

## PLAN TO MAKE TAFT COAL STRIKE MEDIATOR

### Proposed to Amend Erdman Act So That President May Lawfully Intervene.

## CONCILIATION UPHELD

### Operators Issue Statement Declaring Board the Best Preventer of Trouble Ever Tried.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—An effort will be made to rush through Congress a bill authorizing the President to mediate in coal strikes.

This proposition will be in the form of an amendment to the Erdman act which now gives the United States Commissioner of Labor and the chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission authority to act as mediators in railway strikes affecting interstate traffic.

The amendment will be introduced in the House by Representatives O'Donohue and Lee of Pennsylvania. It will be designed of course to give the President authority to offer his services as mediator in the event of the failure of negotiations to avert a coal strike.

The two Pennsylvania Representatives called at the White House to-day and notified the President of their intention. No authoritative statement was made at the White House, but it is said that the President favors the proposition.

A conference between John Mitchell and Secretary of Commerce and Labor Nagel here this morning led to a revival of reports that President Taft will take steps to avert the threatened coal strike, but it was denied authoritatively to-night that the Administration contemplates any such action at this time.

It was learned that the President had cancelled the conference which he had opened in regard to the strike because he deemed it unwise at that time even to interfere with the pending negotiations.

It was said authoritatively to-night that Mr. Mitchell had called on the Secretary of Commerce and Labor not as the result of any invitation for a conference.

Mitchell was in Washington to testify before one of the House committees and he dropped in at the Department of Commerce and Labor for the purpose of discussing pending labor legislation with Mr. Nagel.

Mr. Mitchell is present to represent the coal miners in any conference with Government officials.

The President is taking a deep interest in the strike situation, but he will not make any move until it is certain that all negotiations for a settlement of the difficulties have failed.

WILKESBARRE, March 22.—Operators in the anthracite field to-day issued a statement in which they point out that the Conciliation Board is a satisfactory tribunal for settling grievances with the men.

The statement is issued in answer to an article written for the *Coal Age* in which it is intimated that the Conciliation Board does not give mine workers fair treatment.

The operators' statement follows: "The publication referred to is not an organ of the operators and its editor is not editor for the coal companies. It has not been authorized to express the operators' views, either directly or indirectly, with regard to the Conciliation Board."

"The operators stated in their formal reply that the Conciliation Board has been a benefit to the industry and that it was a fair method of settling grievances. This statement is borne out by the record of the board."

"It is not a fact that the mine workers have not been able to obtain fair treatment in the Conciliation Board. There have been many decisions in favor of the mine workers and more cases still in which a compromise satisfactory to both sides was reached through the influence of the board members."

"One of the most recent cases was decided in such a way that the miners received material advantage. This was the grievance presented by the employees of the Alden Coal Company. This decision, in all cases brought before the board, was a success, so that the higher pay awarded applied from the day upon which the grievance was filed."

"The operators still believe, as they said in their formal reply, that the Conciliation Board is as satisfactory a method for settling grievances as could be devised. It was established by the Strike Commission as a result of careful study and it has gone far to justify expectations. All possible safeguards against a miscarriage of justice are provided, an ample being called in whenever there is a deadlock in the board."

"It cannot be disputed that the Conciliation Board has had a great deal to do with maintaining in the anthracite region a peaceful condition such as never before prevailed in the history of the industry."

"The operators believe that the board has commended itself to the community as a whole and that its continuance is recognized by business interests and the general public as a desirable feature of any new arrangements."

The Rev. J. J. Curran, pastor of the church of the Holy Saviour of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., one of the leading figures in the settlement of the coal strike of 1902, was in this city yesterday and called at the office of the *Outlook* to see Col. Roosevelt, but Mr. Roosevelt did not come to town until night.

At the office of the *Outlook* it was said that Father Curran would not go to Wilkes-Barre, but would return to Olyphant. He came to pay his respects, it was said, but it is thought that he had seen the Colonel the present threat of trouble would have been brought up.

It was said that Col. Roosevelt, regarding himself as a private citizen, will not intervene in this case. If he were asked to do so, it is believed that he would do so.

