

STATESVILLE BANKER COMMITS SUICIDE AS RESULT OF SHORTAGE

C. E. Pennington, Assistant Cashier, Takes His Life In Rash Moment.

CASHIER GUY INVOLVED

Shortage of \$85,000 Is Found In the Accounts of the Latter.

STATESVILLE, July 14.—C. E. Pennington, assistant cashier of the First National bank of Statesville, which was today found by a bank examiner to be short in its accounts approximately \$85,000, shot himself through the left temple tonight at 9:45 o'clock at his home, dying 45 minutes later from the effects of the wound.

Mr. Pennington left four notes, one addressed to the president of the bank, R. A. Cooper, one to John W. Guy, Sr., cashier, whose accounts are alleged to be short, one to his wife and one to his small daughter in all of which he expressed sorrow for Guy and in the one to his wife declared that his record was clean and his books straight but intimated a knowledge of the trouble in which his senior officer and the institution now find themselves involved.

Accounts Thought Straight

Mr. Pennington left the porch, on which he had been sitting with his wife and daughter and a neighbor, about 2 o'clock, excusing himself and retiring to his room upstairs. Shortly thereafter the report of the revolver started the other people in the house, and an investigation disclosed that the official, who was alone at the time, had shot himself. He was found lying across the bed with a bullet hole through his temple. He died shortly after friends reached his side.

Mr. Pennington was about 40 years of age and a native of Virginia. He is said to have been a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington. He came to Statesville from Kirtland, this state several years ago, to accept the position in the Statesville bank which he was holding at the time of his death. His wife is also said to be a Virginian. There is no suspicion in Statesville that there is anything wrong with the accounts of Mr. Pennington. The general belief seems to be that he was conscience-stricken at not having divulged knowledge in his possession as to conditions that had obtained at the bank, which came to light with the report of the examiner today entailing the shortage.

Cashier Guy was still at liberty at a late hour tonight, and apparently no move has been made looking to his arrest. The assumption of responsibility for the shortage by the board of directors would lead to the conclusion that no criminal action is contemplated unless it is taken by the government or the bonding company which had guaranteed the cashier in the performance of his duties.

Directors Assume Shortage

Immediately upon announcement of the condition of the bank the officers and directors assumed charge of the institution, and made provision to protect patrons against any possible loss. The bank will continue in operation with President R. A. Cooper acting as cashier.

The revelation of the condition of the bank came as a surprise both to the public and to the directors. It was said twice during the present year an examiner has been over the books of the institution, and in each instance reported everything all right.

The report of the controller of the bank at the close of business as of June 30 showed total resources of \$95,223.58. In the face of this report the two recent reports of the examiner, there had been no suspicion of anything wrong.

The directors state that the stock of this bank is absolutely 100 cents on the dollar, and that depositors will be fully protected against any loss whatever.

Coming on top of other recent bank failures at Thomasville, High Point, and Raleigh, in each of which there had been allegations of misappropriations of funds and other irregularities, the shortage reported in the Statesville bank has had a tendency to create misapprehension in the minds of the people.

BIG FOUR CLERKS, EMPLOYEES HANDLERS TAKE STRIKE VOTE

CINCINNATI, O., July 14.—New elements in the railway strike situation developed late yesterday when unofficial reports at international headquarters of the railway clerks, station employes and freight handlers indicated that a strike vote was being taken by approximately 4,000 men of this service on the Big Four Railroad System, and the statements of the general chairman of the association of the maintenance of way brotherhood, on leaving for Louisville, that he carried requests from a majority of the general chairmen of the brotherhood that he call a meeting of the general chairmen's association at which plans could be perfected to call a strike of 400,000 maintenance of way workers.

An important announcement was that

Rail Strike Brought To A New Crisis When Maintenance Of Way Employees Threaten Strike

Fresh Outbreaks of Violence Occur in Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri.

MAILS MUST BE MOVED

Informal Negotiations to Settle Shopmen's Strike On 17 Roads.

