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ANTHRACITE MINERS OPEN NEGOTIATIONS FOR NEW WAGE SCALE TO BEGIN MARCH 31

Present Four Year Contract Expires at That Time - Demands Call For 60 Per Cent Increase of \$2 Per Day, Six Hour Day and Five Hour Week.

(By The Associated Press.) NEW YORK, March 9.—Anthracite miners and operators of Pennsylvania and Maryland opened negotiations for a new wage agreement to become effective March 31, when the present four year contract expires. It was said by miners and operators that little will be done at the present meetings aside from the formal presentation of the miner's demands and a possible general discussion of conditions in the anthracite field. Neither side, it was said, by union officials, cares to proceed to definite conclusions until the award to be made by the bituminous coal commission has been handed down in the case of the soft coal miners of the country. The wage demands call for a sixty per cent increase in wages for contract miners, an advance of \$2 a day for men paid by the day, a six hour day and a five day week of all classes of inside and outside day labor and monthly men coming under the proposed agreement. The miners are also asking a two year agreement, a closed shop, uniform wage scale for like occupations at the several collieries that coal produced shall be paid for on the legal ton basis wherever practicable and that the employers compensate the workers for the loss of tools as a result of accidents. The demands also include the granting of other concessions of a technical character. The miners and operators went into conference with the best of feeling prevailing, it was stated.

REFUSES TO ACCEPT FINDINGS COAL COMMISSION INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 9.—The United Mine Workers of America will refuse to accept the findings of the bituminous coal commission unless a substantial increase in wages and improved working conditions are provided, it was inferred in a statement issued today from headquarters of the organization. Officials of the mine workers' were absent from the city and those in charge of the offices refused to comment on the statement.

AIRPLANE AND SPECIAL TRAIN TO HELP

In Order to Break Deadlock in West Virginia Senate Hurry-up Tactics Are Employed to Get Senator Block on Scene in Time.

(By The Associated Press.) CHICAGO, March 9. — A "tuned up" airplane and a special train awaited the arrival here today of Jesse A. Bloch, state senator of West Virginia, speeding to Charleston from California to cast the deciding vote for ratification of the federal suffrage amendment before the legislature adjourns tomorrow. Republican party leaders here, anxious to claim credit for ratification by the thirty fourth state, made extraordinary arrangements when they found that Mr. Bloch could not make the necessary connection at Cincinnati if usual facilities were relied upon. The West Virginia senate is deadlocked, 14 to 14, on the issue. Travel in the air will be urged upon the senator, because the pilot promised a four hour trip to Cincinnati which would assure departure on the 7 p. m. train for Charleston. The special train was engaged, however, should Mr. Bloch prove to be too conservative for the rush by airplane.

SOUTH CAROLINIANS DISCUSS RECONSTRUCTION

COLUMBIA, S. C., March 9.—The problems of the reconstruction period are being considered at a state-wide reconstruction assembly attended by a hundred and 75 prominent South Carolinians here today. The morning session was featured by addresses by Governor Cooper on "Educating the Farmers' Boys and Girls," G. Croft Williams, secretary of the state board of corrections, on the problems of the reconstruction, Major Irving Belsor, on "The American Legion and Reconstruction," and W. W. Long, of Clemson College, on "Our Cash Income From 1920 Crops." A definite program of meeting after-war problems will likely be adopted before the assembly adjourns. The meeting was called by the landowners association.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S REASONS VERY STRONG

(By The Associated Press.) LONDON, March 9.—President Wilson's reasons for refusing to escape from Adriatic questions by the backdoor which the allied ministers held open for him, are very strong ones, says The London Times in commenting on Mr. Wilson's latest note to the premiers. This newspaper, which is the only one commenting on the American President's communication, commends him for having "always been consistent, while the allies have wobbled feebly from one impossible solution to another." Notwithstanding its continued support of Mr. Wilson, however, the newspaper generally chides him for "proclaiming himself immaculate on the score of delay," and adds: "Had he always exhibited the firmness and clearness of vision he now shows, the Adriatic and many other questions might have been settled long ago."

