

Lenoir News-Topic

State Library

THE COAL MINERS ARE NOW OUT ON A STRIKE

Almost All Union Men Quit, While Others Continued on the Job; Leaders Enjoyed from Participating in the Strike

Upward of 394,000 bituminous coal miners throughout the nation of a total of 615,000 men employed in the industry are in strike in response to the general strike call, effective at midnight Friday. Despite the Fed-Friday midnight. Just prior to this heads of the United Mine Workers of America were served with an order restraining them from taking further part in the conduct of the strike.

The petition of the government, upon which the restraining order was issued, charged that the union men were conspiring to limit the facilities for the production of coal and to restrict the supply and distribution of the fuel. The writ accordingly commanded them to refrain from continuing the alleged conspiracy. The petition emphasized that the suit was based on a wartime act by which the government was given control of the fuel and food supplies of the country, and also pointed out that the strike would cause cessation of transportation and thus throw back upon the public treasury the burden of paying the guaranteed incomes which the government contracted to pay the railroad when it took control of them. It was also brought out that the act in question was to continue in force until the end of the state of war had been proclaimed by the President.

Altogether, 84 leaders of the big coal miners' union were named in the restraining order.

In the face of virtually an unbroken front of approximately 425,000 striking coal miners, whose walk-out throughout the nation has produced almost complete paralysis of the production of bituminous coal, government officials and coal mine operators are in an optimistic mood. Additional movements of Federal and State troops into various coal fields were reported and thousands of carloads of fuel in transit were confiscated by the Federal railroad administration, diminishing the supply of private industries and municipalities, some of which already have felt the stopping of production. Officials of the mine workers, whose lips officially were sealed by the Federal court injunction issued at Indianapolis, remain silent.

Attorneys for the miners continue preparation of their side of the case preparatory to the hearing next Saturday in Federal court of the injunction proceedings and Washington officials were of the opinion that the broad powers of the restraining order prohibiting use of the strike funds would compel the miners to resume work.

The operators, so far as available reports show, have not made plans to combat the strike, notwithstanding the fact that troops, both Federal and State, have been sent in many instances to localities from which they might best guard the coal properties in the contingency of violent efforts to prevent non-union men from taking the places of the strikers. On the other hand, there has been no reported picketing activity by members of the unions. Both operators and strikers apparently have decided to await development before either of them takes a further definite step in the controversy.

The mines generally are closed down except for such men as the union permitted to remain to care for machinery and other equipment, although some mines in the different localities are still being operated.

So far as the government is able to prevent there will be no profiteering while the grim specter of winter, with coal bins dangerously low or bare, looms big and close at hand. Almost the first step taken was drafting of an order fixing a maximum price for all grades of coal. Re-establishment of the priorities list will put coal where it is most needed, and if it comes to that, the government will curtail consumption.

Following is the order of priority: steam railroads, inland and coastwise vessels; domestic, including hotels, hospitals and asylums; navy and army; public utilities, including plants and such portions of plants as supply light, heat and water for public use; producers and manufacturers of food, including refrigeration; national, State, county and municipal government emergency requirements; bunkers and other marine emergency requirements not specified above; producers of newsprint paper and plants necessary to the printing and publication of daily newspapers.

Coal held in transit is not to be unloaded in storage nor used until actually needed, so that if its use is later found unnecessary it can be forwarded to destination whenever practicable. Instructions issued provide that there will be as little disturbance as possible in the distribution of coal, but at the same time protecting the necessities of the railroads, which have a public duty to perform.

CALDWELL FARMERS MAY GET NEEDED INFORMATION

Many Small Water Powers Could Be Developed on Farms in County and Furnish Power for Labor-Saving Machinery

There are few farms in the county that do not have small water powers that could be developed for lighting the owner's home and barns and furnishing power for all farm machinery and farm and home conveniences. The trouble has been that nobody has given any particular attention to such developments. Now the University of the State has taken notice of these conditions and plans to help the farm owners in the erection of small power plants.

The promotion of home comforts and conveniences in the country homes all over North Carolina is planned by the University bureau of extension, working with the State highway commission. A group of experienced engineers from the faculty, with P. H. Daggett, professor of electrical engineering, as director, has been organized to advise and assist, free of all charge, in providing for rural communities better water supply systems, better sanitation, and to help develop natural water power possibilities.