CHICAGO, July 14.—(By the Associated Press) Strike threats by maintenance of way employes, overshadowed the last ten days of the shopmen's strike, broke out again today, bringing the rails strike to a new crisis as it neared the end of the second week. Fresh outbreaks of violence, notably in Texas, Oklahoma and Missouri; President Harding's determination steps to keep the mails moving, and informal negotiations for a settlement of the shopmen's strike on 17 roads in the northwest were among the important developments of the last twenty four hours.

Pressure by many of his general chairmen upon E. F. Grable, president of the United Brotherhood of Maintenance of Way Employees and Railway Shop Laborers, pushed the common labor problem to the front again. Mr. Grable's action in withholding strike orders after maintenance of way employes voted to join the walkout, did not please many of the organization's general chairmen, who passed on their chief the persistent demands of the rank and file for concerted action. Mr. Grable arrived in Chicago while threats to disregard his refusal to join the walkout came from within his organization. The general chairmen, he asserted, had no authority to call a strike, and he indicated an intention to remain firm in his refusal to sanction a strike.

The maintenance of way men's chief declared that no special significance was attached to his midnight conference last night with B. M. Jewell, the shopmen's strike leader. Mr. Grable stopped in Chicago on his return from Kansas City after conferences with his chairmen there, he asserted that he had no further grievances at present to take before the Railroad Labor Board, mediations by those chairmen, B. W. Hooper and W. L. McMenimen, one of the three labor members, prevented threatened July 1 walkout by maintenance men.

Mr. Grable admitted he was with difficulty holding his men in line. Many maintenance employes, who reluctantly remained at work when the shopmen walked off their jobs July 1, since have joined the strike.

The new crisis caused by threats from the maintenance men arrived as peace moves to end the shopmen's strike had apparently slowed up materially except for conferences at St. Paul, which lent the only hopeful air to the situation.

The initial St. Paul conferences between P. A. Henning, chairman of the Federated Shop Crafts of the North-western district, and rail officials, brought no definite results, but both sides admitted that negotiations had advanced to a stage that gave promise of a settlement of the strike on the 17 roads of the northwestern group. Mr. Henning went so far as to assert that he believed it was entirely possible to settle the strike on a national basis in 48 hours. Before entering the St. Paul negotiations Mr. Henning conferred with Mr. Jewell, who had asserted that it was upon a national basis only, and through direct negotiations of the roads that the shopmen's strike would be ended.

Chairman Hooper, of the Labor Board, who announced formulation of new plans for ending the strike, was closely watched for his next move for peace.

Meanwhile disturbances, in connection with the strike continued.

State troops guarded every approach to the properties of the Missouri Pacific railroad at Popular Bluff, Mo., today. It was learned from a reliable source that the railroad had brought outside workmen and planned to resume work at the shops.

Two hundred and fifty state troops mobilized at Sedalia, Mo., were under sealed orders to entrain for service early today.

Mr. Grady Gilbert, who underwent an operation at the Gaston Sanatorium Wednesday, is reported today as getting along nicely.

Mr. C. C. Harmon, who underwent an operation at the Gaston Sanatorium Tuesday, is making rapid progress toward recovery.

Party of Four Young Men Are Making Fast Trip Across Continent—To Los Angeles By Tuesday.

Mr. Miles Ruidisill, manager for Schlotz, the Florist, has received the following telegram sent Thursday night from Denver, Col.

"Spent Tuesday in Denver, Wednesday in Colorado Springs. Boll Weevil swarmed her stuff on Pike's Peak. Have crossed the Great Divide. Now in senioria country. Four horsemen going good. Will set the desert on fire tomorrow for Los Angeles. Will be there by Tuesday. All feeling fine. Four horsemen."

Great interest is being manifested locally over the trip being made by four Gastonia young men, Kenneth Parker, Walter Anderson, Everett Jordan and Pink Rankin, who left here July first in a Ford car for San Francisco.

