

whelming majority of the farmers, and the members of the American Federation Meeklenburg, would be running nip of Labor and the railroad brotherhoods and tuck with the best pleased Demo-Hitchcock, who closed the campaign in as well as the general public, favor an erat in all Washington.

DERAL CR No Surprise to Den winata.

for the action taken by the committee in accepting the President's proposal for ending the strike.

AND TITEV

istry here today. BEGINS ITS INVESTIGATION Indianapolis, Ind., Dec. 17-A Federal grand jury, summoned by United States District Judge A. B. Anderson, today began an investigation of charges of conspiracy on the part of coal miners and operators to limit the production of coal. The charges brought by the government_alleges violation of the Lever fuel control act, a war-time measure and of the anti-trust laws, which have been in force for years The grand jury was empanelled by Judge Anderson this morning and received instructions from the court to let its conclusion be an answer to the question "whether the government of the United States, or a group of men shall rule this country, and whether we shall be governed by law or force." Judge Anderson referred to charges

difficulties between the United States and Mexico over the case of Consul Jenkins were denied at the foreign min-

recessed until the night session. Convention In "High."

including the press of the State, the Far-

mers' Union, Dr. B. W. Kilgore, Major

Butler Backs Off.

tion Democrat, who declared the time IN 9TH REDUCE MAJORITY had come to stop academic discussion of who held up the treaty and get to-Final Figures Indicate That gether in a give and take effort for

extension of the period (operation of the railroads for at least two years, in order that a fair test may have been made of government operation and a plan may be worked out for the ultimate disposal of the railroads which would be fair to all interests involved.

During the day J. R. Howard, reprereating the American Farm Bureau Federation, made public a letter which he had sent to Senator Cummins transmitting resolutions adopted by the Federaat Chicago last month demanding "the carly return of the railroads to private control under such conditions and regulations as will render adequate arvice at just and equitable rates." Consider Anti-Strike Clause.

The anti-strike provisions were con-sidered briefly tonight but went over until tomorrow. Senator Cummins tried secure unanimous consent agreement to vote on the anti-strike clauses at noon tomorrow, but objection was made by Somator Harrison, Democrat, of Mississippi, because consideration of the sugar relief bill would be shut off. A substitute for the anti-strike auses was introduced by Senator Me-Cormick, Bepublican, /of Illinois, and will be considered tomorrow. His plan similar to the Canadian law and woulds prchibit strikes or lockouts of employes until sixty days islons by an arbitration board. The McCormick plan also would require the dispose of all conuntil sixty days after deroversies within 90 days. Senator McCormick declared that the troversies

Cummins' anti-strike provisions were a dangerous precedent and doomed to defeat, but Senator Cummins said that American labor leaders were more opthe provisions of the pending bill. Another substitute similar to the Canadian plan also was introduced by Senator Johnes, Democrat, of New Mexico, and went over until tomorrow. The Senate tentatively accepted an amendment by Senator Jones, Republi-van, of Washington, designed to pre-vent foreign-owned railroads and ship lines from discriminating against American carriers by cutting their rates on abipments to points within the United States. Senator Jones explained that amendment was aimed especially certain Canadian railroads over ch, because of reduced rates, much which, because of reduced rates, much American goods is shipped in boud through Canada to Pacific Coast cities of the United States, and also at rail-rond-owned ship lines touching Alaskan

by a vote of 25 to 20, the Senate alopted as smeadment by Senato Prolinghuysen, Republican, of New Jersey, providing for a revolving fund of \$500,000,000 from which the govern-ment could make loans for the rehabi-litation of milroads upon their zetarn to private ewnership. By a vote of 28 to 20, the Senate

Democratic headquarters was prepared for the news inasmuch as the returns varied but little from the confidential reports which came to Washington from that district Saturday and Estimates furnished by Monday. trained observers placed the Hoey majority at two thousand with indications that it would go beyond three thousand f the vote was at all heavy.

The vote was not, comparatively, heavy. It was light when compared with the vote of 1914, the only other election in late years by which it can fairly be measured. In that election, Judge Yates Webb's majority over the one and the same and the only Jake Newell was 2,359 against the estimated najority of 1,864 in the election yesterday.

biggest surprise of the district, as the returns are appraised here, was in Gaston county. Judge Webb car-ried this county in 1918 by 998 while this time Mr. Hoey carried it only by

The answer is, of course, the mill vote. It went against Mr. Hoey very decidedly. It had the same quarrel with Mr. Morehead that the textile vote of Charlotte had with the exception, perhaps, that Mr. Morehead was never secured of carrying a gun with him on his visits to Gaston. Blame for the reduction of the Demo-

eratic majority there won't be placed until all the oracles have had their say in the matter. A part of Washington feels confident that it knows where the blame belongs but is reserving judgment until all the evidence is

The

Republicans Not Jubilant. Taking into account the fact that it

was a special election called so early, that it gave the Democrats barely two weeks in which to wage their campaign-a circumstance that argued against the Democrats even more than an off-year election-there is much to give joy to the Democrats.

