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NEGOTIATIONS UNDER WAY TO END THE STRIKE.

Labor Leader Mitchell Says the Miners Are to Get a Ten Per Cent. Advance--Recognition of Mitchell an Obstacle.

Philadelphia, Sept. 27--The towering feature of the coal strike situation today and one which attracted the attention of all interested parties, was the widely circulated report that negotiations are pending and rapidly nearing completion for an amicable settlement of the strike.

While the identity of the person or persons who are said to be at work endeavoring to bring about the immediate and peaceful adjustment of the difference between the employers and employees has not been disclosed, it was openly admitted in authoritative sources that such endeavors was in progress.

President Traudelle, of the Lackawanna company, is quoted as making such admission, but in what manner or by whom they were being conducted, he declined to state.

President Mitchell, the head of the striking miners' organization, expressed the belief that the operators had decided to offer the miners an increase of wages, but he, too, declined to admit whether he possessed any further information on the subject.

From Scranton tonight came the statement that at a conference of coal operators of that section the opinion was prevalent that the influence at work were of a strong political nature, and that the operators would be obliged to offer the men at least the concessions of an increase of wages.

The information upon which the operators based their conclusion that the working influences were political, could not be learned tonight.

Completed with nearly all the reports of a probable early settlement of the trouble, came the announcement that the men would be offered an increase of pay, but that the mine owners would positively decline to arbitrate the differences through President Mitchell or, in any manner, give recognition to the United Mine Workers' organization.

This refusal of recognition, however, would not prove a difficult obstacle to overcome.

President Mitchell to the public having expressed his willingness to accept a settlement through separate conferences of committees of the employees and their direct employers.

If the railroad presidents and others who controlled the mines would accept this proposition he said he would make all claim to the recognition of the union.

One condition he exacted, however, and that was that the mine owners should be held the same day and in the same city.

Matters were quiet throughout the strike regions today and the strikers were increased by the closing of a few mines.

Shenandoah, Pa., Sept. 27--Today's development in the strike situation in this region showed important gains on the part of the mine workers. Two big collieries in the Ashland district mines employing 3,000 men were compelled to close.

In the territory between Shamokin and McAdoo there is but one colliery at work and this is said to be short handed. In the Mahanoy district all the collieries are tightly closed. There is no change in the situation here tonight. Not a ton of coal was mined in Shenandoah today.

The Labor Leader. Hazleton, Pa., Sept. 27--The Associated Press at ten o'clock tonight secured from President Mitchell the admission that he believes that the mine operators have agreed to make the striking mine workers an offer of a ten per cent. increase in wages.

Further than this, Mr. Mitchell declined to talk. He has been reticent all day on the subject and several times declared that he knew nothing of the rumors of a settlement of the strike.

Railroads in Trouble. Scranton, Pa., Sept. 27--The announcement that the railroads cannot see their way clear to help close down the washeries by refusing to handle their output caused a call to issue to-day for a meeting of the executive board of the United Mine Workers of district No. 1 for next Saturday to discuss other means of meeting this difficulty.

Influence Against Operators. Scranton, Pa., Sept. 27--At an informal conference of the local operators tonight the report of the negotiations for settling the strike was discussed and the consensus of opinion was that influence reported to be working toward a settlement are of a political nature and that these interests cannot be trusted to turn from the course they have mapped out, namely fighting to a finish the threatened invasion of the anthracite region by the United Mine Workers' organization.

The general opinion here is that the influence referred to are of such a powerful nature that the operators will stand out against them and it is believed the strike will be settled. The means of a settlement, it is said, will be as follows: The big carrying companies will grant a slight reduction in tolls; the operators will raise the price of coal and the wages of the miners will be increased according to the percentage that the reduction in tolls and increase in selling price will permit, the starting to be done with the existing scale of wages as the basis. It will be expected that the Mine Workers Union shall not figure in the negotiations and that the men shall return to work without any ceremony further than a guarantee of the advance in wages that will be professed.

BURY IN THE TROLLEY. Rapid Transit Commission Orders a Tunnel for Brooklyn.

New York, Sept. 27--At the meeting of the Rapid Transit Commission this afternoon, a resolution was passed for a tunnel to Brooklyn. The route of the tunnel will be the old Flatbush avenue route, which will extend from the city hall, Manhattan, to the Battery, across the East River to the foot of Jerusalem street, Brooklyn, thence to the old city hall, thence to Flatbush avenue, thence to the Leg Island railroad station at Flatbush and Atlantic avenue. There the tunnel will terminate for the present. This route is the one favored by Controller Cole who makes an estimate that the cost of construction of the tunnel will be about \$6,000,000.

