

# Federal Troops Are Taking Control Of Zone Of Fighting

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Mountain where the most sanguinary engagement was raging.

We had to scale the mountain to our left to give our auditory nerves a real tingle of battle notes and turned back looking for a path. We encountered two miners from the Boone county coal corporation workings, who told us they had not participated in the fighting but believed they could take us up a path so we would look across a valley where some miners were holding the line.

We reached the summit of the mountain after a hard climb and proceeded along its brow for about a hundred yards. The mine guards were walking ahead and we were commenting on the fact that he firing seemed to be but little nearer when—Well, hell broke loose.

## HELL BROKE LOOSE

There was a crash of rifle fire right in our faces. I remember of thinking "gosh that's close."

Then another crash and I felt a sharp pain on my right knee, which buckled under me. I fell behind a huge log and as I lay there trying to make myself as small as possible and congratulate myself on having this shelter, the air was shaken by volley after volley. The bullets thudded into the log about my head and I realized we were enfiladed and the log was no shelter at all.

There were shouts "I'm hit," "we're friends," "We surrender," and I began to do some shouting myself. Finally the firing trickled off and we heard cries in front of us:

"Come out of there you—"

"Put your hands up damned high and keep 'em up."

As we arose to comply, there was another volley from our side.

This ceased, and we were amazed to see several state troopers rise in front of us. We had all supposed we were under fire by miners.

I had hastily examined my knee and discovered there was a comparatively minor bruise, probably from a ricochetting bullet or a stone clipped by one.

## SPARKES IS INJURED

I looked around at my companions and was horrified to see Sparkes limping forward, his face a mass of blood and the blood oozing from his leg. I turned to help him and got a tirade of cursing from the troopers. As we were rounded up, a sergeant came racing over from the other squad and assumed command of the situation. Then I saw one of the miners was badly hit in the leg, and Miss Morris had a scratch on the wrist.

We produced military passes issued by Colonel Ford, chief-of-staff, to prove our identity and the soldiers seized one from Sparkes, read it, crumpled it and threw it on the ground.

"How in hell do we know you're newspaper guys?", he wanted to know. "Where in hell are the federal troops?" we asked them.

Then instructing another sergeant to take charge of us, he turned to a field telegraph and told one "Brown" down in the concentration camp at Ethel to "send up a car for six red necks" (Logan county for union miners), we just got."

Barely had this message gone when there was a heavy volley from down the slope of the hill, apparently not more than 200 yards away.

"Get down", the sergeant ordered, and we got.

We stumbled down the western side of the mountain, supporting Sparkes and the miner. The car carried them

to Ethel first and then returned for the rest of us. I had time to get acquainted with the sergeant, second in command, whose name I learned to be Rhodes and found him a fine fellow.

"Well, why didn't you challenge us?" I finally asked. "I have been held up at least fifty times by miners, some times pretty close to their lines—and have never been shot at before."

"Well," he replied, "we believe in shooting first and challenging afterward up here."

## VITUPERATIVE ABUSE

The troops rode on the running board of the machine that took us into Ethel. One of them evidently had taken the "red neck" appellation literally from our sergeant, for without cause, he began cursing Miss Morris. Never have I heard more vituperative and filthy abuse. Craig and I protested and the torrent was turned temporarily on us.

Arriving at Ethel, we found Sparkes and the miner had been given prompt surgical attention. Superintendent of Police Colonel Jackson took us in charge and saw to our wants. Despite our protests, the two miners who we had gotten into this mess were detained in Ethel. And all the way down the mountain the wounded one was protesting to me that it was "sure death" for him.

Young Ball was taken away and "I don't know how he fared."

Sparkes, fearing other correspondents would send out the story of his wounding, was anxious to communicate with his wife in Washington and reassure her. I later found him in constabulary headquarters pleading with Major "Tony" Gaudot.

## DISPATCHES CENSORED

We were informed that we could send out press stuff by telegraph after it was censored. I sent a brief dispatch to Huntington, together with some personal messages, and learned later that the former was delayed until too late to be of any use. This, however, was no fault of whoever the censor might be, as he rushed my stuff through with but one deletion, the words "without arms" in a sentence describing miners leaving the battle front near Sharples for their homes. That statement was a fact.

I then case about for means of release from my detention. Luckily, Major Thompson had arrived and, despite the fact he was overwhelmed with details, he took time to straighten out my affairs and made it possible for me to get a pass "through all guards and lines to Charleston."

I sought to aid Miss Morris and Craig to find Major Thompson, but instead met up with Major Gaudot again.

"Ain't you got what you want?" he growled at me.

"Yes."

"Beat it."

I beat it.

Eubanks' last admonition to me was to "give us a square deal." I assumed he meant to tell the truth, and I promised.

