

Appears Here Monday Night

IT'S A FINISH FIGHT, NOW

Coal the Circumstance, but Respect for U. S. Laws Is Real Issue.

WASHINGTON HOSTILE

(By DAVID LAWRENCE.) (Copyrighted for The Chattanooga News.)

Washington, Nov. 1.—It's a finish fight. Coal is the circumstance, but not the issue. Back of the threat to paralyze industry and withhold the nation's fuel supply at its source is a principle of respect for the laws of the United States and the courts.

The government has determined to demonstrate that the constitution of the United States is more vital than the constitution of a miners' convention.

An injunction to restrain the miners from carrying out their strike order has been obtained by the department of justice from the federal courts.

Failure to observe such an injunction will place individual leaders of the miners in contempt of court.

The record of contempt cases is a confusing one. Eugene Debs served time for contempt. Samuel Gompers fought it out in the courts, a rough conviction after conviction, and the supreme court of the United States finally sustained him and other labor officials.

But that merely was over the printing of an article reflecting on the courts. Action by miners defying a federal court order enjoining them from doing specific things which are in violation of the law will be met with prosecutions, and officials here have little doubt that in such circumstances they would have no difficulty in obtaining jail sentences.

But the government is making no threats. It is awaiting the initiative of the miners when they attempt to carry out the strike order. There is a disposition to refrain from wholesale arrests which might intensify the situation, and prevent a conference between miners and operators, later on, but if forced to do so, the government will go the limit.

Formerly Opposed Method. Any power that the federal courts may request to carry out its injunctions will be promptly granted, even if it means the use of federal troops.

Attorney General Mitchell Palmer, the chief actor in the scene. Himself a native of Pennsylvania, where the coal miners are most numerous, he is found enforcing the law against the very men he has so often defended.

Again and again while a leader in congress, Mr. Palmer fought against the abuse of the injunction power in labor disputes. But he has unhesitatingly gripped the reins in the present controversy, and while he insists that the general right to strike is not impaired and that this is a peculiar situation affecting a wartime law, nevertheless many of his friends pointed out today that he was manfully facing the situation regardless of the direction which this fire must take.

Similarly another member of the cabinet, William B. Wilson, himself a coal miner, and a Pennsylvanian, appointed to the cabinet after a term of service as an official of the miners' union, is now in an unhappy position, as he, too, is a party to the enforcement of the government's position against the miners and former associates.

But the secretary of labor has not wined, and one gets the impression that throughout the negotiations which he struggled to conduct with the miners and operators, he found the position of the coal miners unreasonable.

This is largely a question of the wisdom or unwisdom of the men in control of the miners. The fact that they dared not submit the matter of a strike to a referendum vote, but insisted on the action of their convention, even though later on requests had come from the government itself putting new phases into the situation, convinces most people here that the miners are not to be taken for granted.

There are those who believe, on the other hand, that the strike leaders are preparing ultimately to square themselves with their men and operators, and that the government used all its power to defeat the strike and that the blame could not therefore fall on the strike leaders. Internal politics in the miners' union has much to do with the stubborn insistence of the leaders to carry out the strike.

But conservative labor leaders in other unions are fearful of the consequences. A strike of such magnitude as the coal strike, they think, may have such an adverse effect on the labor movement that the whole country might swing back towards positions adopted long ago, a reaction of the most far-reaching character.

The more radical labor leaders welcome the fight and are hopeful that they can enlist labor organizations generally in sympathetic action. But the government is not intimidated by any such intimations.

Confidence prevails throughout the executive branch of the government that the right thing has been done in declining to fight the coal strike to a finish. The legislative branch of the government has expressed a concurrent view, and happily there is no suspicion that party politics will enter into the controversy, for usually the democrats were the ones accused of siding with the labor leaders and today both democrats and republicans are united on the proposition to use the power of the courts and the military if necessary to protect those who wish to continue working and to limit the activities of those who are seeking to keep men from working.

Briefly, official Washington is most overwhelmingly against the attitude taken by the coal miners' leaders. Rarely has such unanimity been witnessed. The feeling is that while there may be legal grounds in the miners' contention that for one purpose the war is declared ended and that for another purpose it is not, the fact remains irrespective of the points in the controversy itself, the miners have refused to sit down at a table and talk things over and at the same time withdraw or postpone their strike order.

