

Irish Imperil Home Rule by Bomb Attack

British Leaders Predict Lord George Will Die Against Self-Determination in Commons

Guard for Premier in Parliament

Form Similar to Method of Electing United States Representatives

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Elaborate precautions are being taken as the result of the attempt yesterday near Dublin to assassinate Viscount French, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, to protect Premier Lloyd George and his aids when he appears in the House of Commons Monday to present the Irish Home Rule bill.

Sinn Fein Move Querted

Many authoritative quarters favor the adoption of the strongest coercive measures to exterminate the Sinn Fein movement. They echo with "The Post" Sinn Fein declares itself at war. Lord George will have to face the wrath not only of the opposition, but of many of his own supporters for the muddling which led to the campaign of murder and outrage of which this crime is the climax.

"The Times" appeals passionately to the government to abandon its policy of "repression," but its words no longer carry great weight in government circles. The newspaper continues: "Repression has failed to produce peace in Ireland and there is no end in sight."

Grand Jury Gets Dansey Case Evidence This Week

ATLANTIC CITY, Dec. 20.—Whether Charles S. White and Mrs. Edith L. Jones are released or remanded by Supreme Court Justice Black at the conclusion of the habeas corpus proceedings before him at Mays Landing tomorrow, Prosecutor Gaskill will present to the grand jury Tuesday or Wednesday the evidence upon which is based the charge that White killed "Billy" Dansey and that Mrs. Jones was an accessory after the fact.

W. Frank Sooy, of counsel for White and Mrs. Jones, expressed confidence today that his clients would be freed by Justice Black tomorrow. He denied the claim, made by Prosecutor Gaskill, that the real purpose of the application for a writ was to compel the state to disclose its case.

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state governmental system in America. It is understood to provide for separate parliaments for Ulster and Southern Ireland, respectively, with a superior body chosen by both sections, all of the bodies to be responsible regarding imperial affairs to the British Parliament, and which, as the states elect members to be elected, as the states elect members to the American House of Representatives.

Rule for Every Section

The idea will be to give a large amount of autonomy to each section of Ireland, with thoroughly easy machinery providing for their combination as soon as they desire to unite, the bill being intended to pave the road for elimination of the idea of the partition of Ireland, to a combined Ireland, it is indicated, even greater powers may be given than are proposed for the separate sections.

James Ian Macpherson, Chief Secretary for Ireland, has arranged to go to Dublin immediately, but will be closely guarded, even in England, says "The Daily Mail." Mr. Macpherson is under constant guard of two detectives and when he reaches Ireland his body-guard will be increased to twelve men.

DUBLIN, Dec. 20 (By The Associated Press).—In spite of strenuous exertions on the part of the police and military authorities to discover the perpetrators of the attempt to assassinate Viscount French, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, yesterday, it was generally reported that no arrests had been made up till noon today. The public feeling is calm, and there have been no demonstrations.

The authorities are scouring the city to apprehend the assassins, and also are closely investigating the associations of Savage, who was killed while running from the scene of the attempt on the Viceroy's life, in the hope of finding a clue to the identity of the assassins.

Viscount French is under close guard of police, no one being allowed to enter. Large crowds from Dublin visited the scene of the attack yesterday afternoon.

Viscount French and Mr. Saunders, his secretary, refuse to see newspaper men, and officials generally are reticent. It is stated, however, the Lord Lieutenant was probably the least surprised of all by the attempt against his life. It is known that he has expected an attack and is quoted as saying recently he was "governing Ireland pistol in hand" but that he "was not going to evade danger."

Inquest on Savage Brief

The inquest over the body of Savage, who was shot during the attack on Viscount French, opened this evening at the Bessborough police barracks, close to the scene of the attack. The inquiry was conducted by Christopher Friery, coroner of the North County of Dublin. A strong constabulary force was present. Only the coroner, reporters and court officials were present.

Addressing the jury, the coroner briefly detailed the circumstances, saying Viscount French was attacked at a crossroads by a body of men, one of whom was "the unfortunate deceased." He proposed to take only formal evidence, but the jury, after a brief deliberation, returned a verdict that Savage was one of his assistants, having been in his employ for two years and that he lived at the grocer's house and was unmarried. Kirk said the parents of Savage resided at Sigo.

The coroner adjourned the inquiry after asking the jury to join him in congratulating Viscount French on his escape.

Wilson Names Commission to Fix Coal Scale

Continued from page 1

representative was not disclosed by Administration officials to-night.

In his letter to the three commissioners the President recited the history of the negotiations between miners and operators, the strike, the Federal court proceedings against the miners and the subsequent efforts to bring an adjustment.

