

MUSCLE SHOALS OFFER AMENDED BY ENGSTRUM

Ford's Competitor Tenders \$3,504,000 Yearly for Half-Century.

CONCENTRATES ON NITRATES

Wilmington Man Figures Fifty Years' Mental, Compounded at 4 Per Cent. Still Give Federal Treasury Eventual Total of \$237,000,000.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—On the eve of delivery to Congress by Secretary Weeks of his report on the Muscle Shoals, Ala., Frederick E. Engstrom,

Wilmington, N. C., presented the War Department's amended proposal to complete, lease and operate the Muscle Shoals properties for the manufacture of nitrates for fertilizer.

The amended proposal was accompanied by a letter signed by Marlon Butler, acting legal adviser for Mr. Engstrom, who outlined the outstanding features of the proposal as follows:

A guaranteed cost to complete. Government ownership and preserves assets of \$14,000,000.

To pay \$2,504,000 yearly. Returns from investment on a basis of 400,000 kilowatt gross development; this lease will pay, to the government, the latter pays, \$3,504,000 per year for fifty years.

At compound 4 per cent interest of approximately \$37,000,000; this cash will be used to produce cheap nitrates for fertilizer.

The power end of the industry is solely developed for the benefit of the factory. The separation of the factory from the power destroys the unity of the industry.

Power is being sold to the Government. This lease proposes to devote the entire power development to the manufacture of nitrates, including the development of the American farmers at a price less than the Chilean products.

The quantity of nitrates annually produced is limited only by the amount of excess power sold and the selling price of nitrates fixed by the Government.

The method proposed to finance, by the sale of excess power, the manufacture of nitrates, is the only possible method by which nitrates can be produced under present known methods and sold to the American farmers at a price less than the Chilean products.

It will be glad, the letter concluded, "to see the child and the amendments which you may suggest, with a view to accepting the same, if we can see our way clear so to do."

ALDERMEN DEFER ACTION AS V. R. & P. SETTLEMENT LOOMS

(Continued From First Page.) From the company's standpoint, they preferred to withhold further comment until the situation had been clarified before the men, and full consideration given to the proposition.

Upon this determination, therefore, the whole matter was deferred until tomorrow afternoon, or earlier, if an agreement is reached.

Aldermen Melton and Woody desired to go into the question at once. They were outvoted by the vote of 5 to 2, Mr. Winfree being absent because of a death in his family.

Mr. Gardner stated that he did not feel he could express himself either way on the project. "The men must decide for themselves," he said.

"Before we go into the conference we must know how the men feel in reference to the matter. It is entirely up to them. Whatever they want done, we will be glad to do."

The Council chamber was crowded. Street car men were hand early, and by 7:30 o'clock the space reserved for the public was taken. Then the crowds began to push through the side doors.

It was a mixed crowd, many women, evidently representing stockholders, sat throughout the chamber. The tedious wait, while the body was in conference, was ended by the arrival of the Aldermen filed into the chamber at 8:45 o'clock they resembled a jury returning with its verdict. A hush fell over the crowd, and when it was reached that a compromise was imminent, smiles spread over the faces of both the representatives of the stockholders and the strikers, while the plain disinterested citizen grinned audibly.

Clouds Blowing Over. Nothing was given out to the crowd, no one knew what had taken place in the conference. It was all a blank to the hundreds who crowded the room. All they knew was that the clouds were apparently blowing over.

Alderman Nunnally, following the reading of the report, immediately moved the paper be tabled, which was done by the vote of 9 to 2, the latter being Melton and Woody. For a moment the crowd looked at one another in amazement. It was explained by Alderman Puller that an agreement was imminent, and the body adjourned to tomorrow afternoon at 3 o'clock, or at the call of the president.

Prior to adjournment, an ordinance was adopted granting permission to the Merchants' Cold Storage Company to erect an overhead bridge across Sixth Street at Canal, connecting two divisions of its plant.

ARBITRATION AT NORFOLK MAKES CUT LESS DRASTIC

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.) NORFOLK, VA., Feb. 1.—Street car fares in Norfolk are 6 cents again, the reduction from 7 cents to 6 cents taking effect today simultaneously with the report of the wage arbitration board which set the wage scale for trolley car employees at 39 cents for first-year men, 39 cents for second and 41-1/2 for third-year men.

Street car service is declared to be normal, following the report by the board January 16, when the Virginia

World Flat, With Ice Rim, Voliva Teaches

(By Associated Press.) ZION, ILL., Feb. 1.—Wilbur Green Voliva, successor to John Alexander Dowie, as Governor of Zion, and head of the Christian Apostolic Church, has completed the fixing of dimensions of his flat world, existence of which was first taught in the Zion schools.