When the working men finally get all the truth about what happened in Washington to settle the strike, they will learn that a fundamental error was made by their leaders in rejecting Secretary Wilson's first proposal and later on the suggestion of the president, Mr. Wilson himself.

The operators expressed a willingness to negotiate and even arbitrate, but they, too, contended that the strike order must be rescinded, as otherwise they would be compelled to go into conference with a virtual ultimatum requiring agreement within the few days preceding Nov. 1.



Gertrude Hutcheson, Leading Lady of "Let's Go," Which Will Be Offered at the Bijou Monday.

STARS AND KATYDIDS (By EDMUND VANCE COOKE.)

I looked into the heavens for a space, While Night unrolled her wonders to my eyes If man may ever know God face to face,

It must be when he ponders on the skies.

The myriad sun-ships speed their endless course,

Never to harbor or to sight a shore, Impelled by awesome Silences, whose force

Was, is, and shall be ever, evermore.

I marveled on that patient, peaceful Power;

I marveled what Eternal Master bids! And every moment of that soul-hushed hour

Was rasped to harshness by the katyids.

Oh, friend of mine! how oft our tongues are twirled To spin vain words on every aimless matter!

A silent greatness often moves the world, But katyids chirr on their endless chatter!

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Gompers Says Injunction Means New Disturbing Issues

Washington, Nov. 1.—Samuel Gompers, speaking last night for organized labor, declared the injunction in the coal strike case "can only result in creating new and more disturbing issues which may not be confined solely to the miners."

"These views were presented to Atty-Gen. Palmer in a conference this afternoon lasting nearly two hours, by President Gompers, Secretary Morrison and Vice-President Wolf, of the American Federation of Labor."

"Throughout the period of the war and during the nation's time of stress the miners of America labored patiently, patriotically and arduously in order that the principles of freedom and democracy might triumph over the forces of arbitrary authority, dictatorship and despotism."

"When armed hostilities ceased last November, the miners found themselves in the paradoxical position where their intensive labor was being used to further enrich the owners of coal mines and seriously disturb the high prices of coal and endanger their large margin of profits."

"On the other hand the miners found that with the constantly rising cost of necessities of life and with their incomes reduced over 50 per cent. because of idleness, that they had reached the limit of human endurance. Orderly and improved production to fight the coal strike was a new understanding with the mine owners and which would enable the miners to work at least five days during each week throughout the entire year to fight the coal strike."

"In attempting to negotiate this new understanding and relation the miners found that their plea for continuous employment would destroy the mine owners' arrangement to curtail the mining of coal so as to continue exploiting the public with high and exorbitant prices."

"The mine owners very cleverly met the issue by appearing willing and anxious to negotiate, but only if the miners would first throw aside the only power at their command to gain a respectful hearing and fair consideration—the decision to strike whenever it is demonstrated that fair dealings did not prevail."

"We are now faced with a coal strike of vast magnitude. The government proposes to intervene because of a possible coal shortage. Apparently the government is not concerned with the manipulation by the mine owners which has made for present coal shortage and undue employment of miners for the last eleven months. Instead of dealing with those responsible for this grave menace to the public welfare, it now proposes to punish those who by force of circumstances have been the victims of the coal barons' exploitations. The miners are now told the war is not over and that all war legislation is still in force, and if reports received here are correct, the government intends to apply existing war measures, not against the owners of the coal mines, but against the coal miners. The government has taken steps to enforce war measures by an injunction and it has restrained the officials of the United Mine Workers from counseling, aiding or in any way assisting the members of this organization for relief against grievous conditions of life and employment."

"It is almost inconceivable that a government which is proud of its participation in a great war to liberate suppressed peoples, should now undertake to suppress the legitimate aims, hopes and aspirations of a group of its own people. It is still more strange that a nation which may justly be proud of its Abraham Lincoln, should now reverse the application of the great truth he enunciated when he said that as between capital and labor, labor should receive first and foremost consideration."

"The injunction against the United Mine Workers bodes for ill. An injunction of this nature will not prevent the strike—it will not fill the empty stomachs of the miners—it may restrain sane leadership, but it will give added strength to unwise counsel and increase bitterness and friction."

