

SONG OF SHIRT HAS NEW NOTES

Wage Reductions in New England Factories Start a Number of Things to Going.

By J. C. ROYLE
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New York, Nov. 28.—The armistice is over in New England, so far as the textile trades are concerned, and the song of the shirt and the chemise is likely to have a few new expansive notes injected into it in consequence of the remainder of the country. Some of the largest Maine and New Hampshire mills have cut wages. New Bedford and Fall River mills are prepared to follow suit. Labor leaders are equally prepared to fight any trend toward lower scales and each side is waiting only to estimate the trend of public opinion before beginning active hostilities.

The Amoskeag mills, large producers of cotton cloth, took the initial step. They not only cut wages ten per cent but are considering demanding a reduction in working hours from 54 to 48 hours a week. This would put the New Hampshire mills on an equal footing with those of Massachusetts. The latter, however, have not generally put into effect the wage reduction and Fall River manufacturers have decided not to act as a body in this matter but to allow each mill to settle its own differences with its employees separately. The executives there are not a unit in declaring that a wage reduction would increase business.

Maine manufacturers have announced wage reductions amounting to 10 per cent which will become effective next Monday. Among those making such announcements were the Edwards, York, Pepperell, Bates, Cabot, Androscoggin, Continental, Lewiston, Hill and Dana plants. Manufacturers of the entire New England district point out that wages now are 110 per cent above the pre-war scale and that Southern competition has cut into the business of the New England plants to such an extent that wage reductions are an absolute necessity. They declare that ever since the wage

FIRST SESSION OF EXPERTS STUDYING FARM PROBLEMS



Farm experts called by President Coolidge to study problems of American farmers and to propose legislation to improve agricultural conditions are shown here in their first session at Washington. Left to right, they are Howard M. Gore, acting secretary of agriculture and governor-elect of West Virginia; R. W. Threlkeld, director of the New York experiment station; W. C. Coffey, director of the former governor and prominent live stock grower of Wisconsin; Fred H. Bixby, president of American National Live Stock Association, of California; (standing) W. M. Jardine, president of Kansas State Agricultural College, and Ralph P. Merritt, president of the raisin growers, of Fresno, California.

Increase of 12 1/2 per cent which went into effect in April, 1922, the cotton goods trade has been substantial.

Strenuous opposition to any general reduction is expected from the unions. Already the labor leaders have commenced to fire heavy guns loaded with words like "primogeniture" and "nepotism." They declare that the mills of New England, passed from father to son, have fallen into a rut, that they operate on antiquated production and selling methods and that there is too much "family" in the management.

The labor leaders take the position that workers are entitled to competent and efficient management and up-to-date equipment as well as those who buy the product of the mills. They declare that the New England mills have not sought to find what the public demanded but rather to tell the public what it should buy, and that the slump in New England textile trade is due in large part to such misjudgment of modern trends. This attitude has been amply

supported by repeated statements by Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor to the same effect and the labor leaders feel that they are fully supported in any contention based on such a premise. They go even further and declare that the dollarization of the mills as to narrow margin of profits has been exaggerated and is discounted by the advance in mill stocks which has taken place in recent weeks.

The manufacturers counter such assertions by declaring that Southern mills have cut wages as much as 15 per cent in some instances and that cuts in New England would assure full time operations. Where such cuts have been made, however, full time operations have not followed in all in-

stances. While these differences are closing the wheels of New England production and sales, additional textile machinery is being moved South. The vote at the recent election removed a tax burden from manufacturers who establish business in some states here and extraordinary hydro electric developments are assuring cheap power. For example, heavy shipments of machinery are now enroute from New England to Houston combined to the Anderson-Clayton mills from plants in Worcester and Whitinsville, Massachusetts.

FORBES CASE IS AGAIN REVIEWED

Former Director Veterans' Bureau Indicted Last February on Charges of Conspiracy and Graft.

Chicago, Nov. 28.—Colonel Charles R. Forbes, former director of the United States Veterans Bureau, who went to trial this week on charges of conspiracy in

connection with his conduct of the veterans' bureau, was indicted here last February along with John W. Thompson, Chicago and St. Louis contractor, after a federal grand jury had spent more than a month investigating charges alleged waste, graft and debauchery in the conduct of the bureau.

A few months later Forbes and Thompson were re-indicted on similar charges, the second indictment being returned in an effort to comply with legal technicalities overlooked in the first charges. Forbes and Thompson were charged with conspiracy to commit bribery and conspiracy to defraud the government, while Forbes was named alone in one indictment on a charge of accepting a bribe and Thompson in another on a charge of offering a bribe.

