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NO TECHNICAL STRIKE, YET 250,000 COAL MINERS WILL QUIT AT MIDNIGHT

Cessation of Labors not Matter
of Hours, Wages or Any Other
Element of Union Or-
ganization.

OPERATORS FOR MOST PART WILL NOT CONFER

And That is the Only Reason for
Dropping of Picks in Ohio, Mis-
souri, Iowa, Kansas, Oklahoma,
Arkansas and Texas—Retirement
of President John Mitchell.

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Indianapolis, Ind., March 31.—At least
250,000 coal miners will lay down their
picks in Ohio, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas,
Oklahoma, Arkansas and Texas to-
night.

They will not return to work until a
contract has been signed by the opera-
tors. In addition to these, many work-
ers in Indiana, Michigan, West Vir-
ginia and Kentucky may quit.

The Illinois miners, it is reported
from Springfield, are willing to con-
tinue work pending the agreement, but
the operators decided to close down un-
til April 15, by which time, it is
thought, miners and operators will
agree. This same action will be taken
by Pittsburgh district operators.

There is no question of wage or prin-
ciple at stake in the move and, techni-
cally, the miners will not be on strike,
they will merely cease work because
the operators, except in Indiana and
Illinois, show no real intention of meet-
ing and treating with them.

The contracts under which the coal
workers now are bound to remain in
the shafts will expire at midnight to-
night, and no provision has been made
in the majority of the fields for the op-
eration of coal properties until a per-
manent contract has again been put
into force.

Attempts are being made in joint
sessions of miners and workers at
Terre Haute and Pittsburgh to frame
up some temporary agreement to pre-
vent a shut down, but so far neither
meeting has been successful. John
Mitchell, the retiring president of the
Mine Workers of America, is here in
an effort to place everything in readi-
ness before he quits office Wednesday,
to be succeeded by Vice-president
Lewis. The latter will make several
changes in the official force.

BUSINESS GAINS SAYS "JIM" HILL

Big Man of Northwestern Rail- road Situation, While Not too Optimistic not Pessimistic

(By Leased Wire to the Times.)
New York, March 31.—James J. Hill
is quoted as saying in a talk on the
business situation, that, while he could
not permit himself to be too optimistic,
he was trying not to be pessimistic.
Mr. Hill supplemented this cryptic ut-
terance as follows:

"The general recovery in business
which had been predicted has not yet
manifested itself to any considerable
degree, and it is not to be expected
that it should. The prevailing condi-
tions were not brought about over-
night; they are the result of events of
many months, and a revival will, no
doubt, be correspondingly gradual.

"The railroads are not reflecting an
improved situation in the way of earn-
ings. They have been saying 'fight
along' 'wait until spring.' But now
spring is here and they are saying,
'wait till summer.' Then the cry will
probably be, 'wait till winter.'"

OMNIBUS WAR TO COME IN LONDON

(By Cable to the Times)
London, March 31.—Two of the
most powerful amalgamations of om-
nibuses have engaged in a great fight
for the motor omnibus traffic of Lon-
don. The total capital involved will
be over \$20,000,000. In all proba-
bility there will be a rate-cutting
war. The companies involved are the
General and Vanguard on one side
and the London Road and Great
Eastern on the other.

WATKINS GIVES TRUST A NAME

Calls Paper Combination "One
of Hydra-Headed Monsters
Tightening Hold on People"

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Washington, March 31.—"One of
the hydra-headed monsters that have
been tightening their hold upon the
people," was the way Representative
Watkins, of Louisiana, referred to
the paper trust during a speech in
the house in which he advocated the
removal of the duty on wood pulp.

The newspaper, he argued, was
one of the main civilizing agencies
of the world, and in this country it,
he said, "sheds light in 15,000,000
homes," while today, he further de-
clared, the newspaper industry was
working in harmony with organized
labor. "Its operating expenses are
higher," he said, "because union
labor is more expensive than unor-
ganized labor was a few years ago."

There was, he charged, a tariff on
everything that went to make a
newspaper.

"This," he said, "is purely and
simply a donation to the paper trust,
and a tax on the newspaper and
other printing interests of the coun-
try."

The newspaper, he declared, had
been patient and forbearing and
long suffering.

