

BUREAU OF HEALTH FAVORED BY TAFT

Expected to Be One of Big Questions Before Congress After Recess.

OUTCOME MAY BE NEW DEPARTMENT

President Much Interested, and, It Is Believed, Will Urge Prompt Action.

Establishment of a bureau of health in Washington, involving the consolidation of the various Government agencies interested in health and relating to it, is one of the big questions that is likely to be heard much in Congress after the holiday recess.

In this connection doubtless a good deal will be heard of the proposition to establish a department of health. But the road is not yet open to the establishment of a department in all likelihood, whereas strong support can be mustered for a bureau. That the establishment of such a bureau would be the beginning of a movement for a department of health, with the head of it a member of the Cabinet, is probable.

President Taft has at various times shown keen interest in this question, and he has not only spoken of the need of it in a number of places but he has recommended Congressional action. He did not say anything about it in the recent message. At the same time, it is understood the President is giving it serious consideration and that he is likely to urge Congress to act on it before the short session closes.

Plans of Promoters.
The form the matter is expected to take is an attempt to get legislation which will use the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service as the basis for a strong bureau, into which will be consolidated most of the other agencies akin to it. The control of the hospitals for the insane in the district and the territories is proposed to be given it.

The Bureau of Animal Industry and the Bureau of Chemistry of the Department of Agriculture are suggested as properly forming a part of such an enlarged bureau of health. The medical division of the Pension Office is suggested as belonging to it, and several other Government branches which have relation to health. Just where the line should be drawn is a matter of some difference of opinion. For instance, there are a number of bureaus or divisions of chemistry scattered about through the departments. The Bureau of Engraving has another. It is a question, in the minds of those favoring an enlarged and consolidated health bureau, how far consolidation should include these.

Representative Mann, chairman of the House Committee on Interstate Commerce, is giving the subject consideration and is preparing a bill which is calculated to enlarge the functions of the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service and consolidate other health agencies with it. Just how far this bill will go in the direction of consolidation is not yet stated.

One of Purposes.
One of the objects of strengthening and enlarging the Public Health and Marine Hospital Service into a bureau of health is to have that bureau undertake a number of investigations of much importance to the national health.

STRIKE OF ENGINEERS MAY NOT BE CALLED



WARREN S. STONE.



CHARLES P. NEILL.

Two Men Who Have Been Fighting to Prevent the Great Engineers' Strike.

Signs of Concessions Follow Commissioner Neill's Final Proposition for Peace—Railroads and Employes Taking Up Proposals Today.

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—This is the critical day in the wage controversy between the locomotive engineers and sixty-one Western railroads, but indications, following a conference between representatives of employes and the railroad managers and Commissioner of Labor Neill, were that the threatened strike of 22,000 engineers would be averted.

Commissioner Neill, at the conference, submitted to both sides a tentative agreement, which he said was his final proposition for peace. This was immediately followed by signs of concessions.

Among these investigations which are proposed is one into the causes and prevention of typhoid, also into malaria, tuberculosis and other grave diseases. It is strongly urged that the Government ought to take a most active and energetic hand in fighting the white plague. Further, it is pointed out that if such work is going to be done and done as effectively as it should, there ought to be a powerful central bureau or department here charged with that duty.

Those in favor of a great health bureau here point among other things to the magnificent sanitation work done in the Canal Zone as indicating the possibilities of Government attention to health, hygiene, and sanitation. One of the important duties which the proposed bureau would be charged with would relate to collection of vital statistics.

It goes without saying that there is powerful opposition in Congress and out of it to the idea of an enlarged bureau of health or a department of health. It proceeds from those who believe the regular school of doctors would control it and run it as too close a corporation. In other words, it proceeds from those more or less imbued with the notion there is "a doctors' trust."

Grand Chief Stone conferred with members of the engineers' advisory board, and it was understood that Neill's program, calling for concessions by both sides, was regarded favorably by the employes' leaders.

Another meeting of the board was called for today to pass on it, and then submit it to the committee of chairmen of the grievance committees of the roads involved for a final decision. A meeting of the general managers of the railroads also was called for today, and all signs before the two meetings pointed to the acceptance of the agreement.

Heavy Machine Gun Invented by German

BERLIN, Dec. 24.—From the war bureau an announcement is made that a German inventor has successfully applied the principle of the machine gun to heavy artillery. During many years of experiment the immense heat generated by the heavy discharge prevented the application of rapid firing to big guns, but the new invention makes each recoil send a stream of water along the gun barrel. It is claimed that the big gun so equipped can fire three times as rapidly as the small machine guns. Already the new gun is being used in the German navy.

Two Shot in Duel.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Dec. 24.—In a duel between Chief of Police Edward Sampson at Island, Ky., and Max Fuel, whom Sampson had tried to arrest for disorderly conduct, both were fatally wounded early today.

GERMANY HAS GRIP ON POWDER SUPPLY

Potash Principal Ingredient and United States Wants Reduced Export Tax.

A new element has been injected into the potash situation with which the Cabinet and President Taft are wrestling.

It has developed that the Government itself is vitally interested in the negotiations with Germany for the removal of the killing tax on the exported potash of the country, for the reason that potash is one of the necessary ingredients of powder.

Both the army and the navy must have powder, and have it in vast quantities. This is made in the United States for the most part, but is made of German potash. Should Germany, which has a monopoly of the world's supply of potash, insist on its export tax, the cost of powder will be nearly doubled.

