

MAY SEIZE COAL MINES

The U. S. Government May Take Hand Because of Labor Trouble

GARFIELD WARNS OF DRASTIC ACTION

If Strikes Shall Continue to Threaten the Great Industry

Washington, Oct. 18.—Federal Fuel Administrator Garfield yesterday warned coal operators and miners where strikes have occurred or are impending that the government would take charge of coal production if it continued to be threatened by strikes.

After a conference with John P. White, president of the United Mine Workers, over strikes called or impending in Illinois, Ohio and Indiana, Mr. Garfield sent a telegram to operators and miners alike giving notice that the government would deal most drastically with strikes intended to force a decision on a revision of government prices to meet wage increases.

The fuel administrator's telegram follows: "American citizens engaged in the mining of coal, whether operators or miners, are for the most part mindful of the fact that our country is at war and that the burden rests upon them to produce the coal needed without interruption. But there are evidently some who fail to understand the gravity of the situation and who do not hesitate to advocate strikes at the present time as a means of forcing the government to at once decide whether the wage increase agreed to at the meeting recently held at Washington by the operators and miners of the central district should justly be covered by an advance in the price fixed by the president.

"The matter has been submitted to me, and all concerned are expected to co-operate. I am giving immediate and close attention to the question and hope to reach a decision at an early date. The only circumstance within my control which will delay that decision will

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be the violation of the spirit of the arrangement between the operators and miners, which was that under no circumstances should the production of coal in the United States at the present time be allowed to diminish.

SEEKS PEACE WITH BALKANS

That May Be Why Kaiser Went to Bulgaria.

Washington, Oct. 18.—Germany is working for a separate peace in the Balkans.

Having failed to gain such a peace in Russia she is now centering her efforts on Rumania and Serbia, according to diplomatic advices received yesterday.

The prospect for winning over these states, however, is regarded as slim. Balkan diplomats have been aware for months of Germany's plans to get Russia out of the combat and then to force the small Balkan allies to terms or to exterminate them. But as Bulgaria is insisting on retaining Dobruja and Macedonia there is little chance now that Rumania at least will swerve.

SAYS GERMANS WANT PEACE

American Who Escaped from German Prison Declares

PRISONERS KEPT ALIVE BY PACKAGES

Willett Charles Smith of Norwalk, Conn., Is a Happy Man

Stockholm, Oct. 18.—The first American to escape from Lubeck, a German prison camp housing prisoners taken by the German raid Moeve, reached here yesterday after six waterless days, concealed in the hold of a ship arriving from Kiel.

He is Willett Charles Smith of Norwalk, Conn.

"None of the American prisoners at Lubeck have died," Smith reported, "but their lives were only saved by packages sent from kind-hearted Britishers in Berna.

"Our guards at Lubeck were not for the war. They would say 'to hell with the kaiser; this is a rich man's war in Germany; we want it ended.'"

Smith was the happiest man in the world when he reached Stockholm and freedom.

"You can tell the folks back home," he said, "that Barney Boyle of Des Moines, Bill Fitzgerald of New York, Oscar Bird of Charleston, W. Va., and Walter and Harry Mason, both of Baltimore, are still in Lubeck prison—and all doing fairly well, all things considered."

"Fed up with all the good things fellow Americans could offer him here after all the lean, near-starvation days of his prison camp fare and six very, very meagre days of Spartanlike rations without water while he hid in the utter darkness of the vessel which brought him here, Smith blossomed out yesterday as the world's greatest exponent of happiness.

He laughed away his tribulations and hardships in the camp and in escaping.

"How did we come to land in a German prison? Well, we—that is, the bunch I've just mentioned—all met in Baltimore last winter. We had a good many drinks one day and in wandering around we saw a sign. Men wanted to ship to Liverpool on a British steamer."

"On the spur of the moment and the inspired dare-devil spirit we joined.

"Our outbound trip was fine business. But coming home our ship was captured by the German cruiser Moeve. We were all herded aboard her and finally taken to Kiel. There we were put ashore with 500 others. Later we were transferred to a prison camp."

Smith stopped to chuckle reminiscently.

"I spent 14 days in a dark cell for one previous unsuccessful attempt to escape," he remarked.

And he laughed again, louder than ever.

"You know, our gang of fellows who joined up that winter day in Baltimore often wished in camp that Baltimore had gone dry last November.

"I was loading a German ship with fertilizer when my chance came to escape," Smith said. "I hid myself in the smelly hold—and here I am. I didn't have any water for six days—but I'm here."

KAISER'S PEACE OFFER DENOUNCED BY RUSSIA

Tereschenko Declares It Hypocritical and Enigmistic, Says Cable to Russian Embassy.

Washington, D. C., Oct. 18.—Russia regards the kaiser's peace offer as "hypocritical, enigmistic and even contrary to the Reichstag resolutions," according to a cable to the Russian embassy yesterday from Foreign Minister Tereschenko. His statement did not disclose the slightest leaning toward a separate peace with the Teutons.

"The German government does not recognize a German peace which conflicts with the principles of law and justice," said Tereschenko. "It would consent to peace negotiations only on the basis of maintaining the conquered territories, except perhaps some partial restitutions which would be decided upon at the peace conference itself."

After declaring that President Wilson's reply to the Vatican precisely formulated the allies' general aims, Tereschenko said:

"On the other hand, renewed Russia has announced the principles for which the free people of Russia are fighting. With regard to this Germany has made no open and frank declaration, always proclaiming the supremacy of force over law, awaiting the moment when she will have the possibility of consolidating her conquests by force."

AFTER HIGHER RAILROAD PAY.