BASEBALL FOR CLOVER

Yorkville Enquirer. Clover is going to have a good baseball team this spring and summer. In fact, it may have two of them—one at the Hawthorn Mill and one with head quarters at the Clover Cotton Manufacturing Company. The air was warm yesterday, the sun shone brightly and everything smacked of spring with a touch of baseball weather causing some of the most ardent advocates of the national game to get out in backlots and warm up. At a meeting of baseball fans at the Clover Mill recently M. A. Enloe was elected baseball manager of the Baseball Association and R. L. Wallace was elected team manager. There is much good baseball material among young men employed in the mill and an effort will be made to induce other baseball players to come here. In fact, Manager John Tillet of the Clover Manufacturing Company told some of the baseball fans only a few days ago to tour the country for a good baseball pitcher and he would look after the pitcher's pay. Consequently Clarence Harvey, Dan Barrett and others interested in the team are now scouring for a good twirler willing to play ball and live in Clover. The baseball bugs at the Hawthorn Mill have not been aroused from their winter slumbers yet; but they are expected to wake up almost any day.

MEXICAN RESIDENTS WARNED AGAINST COUNTERFEIT MONEY

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Residents of Mexico have been warned by the foreign office to be on guard against efforts that may be made to circulate in that country counterfeit money made in the United States, according to advices received by the state department. The warning was based on a report by Ramon de Negri, Mexican consul general at New York, who, the foreign office announced, estimated the amount of spurious currency in circulation at \$300,000,000 and advised his government to adopt precautionary measures. De Negri's explanation of the situation was that agents of the Russian bolsheviks had manufactured and placed in circulation the counterfeit currency, in reprisal for the "persecutions" of radicals by the United States government. He added that American authorities are endeavoring to run down the counterfeiters and are making efforts to prevent the smuggling of representatives of the soviet government into the United States.

SCORES OF TOWNS ISOLATED

BOSTON, March 9.—Scores of towns in northern New England remained isolated today because of the storm and freeze up of Saturday. Several places along the blocked branch lines of the railroads reported a serious shortage of food and fuel, but railroad officials before night. The Boston & Maine estimated that the mountain division could not be reopened before Thursday.

URGE APPOINTMENT GEORGIAN TO INTERSTATE COMMERCE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, March 9.—The entire Georgia delegation in congress called at the white house today to urge the appointment of former Congressman Chas. J. Edwards of Savannah, to the interstate commerce commission, to fill one of the new offices created by the railroad bill.

MR. ATKINS TO RETURN TO THE GAZETTE

Will Not Stand For Appointment to Local Postmaster-ship - Civil Service Examination to be Held March 23rd.

James W. Atkins, who was recently named as acting postmaster here to succeed John R. Rankin who resigned to accept a position as vice-president of the Citizens National Bank, announces today that he will not be a candidate for the permanent appointment as postmaster which will be made following a civil service examination to be held March 23rd. It is Mr. Atkins' intention to resume his work with The Gazette, with which he has been actively connected for many years past. Mr. F. P. Rockett, assistant postmaster, is secretary of the local board of the Civil Service Commission and will furnish the necessary information and papers to any who desire to enter the contest for the regular appointment as postmaster.

TRYING TO KILL BONUS LEGISLATION

Chairman Fordney Says That Officers Who Received Good Pay Do Not Want Bonus But Privates Are in Favor of Some Relief Plan.

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, March 9.—Charges that members of the house ways and means committee were "endeavoring to kill bonus legislation by delay" were made today by Chairman Fordney, when the committee resumed hearing on soldier relief legislation. "I am ready to begin business now," the chairman said when members suggested that hearings be postponed until after the legislative committee of the American Legion has met on March 22 to further consider soldier relief means. "I don't want to crowd this measure, but we know the attitude of former service men," the chairman continued. "Every officer who had good pay doesn't want a bonus. The privates who suffered financial losses are overwhelmingly in favor of some relief plan." Representative Kitchin, democrat, North Carolina, said treasury department officials ought to be heard by the committee before any plan was worked out. Chairman Fordney replied that the attitude of treasury officials was well known. "But we want to get their statements into the record," Mr. Kitchin replied. The committee decided to call Secretary Houston, Assistant Secretary Lefingwell and Governor Harding of the federal reserve board Thursday.