"As the moulders of public opin-
ion," he said, "they could almost
cause a revolution if they would."

"If the government continued to
perpetuate monopolies," he said,
"we will bid farewell to state
rights, to individual liberty, to the
equality of all men before the law
and humble ourselves in sackcloth
and ashes before the plutocracy of
the country and, as suppliants, bow
down before the throne of our rul-
ers."

OLD VOLCANO GETS ON JOB

Folks In Guatemala Living In Dread Lava Stream and De- struction of Everything

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
San Francisco, March 31.—News
was brought here by steamer of the
active eruption of a volcano in Gua-
temala, which was supposed to be
extinct, at the base of which is the
town of San Felipe. This volcano is
opposite Santa Maria, the volcano
which recently wiped out town after
town.

It began to rumble and emit smoke
a few weeks ago, and now it is in
complete eruption. Residents of
Quesaltenango, the nearest town on
the mountain side, anticipate a flow
of lava that will wipe out the town.
Mark Edson, who brought the news,
said:

"The first signs of a volcano were
the usual deep rumblings and an un-
steady feeling of the earth, and we
all looked for another eruption from
Santa Maria. After several days a
sudden convulsion of the earth was
followed by a complete stillness, and
then the old, extinct volcano, which
no one suspected of any life, shot out
a magnificent stream of smoke and
fire, while the lake in its crater was
converted into a cloud of steam that
spread out, umbrella-shaped, several
thousand feet in the air.

"Streams of lava flowing outside
the cone were ominous when I left,
and the signs were all for a tremen-
dous eruption."

RAILROADS WILL OBEY THE COURT

If the Highest Bench Decides
Against Them on Constitution-
ality of "Commodity Clause"

COUNSEL ASSURES THEM THAT ACT CANNOT STAND

President Takes the View That the
Roads Have Troubles of Their
Own and Will Not, Therefore,
Invite Disaster of "Unreasonable
Obedience" to Statute's Letter.

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Washington, D. C., March 31.—It
is stated on what is considered ques-
tionable authority that the "com-
modity clause" of the new railroad rate
law will not be rigidly enforced by the
federal government until a decision on
its constitutionality has been rendered
by the supreme court. This clause
makes it unlawful after May 1, 1908,
for any railroad to transport any article
or commodity other than timber and
the manufactured products thereof,
manufactured, mined or produced by it,
or in which it is directly or indirectly
interested, except such articles or com-
modities as are necessary for its own
use as a common carrier.

President Roosevelt has carefully
considered the disastrous effects that
might follow the unreasoning obedience
to the letter of this law without con-
sidering its spirit, and he has no desire
to increase the embarrassments that
surrounds the railroads in their efforts
to comply with the law. He has, ac-
cordingly, directed the department of
justice to institute proceedings as soon
as possible after May 1, in order that
a prompt determination of the question
by the supreme court may be obtained.
It is understood that the railroads
concerned will cooperate with the gov-
ernment. The roads have been advised
by counsel that the law is unconstitu-
tional and, while they may proceed on
this assumption, it is understood they
have given the most emphatic assur-
ance to the government that if the
court should decide against them they
will immediately, in good faith, comply
with the law.

CORRIGAN CONTROLS CITY PARK'S PLANT

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
New York, March 31.—Although
neither party to the transaction is
talking about it with any degree of
positiveness, it is almost certain the
transfer of the stock owned by S. L.
Heaslip was made to Edward Corrigan
yesterday. This block of stock,
whether owned outright by Corrigan
or by some of his friends, gives him
control of the city park plant, and
probably will be responsible for many
changes when that track opens again
next year. It is understood Heaslip
will continue to have an interest and
will be re-elected president at the an-
nual meeting.

Old-Time Ball Player Gone.

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Newark, N. J., March 31.—Charles
Sweeney, a noted baseball player of
twenty-five years ago, is dead at the
Newark city hospital from consump-
tion. He was sixty-one years old and
a native of Newark.