Authority was given by the general assembly of 1917 to the State highway commission to carry out this program, and the commission enlisted the bureau of extension. Headquarters for the work will be at Chapel Hill. Prof. Mustard, who will have charge of electric lights and power projects, was at the State fair with the highway commission and already has several jobs on hand. Prof. Daggett and Saville have investigated successful rural telephones and small water power developments in Virginia, and the services of all these experts will be available to any groups that need their assistance.

Special emphasis has been laid by Prof. Daggett on the possibilities of small electric units in making up for the labor shortage on farms. "An electric unit driven by gasoline, kerosene or water power will do many jobs that ordinarily take the entire time of someone until they are finished, jobs that can be done better with a small motor for a few cents an hour than by any farm hand," said Prof. Daggett. "The bureau of extension will furnish free of charge engineering assistance in selecting, purchasing, installing and operating electric light and power plants for farm home and farm community uses."

THE CALDWELL DELEGATES BRING BACK GOOD REPORTS

J. E. Broyhill and Wm. F. Scholl Represented Caldwell Post of the American Legion in Its Meeting in Raleigh

The State convention of the American Legion, held in Raleigh Oct. 30, was a great success, according to the report made by Messrs. J. E. Broyhill and William F. Scholl, the Caldwell delegates. The first business session of the convention was held in the capitol in the hall of the house of representatives, with delegates from practically all of the forty-one North Carolina posts present.

It was realized by the convention that the history of the negroes in the war was very creditable, and it was decided that here should be two sections of the State convention each year—"A" and "B," with membership in section "B" for delegates from colored posts throughout the State. It was decided further that the two sections should have their conventions at the same time and in the same city and that it should be in fact one convention sitting in two separate sections.

Gov. T. W. Bickett and the delegates were guests of the Raleigh post at an elaborate luncheon in the Yorkborough Hotel. Immediately after the luncheon Gov. Bickett delivered a short address very complimentary to the legion. He said, with reference to the industrial troubles of the day: "The State is being taxed as never before to solve these problems. It is earnestly to be hoped that ways may be found in the regular normal processes of law to take care of each situation as it arises for the time to come. But there remains this substantial comfort," he added, "if the worst should come I feel that the nation can confidently rely on the membership of the American Legion to save from destruction over here the civilization for which you fought over there. I have no idea that the American soldier is going to tolerate for one moment any attempt to destroy or undermine the institutions and ideals for which you fought and died on the other side. And it is a solid comfort, I am sure, to the powers that be to know that if all the regular and orderly processes of government should fail to maintain our institutions we can look with confidence to you men and your comrades throughout the United States."

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: Chairman, John M. Besley; vice-chairman, Walter Clark, Jr.; secretary-treasurer, C. A. Gosney; chaplain, John M. Robeson; historian, Francis O. Clarkson.

Some of the resolutions adopted were as follows: Authorizing the executive committee to supervise the expenditure of funds; the sending to Congress and the postoffice department a memorial praying the retention of the Legion post building in Wilmington; appreciating the efforts of the war camp community service in organizing the legion; asking for the revision of the regulations of war risk insurance allowing families to receive all the allotment in one lump sum, and permitting discretionary change in the beneficiaries; endorsing the work of the North Carolina historical commission and pledging support; petition to Congress asking for the deportation of the disloyal and opposing the general amnesty proposed for those service men convicted of violations of military law, and opposing additional cash bonuses to service men.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held in Wilmington Sept. 2, 1920. The convention also elected delegates to the national convention at Minneapolis.



EX-GOV. M. R. PATTERSON

One of America's greatest Chautauqua lecturers and a Southern orator who for eloquence is unsurpassed.

As a platform orator he ranks with the very best. He has been heard by immense audiences in nearly every State in the Union. Lenoir is fortunate to have such a man deliver his famous lecture here on the subject, "The New Era—What Shall the Harvest Be?" He has the mind of a statesman, the eloquence of a Demosthenes, the manner of a Chesterfield and the heart of a woman. Hear him at the First Methodist church of Lenoir tonight at 7:30. No charge for admission.

TO REGULATE SALE OF BORAX-POTASH FOR FERTILIZER

The United States department of agriculture has investigated the damage to crops attributed to the use of fertilizer containing high borax-potash, and has traced in importance instances this potash to the product of Seales Lake. In order to permit the safe use of this product in future the department has, under authority of the control act of Aug. 19, 1917, decided to place such restrictions on the use of potash salts containing borax as will guarantee the use of an application of not more than two pounds of anhydrous borax per acre. In order to effect this measure of safety the department has issued instructions to the producers of potash salts at Seales Lake and to all brokers, fertilizer manufacturers and mixers not to sell potash salts direct to farmers as straight goods when they contain more than five-tenths of one per cent of borax, and not to sell mixed fertilizers containing more than two pounds of borax per ton unless the amount of borax contained is plainly shown upon the container.

