, each member representing a western road. The exact hour at which the men are to walk out, he said, would be decided upon tomorrow and every member of the union between Chicago and the Pacific coast would be informed by telegraph when to quit work.

The railroads issued a statement declaring that to prevent a strike they would, if necessary, appeal to the authorities at Washington. The controversy, which has been under discussion for more than six weeks, involves 47 railroads operating west, northwest and southwest of Chicago and embraces about 150,000 miles of track.

It has been stated by both sides that if a strike were called it would tie up practically every freight and passenger train between Chicago and the Pacific coast. "The strike has been called—that much is certain," said Mr. Carter. "It means that not only 25,000 firemen, members of our union, will go out, but that perhaps many more employes will be thrown out in consequence.

The declaration of a strike, as issued from the Chicago offices of the Brotherhood of Railway Firemen and Enginemen will have a far-reaching effect on the railroads of the west. Local officials estimate that from 200 to 250 men will be affected in Missoula alone.

Chicago, March 14.—Both sides in the controversy of 25,000 firemen on the western railroads and the railroad managers, assumed an attitude of waiting today, while union officials declared a strike seemed imminent, the railroad managers said the danger point was passed.

It is thought that the managers' committee headed by W. C. Nixon, general manager of the St. Louis & San Francisco railroad, will invite W. S. Carter, president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and his committee to another joint conference. The brotherhood has taken the position that unless all the questions in dispute are submitted to arbitration under the Erdman act,

a strike on all the systems between Chicago and the Pacific coast would be necessary. The railroads today reiterated their assertion that they would continue to refuse to submit to arbitration any but the wage demand.

"We know a strike will not be called," said O. L. Jameson, assistant to the president of the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy. "That stage of the game is over. It is now only a question of our getting together."

"The railroads are trying to make light of the situation," said President Carter. "It is indeed critical. We have been authorized by a vote to call a strike unless they make concessions and we have asked for an arbitration of the whole matter."

FORCED TO DISCOUNT GOVERNMENT PAPER

Washington, March 14.—Representative Smith (dem., Tex.) told the house and ways means committee today that thousands of dollars in government "certificates of indebtedness" issued in connection with various irrigation projects, were being circulated in the west at 50 cents on the dollar. He said the paper represented ranchers' pay for work done on projects, and which they were to be allowed by the government to exchange for land when the irrigation projects were completed. As the projects have not been completed, the holders have been forced, he declared, to discount the paper in order to buy the necessities of life.

HAS NOT DECIDED HIS ACTION AS YET

Washington, March 14.—At the end of a long conference with his tariff advisers today President Taft had not decided what action he will take on the extension to Canada and France of the minimum tariff rates of the Payne law. It is said the situation with respect to Canada is all but hopeless, and the indications are that the biggest and nearest neighbor of the United States may be the one important country against which the maximum rates will be applied. In striking contrast to the attitude assumed by Canada, France is making every effort to reach an agreement with the United States.

ENGLISH NEWSPAPER WOMAN TAKES POISON

New York, March 13.—Eva Strangways-Fox, the English newspaper woman and one time accepted member of higher social circles of New York and other cities, died today in Bellevue hospital from the effects of a drug, taken with supposedly suicidal intent. She had been arrested on a charge of passing a worthless check. Mrs. Strangways-Fox came here from England more than two years ago and represented herself as a member of the nobility. Troubles of a financial nature overtook her, and finally she was sentenced to prison. She disappeared after her sentence was commuted, but she reappeared last fall and latterly acted as correspondent for London newspapers under the name of Helen Drummond, the name she gave when arrested.

ALL MAIL LINES CLEAR.

Washington, March 14.—All the mail trunk lines from the east to the Pacific coast are now clear of obstructions and the mail is moving without interruption, according to advices received by the postoffice department. Diversion of the mails, made necessary during the last 10 days, has been abandoned, and the mails are now moving over their regular routes.

LOVETT ON TOUR.

Chicago, March 14.—Robert S. Lovett, head of the Harriman lines, passed through Chicago today on his way to New Orleans. Mr. Lovett said he was on a six weeks' tour of the Harriman lines, and that he intended to make such a trip once a year.

