

EPOCHAL LABOR MEET PLANS TO COMBAT ENEMIES

Will Organize Propaganda to Counteract "Open Shop Propaganda," Wage Reduction, Etc.

(By The Associated Press) Washington, Feb. 23.—Representatives of the 109 national and international unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor gathered here today in extra-ordinary conference for the purpose of organizing to meet attacks on the union labor movement.

The conference called by President Gompers is considered one of epochal importance and one of the few of its kind ever held in the history of the federation.

While the council's program was not made public it is understood, to provide for the cooperation by organized labor to combat anti-union shop sentiment, wage reduction, compulsory arbitration, labor injunctions and "open shop propaganda."

One proposal before the conference, it is said calls for a publicity campaign by the federation to offset the propaganda of the enemies of organized labor.

A program of state legislation to further the cause of organized labor will also be considered by the congress which proposes to sift out the whole question of the "open shop versus trade unionism."

The conference, labor leaders said, is expected to determine the attitude the federation will take in its relations to the incoming republican administration.

FRENCH WARSHIPS ENGAGE SOVIETS

(By The Associated Press) Constantinople, Feb. 23.—French cruisers on the east coast of the Black sea have been engaged with the Soviet forces at Bagry. Reports here state that the Bolsheviks suffered heavily from the fire of the French warships.

Kiffin appears to be in the hands of the Georgians, who have however suffered heavy losses. A dispatch received here states that the advance of the 11th Soviet army against Kiffin has been disavowed by the Bolshevik government at Moscow.

WOOL PRICES CUT

New York, Feb. 23.—The American Woolen Company, the largest producer of wool goods, today named prices for the fall of 1921 on a basis ranging from 45 to 50 per cent below price levels of last autumn.

The dress goods lines included many women's coatings, while the overcoatings included nearly 75 per cent of fancy goods against 25 per cent of staples. A woman's wear serge that was priced at \$3.75 a year ago was offered at \$2.40 for the coming season.

SMALL MAY RUN

Washington, Feb. 22.—Representative John H. Small, who is quitting the house March 4, today issued a statement that may have an important bearing on North Carolina politics.

It has been believed for some time that Mr. Small would enter the race for the United States senate three years from now.



MAY GET PLUM—William Boyce Thompson is being boomed for head of the Federal Reserve Board.

FEDERAL GOVT SEEKS DISSOLVE SO. PINE ASSO.

Injunction Proceedings Filed in U. S. Court at St. Louis for This Purpose.

(By The Associated Press) St. Louis, Feb. 23.—The government today filed injunction proceedings in federal court against the Southern Pine Association, 61 corporations and 60 individuals, in an effort to end an alleged conspiracy to curtail and increase the price of yellow pine lumber.

The suit was filed by District Attorney Carroll by direction of Attorney General Palmer. It charges violation of the Sherman anti-trust law by the association and asks for a preliminary injunction restraining the organization from recommending or suggesting curtailment or restriction of the yellow pine "or measures or acts to result in such curtailment or restrictions."

It was asked that a permanent injunction be granted after hearing the evidence, resulted from a purchase specified in the suit, would amount to a dissolution of the association.

District Attorney Carroll said Judge Farris had directed the district attorney to prepare an order for the defendant to show cause why the injunction should not be granted. He set March 15 for the hearing. A temporary injunction was not asked for the period before March 15th.

Institution of the proceedings, it is explained, resulted from an investigation of the association by the federal trade commission. The petition asserts that in recent years 70 per cent of the yellow pine supply of the country has been produced in Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi and has been sold in other states by persons and corporations who are members of the defendant association.

The association is charged with affiliation and supervision of anti-trust exchanges in Kansas City, Mo.; Alexandria, La.; Hattiesburg, Miss.; Little Rock, Ark., and Mobile, Ala.

CATERPILLAR TRACTORS FIGHT SNOW IN N. Y.

New York, Feb. 23.—Greater New York succeeded only partly today in freeing itself from the thickest covering of snow that has fallen on the metropolis this winter.

Tonight the Weather Bureau predicted the probable arrival tomorrow of another blizzard that would lay a counterpane of sleet and snow over the heavy white blanket which already hides the streets and sidewalks and clogs traffic lines through the Metropolitan district.

All modern snow-fighting equipment that science has devised was carried into battle today by more than 20,000 workmen who struggled to release the streets and railway tracks from the hard packed snow and high drifts that clogged them.