Text of President's Letter

The President's letter to Mr. Robinson, which is identical in text with those sent to Mr. White and Mr. Peale, reads as follows:

My Dear Mr. Robinson: On October 6, 1917, with the official approval and sanction of the United States Fuel Administration, an agreement (since known as the "Washington wage agreement") was entered into between the operators and the union miners and mine workers of the so-called "central competitive bituminous coal fields," composed of Western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, which provided for an increase in the production of bituminous coal and an increase in wages to the miners and mine workers from the then existing scale of compensation.

The agreement contained the following clause: "Subject to the next biennial convention of the United Mine Workers of America, the mine workers' representatives agreed that the present contract be extended during the present period of the war, and not to exceed two years from April 1, 1918."

Subsequently, on January 19, 1918, this agreement was approved by the convention of the International Union, United Mine Workers of America.

Miners' Action Reviewed

At the fourth biennial convention of the International Union, United Mine Workers of America, held in Cleveland, from September 9 to September 23, 1919, the so-called scale committee submitted a report recommending among other things, that the convention demand a 60 per cent increase applicable to all classifications of day labor and to all tonnage, yardage and dead work rates throughout the central competitive field; that all new wage agreements replacing existing agreements should be based on a six-hour work day from bank to bank, five days a week; the abolition of all automatic penalty clauses; that all contracts in the bituminous field should be declared to expire on November 1, 1919, and that "in the event any satisfactory wage agreement is not secured for the central competitive field before November 1, 1919, to replace the one now in effect, the international officers be authorized to and are hereby instructed to call a general strike of all bituminous mines and mine workers throughout the United States, the same to become effective November 1, 1919."

Subsequently conferences were held between representatives of the operators and the miners, at which the miners' demands were submitted and declined on the part of the operators. The International Union, United Mine Workers of America, who then issued so-called strike orders to all their local unions and members, requiring them to cease work in the mining of bituminous coal at midnight on Friday, October 31.

First Conference a Failure

On October 15, 1919, the Secretary of Labor called a conference between the operators and miners of the bituminous mines in the central competitive field, which conference also resulted in a failure to reach an agreement. A letter to Secretary Wilson which was submitted to the conference I said:

"If for any reason the miners and operators fail to come to a mutual understanding, the interests of the public are of such vital importance in connection with the production of coal, that it is incumbent upon them to refer the matters in dispute to a

board of arbitration for determination and to continue the operation of the mines pending the decision of the board."

Subsequently, on October 25, 1919, I issued a statement in which I said that a strike in the circumstances therein described "is not only unjustifiable, it is unlawful," and added: "I express no opinion on the merits of the controversy. I have already suggested a plan by which a settlement may be reached and I hold myself in readiness, at the request of either or both sides, to appoint a tribunal to investigate all the facts, with a view to aiding the earliest possible orderly settlement of the questions at issue between the coal operators and the coal miners, to the end that the just rights, not only of those interests, but also of the general public may be fully protected."

President's Appeal Rejected

Despite my earnest appeals that the men remain at work, the officers of the United Mine Workers of America rejected all the proposals for a peaceful and orderly adjustment and declared that the strike would go on. Accordingly, in my direction, the Attorney General filed a bill in equity in the United States District Court at Indianapolis, praying for an injunction to restrain the officers of the United Mine Workers of America from doing any act in furtherance of the strike. A restraining order was issued by the court, followed by a writ of temporary injunction on December 8, 1919, in which the defendants were commanded to cancel and revoke the strike orders theretofore issued. These strike orders were accordingly revoked in a form approved by the court, but the men did not return to work in sufficiently large number to bring about a production of coal anywhere approaching normal.

On December 6, 1919, I issued a statement in which I restated the government's position, appealed to the miners to return to work and renewed my suggestion that upon the general resumption of mining operations a suitable tribunal would be erected for the purpose of investigating and adjusting the matters in controversy between the operators and the miners. This statement was submitted to a meeting of the officers of the International Union of the United Mine Workers of America, having authority to take action, which meeting adopted as its act a memorandum prepared by the Attorney General and approved by me, embodying the suggestions contained in my statement of December 6. I am informed also, that the operators have generally agreed to the plan therein set forth, and have accordingly information a copy of my statement of December 6, 1919, and the memorandum just referred to.

Increased Power Suggested

There has now been a general resumption of operations in the bituminous coal fields subject to a commission such as is referred to in the memorandum of the Attorney General and approved by me, appointed you, Mr. Rembrandt Peale, a mine owner and operator in active business, and Mr. John P. White, a practical miner, as a commission with the powers and duties as set forth in the memorandum agreed to and adopted by the miners and operators who conducted all the prior negotiations. If a readjustment of the prices of coal shall be found necessary, I shall be pleased to transfer to the commission, subject to its unanimous action, the powers heretofore vested in the Fuel Administrator for that purpose.