GERMANS STAGE ANTI ALLIED INCIDENT

(By The Associated Press.) BEELIN, March 9.—Closely following the incident of Saturday night at the hotel Adlon, here, in which Prince Joachim Albrecht, of Prussia, was the chief figure, leading a demonstration against a party of French officers in the dining room, another anti-allied incident is reported from Bremen. The victims in this case also were high French officers, who are members of the entente military commission. When the Frenchmen entered the barracks in Bremen, to conduct negotiations with German officers, the accounts run, the soldiers sang "Deutschland Uber Alles." The song attracted a large crowd which roughly handled the French when they left the barracks. The police dispersed the crowd and escorted the officers to their quarters. An inquiry into the affair was opened immediately. Still another incident of similar nature at Bremen is reported by the Vossische Zeitung. It says that yesterday two French officers and an Italian officer stopped a man wearing a field gray uniform, supposing him to belong to the German army, when the man failed to salute them, and that high words followed, culminating in blows. A crowd assaulted the allied officers, who were considerably injured, the newspapers add, before they were arrested by the police. The inter-allied commission, the same newspaper states, left Bremen Monday evening.

WOOD'S NAME WILL NOT BE IN CALIFORNIA PRIMARY

LOS ANGELES, CALIF., March 9.—The name of Major General Leonard Wood will not be entered in the California primary election as candidate for the republican presidential nomination, according to a telegram from the national chairman of the Wood committee, made public today by the secretary of the local Wood club. "It is our decision that General Wood's name not be entered at the primaries," the telegram said.

KNIGHTS TEMPLAR HOLD BIG CONCLAVE

Gastonia Commandery, U. D., Confer Red Cross and Knight of Malta Degrees - Sumptuous Banquet Served at Carolina Cafe.

At a special communication beginning at 9 o'clock Monday afternoon and continuing until 8:30, Gastonia Commandery, Knights Templar, U. D., conferred the degrees of Knight of Malta and Knight of the Red Cross on two candidates, G. C. Andrews and Dr. R. E. Rhyne. Among the notables present were Right Eminent Grand Commander Geo. H. Nordset, of Winston-Salem, Past Eminent Commander, J. Willard Baker, of Holy Sepulchre Commandery, Pawtucket, R. I., Eminent Commander, Wm. H. Peeps, of Charlotte Commandery No. 1, and Eminent Commander C. A. Eury, of Henderson. At the conclusion of the degree work, a sumptuous banquet was served at the Carolina Cafe, Eminent Commander J. H. Henderson, presiding as toastmaster. A delightful menu was served by the manager of the Carolina Cafe, Pete Sapronas. Those present at the banquet were loud in their praise of the excellent manner in which the feast was prepared and served. The visiting masons were also very complimentary in their expressions of the manner in which the degree work of the local team was carried out.

ANOTHER TRAGEDY IN HIGH LIFE

Murder and Suicide or Double Murder Brings to Finale Chapter of the Eternal Triangle.

(By The Associated Press.) CHICAGO, March 9.—Some of the details of the dual life of Clifford M. Bleyer, president of an advertising agency which bears his name, were bared today by a murder and suicide or double murder, according to facts brought before the county coroner. Last night, in an apartment in a fashionable Chicago neighborhood, the bodies of Bleyer and Mrs. Bleyer were found, while Mrs. Bleyer was at her own home awaiting word from friends who were searching for her husband, who had been missing since Saturday night. Mrs. Randall, a vivaciously pretty woman, 27 years old, was divorced from her soldier husband, Norman Brown Randall, and had been employed as an advertising writer. Excerpts from a diary which was found in the apartment, disclosed the fact that she and Bleyer had been intimately associated for at least a year. From the position in which the bodies were lying when the police, with some of Bleyer's friends burst into the apartment, the authorities believe that Mrs. Randall shot Bleyer as he was sleeping beside her, and then turned the weapon — a cheap revolver — upon herself. Tending to strengthen their opinion, there was found a poem in the woman's handwriting, somewhat clever as to meter and rhyme, but almost maudlin in sentiment, which foretold the dramatic conclusion of the two lives. Bleyer was the son of a prominent Chicago family. His father, Charles E. Bleyer, is in Cuba. Young Bleyer was educated in fine arts in several European countries, and some of his paintings are said to be noteworthy. It was while in Paris as a student he met the woman who has become his widow. They have two children. Mrs. Randall was the daughter of H. E. Vale, a business man of Oklahoma City.