KAISER HONORS AN AMERICAN. Confers Order on Commercial Cable Company's Vice-President.

Berlin, Sept. 24--Emperor William has conferred on George G. Ward, of New York, vice-president of the Commercial Cable Company, the Order of the Crown of the second class. Mr. Ward was present at the banquet given here yesterday by the German Atlantic Cable Company to commemorate the opening of its cable to the United States.

Men for Esquimaux. St. John's, Nfld., Sept. 27--The Allen liner Carthaginian, three days overdue arrived here this evening from Liverpool. She has on board 350 seamen and marines for the British warships in the North Atlantic and Pacific squadrons. Most of them will go to Esquimaux for service in China should it become necessary to augment the fleet there.

It is understood that the Carthaginian's detention was due to the fog.

A King to Abdicate. Paris, Sept. 27--From a source worthy of confidence, it is learned that King Albert of Belgium intends to abdicate before the close of the present Belgian parliament in favor of the Prince of Flanders.

"King Leopold counts confidently upon the result of his action being the sinking of the quarrels of the rival parties, which would then unite to observe the conditions of the new regime."

Coal in Ottawa. Ottawa, Sept. 27--(Special)--Coal is now \$7.50 per ton in Ottawa.

KINGS COUNTY LOYAL TO ITS BRILLIANT SON

Attorney General Pugsley Returned by Almost Eight Hundred Majority--Mr. Frederick M. Sproul Badly Beaten--The Contest Had Many Features of Peculiar Interest.

Table with columns: VOTE, THURSDAY, MAJORITY, LAST ELECTION. Rows list various polling places like Hampton, Cardwell, Waterford, etc., with corresponding vote counts for Pugsley and Sproul.

Nineteen polls give Dr. Pugsley a majority of 748.

Thursday the people of Kings went to the polls to say whether they desired or not that Dr. William Pugsley, as attorney general should continue to represent them in the provincial house. Mr. Frederick M. Sproul of Hampton, gave them an opportunity to say no. Full returns have not yet been received but it is known that the regard of Kings county voters for their brilliant representative, is not on the wane.

Albert County Liberals Choose Dr. Lewis.

The Conservatives of Colchester Are in No Position to Put up a Fight--Some Political Meetings.

Riverside, N. B., Sept. 27--(Special)--The Albert county Liberals met in convention here today. Mr. G. D. Steeves was chairman. There was a full attendance and every polling booth sent a full delegation. Resolutions endorsing the administration of affairs by the Liberal government as led by Sir Wilfrid Laurier and approving the conduct of Dr. Lewis as the representative of the county in parliament. The nominating committee reported the name of Dr. Lewis, M. P., as the standard-bearer of the Liberal party at the ensuing general election, which was unanimously adopted by the convention by a standing vote and acclamation.

Ministers Coming East. Ottawa, Sept. 27--(Special)--Hon. Mr. Blair left 40-day for New Brunswick, Sir Louis Davies left for Prince Edward Island and Hon. Mr. Tarte left for Montreal.

Renominated. Gloucester, Ont., Sept. 27--(Special)--The Liberals of West Middlesex in convention here today unanimously renominated W. S. Calvert, M. P., as their candidate for the commons.

Conservatives of Macdonald. Portage la Prairie, Man., Sept. 27--The Conservatives of Macdonald, in convention here today, unanimously nominated Nathaniel Boyd, of Carberry, as their candidate to the Dominion house.

Another Canadian Candidate. Mr. Hamar Greenwood to Run for the British House.

Toronto, Sept. 27--(Special)--The Telegram's special cable from London says: Another name has been added to the list of Canadians offering themselves for election to the imperial parliament. It is now announced that Mr. Hamar Greenwood, barrister-at-law, formerly of Toronto, has accepted the nomination as the Liberal candidate for Grimby.

A Democratic Warning. New York, Sept. 27--The following telegram was sent to-day from state headquarters to each of the presidents of the Democratic county committees:

"Republicans reported to be starting in to corrupt the state and buy the election and corrupt voters to stay at home. Study the situation carefully in your county; \$100 reward for detection of each offender. (Signed) 'JAMES K. McGUIRE'"

To Represent the Government. Ottawa, Sept. 27--(Special)--Premier Laurier and Hon. Mr. Tarte and Hon. Mr. Fitzpatrick will represent the government at the funeral of Hon. Mr. Marsland on Saturday.

