

"HUMAN FACTOR" ENDED STRIKE OF TRIPLE ALLIANCE

But Same Factor Will Keep Miners Out, Says Clynes, Labor Chief.

By J. B. CLINES, Chairman of the British Independent Labor Party.

LONDON, April 18. — The factor which caused the threatened strike of transport workers to break down in the same which caused the miners to stop work—the human factor.

The personalities lying behind such a strike as the "Big Three" and "Triple Alliance" are every bit as human as the lives of the men they lead and in industrial as in other spheres, great human considerations intervene in movements and shape results.

The human factor forced its way through all stages of this dispute and into the very heart of the men who only an hour before were cemented by a bond of union.

While the coal miners, stranded and facing the same situation, stand amazed at the suddenness of the change, British leaders after the miners' conference next Friday will be dominated by human considerations.

Two men constituting the conference will come from areas where masses of men are saying "we might as well starve and play as starve and work."

Neither the Government nor the public should mistake the failure to extend the strike as a sign of an early settlement. The miners' leaders have a well-deserved reputation for fighting tough battles. The miner's working conditions entitle him to better pay than the pre-war wages.

No person of responsibility has yet defended the proposed reductions which are intolerable. The country would suffer more if it insisted upon these reductions than by accepting peacefully the miners' original plan which would bear some relation to the diminishing cost of living.

The plan involves the principle of a pool which would make only a slight call on the public purse. It is merely a makeshift. Permanent State subsidies are un sound and, in the end, most harmful. The miners are not the country's enemies.

"The public mind will certainly see that monstrous wage reductions with which the miners are threatened must be averted, and means found through immediate Government action to hasten settlement of the trouble which could have been avoided if, in a period of panic, legislation had not

ROSENBLUTH ACTS THE TRAGEDY OF THE CRONKHITE KILLING

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Department of Justice ought to let the world know it."

Senator Calder said he had not compared the incident to the Dreyfus case in France. He was informed that Capt. Rosenbluth was a Jew but did not believe that such a motive for persecuting him would exist in an American army.

"Pothier is either a fool, a liar or the willing tool of a thoroughly rotten clique in the last Administration of the Department of Justice," Rosenbluth said.

He seemed stated rather than perturbed at the new charges, and said the confession would make it more difficult for the Federal authorities to "shove the case off" on the Tacoma Prosecutor's office and in that way avoid investigation of the methods used in wringing the alleged confessions from Pothier.

"The doctor who performed the original autopsy at Camp Lewis, Major Henry Tucker, is in Philadel-

phia," Rosenbluth said. "They haven't gone near him. At Camp Hampton, Virginia, there is Capt. Rumpff, Caffey, who was Major Cronkhite's most intimate friend at Camp Lewis. Two men who said that they were from the Bureau of Investigation asked him for a statement that would be damaging to me. They finally gave it up when he told them that Pothier's confession was a damned lie."

"Capt. Caffey is willing to swear that Cronkhite's wrist was double-jointed, and that it was quite possible for him to shoot himself in that way, but the bureau neglects to go to him and get such a statement."

Others said they heard four shots. Pothier in the second investigation declared he himself, by a bullet from Pothier's revolver, fired the fatal shot while trying to disengage an exploded shell from his revolver.

The investigators noted Pothier violated regulations by having ammunition, which it was claimed he had abstracted from the supply of the Sergeant Major, from whom he had borrowed the revolver and by firing in Major Cronkhite's presence, he would have exposed his violation to the Major, who was a strict disciplinarian. Further, Pothier was seven or eight inches shorter than the Major, while the bullet took a straight course at a height above Pothier's shoulder height.

The latest story of Pothier, Capt. Rosenbluth pointed out to-day was absurd because Major Cronkhite appeared at the luncheon place unexpectedly, having started out on horseback after the column with Pothier as an aide because he was convalescent from influenza and feared a relapse. Not knowing the Major was coming, Capt. Rosenbluth said, he could not have known Pothier was coming with him.

Major Gen. Cronkhite's inquiry showed that the bullet struck Major Cronkhite in the right thigh on a level with the armpit and slightly

more than an inch in front of the armpit, passed through his lungs and broke the third rib just back of the left armpit, turned upward and clipped the collar bone and lodged in a muscle.

Absence of powder marks on the clothing was reported by the Board of Inquiry.

The force of a bullet from Cronkhite's or Pothier's revolver is 311 1/2 pounds at the muzzle. Instead of feeling, a man struck by such a force would probably be knocked over as though struck by an automobile.

Men in the company who were called to give Cronkhite artificial respiration, said they were told he had heart disease and discovered the bullet wound while giving him respiration and loosening his clothing.

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