I have kept my promise.

## WASHINGTON, Sept. 3.—(United Press)

Federal troops are peacefully taking control of the situation in the West Virginia coal country, according to reports to the War Department tonight.

Three important messages were received by the War Department as follows:

—A dispatch was received from Brigadier General H. H. Bandholtz, in command of Federal troops in West Virginia, that about 4,000 insurgent min-

ers had surrendered at Charpies and Madison, turning in about 80 firearms.

2.—Orders, which had been issued for trains to be held in readiness on the sidings at Camp Dix, N. J., to rush the sixteenth infantry regiment into West Virginia, were cancelled by the War Department, in the belief that no additional troops will be needed to augment the nineteenth and twentieth regiments, now in West Virginia.

3.—Advises received during the day by Secretary Weeks strongly indicated that the miners' forces were dispersing in the face of the Federal troops.

From developments during the day, Weeks was understood to feel tonight that the issuance of the proclamation of martial law for five counties in West Virginia, already signed by President Harding, would be unnecessary.

## NO MARTIA LAW?

In the telephone and telegraph reports that he has made to the War Department, General Bandholtz has not yet expressed any opinion as to whether the proclamation of martial law should be promulgated.

Secretary Weeks explained, however, that Bandholtz will make no recommendation on the martial law proclamation until he is ready to advise that it be issued.

Weeks said there had been no decision not to issue the proclamation, but that he simply was withholding it until it was shown that such a step is necessary, and that he will await the recommendation of General Bandholtz.

Charges and counter-charges continued today in attempts to fix the responsibility of the fighting in West Virginia.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and James Lord, head of the mining department of the federation, told President Harding that gunmen and private detective agencies employed by the mine operators are really responsible for the fighting. This was denied in a telegram received at the White House from G. C. Pierson, sheriff of Mingo county and S. D. Stokes, prosecuting attorney of that county.

Gompers also urged the President to call a conference of operators and miners to settle the differences between the employers and empes, but apparently he was given no definite answer on this point.

## COMMITTEE TO MEDIATE?

Sebaco, Maine, Sept. 3.—Senator W. S. Kenyon, head of the Senate labor committee, is laying before his colleagues the possibility that they can act as a conciliatory agency in the West Virginia mine troubles, he told The United Press tonight.

It had been suggested to the Senator that he advance the date for starting the investigation from September 19 to a date as soon as possible after the "mine war" is settled. It was stated that the committee by that act might do a great deal to bring the contending forces together for a general settlement.

## LEWIS BLAMES DETECTIVES

Springfield, Ill., Sept. 3.—John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, tonight blamed the West Virginia "mine war" on Baldwin-Felts detectives. He charged they were the "original cause of all violence" in the coal fields of West Virginia, which has now "culminated in a miners' uprising."

## TWO PREACH SUNDAY

S. White Rhyne, second year student at the Southern Lutheran Theological Seminary, Columbia, S. C., will occupy the pulpit of St. Mark's Lutheran church at both the morning and evening services Sunday. The pastor, Rev. John F. Crigler, is absent from the city on his vacation. Mr. Rhyne is a native of Charlotte and a son of A. S. Rhyne, also of this city.

# RENEWED ACTION TO PROTECT U. S.

## Hughes Has Sent New Note To Allied Governments on Treaty Mandates.

By A. L. BRADFORD, United Press Staff Correspondent.

Washington, Sept. 3.—The United States has taken renewed action to protect American rights and interests acquired in the World war.

Secretary of State Hughes has sent a new note to the Allied powers, designed to protect more fully the interests of the United States in former German possessions mandated to the Allies.

The note, according to the best information here, proposed various changes in mandate drafts, one of them being a proposal for the insertion of a provision recognizing the "open door" principle, guaranteeing equal commercial opportunities for all nations in the mandate territories.

This new Hughes note is said to have been addressed to all of the principal allies—Great Britain, France, Japan and Italy—but it is understood to apply principally to the British mandate over Mesopotamia and to be primarily an answer to the last British reply to American objection in that situation.

It is understood that this Government seeks to secure some guarantee of protection of American interests, such as the insertion of an "open door" clause in this mandate in order to safeguard this country's interests in the face of the agreement between France for a division of the oil supplies of Mesopotamia.

This Anglo-French oil agreement was protested some time ago under the Wilson administration, and later it was the subject of an extended diplomatic correspondence between the American and British governments, in which the United States attempted to break the agreement on the ground that it was a violation of the open door principle.