This regulation is issued to insure that in no case shall a fertilizer application be made by farmers without their knowledge, which would add more than two pounds of borax to the acre. The department feels that such restrictions will make the use of potash sales from Seales Lake as safe under all conditions of agriculture as is the use of nitrate of soda, acid phosphate and other fertilizer constituents.

PERMANENT WORK ON C. & N.-W. TO EDGE MONT

Putting in Steel Bridges Across Wilson Creek—Improvement Along Railroad Continues—Little Else Being Done

Carolina & Northwestern construction crews are putting in permanent steel bridges across Wilson creek at Mortimer and above Mortimer, between that place and Edgemont. Already two of these new bridges have been about completed. In July, 1916, these bridges were washed out at the same time the valleys of that whole end of the county were flooded.

This permanent construction work on the Carolina & Northwestern track is only the only life visible along the line north of Collettsville and Adako. To those who knew Mortimer prior to 1916 when the W. M. Ritter Lumber Company was operating a big mill there, the Mortimer of today would hardly be recognizable. Today it looks like the hand of death has rested heavily upon all its bounds. Edgemont is little better, if any. There are a number of families of good folks still living at these places, but since the big lumber company ceased operations and moved the plant away little else has been left in the way of commercial activity.

At Mortimer Theo Bean has bought the stock of goods from Perry Killian and operates a store of the convenience of the few people living in the community. Charlie Curlee at Edgemont serves the people of that place and through the surrounding mountains with a good stock of merchandise.

Friday night the people at Edgemont were treated to a Halloween party. It was given by Miss Annie Lindsay, principal of the Edgemont school, and the school children. The party was thoroughly enjoyed by the entire population of the village.

There is plenty of coon hunting around Edgemont and Mortimer. Thursday night of last week Conductor Sherman Winkler, with Walter Sulderth of Edgemont, caught three coons up one tree. There were five up the same tree, but one got away and the hunters said that three big coons were as many as they wanted and left the last one for some future time.

It seem as great pity that the Ritter property at Mortimer should be allowed to go to waste. There are some 35 to 40 houses there. Ten or twelve of this number are excellent houts, and then there is the big hotel, or club house. The entire property should be worth at least \$35,000 to \$40,000. Wilson creek runs right through the village. There is an excellent water power of about 500 to 600 hower. It seems that this property could easily be developed into a cotton or hosiery mill. Then it would be of some good to the county. It would be a great asset. The development of this property into a cotton mill would afford a market for the farm and truck produce for a great area of the surrounding mountain country.

OCT. WARMEST MONTH OF THE YEAR AT BOONE

Halloween Observed and Special Program Given—Rev. J. R. Walker Succeeds Mr. Powell as Pastor at Boone

(By J. M. Downum)

Something unusual for October at Boone occurred, since there was not any frost or cold weather during the entire month. In fact, Col. W. L. Bryan, who kept a record of the weather, tells us that October averaged the warmest month during the year. Of course this unusual thing could not happen anywhere else than at Boone.

Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Watts of Patterson were at the school Thursday to see their daughter Beatrice. Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Loooper, their daughter and son were here Saturday to see their son Jesse at the school.

Halloween was observed on Friday night, much to the amusement of the young people. The program was under the direction of the young ladies' literary societies. Part of it was simply to amuse, but the music by the young ladies on stringed instruments was especially good. Refreshments were served at the close.

Prof. Downum returned Monday of the past week from the Methodist conference at Greensboro.

A walk and driveway is being made by the young men of the school from the school buildings to the boys' dormitory. This is on a part of the survey made recently by the landscape artist.

The recent conference of the Methodist church changed Rev. H. L. Powell from Boone to Brevard. The people here regret to give him up, but their best wishes go with him in his new field. He preached his two last sermons on Sunday. At the morning service an interesting event took place when Mr. Powell requested two young ladies to take down and fold the service flag that hung in the church, and then led in a short prayer especially for the loved ones of the two boys represented by the two golden stars.

Boone is delighted to have as the pastor of the Methodist church for the coming year Rev. J. R. Walker, who did such fine work in securing the means to build "Weaver hall" at Rutherford College.