"BOLL WEEVIL SPECIAL" REACHES LAS VEGAS, N. M.

Dr. J. A. Anderson received a message this afternoon from his son, Walter Anderson, who is a member of the "Boll Weevil Special," which left here Saturday, July 1st, for a trip across the continent, stating that the party reached Las Vegas, New Mexico, today, having crossed the Great Divide yesterday. The party, consisting of four traveling in a specially equipped Ford, expects to reach Los Angeles Sunday or Monday.

"BOLL WEEVIL SPECIAL" REACHES LAS VEGAS, N. M.

The names of three women will appear on the various ballots. Two are seeking congressional nomination. They are Mrs. E. Luella Barton, of Lincoln in the first district, running on the prohibition ticket, and Mrs. Irene C. Buell, of Ashland, in the fourth district, on the Democratic ballot. Mrs. Emma Hanlon Paul, of Harvard, seeks the progressive nomination for Lieutenant Governor.

The only candidate, other than Mrs. Barton, of the prohibition party is John M. Johnson of University place who is running for Lieutenant Governor.

LUTHERAN SUMMER SCHOOL AT MOUNT PLEASANT

Summer School For Church Workers Begins July 19 and Lasts One Week—Rev. G. H. C. Park, of Gastonia, Chairman of Faculty.

The North Carolina Lutheran Summer School for Church Workers will be held this year at Mount Pleasant Seminary at Mount Pleasant July 19 to 26.

The object of this school is to give instruction and training in all lines of church activity. The meetings will be devoted to classes in Sunday School teacher training, mission study, stewardship and methods of work, together with assemblies for music and special lectures. The afternoons will be free for rest, recreation and general fellowship. There will be a program for the entire school each evening.

The faculty includes Rev. G. H. C. Park, of Gastonia; Rev. D. Burt Smith, D. D. of Philadelphia; Rev. A. G. Voight, LL. D., of Columbia, S. C.; and many other well known ministers and church workers of the Lutheran denomination.

Information regarding reservation of rooms and entertainment may be obtained from Prof. J. H. C. Fisher, Mt. Pleasant, N. C.

COTTON MARKET

CLOSING BIDS ON THE NEW YORK MARKET

NEW YORK, July 14.—Cotton futures closed easy; spots quiet. 20 points down.

July 22-24; October 22-26; December 22-31; January 22-23; March 21-21; May 21-21; spots 22.65.

TODAY'S COTTON MARKET

Receipts..... none
Price offered..... 21 cents
(Said to good middling.)

of the Big Four railroad officials had been restored to the clerks on that clearing that sick leaves and vacations road, in keeping with the announced Mr. Carroll planned to meet with policy of the New York Central lines.

Louisville & Nashville officials today in an effort to reach an agreement on the wages and working conditions of men in that group.

O.icals of the clerks' union said it was very probable there will be a entering Cincinnati, unless management are willing to do business with our committee. They declined to comment on the strike vote reported on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad but declared that the Norfolk & Western clerks "strike was 100 per cent.

HAGGARD MEETING HAD BEST SERVICE LAST NIGHT

Services to Be Held at Lory Mill Gate Today—Cottage Prayer Meetings Have Been Very Successful.

(Report for The Gazette.)