Of course, the most satisfying thing about the whole business is the chagrin. which it must bring to Doctor Fess. The fight has been waged so speedily until the voters remember very dis tinetly how Doctor Fess assured the world that the Republicans were going to nominate "some good man" and elect him. The "solid South" was going to be broken, said the Doctor and lots of

things were going to happen. They did. They didn't happen though like the Doctor hoped. They didn't hap-pen like Morehend hoped, but defeat for the "fly by night" millionaire is almost

that the miners and operators in join conference had reached agreements intended to wipe out competition between union and non-union mines and recited that dues of the miners are held out of their pay by the operators and turned over to the union. He declared that the court's order for rescinding the strike had been complied with "in form only," and instructed the grand jury to investigate fully the "defiant atti-

the withdrawal order. The grand jury was in session most of the day. Witnesses called included mine operators.

HOW AMERICAN DEAD WILL BE RETURNED

Washington, Dec. 17 .- The War Department makes this announcement:

"It is the view of the War Depart-ment that it is essential, in order that the project of returning the American dead from France may, as a schole, be carried on with expedition and efficiency, that all negotistions with the French

authorities relating to this project and all arrangements relative to the ship-ment and transportation of the bodies should be handled by the proper gov-ernmental agencies, and that any de-mature from the policy when the ship parture from this policy whe eby nu-merous private individuals would undertake to make such arrangements sep-arately would undoubtedly result in delaying materially, if not seriously pre-judicing the orderly and successful com-

pletion of the project as a whole.

"For this reason and in order that in the return of the bodies of the American their own cho of Europe."

Advices from Mexico City last night

ister of foreign relations, had sought on behalf of his government to aid in omposing the differences between the United States and the Southern Republie over the Jenkins affair. Such a step on the part of the Foreign Minister Terra was said to have been announced by the Mexican foreign relations department on receipt of information from the Mexican Charge at Montevideo.

AMMUNITION EXPLOSION SHAKES UP DOVER. N. J. No Loss Of Life Reported At **Burning Of Government** Arsenal This Morning

Dover, N. J., Dec. 18 .- An explosion Mr. H. G. Rubinow, campaign directors. of loaded ammunition at Picatiany arsenal shook Dover, New Jersey, tonight a few minutes before midnight. the end, with the election of officers, Government officials at the arsenal telecame a few moments when the atmosphoned to Dover to send all available phere was tense with possibilities. fire apparatus and a few minutes later Butler Backs Off. The major officers of the convention ad been chosen and the time came for wire communication with the arsenal was cut off. It could not be ascertained if there was any toss of life. Flames the selection of the executive committude" of the miners in refusing to heed at the arsenal can be seen for several miles.

> At 1:15 this morning shells were ex ploding at frequent intervals in the burning arsenal. Several hundred men have been employed at the arsenal, which has maintained operations since the signing of the armistice, manufacecutive committeeman. turing powder. Nothing is yet known as to any casualties.

Officers at the United States Naval depot, Lake Denmark, two miles dis-tant from the arsenal, said they had no reports of any killed or injured.

New York, Dec. 18 .-- A report was re-MILLIONS OF PEOPLE IN ceived here tonight that the government arsenal near Dover, N. J., was destroy-ed by an explosion which occurred shortly after midnight. The noise of the emplosion was heard in neighboring Jersey towns but all wire communications with the arsenal, which is in an isolated spot in the Jersey Hills, was cut off.

Clyde Buys Another Fleet. New York, Dec. 17.-The Clyde Steam ship Company, one of the subsidiaries of the Atlanti, Gulf and West Indies the return of the bodies of the American dead, at the request of their relatives, no unfair discrimination may result mainst those relatives who are of imited financial means, individual re-quests of the character mentioned above will uniformly be refused, except where relatives exire to permanently inter the bodies of their dead in cemeteries of their own choice within the hourdaries of Europe."