They began work yesterday before the storm that lasted almost 24 hours had died down and the continued toiling tonight, while New York's 6,000,000 people hoped the other predicted storm would not come.

150 Tractors in Use. Baby snow plows of other winters were augmented by huge caterpillar tractors that shaved the thick, white beard of the streets, scooped it into automatic carriers and dumped it into large trucks. More than 150 of these tractors were deployed over the far-flung areas composing the greater city.

U. S. NAVY SECOND TO NONE IS WHERE CONGRESS STANDS

Washington Officialdom is Against Any Let Up in the Naval Construction Program.

(By H. B. Hunt) Washington, Feb. 23.—The United States will not take the lead in naval disarmament, expecting other nations to follow a good example and do likewise.

Neither will it agree to a "naval holiday" in lieu of a general agreement on disarmament or restriction of armaments.

This nation will go along with other great nations in an agreement to end the competitive piling up of armaments. It will accept the utmost limitation that can be agreed upon.

That under any agreement limiting armament the United States shall rank second to none in the naval strength that is left to her.

That decision, reached by the leaders of the naval committees of both house and senate and known to be in accord with the views of President-elect Harding, furnishes the keynote to the incoming administration's naval and foreign policies.

There is a general sympathy in Congress with the proposals for a limitation of armaments. The desirability of reducing naval expenditures is emphasized by the increasing difficulty of raising taxes to meet heavy governmental obligations.

Also, there is an ever-increasing insistence in letters from the "folks back home" that something be done to relieve the tax burden.

Naval Conclusions. Congressional leaders, however, after serious study of the whole disarmament proposition have concluded:

FIRST: That the most effective way to promote an agreement limiting armaments is raising taxes. It is to go ahead on the scheduled building program, which, if continued, will give her the most powerful fleet of capital ships in the world by 1924.

SECOND: That under any agreement limiting naval forces the United States must have, relatively, the same position which her present naval program assures to her—a force at least equal to that of any other nation.

Third: That the decision of President Harding will be with respect to calling an international conference on disarmament or limitation of armaments, congressional leaders believe the position of the United States will be strengthened if, prior to the calling of any such conference, it is made plain that in the absence of a world agreement restricting the size of navies this nation intends to possess, for its own defense, a force second to that of no other country.

What are the stakes? Powers of this country and the pressure of stands as the richest nation in the world and the best able—if the world insists on competitive armaments—to carry forward a program of heavy naval expansion and development.

That fact, coupled with the assurance that we mean to do so unless an international agreement limiting navies is agreed to, would it be held, be the most effective argument toward bringing all countries into the proposed international conference.

The testimony that decided house and senate leaders as to the wisdom of this course has not been made public. It was given in executive session and has been carefully kept secret.

But evidence submitted at these secret hearings has touched some of the causes underlying the campaign for an abandonment of our present naval building program. To a considerable extent this has been developed by persons who sincerely believe the day of the heavily armored, big gun battleship has passed and that if Uncle Sam is going ahead on naval development the development should be along other lines than that of the program now under way.

England's Position. However, underlying all the opposition to the continuation of our present naval program is declared to be the probable arrival tomorrow of another blizzard that would lay a counterpane of sleet and snow over the heavy white blanket which already hides the streets and sidewalks and clogs traffic lines through the Metropolitan district.

All modern snow-fighting equipment that science has devised was carried into battle today by more than 20,000 workmen who struggled to release the streets and railway tracks from the hard packed snow and high drifts that clogged them.

HARDING WORKING ON OTHER POSTS AND HIS ADDRESS

Three of Cabinet Slected Have Not Actually Accepted — Denby Indicates He Will.

(By The Associated Press) St. Augustine, Fla., Feb. 23.—With only a few formalities remaining to finally close up the selection of his cabinet, President-elect Harding gave his attention today to other important appointments and to the preparation of his inaugural address.

The chance that changes will be made now in the cabinet personnel is considered remote altho Mr. Harding realizes that contingencies requiring last minute shifts are within the ranges of possibilities.

Formal invitations and acceptances have not yet been exchanged in regard to three of the 10 places but the attitude of all the men selected has been felt out indirectly.

The three from whom formal acceptance is to come are Edwin Denby, of Michigan; Herbert Hoover, of California; and J. J. Davis, of Pennsylvania, slated respectively for the portfolios of navy, commerce and labor.