The services at the big tent were the best last night that they have been at all. There was no excitement at all, and the personal work done was as fine as could be. Many of the church members of this section of our city went out and did all they could to win the lost to the side of right. Many made profession of religion. We do not know how many, but a great number of them. The crowd was fine for the threatening weather. Reports from the cottage prayer meetings were fine. Many of them were held yesterday afternoon. Many more are going to be held today. Rev. Mr. Barnes and his wife are doing some noble work along this line. Many more are assisting them. This is one of the most telling things that is being done. Several professions have been made in these prayer meetings. Services are going to be held at the Lory mill gate today at 12:40 and 5:40. This will give time for fifteen minutes service and then allow the hands five minutes to get to their work. We are expecting great things from these services. All of the workers in the meeting are going to be in these services. We are going to have some solos, duets and quartets sung. The meeting was an especial feature of the night last night. The choir did its best, but the most enjoyable feature of the introductory was a duet sung by Mr. Sumner and Miss Ruh Haggard. It was that song written by Tinley: "What Are They Doing in Heaven Tonight?" They rendered it exceedingly well, and all seemed to enjoy it. Many preachers out of town are attending this meeting. We are glad to see them. This evangelist is very plain, and if a preacher does not stand pat on all of the sins of today, he is not likely to add much to this meeting. It is not any trouble to tell where the evangelist stands. He is a man of marked convictions. True, he is rather plain about his expressions, but that is what it takes to do things these days.

BOLL WEEVIL SPECIAL REACHED DENVER THURSDAY

Party of Four Young Men Are Making Fast Trip Across Continent—To Los Angeles By Tuesday.

will elect U. S. Senator, Governor, and ongressional Delegation—Uncertainty As to How Women Will Vote.

OMAHA, Neb., July 14.—(By the Associated Press) Republicans, Democrats and Progressives will go to the polls in Nebraska on July 28 to select candidates for their respective parties for U. S. Senator, Governor, practically every office that is elected in the state at large and a full congressional delegation. Prohibitionists have candidates for two offices.

Multiplicity of candidates, uncertainty as to how the women will vote, and the entrance into the Nebraska political arena of the third party, the Progressives, have left politicians guessing.

Senator Gilbert M. Hitchcock is seeking nomination on the Democratic ticket to succeed himself and he is opposed by Anthony T. Monahan of Omaha and J. O. Shroyer of Humboldt. Senator Hitchcock has announced his policy of being against the tariff and other measures sponsored by the national administration at Washington. Mr. Shroyer was drafted by dry Democrats, according to F. A. High, of Lincoln, president of the state anti-saloon league, whose announcement has given the race a touch of the prohibition issue, although Senator Hitchcock has stated that he considers the prohibition, as well as the suffrage question, settled issues.

Six prominent Nebraskans will contest for the Republican Senatorial nomination. They are: Albert E. Hefferies, of Omaha, present congressman from the second district; R. B. Howell, of Omaha, member of the Republican National Committee from Nebraska and elected to this position two years ago in a state wide primary; C. H. Gustafson, of Lincoln, head of the United States Grain Growers, Inc.; Attorney General Clarence A. Davis, of Omaha; John O. Yeider, of Omaha and Frank John, of Grand Island.

The Progressives will chose between Anson H. Biglow of Omaha and Arthur G. Wray of York.

Charles W. Bryan, of Lincoln, brother of Williams Jennings Bryan, is being opposed for the Democratic nomination for Governor by J. N. Norton, of Polk, Dan B. Butler of Omaha and Will M. Mainp, of Geneva. On the Republican side the race is between Albert H. Byrum of Bloomington, Adam McMullen of Beatrice; Charles G. Randall of Randolph and George W. Sterling, of Omaha.

The different attitudes that prevail in the progressive camp complicate somewhat the race for Governor on their ticket. Some progressives stand for fusion with the older parties, while others are opposed to such action. As a result the party, which was organized recently at Grand Island, has for one of its candidates, J. N. Norton, of Polk, who is also running on the Democratic ticket.

W. J. Taylor, of Merna is the other Progressive candidate for Governor and has announced that he is opposed to having anything to do with either of the major parties.

A similar situation exists in four of the six congressional districts where democratic candidates are also running on the progressive ticket. Under the Nebraska law, however, a candidate in the primary, running on two tickets, if defeated in a major party contest, cannot run in the following general election as a nominee on the minor ticket, unless the vote he polls in the minor contest is greater than that which he receives in the major party race.