Gevernor Bickett was presiding at the advices from Mexico City inst night said Gabriel Terra, the Uruguayan min-hields, of Scotland Neck, loaded down Frank with resolutions submitted to the resolutions committee was recognized for the Charlotte, Dec. 17 .- Revised reports report. The Governor slipped the con-vention into high, and he did most of received from several mountain counties

of the Ninth Congressional election disthe voting while the resolutions were triet tonight reduced to less than 1,500 either passed, or referred to the executthe majority of Clyde R. Hoey, elected ive committee, in short order. yesterday over John M. Morehead, to By resolution, the convention de succeed Yates Webb in Congress. Burke termined upon an indefinite campaign county, which was reported last night as for membership, went on record for the planting of food and feed crops first having given Hocy a majority of 78 votes, gave Morehead a majority rangand cotton on surplus acreage; ex-pressed itself in favor of such a coing from 100 to 125, according to a long operation with the warchouse commis-sioner's office as to result in the erecdistance telephone message tonight from the chairman of the board of elections, tion of warehouses in each county of the who said, however, that complete re-

State; thanked the men of North Caroturns could not be received before tolina who have aided in the movement morrow. In the face of complete official turns from a majority of the counties W. A. Graham, Mr. L. S. Tomlinson and an dincomplete returns from the others, Hoev's majority ranged from 1.071 to The convention passed off almost with- 1.477

out exceptional incident. Only toward Mr. Hoey said over long distance telephone from Shelby tonight that reports received by him today gave Morehead 487 majority in Avery, 1,000 in Madison, 850 in Mitchell, and gave Hoey 100 majority in Yancey. Republican headquarters here concede Hoey a majority of 1,100.

teemen, when Senator Marion Butler, of Sampson, arose, recounted his activities in the interest of the association, told Morganton, Dec. 17 .- With semi-offi-

cial reports from all but two small preof his selection as president of the Morehead's majority in Burke einets Sampson county branch ,and of the argent request on the part of some of over Hoey appears to be 100, this estihis friends that he allow his name to mate giving these two precinets the brought before the convention as ex- same vote as cast last year. thought that official returns will show

Since that proposal, he stated, he had this to be correct within at least a been informed that objection had arisen dozen yotes. the convention, and because of it, he did not want his name to be brought

SPEEDY ACTION URGED TO **HELP FORMER SERVICE MEN** (Continued on Page Two.)

Washington, Dec. 17 .- Speedy action was demanded of Congress on all matters affecting the government's deal EUROPE FACE STARVATION ings with former service men, in reso lutions adopted tonight by national and state officers of the American Legion at

Washington, Dec. 17 .- Starvation faces from fifteen to twenty million persons in Central Europe outside Germany un-less "some quick menns can be discov-ered for their assistance," Herbert Hoo-ver, former Food Administrator said taday in a formal statement. Unless re-lief is might missisked to content to the second the conclusion of a three day conference with officials of the war risk insurance bureau. The resolutions also warned Congress of the imperative necessity of providing relief for men who have met with injustice through the inadequacy of laws under which the present insur lief is quickly furnished, he predicted, a countries affected and "creation of an- administered.

ompromise. Action also was urged Burke Was Carried By Re-Senator Nelson, of Minnesota, one of the mild reservation Republicans, and lican Candidate

by Senator Myers, of Montana, a Democrat who voted last session for some reservations and also for unreserved ratification.

In the compromise negotiations proceedings at private conferences among Senators, the principal activity seemed to be among the Democrats, the Repub-lican reservationists indicating that they awaited some concrete proposal from The Democratic manthe other side. agers were hopeful that such an agreement soon would be reached, but they predicted it would not take tangible form until after the holidays. Among he Democrats there was much discussion of the possible effect of the compromise negotiations on the contest between Senator Hitchcock, of Nebraska, and Senator Underwood, of Alabama, for election as Democratic leader of the Senate. The negotiations started yesterday with the mild reservation Republicans were conducted by Scantor Underwood's sup-porters, but he declared tonight that while he stood for some sort of compro-mise he was not in revolt against Pres-

ident Wilson, nor leading any sort of opposition to the treaty. Consideration of the first of Senator Knox's resolutions, which would ratify the treaty in so far as establishment of a state of peace is concerned, was blocked by Senator McKellar, Democrat, Tennessee, while Senator Nelson stopped the second one, proposing merely to declare that a state of peace exists.

Urge Senate to Act. In view of the attitude of President Wilson Senator Knox declared the Sen-

Wilson Senator Knox declared the Sen-ate should proceed in its own way to secure a formal pence status, working out the best solution it could at once. Responsibility for the delay was de-clared by Senator Smith to be about "fifty-fifty" between the two parties. It was only a waste of time to try to fix the blame, he asserted, adding that in his opinion more than two-thirds of the Senate favored ratification with reservations of a certain kind, the phraseciogy of which could easily be worked out if the real friends of the treaty were to come together in conference.

"We will make no progress by crimi-nation and recrimination," said Senator Smith, "Let us cease trying to find out who is to blame for the delay and bring the delay to an end. Party poli-tics should not be played with a matter of such importance. Ratification must be by non-partisan action and every effort to gain partisan advantag; handi-

effort to gain partisan advantage ha

Senator Myers said both parties had been "making a political football of the treaty."

Burn French Consulate. Constantinople, Dec. 17.-The French consulate here was destroyed by fire tes day.