A representative of Heilner & Co.,

## NOT ONE VOICE FOR COL. ROOSEVELT

### Republican Club Unanimously Declares His Doctrine Populist.

## TAFT WISE AND STABLE

### Club Throws In for Good Measure an Anti-Third Term Resolution.

### UP TO BITUMINOUS MINERS.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, March 22.—Rejection to-day by miners' officers of an offer by the bituminous operators to continue present wage conditions and keep the mines working after April 1 put the threatened coal strike squarely up to the United Mine Workers of America's policy committee, which meets here on Monday.

Suspension of operation in the bituminous mines for two weeks was regarded as almost inevitable, but many thought the union leaders will leave the question of accepting or rejecting the operators' offer either to a convention or a referendum vote. Few thought the suspension of work would end in a strike.

All through the conferences of the secret sub-committee both sides were good natured and worked to prevent a strike.

The most important step toward peace was the abandonment of their demand for a decrease in the wage scale on condition that mines be not closed after April 1, pending ratification of an agreement.

## COAL TRUST HUNT BEGINS.

### Federal Agents Looking for Combination of Financiers and Producers.

CHICAGO, March 22.—A nationwide inquiry into an alleged "coal trust" with Chicago as the centre is in progress by the Government, according to a well defined report current this afternoon in the Federal Building.

Government agents are at work gathering evidence against the alleged combination, it is said, especially in Chicago, New York, Pennsylvania and a number of Southern States where the coal supply is largest.

Charges have been made that certain large coal producers and financiers combined for the purpose of maintaining a stipulated price for coal and for the purpose of stifling competition.

The inquiry is said to have been ordered some weeks ago by Attorney-General Wickham and agents of the Department of Justice got to work gathering information.

Charles Dewdney, division superintendent of the Department of Justice, to-night declined to discuss the report.

"There is nothing that I can say regarding such an investigation by the Government," he said.

## MELVILLE BEQUEST FAILS.

### Bequest of \$150,000 to Found Home for Aged Is Illegal.

PHILADELPHIA, March 22.—Rear Admiral George W. Melville, who died on March 17, wrote a codicil to his will just twenty-four days before his death leaving \$150,000 as a trust fund to provide for a home for deserving aged poor. The will was offered for probate to-day, but it was discovered to-night that, by the laws of Pennsylvania, the charitable bequest is void and the last wish of the New York explorer will not be carried out.

Under the laws a codicil making a charitable bequest must be added to the will thirty days prior to death.

Under the codicil Admiral Melville stipulated that recipients of benefits should be more than 70 years old, Protestants or Quakers and not members of the African or Asiatic races. The fund was to be known as the Estella Polis Melville charity and the beneficiaries were to be selected by five bank presidents.

Admiral Melville's fortune amounted to about \$300,000 and after bequests of \$5,000 each for laboratory purposes to Columbia University, the Stevens school in Hoboken and the University of Pennsylvania and similar bequests to two local hospitals the residue with the exception of his library and relics is left to members of his family. The library, relics, medals, bronzes, etc., are left to the city of Philadelphia. His exploration books and papers go to Walter W. MacFarland, Singer Building, New York.

## BIG COPPER STRIKE THREAT.

### Butte Miners' Union Demands Immediate Reinstatement of Socialists.

BUTTE, Mont., March 22.—The Miners' Union at a special meeting to-night decided to demand from the Anaconda Copper Company that several hundred socialists who have been discharged from the mines in the past week be reinstated at once or a strike will be called.

Formal notice will be served on the foremen of the various mines to-morrow morning and the result will be reported to another meeting which is to be held by the miners to-morrow night.

The Socialists have been very active in Butte and especially bitter in denunciation and attacks on the Anaconda and the Amalgamated.

## CONGRESSMAN WILDER WEDS.

### Young Woman Who Was His Daughters, Chaperon Is Second Wife.

## SHOT UNWELCOME VISITOR

### Bronx Builder Dangerously Hurt During a Quarrel Over His Sister.

## SAFE BLOWERS SHAKE UP TWO BOROUGHES

### Staten Island Nitro-Glycerine Ex- plosion Causes Earth- quake in Queens.

### LIVELY SHOOTING AFTER IT

### Five Eggmen Chased by Two Citizens Wound One—Police Turn Up a Trifle Too Late.

A can of nitro-glycerine used to blow up a safe on Staten Island caused all kinds of alarm on Staten Island, in South Brooklyn and Coney Island and Bath Beach late last night. For an hour a shower of telephone calls poured into Police Headquarters in Brooklyn, on Staten Island and in Manhattan from persons who wanted to know whether it was an earthquake or a million cans of powder which had exploded.