The names of three women will appear on the various ballots. Two are seeking congressional nomination. They are Mrs. E. Luella Barton, of Lincoln in the first district, running on the prohibition ticket, and Mrs. Irene C. Buell, of Ashland, in the fourth district, on the Democratic ballot. Mrs. Emma Hanlon Paul, of Harvard, seeks the progressive nomination for Lieutenant Governor.

The only candidate, other than Mrs. Barton, of the prohibition party is John M. Johnson of University place who is running for Lieutenant Governor.

MANY TO HEAR JERSEY EXPERTS LECTURE TONIGHT

Judging from interest expressed by many people interested in dairying, both from the county and from Gastonia, will gather at the Chamber of Commerce Auditorium tonight at 8 o'clock to hear the address by Leonard Dunk, extension field man for the American Jersey Club. His lecture will be illustrated by forty slides and also by two reels of moving pictures, to be shown by Manager Estridge of the Gastonian Theatre.

The address will be of especial interest to all owning dairy cattle, whether Jerseys or not, and will be worth hearing. Prof. Ruffner and J. A. Avery will also be present and speak.

STATIONARY FIREMEN, ENGINEERS AND OILERS, NUMBERING 8,000 ARE CALLED TO GO ON STRIKE JULY 17

Harding And Cabinet Devote Another Day To Rail Strike

WASHINGTON, July 14.— President Harding and his advisers' again today devoted a Cabinet session to the rail and coal strikes.

Several of the cabinet officials arrived at the White House for the session bearing reports on the two industrial disturbances. Postmaster General Work had several reports on the mail situation as affected by the rail strike, Attorney General Daugherty said he had about a hundred telegrams, the nature of which he would not disclose. Secretaries Hoover and Davis had ready for presentation the latest information on the Government's proposals for arbitration of the coal strike, and Secretary Weeks was prepared to discuss possible action to maintain interstate commerce and transportation of the mails in accordance with the president's recent warning proclamation.

Secretary Weeks said he had received no advice from C. E. Schaff, receiver for the Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railroad, who was advised last yesterday by the Government to make another request of Governor Neff, of Texas, for protection by State troops on the

ELECTROCUTION STAYED BY SUPREME COURT APPEAL

COLUMBIA, S. C., July 14.— The electrocution of Edmund D. Bigham, Florence man convicted of the murder of his brother and charged also with the murder of his mother, sisters, and his sister's two adopted children, scheduled for today, was automatically stayed by an appeal to the Supreme Court.

The time for perfecting the appeal has not yet expired, but the appeal will be based on alleged after-discovered evidence, Bigham's attorney has announced. Solicitor Gasque, of Marion, who prosecuted Bigham, announces that he will appear before the Supreme Court in a sitting here on September 1 and move for dismissal of the appeal on the ground that it lacks merit.

STANDARD HARDWARE CLUB CHALLENGES NEW CLUB

The Standard Hardware baseball team comes forth with a challenge to the proposed Gastonia club, announcement of which was made in Thursday's issue of the Daily Gazette. The challengers stated to a Gazette reporter this morning that they would play the new aggregation at Lory Park next Wednesday afternoon or, if that did not suit, they could make arrangements to play the preceding Tuesday.

The "hard warers" have played the fast Kings Mountain team in two tight games and have recently signed seven new men. A game with the two clubs would be of much interest to local followers of the national pastime.

FIVE HUNDRED TO BE AT INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE

ASHEVILLE, N. C., July 14.—Fully 500 delegates from every section of the South are expected to reach the Southern Y. M. C. A. assembly at Blue Ridge today and to attend the Southern Industrial Conference on Human Relations in industry.

Both employes and employers are included in the student body of the conference, the object of which is development of a deeper spirit of co-operation and good will in industry. Executives from nearly every branch of industry will participate, representing textile, lumber, coal furniture, paper pulp, iron, steel, copper and tobacco manufactures. Ches. R. Townson, of New York, secretary of the industrial department of the International Y. M. C. A., will deliver the first lecture.