There have been public reports that Mr. Hoover might decline but they manifestly are not credited to Mr. Hoover or his advisers.

Denby Will Accept. Detroit, Mich., Feb. 23.—Edwin Denby, President-elect Harding's selection for secretary of the navy, left here early today for St. Augustine to confer with Mr. Harding. Mr. Denby was in a telephone communication with Mr. Harding last night when the conference was agreed upon. Asked if he planned to accept the secretaryship should it be formally tendered he indicated that he would.

MRS. J. M. GRIER DIES AT CONCORD

(Special to The Evening Post) Concord, Feb. 23.—Mrs. J. M. Grier, wife of Rev. Dr. J. M. Grier, D.D., for the past 12 years pastor of the First Presbyterian church of this city, died at midnight last night in a Charlotte hospital following an operation Sunday. She appeared to have withstood the operation well and to be getting along nicely but a turn for the worse set in yesterday at noon. The remains were brought to Concord this morning and the funeral takes place at the First Presbyterian church this afternoon at 4 o'clock and the interment will be in the cemetery here.

Mrs. Grier is survived by her husband and two sons, the latter being Rev. J. C. Grier, pastor of the Presbyterian church at Ruthersfordton, and Robert D. Grier, a cotton manufacturer of North Wilkesboro, also two brothers, Joseph Davidson, of Atlanta, Ga., and Rev. E. C. Davidson, of Mooresville. Her mother, Mrs. R. Q. Davidson, of Statesville, is also living. She was born in Statesville December 14, 1866, being in her 55th year.

WHISKEY CAN'T BE STOLEN; OUTLAWED AS PROPERTY

Atlanta, Ga., Feb. 22.—That whiskey can not be stolen, and hence that no person can be prosecuted for stealing liquor, was a ruling of Judge John D. Humphries in the cases of Lon Terry and O. M. Howell, city detectives, indicted for stealing 87 quarts of rye whiskey from Clarence Hart. The theft charge was not proscecuted, but Terry was placed on trial under another indictment charging possession of liquor.

"A man can not steal something which the law has declared is no property," said Judge Humphries. "Whiskey has been outlawed, declared not to be property and to be contraband. If having no property value, naturally is incapable of being stolen and this court will not prossec the indictment as to liquor. The court will not prossec the portion of the bill charging the theft of the suitcase because the bill fails to assign any value to them, giving them a property value."

Solicitor Boykin contended that the bill was good, and the question was raised of what course the court would have followed if the liquor has been in the suitcases.

"In liquor case the indictment still would not have been good," said Judge Humphries. "The outlawed liquor would have outlawed the suitcases, destroying any property value they would have had, so far as the law is concerned."

Judge Humphries said a man could steal liquor morally, but not legally.

Two Irish Guards Killed

(By The Associated Press) Dublin, Feb. 23.—Three members of the Royal Irish constabulary employed in Dublin Castle were shot today two of them were killed and the third seriously wounded by civilians near the castle gate.

Miss Grace Smith of the Evening Post force is at home sick, having a pronounced case of measles.

COOK BILL GETS AN UNFAVORABLE REPORT BY COM.

Bill Would Allow Governor to Fire Sheriffs Who Failed to Enforce Prohibition Laws.

(By MAX ABERNETHY) Raleigh, Feb. 23.—The amended Cook bill to co-ordinate the North Carolina prohibition law with the eighteenth amendment and the Volstead act and to give the governor the right to ask for and demand the resignation of any sheriff failing to enforce the liquor law goes back to the floor of the house of representatives with an unfavorable report from judiciary committee No. 1.

Supt. R. L. Davis of the Anti-Saloon League and other representatives of the association were present at the hearing before the committee Tuesday afternoon. The proponents of the bill had things all their own way since nobody opposed the bill. But the unfavorable report was inevitable. Members of the committee sought information as to the provisions of the measure. There was nobody who knew.

About the only thing that the "dry" forces apparently knew about the bill was that its purpose was to rid the state of blind-tigers. The bill may be revived on the floor of the house, Representative Templeton of Wake, having asked for a minority report.

The bill in addition to making the liquor seller liable for civil action in the event a man to whom he has sold whiskey injures another the bill would hold the property of all kinds used in the manufacture or sale of liquor a common nuisance and would become a lien to guarantee payment of fines and costs of such violations.

