WEATHER: Showers this afternoon; fair and much colder tonight and Wednesday; probably a gale for tonight; temperature at 8 a. m., 69 degrees; normal temperature for October 28 for the last thirty years, 51 degrees.

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RAILROAD BROTHERHOODS TO BACK COAL MINERS IF STRIKE IS CALLED

Today

The Day of Arbitration. 500,000 and 99,500,000. Which Will Rule?

By ARTHUR BRISBANE.
(Copyright, 1919.)

One question in the United States is important, the strike question.

Ever since calling strikes ceased to be a crime, industrial problems have been settled on a strike basis.

The men have quit, saying, "Pay us what we want, or we won't come back." Sometimes they came back without getting more, when employers were strong and there was plenty of labor. Hunger drove them back.

Sometimes they stayed out until they got what they wanted, when labor was scarce, and employers did not want their plants idle; love of profit drove the employers.

Old strikes were comparatively small affairs. Occasionally they were disagreeable and bloody, but the biggest of them affected only one group, or at most one city.

Like other business enterprises, the strike has grown in bigness, importance and seriousness.

A successful railroad strike would tie up industries, and starve or half starve the people in the cities.

A successful coal strike would tie up the railroads, to begin with, and everything else. While four or five hundred thousand men were fighting it out with their employers, millions of men would be idle by force; employers couldn't hire them, even if they wanted to.

There comes from the White House the President's statement that it is a crime to plan a strike to benefit half a million and injure one hundred millions.

The workmen say if a small strike is legal, a big strike is legal. If the Government doesn't want the consequences it should compel mine owners to give in.

Mine owners say if they concede a workday of six hours, a working week of five days now, the next thing would be a four-hour day, a three-day week, and gradually labor would reach the vanishing point.

It is a question the public will have to solve for itself. Ninety-nine million five hundred thousand citizens are more important than five hundred thousand coal miners. The ninety-nine million five hundred thousand must be protected first, even though temporary injustice or apparent deprivation of rights should be inflicted upon the five hundred thousand.

When war threatens the entire nation from abroad, men are chosen without their consent and sent to be killed to protect the millions. When industrial war threatens one hundred million people, the hundred million must be protected, no matter who suffers, no matter what fine speeches may be made about the right of a man to work or not to work.

It is not for the five hundred thousand coal miners, or for the handful of men that make fortunes by owning the mines, to decide what shall be done or how the thing shall be settled.

The people of the United States own the mines. All private ownership is simply a condition existing by consent of the Government, one that can be ended at any moment under the right of eminent domain.

The five hundred thousand coal miners are a minority in the nation. Whatever they think or want must give way to the needs of the majority. That is the law in a republic.

Suppose, instead of a strike cutting off coal, another strike that would cut off water.

Suppose private companies "owned" the water, and their workmen decided to cut off the water while settling a quarrel with their employers.

How long would the people tolerate being deprived of fresh water? How many children would they allow to die of thirst? How long would they tolerate such a condition or listen to arguments in favor of the right of men to strike?

The difference between coal and water is not so great. You can live only six days without water. You might live several months without coal. But to stop the supply of coal injures every human being in the country; stops industrial production at a time when it is absolutely necessary.

And there is no doubt that in one way or another the ninety-nine million five hundred thousand people of the United States will make up their minds to decide, without first having coal, railroads, water, milk or mail suddenly cut off, what should be done to treat employers and workers justly.

John L. Lewis, acting president of the mine workers, says, "With Abraham Lincoln I thank God that we have a country where men may strike."

It was a step forward when the law was changed so men might quit their work without being put in prison for committing a crime.

The right to strike meant progress, and Lincoln might well thank God for it.

But intelligence and a sense of justice leading to arbitration will be another step forward, far beyond the strike.

Lincoln thanked God that men had the right to strike, because it meant an end to miserable tyranny. Lincoln would thank God

(Continued on Page 2, Column 3.)

BELGIAN KING AND QUEEN SPEND BUSY DAY IN CAPITAL

King Albert, heroic monarch of a heroic people, today inscribed his name on the pages of American history in a fashion that will forever link it with the traditions of America.