R. B. Wolf, of New York; B. E. Geer, Greenville, S. C.; Frank Cushman, of Washington, acting chief of industrial service; C. W. Coleman, La Grange, Ga.; Beulah B. Robertson, Asheville, E. J. Robertson, Newport News; Dr. George R. Stuart, of Birmingham, and others are on the program. The conference will close Sunday.

ANOTHER BUCKET SHOP SINKS

NEW YORK, July 14.—Failure of the stock brokerage firm of Nast & Co., of Chicago, was announced from the floor of the New York stock exchange today. Samuel Nast is the board member of the firm.

AIRCRAFT HEAD IN READINESS FOR MAILS

NEW YORK, July 14.—One thousand commercial aircraft, in aviation centers throughout the United States, today were ordered held in readiness after Postmaster General Work had accepted by telegraph an offer of aid in maintaining mail service made by the aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America.

"Grand, fine! More evidence, if any were needed, that one big union we hear about is the United States and its emblem is the stars and stripes," was the Postmaster General's reply accepting the offer.

Mr. Star Hanna underwent an operation today at the Gaston Sanatorium for the removal of his tonsils.

COTTON CONSUMPTION FOR JUNE WAS 507,869 BALES

WASHINGTON, July 14.—Cotton consumed during June amounted to 507,869 bales of lint, and 53,385 of linters, compared with 495,674 of lint and 52,344 of linters in May and 461,917 of lint and 49,296 of linters in June last year, the census bureau announced today.

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THE WEATHER

Partly cloudy tonight and Saturday; probably showers on the coast tonight; cooler on the south coast tonight.

GASTONIA'S NEW TEAM TO TAKE CRACK AT SHELBY SATURDAY

The newly organized Gastonia baseball club will meet the fast Shelby aggregation Saturday at Lory hall park at 4 p. m. The promoters of the local team hope to have everything completed and ready for publication the latter part of next week.

Quite a few of the business men and baseball fans have indicated that they would give a hearty support to a team, which is very encouraging to the promoters. A meeting will be held the first of next week, in the office of Carpenter & Carpenter, to complete the organization. It is hoped to have a record breaking crowd at the park Saturday afternoon. It is felt sure that this will be a good game and worth seeing. Arrangements will be made as soon as possible with the best amateur teams in this section. The promoters are certain that if Shelby, King, Mountain, Moore, Clover, Lewis and Lincoln can support a team, Gastonia can. So come out, fans, and get in a good start.

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CLONDBURST FLOODS RICHMOND STREETS

RICHMOND, Va., July 14.—Several persons were injured and property loss estimated at \$500,000 resulted from a heavy rainstorm which early last night swept Shookey Creek to five feet out of its bounds and inundated East Main street.

A report early today that one person was drowned could not be verified. The downpour came so suddenly that several persons were drowned. They were rescued by the police and firemen.

Two policemen who went to a rescue were themselves nearly drowned.

In one building a woman and child were marooned in a second story room. Firemen and policemen broke through a window and rescued them in a boat.

Two young women, in an automobile, stalled in the middle of the street, remained there until it looked as if the water would carry them, machine and all, away. Rescuers went to their aid and they were taken to safety while the automobile floated away.

Meat, fish eggs, and poultry in abundance, composing the entire stock of the city's fish market, were entirely swept away.

Growl's department store was wrecked, causing damage estimated by the owner at \$35,000.

Show cases from more than a dozen stores floated down the waters as calmly as gondolas.

From Main Street haberdasheries boxes of shirts and collars floated on the crest. One man made a frantic attempt to stave the flow of goods from his store, and received serious injury when a large floating pole struck him on the head.

The city is at work on more than a million and a half dollars worth of sewers, gas and water works. The excavations for the pipes were flooded, causing serious damage.

—Mr. and Mrs. Aycock have as their guests for several days Mrs. Aycock's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Myatt, of Raleigh.

—Miss Oh Rhyne, of the Gaston Sanatorium, returned Thursday from a stay at All Healing Springs, near Taylorsville.

