

STRIKE SEEMS INEVITABLE NOW

COAL MINERS IN ENGLAND AND WALES ARE OBSTINATE IN THEIR DEMANDS.

WANT A MINIMUM WAGE

Government Admits Its Failure to Stave Off Walkout—Owners Firm in Refusal to Grant Requests, Although Many Favor Wage Scale With Uniform Low Limit.

London, Feb. 28.—After negotiations lasting a week the government in an official communication admits tonight its failure to stave off a national coal strike. Negotiations will be resumed tomorrow, but little is expected from them.

The deadlock is graver than anticipated. It has been supposed that the greatest hostility would arise from the Welsh mine owners and public opinion was veering in favor of the miners, who, it was thought, would be satisfied with the concession of the principle of a minimum wage, leaving their adjustment of details to subsequent arbitration or negotiations.

Miners to Blame. It is now seen the miners themselves are placing the greatest obstacles in the way of a peaceful solution, by insisting upon their own interpretation of the terms of the minimum wage. It is this aspect of the situation that renders the outlook almost hopeless.

At the same time it is felt that the government's efforts have not been wasted. The government has secured the assent of 80 per cent of the mine owners of the country to the principle of a minimum wage, thus greatly facilitating its task should it be deemed advisable to resort to legislative enforcement of the minimum wage. According to opinions in the lobbies of parliament tonight, this will be the next step, should the conferences to be resumed tomorrow show that the deadlock is insuperable.

In its statement the government says tonight it is satisfied there are cases in which underground workers are not able to earn a reasonable minimum wage and that the power to earn such wage should be secured by arrangements suitable to the special circumstances in each district, adequate safeguards being provided to protect employees against abuses. The government is prepared to confer with the parties concerned as to the best method of giving practical effect to these conclusions by means of district conferences, a representative appointed by the government being present in the event of failure to arrive at a settlement within a reasonable time and representatives appointed by the government to decide jointly any outstanding points.

These proposals, continues the statement, were considered by representatives of coal owners this afternoon, with the result that those owners in Yorkshire, Lancashire, the Midlands and North Wales accepted. The Durham and Cumberland employers also accepted the proposals. The proposals were rejected, however, by the Northumberland, Scotland and South Wales coal owners and representatives of smaller districts.

The National Miners' federation replied to the proposals by adopting the following resolution: "There can be no settlement of the present dispute unless the principle of

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CHICAGO MEN FACE FRAUD CHARGE

GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS GET AFTER PROMOTERS OF MADISON COUNTY LANDS.

ARE RELEASED ON BOND

Defendants Alleged to Have Sold Property to Which They Had No Title—Land Was in Foothills and Good for Nothing Much—Misrepresentation Continues.

Chicago, Feb. 28.—Two years' investigation by government officials of the Yellowstone National Land company, in which a number of Illinois men were arrested, culminated today in the arrest of H. A. Mason, secretary and treasurer, and John A. Hanley, director of the company, both of Chicago. The charge is using the mails to defraud in connection with the sale of western lands. The indictments specify that land in Madison county, Montana, was sold and \$15,000 for the tracts received, although the sellers never had title to the property.

Investigation of the company, which was organized under the laws of South Dakota, is said to have been prompted by claims that the company's lands were adapted to fruit raising. Agricultural department experts declared the land was too high in altitude for fruit-growing.

Admitted to Bail. The men were admitted to bail in the sum of \$5,000 each. Among the investors in the company was L. M. Fairbanks, president of the Mansfield Banking company of Mansfield, Ill., brother of former Vice President Charles W. Fairbanks, nominal vice president of the company. Colonel J. H. Best, president of the Quincy State bank of Quincy, Ill., was listed as a director of the company.

D. O. Thompson, late president of the Thompson Livestock company, was the president of the land concern. Mr. Thompson died while the investigation was in progress. Thompson, Mason and Hanley are said to be the only persons against whom indictments were prepared. The others, the government investigators believe, were deceived in the character of the company and were induced to lend their names to the venture without knowing the nature of the business.

The land advertised by the company comprised 4,560 acres in Madison county, Montana.

"Rotten Concern." Helena, Feb. 28.—"The Yellowstone National Land company was the rottenest concern I have ever encountered," declared Commissioner J. H. Hall of the state bureau of agriculture, labor and industry tonight, on being informed of the arrest of Mason and Hanley in Chicago today. The investigation of the affairs of the company, which proposed, according to a charge of one of the "orchard tracts," land which was 6,000 feet above sea level, was begun by the Montana commissioner following the receipt of a letter of inquiry from a resident of Iowa, who was contemplating the purchase of one of the "orchard tracts." Commissioner Hall ascertained the exact location of the company's lands, which were adjacent to the Yellowstone national park and near the top of the Rocky mountain range, and also secured some of the literature which depicted the "tracts" as being in the famous Bitter Root valley belt and of similar soil and climatic con-

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AJAX DEFIES THE LIGHTNING



FACTORY WORKERS TO WASHINGTON ARE GOING

LAWRENCE STRIKERS AND CHILDREN WILL APPEAR BEFORE INVESTIGATORS.