Demand for 10 Per Cent Increase on Northern Railroads Is Proposed.

Ottawa, Ont., Oct. 18.—A proposal to demand a ten per cent wage increase for all employees of railroads in the northeastern section of the United States and Canada east of Fort William graduated according to classification, was discussed at the annual convention of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen and the Order of Railway Conductors here Tuesday.

The wage scale was the only subject debated at the session. L. E. Shepard, acting president of the Order of Railway Conductors, announced.

When the steering gear of his car failed to work, Mr. Spencer of Cavendish and three men with him, had the experience of going down a 30-foot embankment, the machine turning over three times and stopping right side up. None of the four was injured.

William Ahern of Lyndonville has left for Portland to enlist in the army. Mr. Ahern is a trained soldier and stands a good chance of a commission. He was with Pershing in the Philippines, a member of the "Fighting Third." His ambition now is to fight with him in France. Mrs. Ahern rents the farm and with her two children goes to live with and care for her mother, Mrs. James Drown.

The schoolhouse where Leslie M. Shaw,

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Before an insurance company will take a risk on your life the examining physician will test the water and report whether you are a good risk. When your kidneys get sluggish and clog, you suffer from backache, sick-headache, dizzy spells, or the twinges and pains of lumbago, rheumatism and gout. The urine is often cloudy, full of sediment; channels often get sore and sleep is disturbed two or three times a night. This is the time you should consult some physician of wide experience.

A remedy, called "AN-U-RIC" has been discovered by Doctor Pierce in his hospital practice, which he believes is more potent than lithia. It will ward off backache, headache, and the darting

pains and aches of rheumatism—of those diseases which are caused by too much uric acid, such as gout, asthma, sciatica, or sore, stiff, aching joints.

Doctor Pierce, chief physician at the Invalids' Hotel and Surgical Institute, Buffalo, N. Y., has been testing this wonderful medicine for the relief of overworked and weakened kidneys. The relief obtained by sufferers has been so satisfactory that he determined to place "AN-U-RIC" with the principal druggists here where people could get this ready-to-use medicine.

Those who started the day with a backache, stiff legs, arms and muscles, and an aching head (worn out before the day began because they were in and out of bed half a dozen times at night) are appreciating the perfect rest, comfort and new strength they obtained from Dr. Pierce's Anuric Tablets. To prove that this is a certain uric acid solvent and conquers headache, kidney and bladder diseases and rheumatism, if you've never used the "Anuric," send ten cents to Dr. Pierce for a large sample package. This will prove to you that "Anuric" is the most perfect kidney and bladder corrector. If you are a sufferer, ask your best druggist for "Anuric."

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ABOUT THE STATE

HAPPENINGS OF INTEREST FROM DIFFERENT SECTIONS

A butternut tree on the lawn of Mrs. Ernest Little in Sharon this year bore seven bushels.

Neighbors of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Murray of Cavendish cut and piled for them 15 cords of wood Oct. 10.

Martin Kelley has raised over 3,000 pounds of Hubbard squash this season. Mr. Kelley is located on the town farm in Hydeville.

Bert Waterman was found dead in his chair at the home of his son, Dr. Vance W. Waterman, in Vergennes Sunday. A shock was the cause.

Just as Fletcher Niles had led a sick horse into his barn in Derby one day last week, it dropped dead and in falling struck Mr. Niles on the ankle, breaking it.

Cullen J. Wheeler, who died in Fair Haven Oct. 15, was the last of four brothers, all veterans of the Civil war. His father was a veteran of the war of 1812.

Five inches of snow was reported on Killington peak Sunday morning and snow was also seen on other high points in the Green mountain range the same day.

J. P. Tuttle, 82 years old, of Belmont, plowed his own ground and raised 90 bushels of good marketable potatoes, taking all care of them himself, on one-half acre of land.

Mrs. Cornelius Kelley was badly burned at her home in Rutland Tuesday evening when camphorated oil, which she was heating, caught fire. The blaze seared her arms and body to some extent.

Irwin Flower has raised a crop of celery in Sharon that is notable. A total of 200 plants were grown on an area of 90 square feet and each bunch was above average size and very solid and crisp. He now has his crop blanching in the cellar.

John Dolan, a Rutland railroad trainman, fell from his train near Arlington Tuesday and received a fracture of both bones of the left leg near the ankle, bruises and lacerations of the right thigh, scalp wounds and a very severe shock, with possible internal injuries.

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The schoolhouse where Leslie M. Shaw,

OFFERED FRANCE ALSACE?

Now Declare Kaiser Would Never Return Province.

Paris, Oct. 18.—According to the Official Journal, Minister of Foreign Affairs Ribot in an address to the Chamber of Deputies last Friday said:

"The other day Germany started a rumor that if France were willing to commence a conversation, directly or indirectly, we could hope that Alsace-Lorraine would be restored to us. The trap was too palpable to allow anyone to be caught in it.

"Germany, left to herself, threw off the mask and Dr. Von Kuehlmann, the German foreign secretary, uttered his striking declaration with regard to concessions, concerning Alsace-Lorraine, 'never!'"

The words of M. Ribot have been the cause of as much comment as the censorship would permit to be printed. They also resulted in two demands for interpellations when the Chamber of Deputies opened Tuesday. M. Mayeras sought information concerning what he termed the divergence between M. Ribot's declarations in the Chamber on Friday and the version of them given in the Official Journal Saturday, while Deputy Bokanowsky asked concerning the action of the allies to counteract Germany's diplomatic maneuvers.

After a confused discussion the Chamber went into secret session to discuss the interpellation.

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