According to Mr. Voliva's latest pronouncement, the sky is a vast dome of solid material, from which the sun, moon and stars are hung like chandeliers from a ceiling.

At the time he announced the world was a flat plane surrounded by ice, Mr. Voliva also fixed the sun as being a small body about forty miles in diameter, and located only 3,000 miles from the earth.

Railway and Power Company put its suit in pay to effect. The new wage scale is retroactive to January 16.

President Wheelwright, of the traction company, has informed Council that in view of the successful compromise with car employes and the fare reduction, the company expects Council to act in such way as to give less jitney competition.

DENTIST SAYS EATING CANDY RUINS TEETH

(By Associated Press.) BOSTON, Feb. 1.—The sweet tooth that every child usually means a decayed tooth. Dr. William Parker Cooke, of the Harvard Dental School, told a legislative committee today, urging his bill to prohibit sale of sweet meats to children under thirteen years of age, without written permission of parents.

His statement that overindulgence in candy ruins teeth, raising their teeth was challenged by Charles P. Bird, secretary of the Massachusetts Confectioners' Association, who said that candy, other than candy were responsible for poor dental conditions.

PRESIDENT GETS FIRST-HAND VIEW OF SLUSH-BOUND CAPITAL

Harding Wades Through Mud and Water of F Street Shopping District, Rubbing Elbows With Hundreds of Government Clerks.

(By Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, Feb. 1.—President Harding went out for himself early this morning to get a first-hand view of the slush-bound capital.

Having read newspaper descriptions of the aftermath of the blizzard, the President decided to take some exercise and see for himself, so, accompanied by Secretary Christian, he slipped away from the White House just before 9 o'clock and headed for the "F" Street shopping district, which is today a slush-bound capital.

Thousands of government clerks, other homegoers and late shoppers were wading along helplessly in the sea of slush and sleet, pushing their way over the dirty ice-covered pavements as they jostled along or scrambled to get aboard the scarce and overcrowded trolley cars.

Flowers, plants, bushes, winter girls in "nickers" and young blades who inhabit the capital's late afternoon promenade street, rubbed elbows with the President as he recognized him.

In fact, the President voyaged through the slush almost a la haroun al raschid, and surveyed the dirty slush banks still piled high along the busy streets three days after the snow stopped falling; waded through water and slush ankle deep in the chuck holes in the pavements, and dozens of stalled motor cars and trucks and the small army of workmen struggling with the mess.

Mr. Harding ventured as far down as the Patent Office with the secret service in cutting behind him and then turned homeward to dinner, going over practically the same route.

Common report has had it that the President was much interested in the complaint of capital citizens that the work of clearing up the remains of the blizzard is going slowly, and he may have gone forth to see for himself.

At the White House, it was said he wanted a little exercise before dinner.

PLAN BIG ALLIANCE TO FIGHT PAY CUTS

(Continued From First Page.) While I do not know how the other executives feel about such an alliance as Mr. Lewis suggests, I can say that the conference he asks will be granted.

"What will come of this conference I naturally cannot say. Whether anything comes of it, it will be an important step, as we know that the railroad presidents are combining to further their intentions of cutting wages and it can be understood why so many wish to take action to protect themselves. If such an alliance were to be formed, it would not be so much for the purpose of a general strike and a united front as an offensive action, as it would be for self-defense by defensive action."

He added that the brotherhoods and shop crafts and other railway

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(By Westbrook Pegler, United News Staff Correspondent.) NEW YORK, Feb. 1.—The proud young daddy of the American syncopated school of music, Irving Berlin, believes that his staff will survive the attacks of reformers and musical snobs, to be glorified one day within the life of the present generation. In the great American grand opera—a masterpiece of syncopation. At the moment, New York is hearing from stage and pulpit and reading in the papers, that this indecent thing called jazz is a dreadful element, a degrading influence in American life. In the general acceptance of the term, jazz means syncopation, and Berlin not only admits, but boasts, that he fetched it up from a tiny, piping grace-note.

Berlin has no authentic authority on the word jazz, but if it does mean rag-time or syncopation, he defends it as the musical expression of America's spirit, and just as France, Germany, Italy and other older nations have their characteristic operas, so will America develop the American syncopated time, believe him.

J. Hartley Manners began the debate with his play, "The National Anthem," in which his wife, Miss Laurette Taylor, is starring. She trips along to the very brink of perdition in the sinking meter of jazz. Some of the critics thought Mr. Manners had been unduly alarmed by jazz, and said so, to which he replied: "Jazz is something vile. Because it lowers the position of wom-

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