The grand jury investigation here followed an investigation of the Veterans' Bureau by a senate committee in Washington which charged fraud, corruption and mismanagement of the bureau. The original indictments charged that Forbes, while director of the bureau, received a bribe of \$5,000 and certain additional emoluments on agreement to award contracts for government hospital work for world war veterans to the contracting firm of Thompson and Black of which Thompson and James W. Black, deceased, were the heads. Charles F. Cramer, former general counsel for the bureau who committed suicide after investigation of the department was proposed, was named in the indictment as having accepted a promise of \$100,000 from Thompson and others for his approval of the contracts. Elias Mortimer of Philadelphia, alleged to have been an emissary

of Thompson, appeared before both the senate committee and the federal grand jury and gave much of the information on which the charges were based. The hospital for which Congress appropriated \$12,000,000 and which were alleged to have been involved in the illegal deals were to have been located at Liberty, Tupper Lake, Tarrytown and Toughkeepsie, N. Y.; Northampton, Mass.; Chillicothe, O.; Great Lakes, Ill.; Gulfport, Miss.; Livemore and Camp Kearney, Cal.; Hayden Lake, Idaho; St. Cloud; American Lake, Camp Lewis and Tacoma, Washington.

According to the charges, the head of the veterans' bureau agreed to give Thompson and Black the preference in the contracts the firm desired regardless of whether their terms were most advantageous to the government. Expensive trips at government expense and other alleged wasteful practices also were detailed. The original investigating jury, in a supplemental report, charged that at least two members of Congress were involved in the case and that sums of money had been paid to them, and this led to a separate investigation in the case a few weeks later. Both Colonel Forbes and Mr. Thompson have maintained their innocence of any wrongdoing and have asserted they welcomed an opportunity to prove their innocence in open court.

WEEKSVILLE HONOR ROLL FOR SECOND MONTH

Following is the honor roll for the second month of Weeksville School:

First Grade—George O. Halstead, Martha Bateman, Marie Lowry, Lloyd Thomas Halstead.

Second Grade—Kathleen Overman, Dorothy Cartwright, Vera Sanders, Dorothy Mae Meads, Beryl Hobbs, Carl Pickel, Roy Scott Davis, Bradley Raper, Eugene Bright, Dallas Palmer.

Third Grade—Gilbert McKimham, Sadie Mae Parsons, Wilson Hodler, Lucy Jennings, Louise James, Norman Berty.

Fourth Grade—Jesse Johnson, Della Markham.

Fifth Grade—Adelaide Hobbs, Margaret Harris.

Sixth Grade—Mamie Small, Hazel Stanley, John C. Walston, Ethel Mae Lowry.

Seventh Grade—Bernice Benton.

Ninth Grade—Harold Pritchard.

Tenth Grade—Annie Sarah Barkwell, Elizabeth Fletcher, Ethel Mae Stafford, Annie Maffie Jackson.

Eleventh Grade—Glenwood Meads, Margaret Brothers, Herman White and Ada White.

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For Sale

FOR SALE DECEMBER 12—One yoke five year old mules, one yoke ten year old mules. Big lot farming implements of all kinds, household and kitchen furniture. C. W. Wilson, Weeksville, N. C. nov24-30pd

FOR SALE OR TRADE—AUXILIARY schooner, length 44 feet, breadth, 14-1-2 feet, depth 4-1-2 feet. T. B. Forbes, 516 Hunter street. Phone 137-W. no 21-28p

FOR SALE—TRUCK FARM Point Harbor, N. C. on State Highway near shipping point school and church. Nice buildings. Excellent for early sweets. Apply to J. B. Owens, Point Harbor, N. C. 21-28pd

LAND—LOTS—LAND, 100. MONEY making farm. Get description. 197. That beautiful poultry farm cheap. Buy now, 193. Thirty-three acre swamp timber for sale. 192. Money making farm. New nine room residence. Hard surface road. 201. Nine room residence Maple street. 203. Seven room residence cheap. Cherry street. 190. Residence, 9 rooms, close in. Excellent value. 191. Apartment. Close in. Splendid boarding house proposition. 195. Splendid old mansion Corner Church and Pool. At two thirds value. Listen! Call 306. Better still come see us Hinton Building for descriptions. Carolina Real Estate Company. Nov 24-Dec 28

FOR SALE—ONE AND TWO year guarantee Ford storage batteries \$14.95. Look us up before buying. Recharging and repairing. Davis Garage. Phone 485 nov 4 tfad

FOR SALE—TEN SHARES Carolina Banking & Trust Company stock. Address box 174 91t

PHONE 290 FOR CLEANING and pressing. Work done promptly and in good shape. ttx

Situations Wanted

JOB WANTED IN WHOLESALE house or position as clerk in dry goods section department store. Write or see Lyman Knowles, Weeksville, N. C. 28-dec 4pd.