I am sure it is not necessary for me to call your attention to the tremendous importance of the work of this commission, or the great opportunity which it presents for lasting service to the coal industry and to the country. If the facts concerning all the phases of the coal industry necessary to a proper adjustment of the matter submitted to you shall be investigated and reported to the public I am sure that your report, in addition to being accepted as the basis for a new wage agreement for the bituminous coal miners, will promote the public welfare and make for a settled condition in the industry. No settlement can be had in this matter, permanent and lasting in its benefits, as affecting either the miners, the coal operators or the

general public unless the findings of this body are comprehensive in their character and embrace and guard against every point of the public interest. To this end I deem it important that your conclusion should be reached by unanimous action. Upon your acceptance of this appointment, I shall be pleased to call an early meeting of the commission in Washington, so that you may promptly lay out plans for your work. Sincerely yours,

WOODROW WILSON.
Operators State Position

The formal statement of the operators reads as follows: "The operators have not agreed to any memorandum such as that mentioned in the President's letter to Messrs. Robinson, White and Peale, involving a basis of adjustment of the coal strike.

The operators were not consulted as to the terms and conditions of the agreement entered into between the government and the miners."

In this statement the operators again attempted to clear up the movements made by Mr. Palmer in negotiations to end the strike. The memorandum in which the statement refers is the one which Mr. Palmer in his testimony yesterday before the Frelinghuysen Senate coal investigating committee said he drew up on a train between Washington and Indianapolis when he was on his way to offer it to the United Mine Workers. He said in his testimony he showed the statement to John L. Lewis and William Green, officials of the Mine Workers, who had come to Washington to try to bring about an adjustment. He also telegraphed it to Washington for President's approval.

The operators in their testimony, claim this to have been a radically different proposal from that contained in the memorandum signed by President Wilson and read to Rush C. Butler, their counsel, by Mr. Palmer. Mr. Butler accepted the memorandum read him by the Attorney General so far as he was able for the operators, and they were surprised four days later to learn that as presented to the miners it was entirely different in character.

Palmer Ties Issue With Ogle

Mr. Palmer issued a statement to-night, taking issue with some of the published reports of the testimony yesterday of A. M. Ogle, an operator, before the Senate committee. He referred also to the apparent unwillingness of the operators to accept the Presidential commission plan of settlement, saying Mr. Butler had agreed to it, and that after the operators had agreed to the miners it had been approved by T. T. Brewster, of St. Louis, chairman of the scale committee of the operators of the central competitive fields.

"Some difference of opinion," said Mr. Palmer, "had been expressed in the newspapers as to whether the offer of the operators of a 20 per cent increase in wages had been conditioned upon an increase in the price of coal. Mr. Ogle came to me on Friday, December 5, to deliver a written copy of the offer which had been made by the scale committee in the joint conference with the miners. I told his committee that the government had not the slightest intention of making any compromise of any kind or character and proposed to stand squarely upon the position it had already taken as announced several times by the President and myself."

In conclusion the Palmer statement says: "It would be an amazing repudiation of their own statements if the operators do not acquiesce in the plan which their official representatives have repeatedly agreed to."

Lewis Denies Statement

Judge Anderson Quoted

Representative Merritt Called Upon to Retract Charge He Aimed to Kill Competition

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 20.—John L. Lewis, acting president of the United Mine Workers of America, denied "in every particular" a statement attributed to him by a member of Congress and used by United States District Judge A. B. Anderson in his charge to the Federal grand jury summoned to investigate the coal strike in a statement made public here to-day. Mr. Lewis, as part of the statement, also made public a letter he had written to

Representative Schuyler Merritt, of Connecticut, requesting "that you make amends for your mistake by making public admission of the fact."

Mr. Lewis's statement says: "Some one has done me a very great injustice, and I feel that the public should know it. It has been charged against me that I made certain statements that I never made and would not make. In his instructions to the Federal grand jury which is now investigating the coal industry Judge Anderson called attention to a speech made by a member of Congress on October 29, in which that Congressman said:

Congressman's Speech Quoted

"Mr. John L. Lewis, now acting president of the United Mine Workers, when attending one of the joint conferences with the operators referred to the purpose of the conference as follows:

"As I understand it, it is for the purpose of wiping out competition between us as miners first, viewing it from our side of the question; next, for the purpose of wiping out competition with the operators in these four states. When we have succeeded in that and we have perfected an organization on both sides of the question, then we will stand hand in hand for the purpose of this movement, it is that we will jointly declare war on every man outside of this competitive field who will do anything in any way endangering the peace that exists between us."