PUNITIVE EXPEDITIONS ARE DOING GOOD IN CHINA.

Russia and Great Britain's Conflicting Interests--Germans Have a Promise--Washington Still Guessing.

London, Sept. 28, 4 a. m.--The only despatch of special interest from China this morning is the following from Dr. Morrison, to the Times, dated Peking, Sept. 21:

"The recent punitive expeditions have had an excellent effect in increasing security and facilitating the entry of supplies, but nothing can be counted as effective until Pao Ting Fu has been razed and the foreigners and refugees at Chang Ting and other places known to the Generals are rescued."

Dr. DeClere has addressed a memorial to the Empress Dowager offering her the protection of Russia and requesting her to return to Peking. Forty chief Chinese officials have sent a memorial to the Emperor and Empress Dowager beseeching them to return.

"The conflicting interests of Russia and Great Britain prevent a systematic attempt to reconstruct the railway, although restoration would be easy. It turns out that Chang Yin Huan, whose death in Kasugari was recently reported, was executed under an imperial decree, at the same time with the other pro-foreign ministers who were executed."

"Cheng Yin Huan was special envoy to England at the time of the Diamond Jubilee. He was later by the Empress Dowager, who called him to Peking in 1900. The Russians, according to the Shanghai correspondent of the Morning Post have virtually abandoned the province of Chi Li to Germany."

WASHINGTON'S POSITION. Objection to the Appointment of Prince Tuan.

Washington, Sept. 27--Minister Conger has been advised by the state department of the substance of the present candidate for the position of minister to the United States last Friday to the governments of Germany, Russia and China respecting China, which clearly indicated to him the general nature of the instructions he is to receive. Moreover, by this time he is informed of the orders issued to General Chaffee to reduce his force to a legion guard in case of final approval, Acting Secretary Hill having completed the draft some days ago and forwarded it to the president.

The note to China specifically pointed out the lines on which this government will issue its instructions to its minister. The government itself is in course of final approval, Acting Secretary Hill having completed the draft some days ago and forwarded it to the president.

It was the belief of the state department late this afternoon that the actual transmission of the instructions would be carried out very soon, probably in the next twelve hours. It is said that the text of the instructions will not be made public at present for diplomatic reasons, but there is no concealment of the general scope of the document, which is on the lines laid down in the three notes.

In this connection, it is said, at the state department that Mr. Conger will put these negotiations in motion without any purpose of acting for any government other than the United States, although the government steadily keeps in mind that the United States is but one of several nations mutually interested in obtaining a common end and it is hoped that the effect of Mr. Conger's making a beginning toward negotiations may be to induce other powers to follow. At the same time the government has never assumed to lay down any mandate as to the course to be followed by all or any of the other powers.

It is believed that the state department already has taken steps through Minister Wu to impress upon the Chinese government the undesirability of the appointment of Prince Tuan as grand secretary and the painful impression this appointment has created throughout this country. The effect of his appointment, if persisted in, it is said, might be to retard seriously the final negotiations, or in fact any negotiations at all.

The government feels that it is much reinforced in its present position by the note from Li Hung Chang in which he gave positive assurances to the United States that he had sufficient authority to protect all American interests and would see that this authority was exercised. The government now looks upon this assurance as a guarantee which must be faithfully performed as a condition precedent to even the establishment of relations with Li Hung Chang and Prince Tuan promises in any manner to obstruct the performance of this pledge, then it would be clearly violative of the guarantee laid down and would warrant the immediate withdrawal of Mr. Conger's envoys. So it appears that much more depends upon what Tuan does than upon what he has done.

The German Position. Berlin, Sept. 27--The German press and foreign office continue to deny that Great Britain has rejected Germany's proposal. They also continue to blame the United States for the recently revised Chinese ordinance and the renewed evidence that the Chinese intend to resume hostilities on a large scale.

The Berlin Tagblatt alone advises Germany not to expect a favorable answer to her proposition from Lord Salisbury, "as his wish to carefully nurse intimate relations with the United States forms the keynote of his policy."