WILL EXTEND INVITATION.

Sydney, N. S. W., March 14.—The Rugby union has decided to invite the combined American universities to tour Australia this year.



Colonel Roosevelt, Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Ethel and Kermit. Center—Map showing route of Colonel Roosevelt on the Dal from Gandakoro to Khartoum and the course to be followed from there to Kairo.

THOUSANDS GIVE GREETING TO THE FORMER PRESIDENT AS HE LANDS AT KHARTOUM

Looking the Picture of Health and With Physical Fitness Showing in Every Line, Roosevelt Meets His Wife and Daughter After His Long Hunting Trip Through the Wilds of Darkest Africa.

Khartoum, March 14.—Looking the picture of health, with physical fitness showing in every line, Theodore Roosevelt came back today from the long trail on which he had spent nearly a year. Thousands, gathered here to see him, described from afar the famous familiar form and the more familiar smile—made so to those who have never before set eyes on him by the countless pictures recently published.

Later there was a joyous reunion of Colonel and Mrs. Roosevelt and their children, Kermit and Miss Ethel, in the North station at Khartoum, where Mrs. Roosevelt and her daughter arrived about 5:30 o'clock in the evening. A launch carrying the representatives of the governor general of Anglo-Egyptian Sudan and Major General Sir Francis Reginald Wingate, sirdar of the Egyptian army, met the steamer Dal up the river. On the Dal Colonel Roosevelt and the members of his party had voyaged for more than 1,300 miles from Gandakoro in Uganda, where they embarked February 28.

It was a wearisome trip, for there was little to be seen and the latter part of the voyage was exceedingly uninteresting, the river sometimes being a mile and a half wide, with mud flats on either side, where only crocodiles abounded, and toward the end Colonel Roosevelt displayed considerable anxiety to be ashore. The "White Nile" was more placid today than yesterday, when a heavy northwest gale stirred up the waters and threatened delay to the anxiously awaited steamer.

Surrounds Roosevelt. The sirdar's staff officers were taken aboard and when the steamer with the American, British and Egyptian

flags flying, arrived at Gordon's tree, they were seen surrounding the former president on the bridge. Colonel Roosevelt was attired in khaki uniform and wore a white helmet. For several hours the Dal tied up opposite Gordon's tree within sight of Khartoum, and during that time Colonel Roosevelt answered hundreds of cablegrams and letters that had accumulated here.

THREATEN TO EXPOSE SKELETONS IN CLOSET

Helena, March 14.—(Special)—The trial of John H. Rafferty, publisher of the Treasurer State, charged with criminal libel, the complaining witness being Mayor F. J. Edwards, did not make great progress today. Late this afternoon the jury had been selected and C. B. Nolan, attorney for the defendant, made his opening statement. This statement and the large list of witnesses indicate that there is going to be a digging into the dark corners of life in Helena if the court permits.

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All observers remarked his fitness and energy and among them were those who had noted in Colonel Roosevelt when he left New York a year ago the effects of the strain of a long and strenuous term in office. From these effects he has now completely recovered and although the hardships of the wilds of Africa have not reduced his flesh to any appreciable degree, he looks, to use his own words, "able to hit the line hard."

Although the ex-president has refused to grant an interview or give out a statement on public questions, until he is in possession of the fullest information on all points, he realizes, he says, that he has before him a series of harder working days than jungle hunting. Shortly after 4 o'clock the steamer came up slowly, amid a continuous volleying of cheers. Colonel Roosevelt was warmly greeted by Major General Sir Rudolph Baron Slatin Pasha, inspector general, and by Major P. R. Phillips, the sirdar's private secretary. He and the other members of the party were conducted to the palace grounds, where the heads of various governmental departments were introduced and tea was served. The sirdar's palace is situated in the center of six acres of beautiful gardens. It stands on the site of Gordon's palace, on the steps of which Gordon was done to death.

Meets Family.