The lower house of the general assembly Tuesday passed the co-operative marketing law that will enable the farmers to pool their products for any period from ten seconds to ten years. There was some opposition to the measure from Connor of Wilson, who feared violation of the Sherman Anti-Trust law, but the bill passed the three readings after some debate.

Following considerable debate the engineers' bill which requires for the licensing of all sorts of engineers and land surveyors which was beaten in the committee last week, the measure was brought forward yesterday and passed the requisite number of readings to make it a law.

The house passed over the emergency judges bill and the question of the eight per cent interest on contract. It is generally believed that both of these measures will be defeated whenever they come up for a vote in the house.

The bill providing for the registration of all marriages in the state was defeated in the house yesterday. The debate against the bill was led by Williams of Cabarrus, and Graham of Orange, and Monroe of Lee, championed the bill. It provided that all marriages should be registered and that birth certificates should be issued in the future.

To provide for the expense of registering these marriages and to issue certificates the State Board of Health expected to increase the fees from three to four dollars. This additional dollar was to go into the fund to provide machinery for registration of the marriages and the issuance of the certificates of births.

It was represented, however, that approximately \$25,000 would be raised under the proposed law and it staggered the minds of the legislators. They feared the result of this additional tax on the folks who thought of embarking upon the matrimonial seas and the bill was killed outright.

The bill repealing an act of the 1917 session of the general assembly which would have transferred the penitentiary building and grounds over to the state hospital for the insane passed the three readings in the lower house yesterday afternoon.

Representative Glover for the committee on penal institutions and Gov. Rufe Doughton reported that the expense of moving the building and erecting another prison would be far in excess of building a suitable addition to the mill. It is understood, however, that the members of the union asked for an increase in wages of approximately 17 1/2 per cent, and that the mill management did not feel able at this time to grant the increase.

Mr. Frank A. Rankin, of Cabarrus county, former popular Salisburyian, spent a part of the day in the city today.



IN MOVIES—Katusha Orlova, Russian noblewoman, recently escaped from Siberia, traveling hundreds of miles by sled. She is to appear in an American play called "Faith."

LIEUT. CONEY OFF AGAIN ON OCEAN TO OCEAN AIR FLIGHT

After a Forced Landing for Gasoline the Airman Hops Off on Another Lap of Journey.

(By The Associated Press) Bronte, Texas, Feb. 23.—Lieut. Wm. D. Coney, after 24 hours delay in his planned ocean to ocean flight from California, took the air for Dallas here at 9:30 o'clock this morning. He landed Tuesday night in Bronte, Texas, where he was met by Maj. A. H. Richards, commander of Love field, who came to Coney's assistance also hopped off on the return trip to Dallas this morning.

Expected at Love Field. Fort Worth, Feb. 23.—Lieut. William D. Coney and escort passed Eftand at 7 a. m. and Mingus 40 minutes later, flying at the rate of 40 miles an hour, according to train dispatchers.

Expected at Love Field. Dallas, Texas, Feb. 23.—Lieut. William D. Coney, whose scheduled Pacific to Atlantic flight was interrupted by a forced landing at Bronte, Texas, was expected to arrive at Love field here today.

Lieut. W. D. Coney landed at Love field at 12:46 this afternoon.

TWO AVIATORS MET DEATH AT AUSTIN

(By The Associated Press) Austin, Feb. 23.—Cadets Lee Allen and Virgil W. Beach, both of Kelly field No. 2, San Antonio, were instantly killed this morning when their plane crashed on Penn field, one mile south of Austin as they were taking off in it for San Antonio.

Allen's home is in Columbus, Ga., and Beech's home at Nashville, Tenn. They were leading trip formation but had left Kelly field early for practice flight.

MAIL PLANE MAKES 1,200 OF FLIGHT

(By The Associated Press) Chicago, Feb. 23.—Completing more than 1,200 miles of flying Jack Knight, pilot of an east-bound transcontinental mail plane from Iowa City arrived here at 8:40 o'clock this morning. Twenty minutes later J. O. Windsor took up the flight for the east.

Knight was weary but otherwise unaffected by his long flight covering a route from Cheyenne to Chicago.

CABLE OFFICIALS AT MIAMI, FLA.

(By The Associated Press) Miami, Fla., Feb. 23.—The Western Union Telegraph Company's South American cable will eventually be landed at Miami, said Newcomb Carlton, president of the company, here today.

Mr. Carlton and several vice-presidents of the Western Union have arrived here to personally look into the cable controversy.

