

British Mine Owners and Strikers Confer; Row Costing Millions

London, April 11.—The respective contentions of the mine owners and striking miners are now in the hands of the prime minister, who is to take them under advisement, and meet the representatives of the two sides in the coal dispute Tuesday.

London, April 11.—British mine owners and their striking employees conferred for an hour at the board of trade Monday morning on a possible settlement of the controversy which led to the miners' walkout last week. The conference adjourned at noon until this afternoon. Robert S. Horne, chancellor of the exchequer, presided.

The London Times Monday warned its readers against expectations that the negotiations would proceed amicably or that work would be immediately resumed, as the fundamental differences between the parties still remained acute.

16,000,000 Pounds Weekly.

Estimates of the cost of the miners' dispute to the country, including the loss of unmined coal, unpaid wages, decreased railway traffic and the cost of emergency measures place the bill which the country is paying because of the strike at about 16,000,000 pounds a week.

Leaders of the "triple alliance" of labor viewed the situation Monday as being considerably improved. John Robert Clynes, chairman of the parliamentary party, being quoted as saying he was satisfied that a solution of the problem could be found.

Miners Obey Chiefs.

Information has reached the government, says the London Times, that everywhere but in Fifeshire the miners obeyed their chiefs.

Allied Solidarity Plea of Viviani at Pittsburgh Meet

New York, April 11.—A plea for moral solidarity among the allies in facing post war problems was made by Rene Viviani, former premier of France, before an audience that packed Carnegie hall here Monday night.

His address, delivered in French, was on the occasion of an all-American meeting under the joint auspices of twenty six war relief and patriotic organizations, to extend greeting to him at the virtual termination of his "mission of courtesy" to this country as envoy extraordinary of the French government.

FRANCE PLANS DRASTIC MOVE AGAINST BERLIN

Satisfactory Assurance Regarding Reparation Payment Due May 1.

Occupation of Entire Industrial Region Is Advocated by Some.

Paris, April 11.—(By the Associated Press.)—It is no longer doubted in circles here considered to have the best sources of information that France will, either alone or in common with the allies, take radical action against Germany if satisfactory assurances regarding the payment of reparations are not forthcoming by May 1.

What form the action will take is no matter for surmise, but semi-official opinion is that it will be such as to impress the German people as they have not been impressed since the armistice.

The occupation of the Ruhr valley and the entire industrial region of Westphalia is advocated by some. Others are convinced that the French army should this time go to Berlin, in order to make sure, they argue, of finishing a task which they hold would be achieved much more cheaply in the end by this method than through the successive application of lesser penalties.

Plague Halts Flight to Virgin Islands

Washington, April 11.—The two airplanes piloted by marines which left here for a flight to the Virgin Islands last week are returning without having reached their objective, it was announced Monday at the navy department. The planes turned back at San Domingo City, it was said, because of a bubonic plague epidemic at San Juan, Porto Rico, the next and last stop scheduled before the Virgin Islands.

REDS BAR YANKEES.

New York, April 11.—The soviet government has issued an order prohibiting anyone from the United States from crossing the borders of Russia after April 20, according to a cable message made public Monday by Charles Recht, attorney here for the Russian soviet government.

Nonpartisans Open Drive in Nebraska

Lincoln, Neb., April 11.—A drive by the Nonpartisan league to organize precinct and county committees in the state was announced Monday night by Jesse R. Johnson and J. D. Roam, respectively state manager and chairman of the state committee. A. C. Towler, national president, it was announced, will address the committee meetings.

British Suggest Plan to Settle San Remo Oil Dispute With U. S.

Washington, April 11.—Adjustment of the dispute between the United States and Great Britain growing out of San Remo oil agreements concerning Mesopotamia has been suggested informally to the United States, it was learned officially Monday.

The plan proposed was in a memorandum reaching the state department but not made in such manner as to place the necessity for decision upon this government until more definite representations are received.

It was proposed that the United States appoint a commissioner to confer with the British petroleum commission in the belief that such direct negotiations would lead to a more speedy adjustment than might be expected through usual diplomatic agents.

MAY ENFORCE DRUG LAWS EVEN IF CONFLICT WITH U. S.

Washington, April 11.—State laws dealing with illegal traffic in drugs are enforceable, even though in conflict with the federal narcotic act, the supreme court held Monday. Decrees of the supreme court of Minnesota refusing to enforce a state law against the sale of opium because of the federal statute, which was not covered by the law, was affirmed.

Tea and Coffee Ban Is Lifted by Italy

Notification that tea and coffee products would be admitted in Italy without special previous authority from the Italian minister of commerce was received from E. R. White, acting assistant postmaster general at Washington Monday by Postmaster William Cluston.

Previously, the order read, tea and coffee were not permitted to be imported to Italy without special authority from the government representative. The lifting of the ban will facilitate the trade, Mr. Cluston said yesterday.

SAW MUTILATES MAN.

Winona, Minn., April 11.—Alfred Beck, 32, a farm laborer of Cream, Wis., near here, was seriously injured last Monday when he fell against a revolving circular saw. His left leg was nearly severed and the lower part of his right arm was cut to shreds. He was taken to a local hospital.

STABILIZE ARMAMENTS.

Brussels, April 11.—The cabinet Monday agreed to adopt the principle that future budgets for armaments should not exceed the current one, as requested by the League of Nations. Shark meat closely resembles halibut.

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OLD GOV'T MACHINERY TO BE DISCARDED IN WASHINGTON STATE

Olympia, Wash. — (Correspondence of The Associated Press.)—Old state government machinery, operated by more than 100 boards, will be discarded when a new executive division and a new administrative system. The new government will work through 10 centralized departments. Governor L. F. Hart believes the system will save the state \$500,000 a year.

Bill Provides for Junking of Old Boards for Department System.

Outside of the departments there will remain one state appointive official, board or bureau connected in any way with the executive division of the state government. The departments are those of efficiency, public works, business control, labor and industry, agriculture, fisheries, health, conservation and development, taxation and licenses.

At the head of each department there will be a director and the 10 directors will form a new government cabinet. The cabinet will fix salaries for their appointees. The cabinet will confer with the governor and called upon for the purpose of working out a unified state policy.

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