Lawrence, Mass., Feb. 28.—Arrangements were made tonight for sending a party of textile strikers, including children, to Washington to appear before a congressional committee as suggested by Congressman Berger. The party probably will start Friday. More than 50 men, women and children, representing 18 nationalities, among the strikers, will make the trip. The children selected, all of whom are over 14 years of age, are themselves millworkers on strike. In some instances they bear scars from injuries suffered while at work.

Among the number will be a girl whose scalp was torn off by a machine.

Will Relieve Sweater. Colonel Leroy Sweetser, who has been in command of the state troops since they were brought here several weeks ago, will be relieved from further duty before the close of the week, according to announcement tonight. This is in response to his repeated requests on the ground that his business requires his attention.

The committee appointed yesterday to represent the district court on the cases of the 14 children who were taken into custody, as neglected, will appear before Judge Henry tomorrow. It is understood they will recommend that several of the children be placed in the care of the state board of charities.

A call was issued tonight for a meeting of the general committee of the central labor union tomorrow, when definite action on the matter of calling a strike under the auspices of the American Federation of Labor probably will be taken.

HILL COUNTY GIVEN ITS OFFICIAL START

Helena, Feb. 28.—(Special)—The birth certificate of Hill county, in the shape of a certificate of the county board of commissioners of Chouteau county setting forth that more than 65 per cent of the voters in the district affected voted in favor of Hill county's creation, was filed with Secretary of State T. M. Swindlehurst this afternoon. This was the last step necessary for the creation of the county.

Immediately after the certificate was filed Governor Edwin L. Norris issued a proclamation placing the new county in the Twelfth judicial district, to which it has belonged in the past.

The Blaine county certificate is expected tomorrow or Friday. Following are the officers of the new county: Commissioners—Ever Nelson, E. O. Tolley, Joseph Werhelt; sheriff, H. E. Lorange; treasurer, J. A. Rose; clerk, J. H. Devine; clerk of the court, G. W. Glass, surveyor, J. F. Daoust; attorney, A. E. Randall; superintendent of schools, Sarah McHale; coroner, J. A. Sanderson; public administrator, J. O. Garder.

BRIGADE CAVALRY POST.

Washington, Feb. 27.—A bill making Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, a brigade cavalry post passed the house today by a vote of 117 to 39, after four hours of debate and stubborn resistance led by Fitzgerald of New York. Fort Oglethorpe is now a regimental post. This change is the first of the general plan of the war department to concentrate troops in fewer garrisons.

WALTER L. HOUSER TEDDY SENTIMENT IN CALIFORNIA IS STRONG

CONDEMNS T. R. FOR ACT

Portland, Ore., Feb. 28.—In a lengthy interview given out here tonight, Walter L. Houser, national campaign manager for United States Senator Robert M. La Follette, condemned the action of Colonel Roosevelt in entering the race for the republican presidential nomination. Mr. Houser arrived today from eastern Oregon, where he has been for the past few days. Mr. Houser declared that Colonel Roosevelt was one of those who induced Senator La Follette to enter the race for the nomination. Roosevelt, Houser declared, through a mutual trusted friend, sent La Follette word that Roosevelt would not have his name considered in any manner as a candidate. At that time, Houser continued, it was not thought possible that President Taft could be defeated for re-nomination, but it was decided in order to preserve the integrity of the "progressive" cause that the "progressive" should make a nationwide campaign.

La Follette, said Houser, consented to make the race for the nomination with great reluctance and only after he had been convinced that it was his duty to do so. When he gave his consent, La Follette declared he would go through to the end, win or lose. He was assured that he would be supported to the finish by those who induced him to become a candidate. Roosevelt had become a candidate, Houser declared, "men bitterly opposed to La Follette and what he stands for."

When La Follette's candidacy appeared likely to succeed, those men set about crushing it. He declared that La Follette is not a sick man and that he "will fight through to the end."

COMPANY IS SOUND.

New York, Feb. 28.—Bryan R. Dorr, secretary of the Columbia River Orchard company of White Salmon, Wash., states that his company should not be confused with a company of very similar name, against which court proceedings recently were instituted in the west, and that the White Salmon company is in such sound financial condition that no such proceedings have been taken or are contemplated against it.