If, on the other hand, Germany should finally prohibit the exportation of potash altogether, as seems to be the disposition, a powder famine in this as well as other countries, would follow.

It would, of course, be possible for the United States to buy its powder of the German mills, but relations between this country and that might easily become such that the German mills would not be permitted to sell the Americans powder.

This aspect of the potash question leads the manufacturers of fertilizers, who also depend on Germany for their potash, to believe that the Government will, if necessary, resort to reprisals in order to defeat the German tax.

There are plenty of Southerners in Congress who are urging the President to declare a tariff war with Germany. If the equities of the potash situation are not observed, they say the President would be justified in imposing the maxim tariff on German products imported into this country unless the German government removes the export tax on potash, now in effect.

President Taft and his Cabinet are still negotiating for the reduction of the export tax. They hope for an amicable settlement of the question, but they hold out no strong hope.

Writ Suits For Insane Evoke Wrath of Court

Declaring attorneys should not take up the Court's time with attempts to obtain habeas corpus writs for insane prisoners without sufficient cause, Justice Gould, in Equity Court, No. 2, yesterday afternoon rebuked the attorney for Maria Laura Tarantier, who was recommended to the Government Hospital for the Insane last year.

LUMBAGO

Stiff Neck and Sciatica
Are forms of rheumatism, which depends on an acid condition of the blood resulting from defective action of the liver, kidneys and skin and affecting the muscles and joints, causing inflammation, stiffness and pain. For any form of rheumatism take **Hood's Sarsaparilla** which corrects the acid condition of the blood and effects permanent cures. Get it today. In usual liquid form or chocolate tablets called **Sarsatabs**.

FLYING MEET TO OPEN AT LOS ANGELES TODAY

With Famous Aviators of Three Countries Competing, It Is Expected That Many Records Will Be Smashed—Weather Ideal for Flying.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., Dec. 24.—With the famous aviators of France, England, and America competing, new world's records are expected to be set in the aviation meet opening here at 1 o'clock this afternoon.

The efforts of the American and English aviators will be directed particularly to smashing the records recently set by Frenchmen in their own country. They will have to reckon, however, with Hubert Latham, the skillful Frenchman, who makes flying a pastime, and is ready to defend his country's honor.

There were eight biplanes in the Curtiss camp this morning and six in the Wright hangars, but in addition to these there were a number of other machines of foreign construction. Radley, the English aviator who flies a Bleriot monoplane, was confident this morning that he would set a new world's mark, although he did not know whether it would be for speed, duration or altitude.

sight of the American biplanes, it is feared that the powerful monoplanes of Latham and Radley would continue to hold the distance and speed records from America.

The meet will continue until January 2 and Latham has promised to celebrate Christmas with a spectacular flight over Dominguez field. However, on January 2, which is tournament of roses day in Pasadena, there will be no flying.

There were eight biplanes in the Curtiss camp this morning and six in the Wright hangars, but in addition to these there were a number of other machines of foreign construction. Radley, the English aviator who flies a Bleriot monoplane, was confident this morning that he would set a new world's mark, although he did not know whether it would be for speed, duration or altitude.

This meet will help to settle the rivalry between the two rival American-built machines—the Curtiss and the Wright. While the altitude record is within

SAYS HE STARTED PHILADELPHIA FIRE

Foreigner Tells Police He Caused Fatal Blaze to Get Revenge for Discharge.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 24.—That the fire which cost the lives of fourteen men and destroyed property valued at nearly half a million dollars was kindled by a foreigner who was disgraced at being discharged from work was the news which this morning stirred the ranks of firemen who lost so many of their comrades in the flames.

John Koepsel, formerly employed in the leather factory where the fire started, gave himself up to the police last night and said that he applied the torch in revenge for being discharged from the factory. He has been turned over to police surgeons for investigation into his sanity, as it is believed that he may have been a trifle crazed by the sight of the flames.



RITZ-CARLTON HOTEL

Madison Avenue and Forty-sixth Street
NEW YORK

Under the same Direction and Management as that of the famous RITZ-CARLTON group of hotels in the leading European cities, including the CARLTON and RITZ Hotels in London; the RITZ in Paris; the RITZ in Madrid; the ESPLANADE in Berlin; the ESPLANADE in Hamburg; the NATIONAL in Lucerne; the EXCELSIOR in Rome; the EXCELSIOR in Naples; the SPLENDE and ROYAL in Evian les Bains; and the PLAZA in Buenos Ayres; HOTEL SCHENLEY, Pittsburgh, after February 1st, 1911; CARLTON HOTEL, Montreal, 1912.

The special feature of the hotel will be the perfection of service which has characterized the foreign hotels, while the charges will be based upon a moderate plan.

CARLTON after theatre suppers will be served in the restaurant at \$2.00 per plate.

GRILL ROOM with a la carte service day and evening.

THEO. KROELL, General Manager ALBERT KELLER, Manager



The Cafe Republique

Wishes
Its Many Patrons
A Merry Xmas!

If you are not dining at home, we extend a cordial invitation to you for Xmas day.

Open Sunday 5 P.M.

Open all day Monday, as usual.

Our Specialty—Business men's luncheon, 12 to 2.30 P. M.

MUSIC

F and 15th Streets

J. W. GIBSON,
Mgr.





A Merry Christmas

is the greeting which flashes happily over the wire, from telephone to telephone, friend to friend; from street to street and town to town.

Use the Bell