Now, however, Secretary Hughes seems to have taken another course, seeking to protect American interests in an indisputable way in the text of the mandate itself, without trying to break the Anglo-French agreement, a probably an impossibility. This is the second Hughes note on mandates to the powers. The first was that of April 2, which dealt principally with the Japanese mandate over the Island of Yap. The American objections to the Yap mandate, however, are now about to be finally settled, a virtual agreement having been informally reached between Secretary Hughes and Ambassador Shidehara, of Japan.

## AMERICAN WORKERS URGED TO GIVE DAY'S PAY BY RUSSIANS

Riga, Sept. 3.—(United Press)—American workers are urged to give up one day's wages to the fund established for the relief of Russian famine, in an article written in The Investia, of Moscow, by Steklov, of the Russian Relief Commission, today. Thirty million dollars could be raised in this way, it is estimated. European workers will also be asked to contribute a day's wages.

Twenty ships have been mobilized in eastern Europe for the American Relief Administration.

Today five of these are enroute to Russia with ten thousand tons of food, mainly condensed milk, flour, fats, canned beans and meats.

The offer of the Supreme Council in Paris to send experts to the famine zone and to aid in the relief under their own direction, has not pleased the Russian government.

However, the offer of the Allies is considered important. It is hailed here as quasi recognition.

# INDUSTRY SHOWS

(Continued From Page One.)

employment has been uninterrupted. During the past few months, in fact, it has been accelerated, particularly heavy decreases in employment being recorded during June and July. It is believed, however, that a substantial increase will be revealed in the August showing; certainly it is expected. If so, it will mark the first upward turn since the beginning of the year.

Within the next few days the Labor Department will begin a new survey of employment which will be placed before President Harding for use at the forthcoming Hoover conference on employment. For the first time this year there will be shown conditions in the building trades in addition to the other major industries already covered. There are no comparative figures by which to measure the significance of the building trades survey, but it is believed that the summary will indicate a fairly healthy tone in conditions there.

## ROADS TAKE FRESH START

The railroads have taken a fresh start. In June their net income was approximately fifty-one and a half million, or at the rate of 3.1 per cent on their investment. July figures are incomplete, but already that mark—which was a record for the year—has been

passed. Returns from 180 lines, operating about two hundred thousand miles, or 80 per cent of the total, show income of sixty-three millions during July. If the remaining lines simply hold their own financially—breaking even—the roads will have earned at the rate of more than four per cent. They should show earnings of ninety millions for the month to be on a six per cent basis.

The farmer, according to dispatches from the Middle-west is going to make a little money this year, notwithstanding the sharpness of the liquidation in prices which has all but overwhelmed him. He has hopes for next year. His present shift to the right side of the ledger shows a small balance and is reflected in the pickup in business in Chicago and other Middle-western cities.

Iron and steel are reviving. There are still big stocks on hand, but consumption has outrun now is back to the working forces. Coal likewise is coming back to recognizable output figures.

Over-optimism in generally condemned by business men. They are looking for no boom but for a slow steady improvement in all lines with gradual attainment, perhaps extending over months, of normal trade conditions.

# BAD ELECTRIC STORM VISITS NEW ENGLAND

Boston, Sept. 3.—One of the worst electric storms that has swept the Atlantic valley in years took a toll of life, injured six persons and inflicted severe property damage late today.

Donald Lewis, 12, of 114 Embury street, Lynn, Mass., was struck by a bolt of lightning as he was returning home along the shore from Nahant Beach.

At Woburn, a two-story leather factory was lifted bodily by the wind and deposited nearly 25 yards away, leaving the structure a mass of debris. Three workmen at the plant were severely injured.

# NATION-WIDE HOUR OF PRAYER IS PROPOSED

Washington, Sept. 3.—A nationwide hour of prayer when the disarmament conference opens here November 10, was proposed today by the League of Women Voters.

Miss Elizabeth J. Hays, national secretary, urged that national organizations join in the movement to have houses of worship opened for prayer at the exact hour when the conference opens.

Temporary Location

# Queen City Storage Battery Company

Service Station

# Prest-O-Lite

Storage Battery

Until the Completion of Our New Home We Shall Be Located At

## 408 South Tryon St.

Adjoining D—R Oil Company's Station

—and—

## Using Same Driveway

We Shall Be In A Position To Render Our Usual Prompt and Expert Service On The Electrical Equipment Of All Cars

# A. Kingsland Sutton, Mgr.

# ANNOUNCEMENT

Mr. B. H. Blalock Has acquired the interest of Mr. A. A. Knee in the firm of Knee & Blalock, authorized Ford dealers, and in the future the business will be conducted under the name

# BLALOCK MOTOR CO.

The business will be continued at the present place at 509 South Tryon Street, with the same organization, composed of Mr. E. P. Tingley in charge of office; Mr. Orville Hawkins in charge of stock, and Mr. William C. Kimmons in charge of shop.