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Miners Not Morally Bound to Obey General Strike Order That They Have Seen Fit to Do So, There Must Be No Violence, Says Governor.

Knoxville, Nov. 1.—"Any show of violence will be promptly met and all violators of the law will be vigorously prosecuted," declared Gov. Roberts here last night in referring to the coal strike.

"It is regrettable," he said, "that the coal miners of Tennessee feel under obligations to go out on strike in obedience to an order made by a small body of men assuming to act for them, in which they had no voice."

"Certainly, in view of the dire disaster, the business interests and unspeakable suffering, especially of the unoffending poor, intended to follow such action, the miners are not morally bound to obey the striking order, nor are they justified in so doing."

"It should be plainly stated and fully understood that the right of the proprietors to continue their operations, and the right of other laborers to take the places of the strikers, will be maintained and enforced to the utmost of the state's ability."

"Any show of violence will be promptly met and all violators of the law will be vigorously prosecuted. The state's resources are pledged to the protection of every citizen in his life, liberty and property."

"Our people are fair, just, patient; but will not be intimidated nor submit to an unwarranted interference with their peace and security."

WORTH WHILE

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Dayton Has Applicant For Rhodes Scholarship Malcolm Foosee Presents Brilliant Scholastic Record in Behalf of Claims. Dayton, Nov. 1.—(Special.)—In the matter of selecting a Rhodes scholar to represent Tennessee at Oxford, which occurs today, Dayton has a peculiar record of interest because one of its young men is an applicant for this great educational honor. G. M. Foosee, or Malcolm as he is better known, oldest son of Prof. J. C. Foosee, principal of the Rhea County High school, is the ambitious young man referred to.

Louis O'Rear Placed in Charge of Lewis Mission A 17-year-old Chattanooga, Louis Willard O'Rear, has been selected to take full charge of the Lewis Mission here. Mr. O'Rear is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. M. O'Rear, of 211 Cherry street.

LOUIS WILLARD O'REAR Takes Charge of Lewis Mission at Age of 17 Years. His father is a well-known clerk at the Hotel Patton. When but a boy 13 years old Louis O'Rear started doing mission work in Chattanooga. Some of his most valuable services were performed during the two floods in 1917 and the influenza epidemic last year. His work was most effective among the poorer class of people. Mr. O'Rear is a member of the Cumberland Presbyterian church and was born and reared in Chattanooga. He received part of his education at Nashville, where he studied for the ministry, and expects later to complete his training along this line. He was instructed to take up his work at the Lewis mission Nov. 1 and he will hold his first Sunday morning services at the mission the coming Sunday. In the future there will be two services on Sunday and prayer meetings on Wednesday evening conducted by Mr. O'Rear. This young man was for some time one of the newspaper carriers on The Chattanooga News.

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ADJOINING COMANCHE NORTHERN That alone makes a big demand for our Big 7 Stock. BIG 7 OIL COMPANY We are already in the class of those who act FAST. RIG IS UP Now ready to drill. BIG 7 WELL IS THE CENTER OF A CIRCLE OF PRODUCING AND DRILLING WELLS —Our property is only 550 feet south of Comanche Northern—their No. 1, which has been in two months and is averaging 1,900 barrels, and Comanche Northern No. 2, just in and good for about 6,000 barrels. Mahon, southwest of us, producing between 2,000 and 3,000 barrels per day. W. A. Kinnison, adjoining us on east, is setting casing preparatory to drilling in. Tex-Land well is in for 1,200 barrels, only 700 feet northeast of us. Low Capitalization of \$130,000 Will Allow Enormous D-I-V-I-D-E-N-D-S With Only One Well Similar to Any of Our Producing Neighbors No More Than 50 Per Cent. of Profits to Be Retained for Future Developments— Always 50 Per Cent. or More in D-I-V-I-D-E-N-D-S to Big 7 Shareholders. EXPERIENCED OIL OPERATORS WHO HAVE PRODUCING WELLS TO THEIR CREDIT OFFICERS G. G. MINCHEW, President. W. F. STANFORD, Vice-President. NEALE WILSON, Secretary-Treasurer. BIG SEVEN OIL CO. 1415 MAIN ST., FORT WORTH, TEX. Shareholders Have No Liability G. W. Fulton in Charge of Office