He is the first reigning monarch of the old world to set foot in the White House; the first to be entertained as the guest of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives.

Albert Visits Congress.

Escorted by Senator Lodge King Albert entered the Senate chamber at 1:05 o'clock, amid an outburst of cheers and handclapping that continued for five minutes. If the demonstration was boisterous it was accentuated a few moments later when Queen Elizabeth, accompanied by Mrs. Marshall, entered the gallery and took the President's seat.

King Albert took a seat on the rostrum beside Senator Cummings, president pro tem. Senator Cummins delivered a short address of welcome in which he characterized this as the greatest pleasure in his life. King Albert then addressed the Senate, and in a few well-chosen words, expressed the gratitude of himself and his people for the aid given desolate Belgium in her greatest hour of need.

The Capitol Grounds were thronged with school children, as well as adults. All schools were dismissed at noon to afford the pupils an opportunity to see the King and Queen. The demonstration upon the arrival of the royal pair was heard for blocks away.

Call At White House.

Accompanied by his royal consort Queen Elizabeth, King Albert called at the White House at 10:15 o'clock this morning to pay their respects to President and Mrs. Wilson. The call was informal and lasted less than half an hour. While the Belgian rulers were in the White House Drs. Grayson, Ruffin and Stitt were holding their customary morning conference on the President's condition, and he did not see the visitors.

Mrs. Wilson greeted them at the door and the King and Queen chatted with America's "First Lady of the Land" and with Miss Margaret Wilson, the President's daughter. Mrs. Wilson, escorted the visitors to the portico and as the Queen took her leave she graciously lifted Mrs. Wilson's hand to her lips.

With the Belgian rulers were Secretary of State Lansing, Maj. Gen. J. M. Wright, Major W. W. Hoffman, Count d'Outremont and Countess d'Carman Schimay.

King Takes Hike.

King Albert continued his usual program today. An early riser, he was out for a short hike before breakfast at the home of Breckenridge Long, Assistant Secretary of State, 2829 Sixteenth street northwest, where the royal family is in residence while in Washington.

Informal receptions were held during the morning and among the callers at the Long home were Vice President and Mrs. Marshall, members of the Cabinet and their wives, the Speaker of the House and the President pro tem of the Senate with their wives. Miss Margaret Wilson was also a caller and at her departure the King and Prince Leopold saw her to her car.

Washington has shown itself to be distinctly curious, for all day long

(Continued on Page 2, Column 7.)

BRITISH MONITOR BOMBS RED FORTS

Naval Operations Reopened In Gulf of Finland Preparatory To New Drive.

LONDON, Oct. 28.—Naval operations have been reopened in the Gulf of Finland to open the way for a new drive upon Petrograd by General Yudenitch's white army, according to advices from Helsingfors to the Daily Express today.

The British monitor Erebus is reported to be bombarding the two main fortresses defending the Bolshevik stronghold of Petrograd-Kronstadt and Kranaya Gorka.

PROGRAM TOMORROW FOR ROYALTY

10:00 a. m.—The majesties and the Duke of Brabant will leave their residence and proceed to national Red Cross headquarters.

10:45 a. m.—Their majesties and the Duke of Brabant will visit the Bureau of Engraving and Printing.

11:00 to 12:00 p. m.—To be held in reserve for engagements his majesty may care to accept.

12:45 p. m.—Their majesties and the Duke of Brabant will leave their residence for the Navy Yard.

1:00 p. m.—Their majesties and the Duke of Brabant will lunch on board the Mayflower and will spend the entire afternoon at Mt. Vernon.

5:15 p. m.—Their majesties and the Duke of Brabant will arrive in Washington and proceed to their residence.

8:00 p. m.—Their majesties and the Duke of Brabant will leave their residence for the dinner to be given in their honor by the Secretary of State at his residence, 1323 Eighteenth street.

PRESIDENT IS CONTINUING TO IMPROVE

"There is no change in the President's condition," said a statement issued at 12:15 p. m. today by Drs. Grayson, Ruffin and Stitt. "His progress continues.

"He takes his luncheon and dinner in a semi-sitting position, which adds greatly to the enjoyment of his food and causes no fatigue."