After tea the colonel and his son crossed the river to Khartoum north station, where Mrs. Roosevelt and Miss Ethel arrived shortly afterward on an express. By arrangements made in advance, the meeting was in private.

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FINAL CONTEST NOT YET ABLE NOW UNDER WAY TO SETTLE TROUBLE

GOVERNMENT FIGHT AGAINST STANDARD OIL CARRIED TO THE LAST DITCH. MINERS AND OPERATORS ARE YET AT LOGGERHEADS AND STRIKE MAY COME.

MILBURN ARGUES CASE CONVENTION TO ADJOURN

New York Attorney for the Defense Speaks for Three Hours Before the Supreme Court of the United States in Defense of the Alleged Monopoly—Reviews Growth of the Concern. Lewis Declares That the Miners Will Fight in the Supreme Court of the United States the Adverse Decision Rendered Last Saturday by the Lower Tribunal.

Washington, March 14.—Final fight for the dissolution of "Standard Oil" began today before the supreme court of the United States when John K. Milburn of New York spoke for three hours in its defense. He will conclude tomorrow. The rest of tomorrow will be devoted to the reply of Frank B. Kellogg for the government.

The hearing of the suit against the Standard Oil company attracted lawyers and spectators from all sections of the country. Members of both houses of congress forsook their respective chambers to listen to the review of the decree of the circuit court of the United States for the eastern district of Missouri dissolving the Standard Oil company of New Jersey as a conspiracy in restraint of trade and as a monopoly in violation of the Sherman law.

The greater part of Mr. Milburn's address to the court consisted of a review of the growth of the Standard Oil company. He attempted to lay the foundation for the claim that the corporations entering into the re-organization of the Standard Oil company of New York in 1899 were non-competitive because for many years they had been under so-called common ownership. He told of the tremendous size of the business and explained how it had grown. He said large factors in this growth were the building of pipe lines "which anybody has a right to build," the building of refineries and the extension of marketing facilities throughout this country and the world.

Forced to Combine.

"We compete abroad with great corporations," he said, "that are protected and shielded by their governments and compelled to combine so that they may be powerful. We have been able to meet them, because of our strength."

Toward the close of the day he discussed the Sherman anti-trust act. He said, inasmuch as the circuit court had held that the mere method of organization was a conspiracy to monopolize, and had not considered the alleged monopolistic conduct, he felt an embarrassment about discussing whether the companies violated the law.

"You discuss them in your brief, do you not?" queried one of the justices.

"Oh, yes," was the response.

After a discussion of the general meaning of monopoly, the attorney reverted to the alleged monopolistic conduct of the Standard Oil.

Mr. Milburn said he did not believe that the corporation was in restraint of trade, in view of the "common ownership." It had never restrained the liberties or capital of any one who has entered into it, nor any one who was its competitor, he asserted.

Instead of a monopoly it was urged by Mr. Milburn that the amount of business the Standard Oil was doing was decreasing.

Justice Harlan asked Mr. Milburn

if he would call an organization of men to buy all the coal lands in Pennsylvania a conspiracy in restraint of trade and a monopoly.

Difficult Query.

"The question you put is one difficult solution," responded the counsel. He explained to the court that he was really getting "out of his line of business" in discussing monopolies.

"I think you are in your line," said Justice White.

"Well, the Sherman law is very interesting," observed Mr. Milburn. "Napoleon complained that the laws did not lend themselves to the imagination but he had never read the Sherman act."

Finally Mr. Milburn took up the charges of monopolistic conduct as alleged to have been shown by transportation discrimination. He declared the idea that railroads throughout the country would discriminate in favor of a business that afforded only one-half of one per cent of the total traffic, was preposterous. He said the government claims of tremendous discriminations in favor of the Standard Oil refinery points and against the independent refining points were unwarranted.

"No independent refiner since 1887," he added, "when the interstate commerce act was passed, has complained

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Cincinnati, March 14.—Contrary to expectations the special convention of the United Mine Workers of America will organize in this city tomorrow without anything definite in view. This state of affairs has been brought about through the inability of the sub-scale committee of the joint conference of the miners and operators of Ohio, Indiana and western Pennsylvania, to reach an agreement regarding the wage scale for the coming two years.