RED CROSS HAS INFORMATION FOR THESE

Information is being held by Miss May Tatlock, Home Service Secretary of the American Red Cross, for the following persons: Mrs. Margaret McGinnis, Gastonia, N. C., or Lowell, N. C. Miss Mill Lorraine, R. F. D., Gastonia, N. C. Joseph W. Williford, Gastonia, N. C. Hattie May Whisman, Pine street, Gastonia, N. C. Del Rio Price, Old Mill, Gastonia, N. C. Fred McClure, Gastonia, N. C. Mrs. Alice Henry, Gastonia, N. C. Katie Hinson, Dallas, N. C. Mrs. Nora Broom, Payne store, Gastonia, N. C. Dennis F. Pressley, Gastonia, N. C. Robert L. Joyner, McAdenville. Louise Harnett Gilbert, Lorry Mills, Gastonia, N. C. Miss Tatlock requests that the above persons, or anyone knowing the whereabouts of the above, communicate with her or call at her office in the Postoffice at once.

TO WEAKEN ARTICLE X WOULD CUT "VERY HEART" FROM LEAGUE COVENANT

President Wilson Declares That All Qualifications Suggested Were Virtual Nullifications of Treaty Pact.

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, March 9.—A modified draft of the republican article ten reservation to the peace treaty is understood to have been assented to today by number of republican leaders working with the democrats for a ratification compromise. WASHINGTON, March 9.—President Wilson's letter to Senator Hitchcock, outlining anew his stand on reservations to the peace treaty gave a new angle today to the ratification proceedings in the senate, where debate has been limited by unanimous consent in an effort to hurry a decision. Although the President did not say what reservations he would accept or reject, he declared that almost all these qualifications suggested were "in effect virtual nullifications" of the pact. To weaken article 10, of the league of nations covenant, he said would be to cut the "very heart" from it. While there was no objection to stating the constitutional methods by which obligations under article 10 would have to be fulfilled, the president continued, it was mere supererogation to do so, in as much as all the great powers recognized in framework of the treaty that it was subject, in execution, to the constitutional safeguards imposed by each country. Especial interest was evidenced by senators in that part of the letter dealing with militaristic ambitions of other great powers. The president declared that the military power of France was in control of the government there and that "imperialistic policies were by no means dead in the councils of the nations whom we must trust." Without article 10, he said, there could be no certainty of renunciation of plans for territorial aggrandizement at the expense of weaker peoples, whereas under it, the old pretensions of political conquest will be abandoned. The president mentioned specifically in this connection that Great Britain and Japan before the war had begun to find many interests in common in the Pacific. Four more republican reservations were adopted yesterday, two without change, and negotiations for an acceptable compromise on the article 10 reservation were continued.