SHOOTING SENTRY INCIDENT CLOSED

(By The Associated Press) Washington, Feb. 23.—The incident of the fatal shooting by a Japanese sentry of Lieut. W. H. Langdon an American naval officer at Vladivostok last month was regarded by officials today as being definitely closed, except as to the matter of reparation, as a result of the action of the Japanese government in punishing those responsible for the tragedy and renewing expressions of regret as conveyed in a reply to the recent American note.

CLAIM TO FORTUNE HINGES ON PICTURE OF BRIDGE BELIEVED TO BE IN ROWAN OR NEARBY

Evening Post Gets Letter From Iowa Lawyer Offering Reward of \$50 for Information Locating Bridge of Picture Displayed in Holshouser and Howan Window.

RENT ARBITER IN MILWAUKEE CUTS

Wisconsin Emergency Law Saves Tenants From the High Rates Fixed By Profiteers.

Milwaukee, Feb. 22.—On the basis of adjustments made in more than 200 cases, Walter H. Bender, rent arbiter of the Milwaukee Rent Bureau, says rent regulation here has been a success.

The bureau has been in existence since July, 1920. It is a part of the Wisconsin State Railroad Commission and was created by an emergency act of the Legislature to check rent-profiteering.

"In addition to the 200 cases in which we have made adjustments, we have effected adjustments in hundreds of others and have dissuaded many landlords from attempting to put increases into operation."

Reductions Ordered. Of the 200 cases formally decided, reductions have been ordered in 90 per cent.

Last summer as many as 75 tenants came to our office daily for conference and advice," says Bender. "At present we average from 30 to 40 callers daily."

In addition to passing on cases brought to its notice, the rent bureau voluntarily investigates rented properties. It requires landlords to fill out questionnaires giving data on rents, fixed charges and other information.

Commissioner Decides. After the evidence in a rent complaint is taken and the premises are inspected by Bender or one of his four assistants, a report is sent to railroad commission headquarters in Madison. There the decision is made as to whether to permit a raise in rent or to order the rent reduced.

"The determination of a fair rental is always a knotty problem," says Bender. "The objection to raising it too high is obvious. If placed too low, it may discourage the building of rental property. Ordinarily we allow a net return on the present value of property equal to about 8 per cent."

"In addition to this net return we add taxes, insurance, repairs, water rates, cost of heating, and depreciation. The varying degrees of service rendered by apartment house owners must be considered. Go to ironical rule can be followed in our work."

While the rent bureau is increasingly popular with tenants, many real estate men and builders assert that it has proved a deterrent to Milwaukee's building program.

Curb on Rent. Los Angeles, Feb. 22.—City council has passed an ordinance prohibiting landlords from charging rent of more than 15 1/2 per cent on investment in furnishings and 11 per cent on the valuation of their realty.

This followed the circulation of petitions by the Tenants' Protective Association for a referendum on the question.

BILL TO CHANGE COUNTY SEAT

(By MAX ABERNETHY) Raleigh, Feb. 23.—The legislature today was flooded with petitions asking a general decrease in land values for taxation and protesting against the "injustice of the revaluation act."

Virtually the entire time of the house session today was consumed in considering a minority committee report on a bill allowing a vote to changing the county seat of Rockingham county from Wentworth to Reidsville.

The committee reported the bill unfavorable but the house voted 77 to 29 to override the committee's report and placed the bill on its immediate passage.

BANKRUPTCY FILED

New York, Feb. 23.—An involuntary bankruptcy proceeding was filed here today in federal court against Leslie Judge Co., a Fifth avenue publishing corporation on behalf of three creditors with claims totaling more than \$600,000. The petitioners estimated the corporation's liabilities at \$2,210,000 and its assets at \$420,000. Thomas B. Falder, a lawyer, was appointed receiver.

KILLED AT CROSSING

Fayetteville, Feb. 23.—Mrs. John McNeill, aged 60, of Godwin, was killed at a railway crossing at Godwin yesterday when she attempted to cross the track.

A CHICAGO LIQUOR DEALER ARRESTED

(By The Associated Press) Chicago, Feb. 23.—Internal revenue officials have arrested L. B. Cox, president of the Louis B. Cox Company, liquor dealers in Indianapolis, who was charged with breaking up a nation wide whiskey ring. Several minor employees of the company were arrested yesterday and the cases were pending thorough investigation.