The foreign office told the correspondent of the Associated Press this afternoon that Great Britain's answer had not yet arrived, but that as soon as it did the government would be glad to publish it, no matter what its character. Sir Frank Lascelles, the British ambassador, who was interviewed regarding the matter, said:

"Great Britain's delay in answering Germany's proposal is due to the fact, as I understand it, that Lord Salisbury has asked Sir Claude MacDonald to report upon the feasibility of the German plan."

From two high diplomatic sources it was learned to-day that all the answers which have been received to Germany's proposition have one feature in common. While agreeing in principle the demand for a proper punishment of the ringleaders, they refuse to postpone all peace negotiations until after the settlement of this point. The replies of Japan and France are in agreement as to this. Therefore it cannot be truthfully said that Count Von Buelow's latest move has proved an unqualified success.

Forces Landed at Taku. Vienna, Sept. 27--The admiralty has received a despatch from Taku giving the strength of the forces landed there by the allied powers as follows:

Great Britain, 494; Germany, 8,178; British, 8,233; American, 5,698; French, 6,273; Italian, 2,511; Russian, 20,951; Japanese, 15,570; total, 68,233.

Diplomats Act Informally. (Copyright, 1900, the Associated Press.) Peking, Sept. 21, via Taku, Sept. 25--All the foreign ministers have addressed notes to Prince Ching, suggesting the return to Peking of the emperor and the court. The notes were informal and not written in a diplomatic capacity. The writers do not contain any assurance, but merely suggested the return of the emperor.

Prince Ching undertook to deliver the notes. The outcome is a mass of speculation, the doubtful element being the influence of Prince Tuan and Gen. Tung Fu Shiang, who may restrain the court. Gen. Chaffee, discussing the probabilities to-day, said:

"I do not believe that any European monarch would enter the camp of the allied enemies and I doubt that the emperor would do so. It is generally conceded that the restoration of the Chinese government is essential. I have favored the withdrawal of the main allied force to Yang-Tung and Tien-Tsin, leaving 2,000 mixed troops to guard the legations."

Mr. Rockhill will leave for Shanghai on Monday, Sept. 24.

Russia's Programme. St. Petersburg, Sept. 27--The Russian naval staff announces that it is proposed to blockade all Chinese naval ports in consequence of the hostile attitude of the Chinese fleet at Shanghai and to send fact cruisers from the allied squadrons to protect transports.

The general staff announces that Russian troops are massing around Kirin, in Manchuria, where there are 5,000 Chinese.

MAINE W. C. T. U. Some Sweeping Resolutions Passed. Calais, Me., Sept. 25--At today's session of the W. C. T. U. the first subject considered was narcotics. The resolution on resolutions reported. The resolution expressed renewed allegiance to prohibition, purity, woman's suffrage, peace, arbitration, scientific temperance instruction and Sunday school work. The Local League and Curfew ordinances were endorsed and the resolutions expressed gratification at the result of the recent legislative session in Maine, with the hope that there might be an extension of the uprising in interest of law enforcement. The establishment of the saloon for the legalization of liquor in the Philippines was deprecated, also the interpretation of the anti-liquor law, and the desire was expressed that the university of Maine should follow the example of the Naval Academy at Annapolis, and Bates College, requiring students to abstain from use of alcoholic liquors and tobacco.

The special features of the afternoon session were the reports of the department of work among railroad employes, by Mrs. Helen Thomas; department of fairs, by Mrs. Edith Oakes; flower mission, by Miss Belle Dawes, and prison work, by Mrs. Helen Caffin Beedy. A striking address on woman's suffrage was made by Mrs. Geo. Hunt, of Portland, state superintendent of the franchise department. Special reference was made to legislation obtained through the agency of the W. C. T. U. and this announcement was made that the W. C. T. U. would ask the next legislature for a full franchise. Mrs. Hunt stated that, by her opinion the W. C. T. U. had done more to creating suffrage sentiment than all other agencies combined.

Prayers and Contributions. Toronto, Sept. 27--(Special)--The Presbyterian foreign mission committee, in its annual meeting here, has decided to issue a letter to the church asking the week beginning October 28 be devoted to prayer on behalf of China, and that contributions be invited for the restoration of mission stations destroyed by the Boxers.

The Hawk Flies. Montreal, Sept. 25--(Special)--The United States trading steamer Hawk, which ran aground in Lake St. Louis, near Lacine last night, was safely got off this afternoon by the assistance of several powerful tugs. The Hawk is not damaged to any extent.