MAN FROM NORTH HAS CLOSE CALL

Little Bit More and Chapin of
Vermont Would Have Been
Swung Into Eternity

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Atlanta, Ga., March 31.—The tim-
ely arrival of the county police at an
early hour this morning kept a mob
of negroes from lynching B. R. Chap-
lin, a young white man seized by
them and dragged from the bed-
room of a negro dwelling in Browns-
ville, a negro suburb and the scene
of much of the horror of the Sep-
tember, 1906, riot.

Chaplin was rescued and jailed. He
is a mill operative and a native of
Vermont.

COL. STEWART EXILED OFFICER

Man Second in Rank in Coast
Artillery Corps Sent to Ari-
zona Without Explanation

RELATIVES CAN'T FIND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

Wife and Daughter Driven From Ad-
ministration Building By "Big
Stick" Answer That "Assignment
Was Made for Military Reasons."
Refuffs for Both.

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
San Francisco, Cal., March 31.—
Exalted by decrees such as monarchs
resort to, stripped of his command
without any explanation and secretly
consigned to pass the closing
years of a long and honorable mili-
tary career in what practically
amounts to solitary confinement in
an abandoned army post in the wilds
of Arizona, is the fate of Col. Wil-
liam J. Stewart, second ranking of-
ficer in the coast artillery corps and
a native of San Francisco.

Such are the conditions under
which Col. Stewart is living at Fort
Grant in a little daobe house in the
valley between the Pinaleno and
Calumet mountains, so far in the
frontier territory that lack of com-
mon appointments keeps his wife
and young daughter from him. They
are in Washington, enlisting the aid
of such men as Senator Tillman.

Counselor Charles Stewart is ap-
pealing to Senators Perkins and
Flint to ask for a congressional in-
quiry into what they characterize as
"the most extraordinary incident in
the history of the United States
army."

Official correspondence shows Col.
Stewart was peremptorily relieved
of command at Fort Barrancas, Fla.,
and sent to Fort Grant by order of
President Roosevelt. The war de-
partment informed him that the or-
der was made by instruction of the
president and was based on a report
submitted to and acted on by the
chief executive.

Mrs. Stewart and her daughter
have made visits daily to the ad-
ministration building, and many
friends have done the same, asking
that some explanation be given.
They have met with rebuffs.

Arguments of every kind, made
with all the eloquence of blood re-
latives and friends of half a century,
have elicited only the curt and final
reply: "The assignment was made
for military reasons."

HIGH POINT MAN MADE COMMISSIONER TODAY.

Adjutant General Thomas R. Robert-
son today issued a commission to H. A.
Mills, of High Point, as battalion
quartermaster and commissary of the
first infantry, with rank of second lieuten-
ant, in place of Lawrence Young, of
Asheville, promoted to major.

The adjutant general orders an elec-
tion in Company M., first infantry,
High Point, to fill all vacancies caused
by the resignation of H. A. Mills.

ONE LITTLE BOY FALLS AT DRILL

Mock Fire Alarm Last Bell on
Earth for 10-Year-Old
Lad in Georgia

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Tallahassee, Ga., March 31.—At the
public school yesterday the fire alarm
was sounded for the purpose of put-
ting the pupils through the drill.
Just as the line was forming Adrian
Adcock, ten years old, fainted and
died of apoplexy before physicians
could be summoned.

It is said this is not the first alarm
the boy has answered, and it is not
believed he was frightened to such an
extent that it would have caused his
death.

SEN. JOHNSON PITCHES INTO ALLEGED FRUIT TRUST FROM JERSEY

VENEZUELA DAY IN WASHINGTON

Secretary Root Transmits to
Congress Correspondence
With Castro's Country

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Washington, March 30.—Secretary
of State Root transmitted to con-
gress today the correspondence with
Venezuela concerning the American
claims. There are five questions
which have given this government
concern in its relations with Vene-
zuela. They are:

Claim of the New York & Ber-
mudez company, whose asphalt
properties have been forfeited and
are now being operated under the
direction of President Castro.

Claim of A. F. Jaurett, a natural-
ized American, expelled by the Vene-
zuelan government on the ground of
the claim of Orinoco corporation
which arose from repeated conces-
sions to various strangers of the ter-
ritory belonging to the corporation.

Claim of the Orinoco Steamship
company, due to the annulment of
an exclusive concession for naviga-
tion of the Orinoco river.