—Miss Mary Brison, one of the nurses at the Gaston Sanatorium, is spending her vacation with her folks at Clover, S. C.

—There will be an ice-cream supper on the lawn of the Second A. R. Y. church Saturday evening beginning at 7 o'clock. Home-made ice cream will be served.

—Master John Alexander, of Barium Springs, is spending a few days visiting his father, Mr. L. N. Alexander, at his home on West Fourth avenue.

—Mr. and Mrs. G. Worth Jordan have returned from their wedding trip and are making their home for the present with Mrs. Jordan's mother, Mrs. J. N. Young, in Fessenden City.

—Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Rankin and family returned Thursday from a trip to Chimney Rock and other points in the mountains.

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STEAM PLANTS, ROUND HOUSES AND TERMINALS TO BE AFFECTED BY ORDER.

HEALY ISSUES THE ORDER

In the Fight and Intend to Win, Says Healy, International President.

CHICAGO, July 14.—A strike call to the 8,000 stationary firemen, engineers and oilers employed on railroads throughout the United States has been issued, Timothy Healy, international president of the organization, announced today.

The strike is effective next Monday, July 17, at 8 a. m. The call was made in compliance with the recent referendum which favored a walkout. Mr. Healy said.

The text of the message to all locals of the organization follows:

"In compliance with your strike vote which is 88.6 per cent favoring a walkout, sanction is hereby granted to each and every member of our brotherhood on all railroads, steam plants, round houses and terminals throughout the United States to suspend work at 8 a. m. Monday, July 17, 1922.

(Signed) 'TIMOTHY HEALY,' International President."

Stationary firemen and oilers on several roads had already joined in a sympathetic walkout with the railway shop crafts.

"We are into the fight and we intend to win," Mr. Healy said.

MARS NEARER EARTH THAN AT ANY TIME IN 18 YEARS

Nightly Observations Have Been Made for Past Five Months—Bear Out Theories of Professor Lowell.

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz., July 14.—Members of the staff of Lowell Observatory here are elated over recent studies of the planet Mars which they assert, bear out the theories of the late Percival Lowell, founder of the observatory as to snowfall and vegetation on the little red planet.

Mars, nearest neighbor of this world with the exception of Venus, is closer to the earth now than at any time in 18 years. Observations have been in progress for the past five months each hour of every night that weather conditions would permit. Hundreds of photographs and charts have been made.

The seasons on Mars have the same significance as on our earth and occur in the same manner, but are about twice the length of our own, according to E. C. and V. M. Slipher of the observatory staff. A statement by them on the results of the latest observations here follows:

"Winter has been occurring in the southern hemisphere of the planet Mars and the extensive dark areas there are new faint and have been so for some time, bethinking the dead season of vegetation in conformity with the view held by Lowell regarding the seasonal changes on the planet."

"The large winter cap of white about the south pole of Mars, which for some months has appeared to consist of only mist or cloud covering the south pole regions of the planet down to latitude forty degrees, is now dissipating and disclosing a mantle of snow beneath. The spring season for the southern hemisphere is now approaching, the season there at present corresponding to out March 21, and these changes are characteristic of late winter over the south of Mars."

"In the northern hemisphere autumn is arriving and the polar cap there has already become conspicuous, having increased rapidly during the last few Martian nights. On the night of June 17 it was observed that when the planet's longitude 265 came into Martian sunrise, and therefore visible to us, that a vast area there had during the preceding night been covered by a bright canopy. This bright hood faded off toward the equator but was discernable down nearly to fifty degrees north latitude and veiled the darker markings of the northern part of the planet. This event marked the first really big autumn storm in the northern hemisphere of Mars so far this year. On that date the Martian season corresponded to our September 18. Early indications of autumn made their appearance a month and a half ago at a Martian season corresponding to our late August. These observations have been recorded on photographs."

"These conditions and changes occurring in unison with the planet's seasons indicate that conditions are more analogous to those of the earth than to any of the other planets."

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