EXPLORERS LEAVE SUSITNA.

Seward, Alaska, Feb. 28.—Reports from Susitna bay say Professor Herschel Parker of Columbia university and Belmonte Browne of Tacoma, who are leading an expedition to scale Mount McKinley, left Susitna February 19, bound up the river.

DR. HARVEY WILEY MAY QUIT OFFICE

Washington, Feb. 28.—Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, pure food champion, seriously is considering resignation of his position as chief of the bureau of chemistry. Admitting this in an interview tonight, Dr. Wiley said that while he had not yet determined to offer his resignation, it seemed that he could not be successful in his efforts to secure harmony as long as there were "incongruous elements" in the department.

In response to an inquiry, Dr. Wiley said that in the event of his resignation he would issue a statement that "could not be misunderstood." This statement, it is said, will contain a complete review of Wiley's plan in enforcing the pure food and drug laws, an account of persistent efforts to nullify his activities and strong criticism of Secretary Wilson of the agricultural department.

ROOSEVELT PROGRESSIVE RE-PUBLICAN LEAGUE ORGANIZED AT BIG MEETING.

San Francisco, Feb. 28.—The Roosevelt Progressive Republican league of California was organized today by representatives of nearly every section of the state. State Senator John W. Stetson of Oakland was elected president and Philip Bancroft of this city, secretary. Resolutions setting forth the purpose of the organization were adopted and preliminary measures were taken toward the formation of Roosevelt progressive republican leagues in each assembly district. While the meeting was suggested by those who took an active part in the preliminary organization of the La Follette league about two months ago, none of the men active at that time held offices in the present organization.

The La Follette movement had pledged by signature approximately 1,500 persons, and several days ago to each of these signers two post cards were sent, one expressing a preference for La Follette as the presidential candidate and the other Colonel Roosevelt's name. It was announced today that of these 714 had been returned, 641 of them pledging support for Roosevelt and 133 for La Follette. The meeting delegated to the executive committee power to nominate delegates to the national republican convention. It was recommended that the executive committee consider as nominees Governor Hiram W. Johnson, Francis J. Heney, William Kent and others.

GARY DINNERS FORM CUTE SCHEME

M'RAE REPORT TO STEEL TRUST INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE IS STARTLING.

CORPORATION ARRAIGNED

First Nine Years of Organization's Existence Netted More Than a Billion Dollars—J. P. Morgan and Associates Got \$70,000,000 for Perfecting the Big Combination.

Washington, Feb. 28.—The house steel trust investigating committee today made public the result of the inquiry into the books and minutes of the United States Steel corporation conducted by Farquhar J. McRae, an expert accountant.

The McRae report reaches the conclusion that the steel corporation operates in restraint of trade and prevents competition through a manipulation of prices, through the infuence of the so-called "Gary dinners," by control of raw materials and through a system of interlocking directors in various companies. It also tends to contradict some of the testimony given by steel trust officials.

Some of the figures dealt with in the report are startling. It is shown that J. P. Morgan & Co. received approximately \$70,000,000 in cash profits for organizing the big steel combine, and that the net profits of the concern for the first nine years of its existence were more than a billion dollars.

Steel corporation officials objected to producing their books before the committee in this city, but consented to place them freely at the disposal of an expert to be named by the committee. Mr. McRae made a thorough study of the books and minutes, and in his report to the committee he pointed out these salient features:

That J. P. Morgan & Co., heading the syndicate which organized the steel corporation, received a cash profit of \$69,300,000 of which \$62,500,000 was for promotion, with an additional commission of \$6,800,000 for a bond conversion scheme.

Contradicted. That the net earnings of the corporation for a period of nine years were \$1,929,585,289, or an equivalent of approximately \$12 a ton on finished product, instead of \$90,000,311, as claimed by the corporation in a report.

That the steel corporation, contrary to the statement made by Judge Gary and H. C. Frier to President Roosevelt in 1907, that it did not control more than 60 per cent of steel production in the country, controls about 80 per cent of the steel holdings.

The section of the report dealing with the "Gary dinners," where independent as well as corporation steel men assembled to discuss conditions in the trade, contains an analysis of the legal effect of the "golden rule" policy prepared by Anthony J. Ernest, a New York lawyer, in which it is declared that the "conventions agreed to and enforced would be objectionable as regards their effect upon competition."