Monday evening of this week the English department presented the first number of volume two of the Appalachian Training School magazine. All the work was original, consisting of the editor's foreword, class song by the second year, three editorials by the different classes, a biographical sketch of a dignified senior, four poems by the juniors, a story by a senior, jokes, and closing with a drama written and presented by the seniors entitled "Duty First." This latter and the entire program as to its literary feature was very creditable to the young people and the teacher in charge—in fact, would be rather creditable to older and wiser heads.

EX-GOV. PATTERSON WILL SPEAK HERE TONIGHT

Anti-Saloon Has Planned Campaign Over the State and County; Patterson to Speak at the Methodist Church

Ex-Gov. Patterson of Tennessee will deliver a lecture here tonight at the First Methodist church. The address is just one of a great campaign, covering the entire country, to enlighten the people on the laws against liquor.

The Anti-Saloon League has planned a speakers' campaign that will cover the State. Three hundred and forty addresses will be delivered, beginning Nov. 2 and ending Dec. 21. Electors are men of national reputation who have made their mark on the battle field, in the political arena, in the pulpit and on the platform.

Col. Dan Morgan Smith, commander of the "Battalion of Death" at St. Mihiel; Drs. George W. Young of Kentucky, J. D. McAlister of Tennessee, Ernest V. Claypool of Rhode Island and George W. Morrow of Michigan, ex-Gov. M. R. Patterson of Tennessee, Congressman Will D. Upshaw and Hon. Joseph G. Camp of Georgia and Wayne B. Wheeler, general counsel for the Anti-Saloon League of America, Washington, D. C., are among the fifteen speakers who will campaign the State.

In their addresses they will make clear the law as it is laid down in the law enforcement code recently passed by Congress. Some things that have been permitted by our State prohibition law will now be prohibited by this national act.

The speakers will also inform the people of the larger plans now being laid to aid the other countries in their fight against liquor, and will tell about the organization of the "World League Against Alcoholism" and the league's purpose to raise a fund of fifty million in the next five years to put the world dry and to enforce our law at home.

Four field secretaries under the direction of Supt. Davis have been in the State for some time planning the meetings. Already over half of the 340 meetings have been dated and the others will be in a short time.

MRS. COVINGTON ENTERTAINS THE WISE AND OTHERWISE

The Wise and Otherwise Club boasts among its number many charming hostesses, but none more so than Mrs. Walter Steele Covington, who recently entertained the club most delightfully. The guests were ushered into the north parlor, which was aglow with brilliant yellow cactus, dahlias and other autumn flowers. The subject for this year's study is "Great Names in American Literature," each member selecting her own author. Mrs. Covington had chosen James Russell Lowell. In these days it is a temptation to read only current literature, and so it is refreshing to go back and renew the acquaintance of the versatile and brilliant authors of a past generation. A sketch of Lowell's life and several selections, both serious and humorous, were heard with much pleasure. A feature of the program was the very interesting current events, which were both entertaining and instructive.

MRS. MOORE HONOR GUEST OF MAIDS AND MATRONS

Mrs. W. M. Moore was honor guest at a delightful party given by the Maids and Matrons Club last Thursday afternoon from 3 to 5 o'clock at the home of Mrs. E. L. Steele, on Mulberry street. The gathering was in the nature of a farewell to Mrs. Moore, who left this week for Statesville, where she will make her home in the future. A beautiful decorative scheme was carried out in the spacious Steele home, white and yellow chrysanthemums predominating.

Several tables were arranged for progressive games and a number of very interesting games were played. After the guests were served delicious cream and cake, in which the color scheme of yellow and white was carried out, they were invited into the dining room, where coffee and tea were served by Mesdames Wakefield and Hoyle.

Mrs. Moore was presented with a beautiful set of silver spoons by the club, of which she was a member. Mrs. H. M. Teague made the presentation as president of the club, expressing the regret of the members over the loss of Mrs. Moore.

Several toasts were given for the honoree, one from the Wise and Otherwise Club by Mrs. Covington and one from the Maids and Matrons Club by Mrs. Hicks.

Another pleasing feature of the afternoon were the readings given by Mrs. J. E. Hoyle.

The Wise and Otherwise Club and several other guests were present.

NO BREAD IN PETROGRAD FOR THE PAST TWO WEEKS

A dispatch from Helsingfors, Finland, says that Petrograd has been without bread for the last two weeks, thousands of persons dying daily, according to information brought to Helsingfors by a Finn who escaped from a prison camp at Moscow Oct. 12. The population of Petrograd has fallen below 400,000, he said. The schools were closed owing to lack of fuel, he also reported, while the prices of foodstuffs now available were so high as to be entirely out of reach of the poor. Herrings were bringing 200 rubles each, and potatoes 110 rubles the pound. Milk was 80 rubles the pint, and meat was unobtainable.