Following a short personal interview with Secretary Tumulty yesterday, which Dr. Grayson agreed to at the President's insistence, the President did a lot of work in the afternoon. Among other things he vetoed the prohibition enforcement bill and signed pardons for eleven men confined in Federal prisons.

President Wilson is becoming more insistent that he be allowed to do more work each day. Dr. Grayson is using every effort to check this desire, because he still feels that the President is a very sick man, despite his continued improvement. It is pointed out at the White House that a relapse may come at any time, following too much effort, and it is for this reason that Dr. Grayson is discouraging all but the most important work.

WILL USE TOKENS FOR FARE PAYMENT

Metal Disks Will Allow Continuance of Collection Boxes on Cars.

Metal tokens are to be used by the street railway company of the District beginning December 1, an order issued by the Public Utilities Commission today provided. These tokens will be sold four for twenty-five cents.

In view of the fact that the companies have not ample time to get the tokens made by November 1, the date the new fare rate begins, the commission is allowing them to use card board tickets during the month of November.

The new fare collection boxes, the commission states, have been found successful. For this reason the commission is ordering that tokens be used, making it possible for these tokens to be counted by the collecting machines, thereby saving time.

TO CONSIDER PLAN TO END DOCK STRIKE

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—Steamship officials and officers of the United States Shipping Board are to meet today to ratify a plan to break the longshoremen's strike, now entering its fourth week.

TEN DIE WHEN LAKE VESSEL IS BLOWN INTO PIER BY GALE

MUSKEGON, Mich., Oct. 28.—Ten persons were reported drowned early today, when the lake steamer City of Muskegon was blown into a pier near Muskegon and partially wrecked.

Seven bodies were recovered.

A sixty-mile gale was blowing.

List of Dead.

The known dead are:
John Lynch, Milwaukee.
Arthur DeWitt, Milwaukee.
Albert Hough, Billings, Mont.
Mrs. Jennie Hopkins, Muskegon.
Mrs. Agnes Johnston, Muskegon.
John Aemsterrer, Manistee, Mich.
Harry Reese, Milwaukee.

Went Down At 4:30.

The vessel went down at 4:30 a. m. Wallowing along in a heavy sea, the old boat attempted topass in between the two piers extending one mile out into the lake.

A great wave caught her at the entrance to the passage and dashed her broadside against the south pier. Timbers were smashed to splinters. Passengers poured to the upper decks and were transferred to the slippery pier by Capt. Edward Miller and the crew.

Another wave swept the boat back from the pier and she sank in ten minutes.

In the darkness and confusion a count of passengers was attempted. Twenty were unaccounted for. Some of these were believed to have climbed the pier after being thrown into the water when the boat was washed away from the structure.

Ten were known to be dead, Captain Miller said. Others were missing, but he hoped a rounding up later would show only ten lost.

The vessel was launched in Detroit in 1881. It was first known as the City of Milwaukee. She had a metal hull and was 231 feet long.

Later her name was changed to the City of Holland, and she was sold to the Graham and Morton line. She plied between Holland, Chicago, and St. Joseph, Mich., for many years.

During a trip from Muskegon to Milwaukee last summer the vessel encountered serious engine trouble and was lost for twenty-four hours. At that time it was feared that she had gone down in a heavy sea.

Keeping Up With The Times

A FACT A DAY

This space is used today for the purpose of getting you a little better acquainted with The Washington Times Information Bureau, of which Frederic J. Haskin is director.

One of the interesting branches of that service is providing Times readers free of charge with valuable publications on subjects of the moment. For instance, every Times reader may have a new map of Europe, showing the new nations and the new boundaries of the old nations. The expert draftsmen of the Geological Survey drew it, and the map printing shop of the Geological Survey printed it. It is a foot and a half wide and two feet long, and printed in nine colors.

A message asking for the map and a 2c stamp to pay return postage, sent to The Times Information Bureau, Frederic J. Haskin, Director, Washington, D. C., will put it in your hands.