Miscellaneous

SPECIALS FOR THANKS

Merchandise

ANNOUNCEMENT—TO OUR CUSTOMERS. That we have moved to No. 15 S. Water street in Buxton White's old stand, next door to P. W. Melick Co. Sample Shoe Store, G. M. Williams, Prop./Dealers in Shoes and Clothing. no 20-21-24-25-26-27 npd.

A. B. SEELEY & SON HAVE just received 54 barrels of Wine-saps, 50 barrels Stayman Wine-saps, 15 barrels York Imperialis. All A grade. Try a barrel. nov 21tfpd

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING early this year. See Friday's paper. 261t

WE ARE ALWAYS READY TO give quick service on any plumbing or heating job—and our workmanship is guaranteed to suit you. R. E. Lewis Co. Phones 526, 393, 556-J. 17tfpd

SHOE REPAIRING. WE CALL for and deliver. W. F. Williams, Phone 769. oct 21tf-np

BEFORE YOU TRY THE REST try the best—The Busy Bee Cafe. Special dinner 50c. ttpd

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GARAGE FOR RENT—CORNER Fearing and Elliott streets. Phone 130-J. Mrs. Clinnie Hayes. 25dec2np

FOR RENT—HOUSE ON CEDAR street occupied by Gurney P. Hooding. Apply Carolina Real Estate Company, 4th floor Hinton Building. oct 17tfpd

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Gifts for the Children
Gifts for Him

New Classified Gift Suggestions Will Be Added Each Day

This helpful list of Christmas gift suggestions will grow larger each day. When the ads become more numerous they will be arranged under special headings such as "Gifts for Him," "Gifts for Her" and "Gifts for the Home." Turn to this section every day from now until Christmas. It will help you.

- HOSIERY—LADIES THREAD silk full fashioned—\$1.39. Hurdle & Parker, Polindexter street. 28tf np
- MOTHEES—SEND THE ADVANCE to your children who are at college. \$1.50 for the rest of the season if they are in North Carolina Colleges. n28-dec 24
- BIBLES—ORDERS FOR BIBLES with name of owner on cover can be filled if placed at once. P. W. Melick Co. 28tfnp
- DOLLS—OUR DOLL FAMILY is at home and ready to receive callers. Everybody says it's a lovely family. P. W. Melick Co. 28tfnp
- SOMETHING FOR THE CAR—Motor Meters, Windshield Wipers, Horns, Auto & Gas Engine Works. 28tfnp
- CARLOAD FLORIDA ORANGES just arrived. Call 776 when in need. Fisher Marquette Produce Co. 25-dec 4np
- LUGGAGE IS A LASTING GIFT We have the quality and the price. Quinn Furniture Company. 28tfnp
- HANDKERCHIEFS, HOSIERY Umbrellas, Gloves. Conservative prices. Fowler & Co. 28tfnp
- EVER-READY FLASHLIGHTS—Complete with battery. All sizes and styles. City Drug Store, Corner Water and Matthews streets. 28tfnp
- HOUSE SLIPPERS—FOR LADIES and Misses. 75c to 79c. Hurdle & Parker. 28tfnp
- GIVE PRACTICAL THINGS—And don't pay too much for them. Twiddy & White. 28tfnp
- OVERCOATS—IN ALL STYLES and colors. Men's and Boys furnishings. S. Gauderson & Son. 28tfnp
- FRUIT CAKES—LET US MAKE yours this Christmas. We use the best ingredients. Cartwright's Bakery. 28tfnp
- TOYS RECEIVED FOR CHRISTMAS. Buy them early from Hayes & White. 28tfnp
- GIVE THE BOY A KING AIR rifle for Christmas. Sharber & White. 28tfnp
- White Hardware Co. 28-decnp
- MEN AND BOYS TWO PANTS Suits. Boys—\$4.75. Men—\$25.00 and up. T. T. Turner & Company. 28tfnp
- LUNCH DURING THE HOLIDAYS at Jose's Tea Room. Phone 501-W. Matthews street. 28tfnp
- FOR FRESH CHRISTMAS candy and fruits of all kinds call B. & W. Confectionery. 28tfnp
- SILK SCARFS—THE LATEST colors in beautiful designs. \$2.50. E. S. Chesson & Co. 25-29-decnp
- CANDIES—SPECIAL PREPARATIONS being made for the holidays. Phone 775. Sedberry Drug Store. 28tfnp

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