Claim of the United States and
Venezuelan company, growing out of
the annulment of an asphalt mining
and a railroad construction conces-
sion.

The most important of the five
claims involved in the dispute be-
tween the United States and Presi-
dent Castro is that of the New York
& Bermudez company to the asphalt
deposits of the South American Re-
public.

LAFOLLETTE LEADS KNOX ON LIABILITY

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Washington, March 31.—The sen-
ate committee on education and la-
bor today reported the Lafollette em-
ployers' liability bill. Thus the first
distinct advantage is won by the
Lafollette measure in the race between
it and the Knox bill on the same sub-
ject.

SOUTHERN WILL HAVE PARTY RATE

Two Cents A Mile, Per Capita,
to Be Charged Where There's
10 In A Crowd

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Washington, March 31.—The
Southern Railway announces that in
order to meet the competition of va-
rious lines in the southeastern ter-
ritory, it has taken steps to at once
establish over its whole system an
open party rate of two cents per
mile per capita for parties of ten or
more travelling together on one
ticket.

This action, according to Secre-
tary Edward Moseley, of the inter-
state commerce commission, and
President Finley of the Southern,
does not have to be approved by the
commission and, in consequence, no
notice of the establishment of a new
rate was filed with that body.

TWO MEN BADLY HURT IN FAMOUS THEATRE

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
New York, March 31.—Two work-
men were perhaps fatally hurt and
ten others seriously injured in the
collapse of the ceiling over the foyer
of the old Madison Square theatre
on 24th street today.

Wants Commerce and Labor
Department to See if It's In
Cahoots with South American
Republics to Control Trade

CLAIMS COSTA RICA IS PARTY TO CONSPIRACY

Banana Plantations Said to Have
Been Seized By Competitor of
Alabama Growers and Efforts for
Relief Got Blocked in the Courts.

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Washington, March 31.—Senator
Johnston, of Alabama, attacked the
United Fruit company of New Jer-
sey and introduced a resolution pro-
viding for its investigation by the
department of commerce and labor
with inquiry particularly into the
question whether this company is
shielding its operations behind the
government of any south or Oriental
American republic. The resolution
was referred, at the request of Sen-
ator Johnston, to the committee on
commerce.

Senator Johnston presented com-
plaint against the United Fruit com-
pany alleging that it is a combina-
tion organized in the state of New
Jersey with a capital of \$20,000,000
which, by the absorption of various
companies, controls 90 per cent of
the fruit trade of the United States.
It is alleged that in order to main-
tain prices it has been guilty of all
sorts of high-handed operations such
as throwing overboard cargoes of
fruit, giving away fruit to destroy
competition and arbitrarily fixing
fruit prices in the markets of New
York and New Orleans.

In the case of an Alabama com-
peting company, Senator Johnston
charged that the United Fruit com-
pany conspired with the government
of Costa Rica to seize the banana
plantations of this competitor and
that efforts to obtain relief in the
courts of this country were ineffec-
tive because of proceedings against
the southern government.

According to Senator Johnston,
the report of the German consul at
Costa Rica to his own government
had confirmed the complaint as to
the magnitude of this trust.

TOWER RESIGNS BERLIN POST

Dr. Hill Will Be Nominated This
Afternoon and Incident
Now is Closed

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Washington, D. C., March 31.—The
resignation of Charlemagne Tower as
ambassador to Germany has been re-
ceived, to take effect June 1. The pre-
sident will send the nomination of Dr.
David Jayne Hill as his successor to
the senate this afternoon.

NOISELESS GUN FROM BAY STATE INVENTOR

(By Leased Wire to the Times)
Worcester Mass., March 31.—Oliver
H. Smith, of this city, has invented
an apparatus for making noiseless
the discharge of all kinds of fire-
arms. His gun is wholly different from
the one invented recently by Hiram Percy
Maxim, for Smith's invention can be
carried about in a vest pocket and at-
tached at a moment's notice.

Smith does not allow close scruti-
ny of his attachment, but from a
demonstration it appears to be a kind
of cap, with a narrow bar across the
top, that fastens on to the end of the
barrel or muzzle, adding an inch or
more to its length. The outlet is the
exact bore of the shot, but project-
ing inward the bore increased
slightly.