Just before 1 o'clock Leo Quinn, a chauffeur who lives on Elm street, West New Brighton, had delivered his car into the Interborough garage on Elm street and was standing talking to the watchman. Across the street he suddenly saw a light, then came an explosion which did not knock Quinn off his feet nor did it shatter the glass in the building behind him. It reverberated in his ears with force, and then rolled on to carry its alarm across Staten Island.

Then the force of the explosion crossed over to Brooklyn and waked up people in the houses in Elmhurst, South Brooklyn, Bath Beach and Bay Ridge. Houses shuddered, windows rattled and a thousand frightened people rolled out of bed with remembrances of the Campanian disaster in their minds to call upon the police for aid.

The police tried to locate the scene of the promised disaster by trying to bunch the calls and then rushing squads of cops to the centre of the bunch. Half the cops in Brooklyn were rushing around in this way half the night.

In the meantime Quinn had telephoned to William Barnett, secretary of the Staten Island Supply Company, which owns the building in which the explosion started. Barnett got to the spot in time to see two men jumping from a window to the ground.

Quinn and Barnett started after the men, who ran down toward Richmond d terrace. At the first corner three other men were standing. Barnett yelled to them to stop the front runners, but the three men scattered.

Barnett and Quinn kept after their original quarry. They chased them down until they were near the Shore road, when one of those in front stopped and began firing a revolver. At the same time shots were heard from behind; the three who had scattered were closing in on the pursuers.

Barnett stopped when a bullet went through his hat; Quinn was duffed with a bullet in the thigh. Cops had come at the sound of the firing and Quinn was sent to St. Vincent's Hospital. The safe blowers all got away.

## BOXING BOUTS FOR PASTORS.

### A. J. D. Biddle's Matinee Seen by Phila- delphia Churchmen.

PHILADELPHIA, March 22.—Anthony J. Drexel Biddle this afternoon held a boxing tournament in his gymnasium at the rear of his Walnut street home for the benefit of several clergymen and vestrymen of prominent local churches and fifty members of his Bible class.

This is the first tournament Biddle has held since early last summer when Timothy O'Leary, then Assistant Director of Public Safety, served notice upon him that his little private affairs would be considered in the same light as professional bouts and must be held under the same regulations. Mr. Biddle was informed that he must have a physician at the ringside and that all the boxers would have to be examined before fighting.

There were seven three round bouts on to-day's programme and several of them were fast. One of the bouts was between Jerry Holloway and Nox Fottler, two 14 year old boys, for the championship of Delancy School. The bout was a draw.

In the other bouts Jim Naully met Bryan Hayes; Larry Williams met Charles McCann; Bryan Hayes met Carl Fisher; George Decker met Livingston Sullivan and Young Erne met Daniel L. Hutchinson Sr.

Among those at the ringside were several clergymen, whose names Mr. Biddle refused to make public: Livingston L. Biddle, Craig Biddle, Walter Thompson, Dr. Charles B. Penrose, Alexander F. Williamson, a vestryman of Holy Trinity; Randall Pennington, Dr. Charles Mackenzie, James Strerrett and George Pawling.

## WOMAN MONEY LENDER FINED.

### She Was Trapped by an Agent of the Russell Sage Foundation.

A woman money lender was arraigned before three Justices in the Court of Special Sessions yesterday morning and fined \$500 for having loaned \$50 to an agent of the Russell Sage Foundation for the purpose of securing the adoption of similar resolutions and their indorsement of the principles herein expressed.

Charles O. Maas jumped up to second the resolutions. A dozen other members of the club were on their feet at almost the same instant. When the vote was put there was not a dissenting voice.

Among those who were present to vote were John Henry Hammond, J. Van Vechten Oleski, Otto E. Bernard, Robert C. Morris, Samuel S. Koenig, chairman of the Republican county committee; Judge Mayer, William S. Bennet, James R. Sheffield, Edward R. Finch, William Barnes, Jr., Robert N. Kenyon, who framed the resolutions indorsing the Taft Administration passed by the Union League Club; John A. Dutton, Herbert Parsons and John R. Eustis.