A dispatch from Stockholm says the famine in Petrograd is assuming terrible proportions. Forty thousand persons have died from starvation within a month, it is declared.

LENOIR FOLKS TO OBSERVE TUESDAY ARMISTICE DAY

Stores Sign Agreement to Close—It is a Legal Holiday in the State and Will Be Generally Observed

Tuesday, the first anniversary of the signing of the armistice between the allied and central powers, will be observed in Lenoir. Practically every merchant and business house in the city has signed an agreement to remain closed for the entire day.

Following is the list:

First National Bank, Bank of Lenoir, Bernhardt-Seagle Co., E. D. Pulliam, McCall & Powell, Lenoir Grocery Company, G. W. Cloer & Son, W. C. Brannon, K. A. Link, The Leader, Harrison & Co., Lenoir Feed Store, Boldin & Turner, E. A. Abernethy, Price-Cline Harness and Tanning Co., W. S. Miller & Son, Hickory Grocery Company, Hefstine's, T. C. Robbins, M. F. Cloer, M. M. Ballew, W. A. and A. V. Miller, W. F. Wakefield, Hoffield & Son, Hoffman & Son, Lenoir Hardware and Furniture Company, Courtney's Clothing Company, M. M. Courtney's Department Stores, H. T. Newland, Will Watson, Lenoir Book Company, W. O. Shell, J. H. Dinglehoof, A. A. Blackwelder, Ballew's Cash Pharmacy and the Lenoir Drug Store will close for the afternoon.

There is no announcement so far of any special services at any of the church.

A bill declaring Nov. 11 a legal holiday in North Carolina was passed by the last general assembly. Here is the act, which is found in chapter 287 of the public laws of 1919:

"The general assembly of North Carolina do enact:

"Section 1. That the 11th day of each and every November be, and the same is hereby, designated, declared and set apart as a legal holiday for all the citizens of North Carolina.

"Sec. 2. That the governor shall annually issue his proclamation proclaiming the 11th day of November as a legal holiday and calling upon the people to appropriately celebrate and observe the same.

"Sec. 3. That this act shall be in force from and after its ratification."

HALLOWEEN PARTY FOR THE NEW IDEA CLUB

The home of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Meekins was the scene of the most delightful party of the year for the New Idea Club—and their husbands. Jack o' lanterns, autumn leaves, black cats, owls and witches were everywhere in evidence, and creeping around in this weird atmosphere were numerous ghosts and a witch. After much blowing and sighing on the part of the taller ghosts Mr. Owl said "Who's who," then on came the lights and off came the masks, revealing many large eyes and much pent-up laughter which last throughout the entire evening as one jolly game after another was staged. One thing of special interest was the ushering of each one into the witch's den, where fortunes were drawn from the pot, and afterwards read aloud by the witch. The various games were interspersed with Halloween goodies such as nuts, fruits and home-made mints. Mrs. Carr assisted the hostess in serving a delicious salad course; also presenting the guests with beautiful bright-colored crepe paper, caps and aprons bedecked with Halloween figures.

Those present on this splendid occasion were Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. E. G. Powell, Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Huntley, Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Stimson, Mr. and Mrs. Carr, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Teague, Mrs. C. W. Hailey and Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Barlow.

W. M. CHILDERS DIED FRIDAY; INTERMENT SATURDAY

Mr. W. M. Childers died Friday shortly after noon at the age of 66 years and seven months. Death came as a result of a stroke of paralysis about four months ago. During the weeks since receiving the stroke Mr. Childers had been confined to his home. Interment took place Saturday afternoon at Harper's chapel.

Surviving Mr. Childers is his wife, four daughters, Misses Harriet and Ella Childers, Mrs. Emma Borders and Mrs. Annie Triplett, and three sons, R. C. and Monroe of this place and A. C. Childers of Lincoln.

Dr. W. S. Rankin, secretary of the North Carolina State board of health, was elected president of the American Public Health Association at a meeting in New Orleans a few days ago.

L. U. Stevens, arrested in Asheville with three quarts and a pint of liquor, was released by Judge Wells of the Asheville police court, who held that a man has a right to have one gallon of whiskey in his possession if he can prove a good character.