The convention will adjourn subject to the call of the chairman, which will be issued when the schedule committee of the joint conference is ready to report. In speaking of conditions today

Mr. Lewis declared tonight that the United Mine Workers of America, said:

"I am still convinced that there will be no strike and that the demands of the miners will be granted."

Mr. Lewis declared to night that the miners will fight in the supreme court of the United States the adverse decision given Saturday at Richmond, Va. Mr. Lewis was one of the defendants in the case.

"The decision, if allowed to stand, will be the most detrimental to organized labor of any ever handed down in the country," he said. "But it won't stand. All through the various trials we have simply been building the foundation for the presentation of the entire case before the supreme court."

OBJECT TO GIVING ISLAND TO MEXICO

El Paso, March 14.—Intense excitement was aroused here today by a telegram from Mayor Joseph U. Sweeney of El Paso, now in consultation with the state department on the Mexican boundary dispute, which stated that the department was considering a proposition to cede to Gay County, San Elizario island, in the Rio Grande, 20 miles below El Paso, in consideration of the relinquishment of Mexico's claims to the Chamizal zone. The Chamizal zone includes all the southern portion of El Paso, has 50,000 American inhabitants and is valued at \$5,000,000. It has been recognized as American soil for 50 years.

San Elizario island contains several thousand acres and was declared American territory by the boundary commission in 1897.

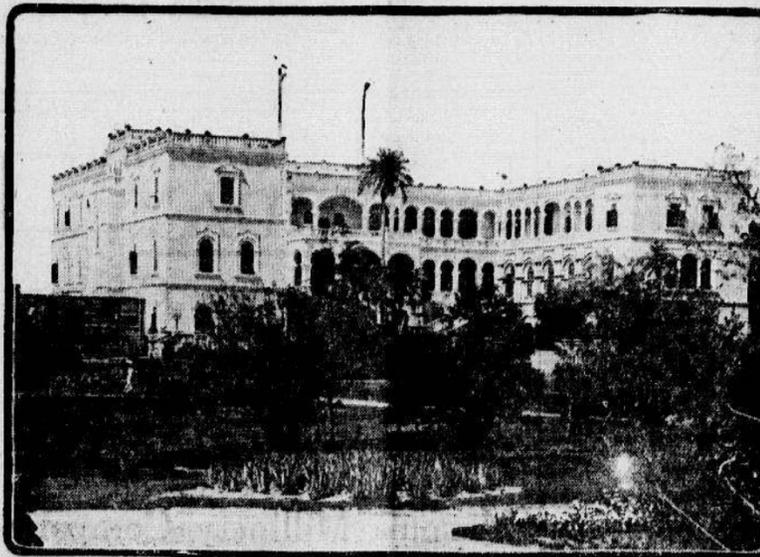
El Paso citizens are circulating a monster petition protesting against the consideration of the proposal of the Mexican government.

AGREEMENT REACHED REGARDING THE WORK

Kalispell, Mont., March 14.—(Special)—Peace and harmony settled over the transactions of the commissioners of Lincoln county yesterday when they met in Kalispell and agreed with C. Z. Pond, who has been transcribing the records on a basis of settlement for the majority of the work completed, and dispelled, it was said by Mr. Pond, all probability of a lawsuit which was threatened. A difference had arisen as to the utility of certain records, for which about \$5,000 would have to be paid, and which were declared useless. Most of them were accepted by the county, Mr. Pond sacrificing, he stated, about \$1,000. Whether Mr. Pond's contention for payment for each and every punctuation mark, which it has been estimated would amount to \$3,000, will be granted, was not learned.

MANY SHEEP DROWNED.

Evanston, Wyo., March 14.—Froshet waters rushing down a ravine in Bear river canyon today drowned 2,000 sheep belonging to Peter Olson, a flockmaster who had successfully brought his herd through a trying winter in this section. The entire flock was overwhelmed within a few minutes, not an animal escaping.



Palace of the Sirdar, where Colonel Roosevelt and the members of his family are guests.