Abe Gruber brought to the meeting a volume of Col. Roosevelt's essays. He read them for the pleasure of his friends. One was from the essay, "Our Poorer Brothers."

"In our cities the misgovernment is due not to the misdeeds of the rich but to the low standard of honesty and morality among our citizens generally."

And again from the same essay: "The worst foe of the poor man is the labor leader, whether he is a philanthropist or a politician, who tries to teach him that he is a victim of conspiracy and injustice when in reality he is merely working out his fate with blood and sweat, as the immense majority of men who are worthy men always have done and always will have to do."

This from "Machine Politics": "Governmental powers should be concentrated in the hands of very few men, who should be so conspicuous that no citizen could help knowing all about them, and the elections should not come too frequently."

## SHOT UNWELCOME VISITOR

### Bronx Builder Dangerously Hurt During a Quarrel Over His Sister.

Harry Lavelle, a builder with big business interests in The Bronx, was shot twice in the right temple and once in the hand last night in the vestibule of Benjamin Jackson's house at 1229 Simpson street, The Bronx. Jackson, who is a large real estate operator of the Bronx, was arrested on a charge of felonious assault. He admitted to the police that he had had a hand to hand struggle with Lavelle and that he had a revolver, but says that his mind is an absolute blank as to the shooting itself.

According to the police, the trouble came because Lavelle's sister, Mrs. Martha Laheny, who is about 28 years old and good looking, has persisted in being housekeeper for Jackson. The police say that Mrs. Laheny has been separated from her husband.

Jackson has been married twice, and has four children, three of whom are children of his first wife, who is dead. After his first wife died he married again, and a first year ago his second wife left him because, the police say, of trouble over her stepchildren.

There came a ring at the door last night. Jackson answered it. In the vestibule he found Lavelle.

"I want to talk to you," said Lavelle. "It is no time of night to talk here," said Jackson. "Go home and come around to-morrow."

"Before I go I'll crush your skull in," said Lavelle, according to Jackson's story to the police later.

Jackson tried to shut the door, but found Lavelle's foot stuck in the jam. He pushed, but Lavelle would not take his foot away. Then Lavelle, Jackson says, stuck his hand in and grabbed him by the throat. Jackson tried to push him away, but could not. Lavelle forced him back with the grip on his throat until the veins stuck out on his forehead and he was in fear for his life.

The pushing carried them back to a desk in the library, where a revolver was Jackson reached for it, got it and then wrestled with Lavelle, trying to throw off the grip on his throat. He managed to push him back into the vestibule, he says, and then the revolver went off.

Lavelle fell to the floor unconscious. A policeman came running and called Dr. Jones from Fordham Hospital. Dr. Jones found that Lavelle had two bullets in his right temple and one in his hand. He took him to the hospital in a serious condition.

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## GIRL RUN DOWN BY AUTO.

### Chauffeur Took Her in Car to Hospital— She Is Not Expected to Live.

Maria Uhl, 17 years old, employed as a domestic by George Wagner of 590 Westchester avenue, The Bronx, was run down and seriously injured last night by an automobile while crossing Brook avenue at Westchester avenue. She was taken in the machine to the Lebanon Hospital and is in a serious condition.

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## DID WHITELAW REID SAY IT?

### Sir Henry Dalziel Presses Question as to the French Revolution Interview.

MARION, Va., March 22.—Sir Henry Dalziel has now decided to press his question in the House of Commons as to the authenticity of the interview with Whitelaw Reid, the American Ambassador, printed in the *New York Times* last Saturday, in which the American diplomat was quoted as saying that conditions in England just now were similar to those in France before the Revolution. The question was withdrawn a few days ago owing to the pressure brought on Sir Henry by the Government.

The question was again submitted to-day in an altered form and passed by the Speaker. As it now appears, it asks the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs "whether his attention has been drawn to the interview with the American Ambassador to Great Britain in the course of which he is reported to have expressed the opinion that the general political conditions in this country at present are the same as those which prevailed in France before the Revolution, and whether he will ascertain from the American Ambassador whether the interview is accurately described."