Mr. Hearst Declines To Meet Gov. Smith In a Public Debate

NEW YORK, Oct. 28.—William Randolph Hearst has refused to meet Governor Smith, of New York, in debate at Carnegie Hall tomorrow night, stating that the governor has broken his pre-election pledges to the people. Mr. Hearst declares that he finds "no satisfaction in the company of crooked politicians." His letter to the committee which attempted to arrange a debate follows:

OCTOBER 26, 1919.

Mr. Jefferson Demont Thompson, Chairman,
Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, New York City.

My Dear Sir:—

I am surprised that Boss Murphy did not send me the invitation you have obligingly forwarded, since it was Tammany that hired Carnegie Hall for Wednesday night before the hall was turned over to you.

I have no intention of meeting Governor Smith publicly or privately, politically or socially.

I do not have to meet him, as I am not running for office, and I certainly do not want to meet him for the pleasure of the association, as I find no satisfaction in the company of crooked politicians.

Neither have I time nor inclination to debate with every public plunderer or faithless public servant whom my papers have exposed, for the reason that every pilloried rascal in every city where my papers are published always tries to divert attention from the real issue of his political crookedness by making some sort of a blatherskite onslaught upon me.

I have no explanations to make for attacking the Milk Trust and the Traction Trust and the politicians who have surrendered to these rich and powerful plundering corporations and are committed to twenty-cent and ten-cent street car fares.

I have no apologies to make for not supporting the judicial section hands of the New York Central Railroad or any of Mr. Murphy's hand-picked appointments to the bench.

The only apology I would have to make would be for having supported Governor Smith, and that I did because of the perjured pledge of that individual, made publicly in my papers on August 2, 1918.

I had no confidence in the progressive sentiments of Candidate Smith, and in reply to his request for support I asked for a public pledge, as the private assurance of men of his type have no weight with me whatever.

On August 2, 1918, Candidate Smith made the following formal statement, which was printed conspicuously in large type in my newspapers for several days, and upon which the editorials were built which advocated the election of Mr. Smith for Governor. Candidate Smith said:

"Government control of public utilities, long advocated and discussed as a possibility, is now an accomplished fact.

"It is a short step from temporary control to permanent Government operation of the important public utilities of this country.

"It is only a question of time, and a very short time, when that will come.

"I believe that experience has taught us the wisdom of Government ownership and operation of public utilities to the end that these indispensable aids to the commerce, business, health, and comfort of the people may be owned and permanently controlled by the Government.

"The action just taken by the Federal Government will have a most stimulating influence on the movement **FOR MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP OF PUBLIC UTILITIES IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK.**"

To what a complete extent Governor Smith has repudiated this pledge and betrayed the confidence of the whole people is fully known to every citizen of the State of New York.

Governor Smith having proved himself utterly faithless and unreliable, it is not necessary further to establish that obvious fact.

You need keep no tickets for any friend of mine at your assembly, for there is no friend of mine who would be complimented to be found in such company.

Distribute all your tickets to the Milk Trust and the Traction Trust and the politicians they own and the judges they are seeking to control.

And, in conclusion, let me say that if you gentlemen are going to hire Carnegie Hall every time my papers expose rascally politicians you would better take a long-term lease on the property. Yours very truly,

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST.

POSSIBLE MOVES TO AVERT COAL STRIKE

Several courses which the Government might take to prevent a closing of the soft coal mines as a result of the strike set for November 1 are being discussed here. Among them are:

1—The Lever food control act makes it punishable to conspire to prevent production of necessities and gives the Government powers to seize mines and plants.

2—The present contract between operators and miners was made under sanction of the U. S. Fuel Administration, and the Government could insist that it be lived up to.

3—The Government could furnish troops to see that miners who wished to continue work despite the strike order were unmolested.

Officials here do not believe any of these methods will have to be employed. They are still confident that the miners' officials will find a way to call off the strike.

CABINET WILL TAKE UP COAL STRIKE TODAY

President Wilson's Cabinet, meeting in regular weekly session today, is to consider the threatened coal strike and complete plans for the New National Industrial Conference.

The meeting, which was originally scheduled for 11 a. m., was postponed until 4 p. m., because of the visit of the Belgian rulers.

While confident that leaders of the miners, who have been called to meet at Indianapolis, will postpone or call off the threatened strike, Cabinet members are not allowing their confidence to let them slacken preparations to see that an adequate coal supply is furnished the country in case the strike does start on November 1, as now scheduled.