"What is necessary to do this? Organize our forces in the competing fields as far as the United Mine Workers are concerned. Go into those outside competing fields and tell your competitors that they have to join this movement, whether they like it or not, and give stability to the coal business of the United States."

Merritt Called Enemy of Labor

"This Congressman was Schuyler Merritt, of Connecticut, known to be one of the most implacable enemies of organized labor. Why he made such a statement about me passes my understanding, for he had not the slightest grounds for doing so. At no time, at no place, and under no circumstances did I ever make the statements which he charges to me. Congressman Merritt could have learned the truth before making the speech if he had wished to do so.

Judge Anderson has a right to rely on the speech of Congressman Merritt as containing the truth, for the speech was published in the Congressional Record, and thus giving it official standing. But I say now that Congressman Merritt's quotation of statements alleged to have been made by me is false and wholly unwarranted.

"I have written Congressman Merritt a letter demanding a retraction of the false charge which he made against me and which now forms one of the important bases for the Federal grand jury investigation."

Brewster Says Mine Operators Did Not Pass On Palmer's Proposal

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—Mine operators of the central competitive field have not as yet either accepted or rejected the memorandum made by Attorney General Palmer to the United Mine

Workers at Indianapolis, according to Thomas T. Brewster, chairman of the scale committee of the coal operators of the central competitive field.

Mr. Brewster was shown the statement of Attorney General Palmer to-night. He said: "The operators of the central competitive field were in full accord with the plan outlined by Fuel Administrator Garfield and which appeared in the President's statement of December 6. When we stated that the President's proposal was agreeable to us we were referring to his statement of December 6. As for the memorandum of Attorney General Palmer, referred to in President Wilson's statement to Mr. Robinson, we have never seen it; therefore it cannot be claimed that we have agreed to it."

Operator, Lumberman, Miner on Coal Survey

Rembrandt Peale, who has been appointed to the Presidential coal commission, played a conspicuous part in the development of the central Pennsylvania bituminous district. He was born at Lock Haven, Pa., in 1858, was graduated from Lehigh University, in South Bethlehem, in the class of '83, and attended the law school of the University of Pennsylvania. Mr. Peale was among the first to take advantage of the opening of the coal fields of Centre and Clearfield counties, and the industry he helped start in that region has reached a production of 4,000,000 tons of coal annually.

John P. White, of Oskaloosa, Iowa, was elected president of the United Mine Workers in 1911, which office he retained until his resignation in October, 1917, to accept a position as adviser to Dr. Harry A. Garfield, Federal Fuel Administrator. Mr. White entered the mines as a trapper at the age

of fourteen and filled every position in and about the mines. He represented the American labor movement at the world's mining congress in London in 1915.

Henry M. Robinson is a millionaire lumberman residing at Pasadena, Cal. He came to Washington early in the war as a dollar-a-year man and was associated with the Council of National Defense. Later he entered the service of the Shipping Board as a confidential assistant to Chairman Hurley, went to Paris as the Shipping Board's representative in international shipping matters pertaining to the war and was made a member of the board last spring. He resigned in September, but was recalled to Washington as a member of the second industrial conference now deliberating on labor-capital relations.

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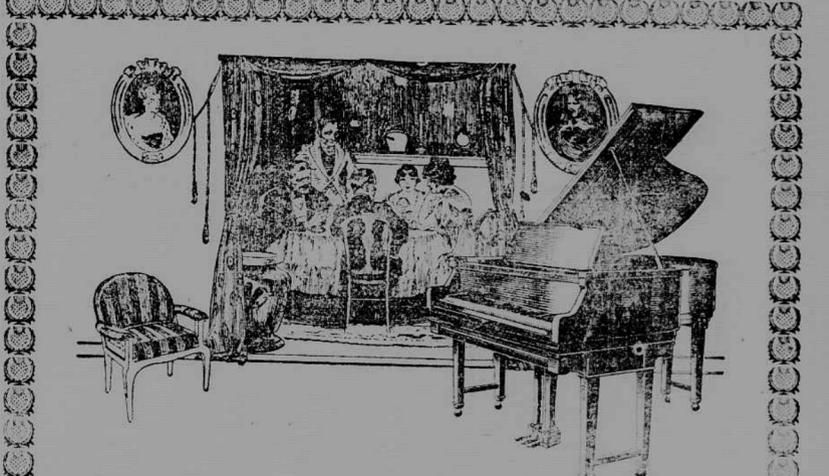
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