There is general disbelief that Mr. Reid was so indiscreet as to use the language attributed to him and it is known also that the Government has no wish to raise an issue with the United States over the matter.

Mr. Reid is expected to return to London from Wrest Park on March 25 in preparation for his visit to Belfast on the 26th. It is reported that he has recovered from his attack of bronchitis and influenza.

## BRIBERY CHARGE UPHELD.

### Maryland House Sends Record to Court to Begin Prosecution.

ANAPOLIS, Md., March 22.—A special committee of the House reported unanimously to-night that the charge made by Delegate W. R. Smallwood that State Auditor John F. O'Malley had offered him \$2,500 to vote against the general local option bill had been substantially confirmed.

By unanimous order of the House a transcript of the record will be sent to the local court and criminal proceedings begun.

The penalty, upon conviction, may be a term of five years in the penitentiary or less, a heavy fine and permanent disqualification to hold public office.

The testimony adduced before the committee has not been made public, but it is reliably reported that Smallwood's statement was confirmed in almost every detail by Miss Nettie Dean, a legislative stenographer, who was in the anteroom of the house at the time.

O'Malley is high in the Democratic machine, a close friend of Arthur P. Gorman, Jr.

## HUGHES WON'T OPPOSE TAFT.

### Will Not Consent to the Use of His Name Against the President.

WASHINGTON, March 22.—There has been considerable talk off and on of Justice Hughes as a possible compromise candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination. It can be said that Mr. Hughes will never consent to the use of his name against President Taft.

## BRING IN NO NEWS OF SCOTT.

### Japanese Antarctic Exploring Party Makes New Zealand Port.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. LONDON, March 22.—Despatches received here early this morning from Wellington, New Zealand, announce that the Japanese Antarctic expedition reached that place to-day.

The members of the party bring in no news of Capt. Scott, the British explorer who went in quest of the South Pole.

The Japanese reported all well on board the Kainan Mar. The party were engaged chiefly in exploring the coasts of King Edward Land.

## LONG SENTENCE FOR BOY.

### Youngster of 15 Sent Up for From Nine to Sixty-three Years.

PATERSON, N. J., March 22.—Albert Vreeland, 15 years old, was sentenced to-day by Judge Scott to not less than nine years and not more than sixty-three years in the State prison. He was convicted on nine charges of burglary.

Implicated with Vreeland were his brother Perry, 18 years old, and James Paton, 18. The court reserved decision as to Perry and young Paton, although the latter admitted being implicated in two burglaries.

The police say that the Vreeland boys entered at least a score of houses and got loot valued at thousands of dollars. About \$2,000 worth was recovered. The boys have been known as the "matinee burglars."

## UNA WILDER SET FREE.

### Brooklyn Woman Accused of Threatening Husband Will Leave England.

SPECIAL CABLE DISPATCH TO THE SUN. LONDON, March 22.—In the Guildhall police court to-day the charge against Mrs. Una Wilder of Brooklyn, N. Y., of sending a threatening letter to her husband, who was suing her for divorce, was dismissed and Mrs. Wilder is now at liberty. The court held that there was not sufficient evidence to show that Mrs. Wilder had written the letter.

Previous to this counsel for the prosecution had said that as the defendant had undertaken to leave the country in a fortnight his client did not propose to continue the case.

## ARREST VICTIM'S PARTNER.

### Lazzararo Accused of Complicity in Murder of Mrs. Spinelli.

Detectives Cassetti and King have been looking for the men who on Wednesday night shot and killed Mrs. Pasquella Spinelli, known as the richest woman in Harlem's Little Italy. Last night they arrested Luigi Lazzararo of 337 East 106th street and charged him with homicide and acting in concert with the woman's slayers.

Neighbors told the police they had seen Lazzararo stand at the door of the stable where Mrs. Spinelli was shot while the two men who killed her went in and they saw him open the door to let the men out.

Lazzararo was part owner with Mrs. Spinelli of the stable that she was killed in. He denies knowing anything about the shooting. He is held at the East 104th street station.

## PLANS MODEL TENEMENTS.

### George Eastman Will Erect Large Build- ing in Rochester.