BELMONT HAS ALL-NIGHT MOVING PICTURE SHOW

(By The Associated Press.) BELMONT, March 9.—Belmont can boast of an innovation that no other community that we know of possesses, an all night picture show. The mills here close at midnight on Friday night and the Princess Theatre, at the Majestic Mill, stays open all night Friday night in order that the night hands, on coming off duty, may enjoy an evening's (or morning's) entertainment. We have all heard of the all-night banks and all-night restaurants, but this is the first all-night movie show to our knowledge in this "neck o' the woods." The Belmont town board held their March meeting last week and transacted quite a bit of important business. It was decided to install another septic tank for the sewerage system here, as the town has outgrown the present one. The contract was let and work on it is beginning this week. A delegation of young business men appeared before the board for permission to erect an up-to-date picture show in the business district. The board was in favor of this and it is thought it will shortly be decided upon. On account of the rapid growth of the town the opening up of a number of new streets has become imperative and it was decided to begin work on them as soon as possible. Work on the Charlotte to Gastonia highway, which has been hindered by the inclement weather, is now nearing completion in this vicinity. Part of the road through the town of Belmont is completed and on the rest the first rock has been laid. If the groundhog would favor the workmen with a few pretty days the rest of the rock and the tar would be placed and the town's part of the road finished. The many friends of Miss Clara Armstrong will be glad to know that she is making good progress and hopes soon to be able to discard her crutches. Miss Armstrong was able to make a visit to Charlotte last week, spending the week-end with her sister, Mrs. C. C. Reines. Rev. Hal F. Schneck, of Danville, Va., was a visitor in Belmont Sunday and preached a splendid sermon at the Union services held at the First Baptist church Sunday night. Rev. Mr. Schneck is a Presbyterian minister and the evangelist for the Roanoke district in Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. J. J. McNeil have purchased the house of Mr. S. R. Overcash and will occupy it as soon as Mr. Overcash vacates. Mr. Overcash has also sold his barber shop to Mr. W. F. Walters and expects to move to Charlotte at an early date. The barber shop owned by Mr. W. T. Edwards has also changed hands, having been bought by Messrs. Walker Barnes and J. C. Burns, who will hereafter operate it. Miss Bonnie Turner, of Charlotte, was the week-end guest of Miss Myrtle Meacham. Miss Melva Tate spent the week-end in Charlotte with Miss Edna Ford. Mrs. C. R. Holland, of Dallas, is spending several weeks here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Davis. Mr. L. H. Hoke, of Shelby, was a week-end visitor at the Belmont hotel with Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Meacham. Mrs. W. C. Fite, who was taken sick with flu last Friday, has only a mild attack of the disease and is improving nicely. Her parents hope to see her out again in a few days.

UNMARRIED MEN WILL BE TAXED 20 CENTS PER

YOUNGSTOWN, O., March 9.—Unmarried men who pay no municipal taxes may be taxed at a rate of about twenty cents a month. A measure including that provision was reported favorably by city council and is being considered by the mayor's advisory board. It was estimated such a tax would net the city \$192,000 annually.

WILL GO TO ENGLAND TO BRING BACK 1912 FLAG

FRANKFORT, KY., March 9.—James Buchanan, Louisville, a descendant of Colonel William Whiteley, commander of the Kentucky volunteers in the battle of the Thames in Michigan in the war of 1812 will go to England as commissioner of the state of Kentucky to bring back the Kentucky battle flag which was lost at that battle. The upper house of the general assembly yesterday appropriated expenses for Mr. Buchanan's trip. The battle is commonly called by historians "The Massacre of the River Raisin" because a majority of the Kentuckians were killed and scalped by the Indians after they had surrendered to the British officers under an unfulfilled promise of protection from the Indians.

INVESTIGATING NAVY'S PART IN WAR

(By The Associated Press.) WASHINGTON, March 9.—Congressional investigations of the conduct of the war turned today to the part played by the navy in the defeat of Germany. The senate subcommittee, which recently concluded an inquiry into the award of naval decorations was ready to hear Rear Admiral William S. Sims, the evidence on which he based his charges that the navy did not function at full efficiency, due to lack of co-operation between the department and forces abroad. Other officers who will be asked to testify are Admiral H. T. Mayo, Rear Admiral A. W. Grant, Rear Admiral L. C. Palmer, Captain Harris Laning and Captain J. K. Tausig. Secretary Daniels and Admiral William S. Benson, former chief of operations, also will appear to all of war activities within the navy department. Much interest centered around the inquiry, because it was expected that during the hearings Admiral Sims would be asked to name the person who gave him final instructions prior to sailing for Great Britain. "Not to let the British pull the wool over your eyes; we had as soon fight them as the Germans."