"The Gary dinner arrangement," says the report, "whereat the so-called independents are influenced to reduce their production conformably to their estimate of the reduction in the demand existing, and to maintain prices, is objectionable as far as it operates to exclude free competition. The arrangement is designed and intended to operate and has operated admittedly, as to standard steel rails, although it is claimed that the so-

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TAFT TO TAKE ANOTHER TRIP

PRESIDENT WILL STUMP THE EAST IN THE INTEREST OF HIS RENOMINATION.

WILL ANSWER ROOSEVELT

President is Advised by His Friends to Take to the Road and Will Do So—Will Indulge in No Mudslinging or Personalities—That Columbus Speech to Be Discussed.

Washington, Feb. 28.—President Taft soon will start a vigorous special-making campaign to explain his position on currency questions and further his candidacy for re-nomination. Before the republican national convention meets in June, the president will spend many days on the road and is expected to deliver scores of speeches. He will travel as far west as Chicago, as far north as New Hampshire and south at least as far as Georgia.

Other engagements may be made. The president's political advisers believe he is his best orator.

Ever since the Taft renomination quarters were opened here, republican leaders have urged the president to get into the campaign. He began following this advice when he accepted an invitation of a year's standing to attend the annual dinner of the Swedish American Republican club of Chicago. The acceptance of that invitation was followed by the announcement that he had consented to stop on his way west at Toledo, O. Invitations to visit Youngstown, O., and Massillon have been received and probably will be accepted. A few days ago the White House let it be known that the president would go to Savannah, Ga., in April or May, and might stop at Pittsburgh, N. C.

After a short conference with Senators Crane, Snoot and Gallinger, it was said tonight the president would extend his campaign trip to Boston to include Nashua and Concord, N. H. He leaves Washington for Boston on March 17, spends March 18 on the road and will visit the two New Hampshire cities on March 19.

Although no announcement has been made of subjects for speeches, the president will make on those trips, it is practically certain he will not fail to include in his addresses the recall of judges and the recall of judicial decisions; possibly the initiative and referendum and topics touched by Colonel Roosevelt in his speech at Columbus last week.

The president will make no direct reply to that speech, and it has been said with emphasis that he will not indulge in personalities, but will make clear his own views on many of the doctrines advocated by Colonel Roosevelt.

A canvass of the New York political situation at conferences today of William Barnes, Jr., chairman of the New York state republican committee, Vice President Sherman, State Senator Brackett and Representative Calder, a Brooklyn leader, resulted in an informal declaration that President Taft would have an almost solid New York delegation to the national convention. It was claimed today that the conference between Mr. Taft and Chairman Barnes was satisfactory to both insofar as the selection of delegates and the proposed wording of the platform was concerned.

Congressman McKinley, director of the national Taft headquarters, returned today from Chicago, where he made arrangements for the western end of the Taft campaign. Mr. McKinley had a short talk with the president, but did not go over the western situation in detail. To the visitors at the Taft headquarters here, he expressed the belief that the president was gaining in Illinois.

Your Part

EVERY business man and every property owner in the city shares in the benefit of everything which improves the city. The erection of the Harnois theater was a benefit to the whole town. The construction of the county high school enhanced the value of north-side property. The betterment of Higgins avenue is for the good of the whole community. It is up to you, then, Mr. Merchant and Mr. Householder, to do your part in helping along the town. There are a good many ways in which you can do this. Here is a suggestion for one way: The Missoulian boosts for your town and, by so doing, boosts for your business. Every day in the year, The Missoulian goes out with its message that Missoula is progressive and prosperous. It carries the flag for you all the time. Is it not up to you, then, to make business as good as possible for The Missoulian? Is it not up to you to give to The Missoulian your advertising business and your order for job printing? It is a home institution; it is your home paper. It is only fair play for you to trade with it.

Class Ad History CCLXXV.—HAPPINESS RESTORED. Monday night Jim Rhoades was unhappy. Tuesday morning the clouds had rolled away and his disposition was in its normal condition of equilibrium. The Missoulian class did it. And this is how it happened: LOST. A LINK ELK'S CUFF BUTTON with small elk's tooth mounted in gold, with 11 o'clock dial. Finder please return to James M. Rhoades and receive reward. The lost cuff button was one of a pair which Mr. Rhoades cherished highly. It could not be replaced, for the elk's tusks are possessed of individuality and while the pairs are mated, it is impossible to get one from another pair that will match one from the pair you have. Mr. Rhoades has the class-ad habit. He lost no time in getting a Missoulian class ad. Early the next morning Dr. Pixley entered the Rhoades office, saying he had read the ad in The Missoulian and had located thereby the owner of the cuff button he had picked up. The class ad costs but one cent a word. There is no reason why everybody should not enjoy its benefits. If you are out of work and want a job, The Missoulian will print your ad for nothing.