Hunt Up Conspiracy Law.

Attorney General Palmer and Secretary of Labor Wilson are working out plans of law enforcement which are based principally on the conspiracy section of the Lever food and fuel act, and they will report to the Cabinet today.

In connection with the strike, there probably will be brought before the Cabinet the method by which the demands of the miners and counter propositions of the operators can be arbitrated in case both sides consent to this plan, which was proposed by the President.

Methods of bringing pressure on the

(Continued on Page 3, Column 4.)

HIGH SCHOOL PUPILS PRESENT DEMANDS

Phonograph, Pool Table, and Young and Unmarried Teachers Are Asked.

BELLEVILLE, Ill., Oct. 28.—High school students here have presented new demands. They are:

A six-hour day with Friday half-holiday.

Women teachers to be under twenty-five years of age.

Male teachers to be unmarried.

Cut of 25 per cent in averages necessary "to pass" in studies. Equipment of the staff room with a phonograph and pool table.

HEADS BROKEN IN STRIKERS' CLASH

UTICA, N. Y., Oct. 28.—At least six pickets and three policemen were hurt when striking textile workers clashed with police here today. The pickets hurled bottle and stones. The police fired shots into the crowd and used their clubs. Many arrests were made.

TAKE BELL-ANS BEFORE MEALS and see how fine good digestion makes you feel.—adv.

LEWIS SEES SLIGHT HOPE OF AVERTING COAL STRIKE

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Oct. 28.—There is no indication now that the coal strike order will be rescinded, according to acting President John L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers, today.

Lewis left for Indianapolis today to attend a meeting of the executive board of the miners' organization, called to consider the strike situation.

He said the board probably will make a reply to President Wilson's demand, but he emphasized the statement that the board was not called together to withdraw the strike order.

R. R. BROTHERHOODS TO BACK UP MINERS

The coal miners have been pledged the support of the four big railroad brotherhoods, should their threat to strike be carried out and the Government attempt to work the mines, according to information which leaked out today.

Lee Promises Aid.

When asked this morning what effect the President's letter would have on the strike plans of the railroad men, W. G. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, said:

"The Railroad Administration gives its answer to the Railway Trainmen today, and I do not wish to discuss its possible effect until I hear what it is. It would not be fair to the director of the railroads. One thing I will say, however; the Government cannot force miners to dig coal or men to move trains, and with all the soldiers in the world. If it can, then men are in a condition of involuntary servitude. It would mean that no man could quit his job if his employer were powerful enough to secure Government intervention.

"We abolished black slavery in this country some years ago. Civilized countries abolished white slavery centuries ago. We should bear in mind that we are living in the year 1919, and in what we are proud to call the greatest democracy on earth. The workers did well their part in the late war in keeping democracy safe, and now they merit words of praise instead of threats.

Soldier Threat Foolish.

"The threat to have soldiers work the mines is foolish—just as foolish as if the Government threatened to have soldiers operate the trains. It requires skilled men to do either, and there are laws which prohibit the unskilled from working in mines or on the railroads."

At a meting held before John L. Lewis, acting president of the United Workers of America, left Washington, in which he and other officers of the miners and representatives of the four brotherhoods took part, the railroad men gave the miners' head assurance of "all possible assistance." Railroad men not under contract will refuse to handle cars carrying "scab" coal, in event of a strike. There are enough not under contract, it is claimed, to cripple the movement of coal.

Plan United Front.

The conference between officials of the miners' organization and the brotherhoods was called to outline plans for an alliance which, if carried to its ultimate goal, would give the miners and railroad men absolute control of industry in the United States. The purpose of the alliance, it is stated, is for "joint action in economic affairs," and if the coal strike is not averted, the miners and railroad men look upon it as an opportunity to demonstrate the effectiveness of such a combination.

Denial that his pending strike bill is intended to authorize use of troops to replace miners in the threatened coal strike was made today by Senator Thomas of Colorado.

The measure, Thomas said, would authorize use of troops only to maintain transportation and communication intact during any trouble, and would assure them pay equal to that of men in civil life performing similar duties.