

WILL PROBE ACCUSATION IN MAGAZINE

U. S. Steel Company Decides To Investigate The Charge That Steel Mill Employees Are Overworked.

New York, N. Y., April 17.—An investigation into the working conditions in the mills of the United States Steel Corporation was decided upon at the annual meeting of the stockholders in Hoboken, N. J., today.

The proposal came up after the election of directors, when Charles M. Cabot, of Boston, introduced a resolution providing for a committee of five to investigate and report to the finance committee not later than Oct. 1, as to the truth of statements contained in a recent magazine article alleging that employees of the corporation were over-worked.

"The conditions revealed, if true," said Mr. Cabot, "constitute a serious menace to the continued success of this corporation, both in its business as an employer of labor, and in its reputation as an organization which has been willing to deal openly and frankly with industrial conditions.

Among the charges which the article made were those in the effect that a large majority of the steel workers in the Pittsburgh district worked 12 hours a day. In all, over 13,000 of the 70,000 steel workers in Allegheny County in 1907-8, worked seven days in the week, it was asserted in the article.

Chairman Gary in speaking of the request made by the stockholders for general statement in regard to the business conditions and prospects affecting the steel corporation, said: "We believe that we have at the present time, a better organization throughout our companies than we ever had before. We think we are best equipped at present to manage our affairs economically and promptly and yet we have no disposition to remain passive, inactive or contented."

"We are very well satisfied with the amount of business we have done and profits we have realized during the last fifteen months. Our mills are running to their full capacity and we should be glad if more business were offered, but, nevertheless, the business which we have been getting has been large and under the circumstances should be considered satisfactory. When the steel corporation organized the total capacity of finishing mills was somewhat like 23,000, or 24,000 tons per day. At the present time the producing capacity is nearly double that amount."

"Therefore although mills are not running to more than about 70 to 75 per cent. of their capacity at present, you will see that this is very much more than the total capacity at the time the corporation was organized. The independents, so called, have increased their capacity. We started out with about 60 per cent. of the total business of the country, and at present we have about 55 per cent. on the average. It is our intention to keep a proportion up to about that point. We do not intend to have more than 60 per cent."

New York, April 17.—The annual meeting of the United States steel corporation was held today in Hoboken, and the following directors were elected for a term of three years: George F. Baker, W. E. Corey, J. F. Dryden, C. A. Griscom, Samuel Mather, D. G. Reid, Henry Walters and G. M. Lane, who succeeded the late Nathaniel Thayer. The directors will meet on April 25 to re-organize. The stockholders today ratified all contracts made by the directors and finance committee since the meeting a year ago.

MOROCCAN TRIBESMEN IN SKIRMISH

Attempted To Break Into Palace On Outskirts Of Fez And Steal Arms. But Were Repulsed.

Fez, Morocco, via Tangier, April 17.—On the night of April 10 the Beni Ouarain tribesmen attempted to break through the wall of the Palace of Dar-El-Bagh, outside of Fez, and steal the rifles, but were repulsed by the guards. This incident started a general fight the Beni Ouarain and Beni Mitr tribesmen attacking the city from the south, but the artillery proved too strong for them and they retired.

On the day previous a foraging party were cut off by the Cheradas. They took refuge in a house until reinforcements were despatched to their rescue. The troops took the Beni Ouarain to the flank killing eleven of them. The departure of Capt. Brimond's force from camp removes the line of communication which Fez had with the outside world.

THE JAMAICAN MAIL SERVICE

Tenders Called By Department Of Trade And Commerce For Boats From Halifax And St. John.

Ottawa, April 17.—The department of trade and commerce has called for tenders for a mail service between Canada and Jamaica, the service to be from Halifax, N. S. (with a call at St. John, N. B., each trip) to Kingston, Jamaica, the steamers to put in on each trip at Bermuda and Turks Island. The tenders may be for either fourteen, ten or seven days. The vessels must be of British register and preference will be given to ships which possess cold storage facilities.

STEAMER SANK; 21 LIVES LOST

Spanish Steamer Went Down Off Spanish Coast—Four Survivors Landed At Oporto—Twenty-one Drowned.

Oporto, Portugal, April 17.—The Spanish steamer San Fernando, bound from Huelva for Liverpool, sank off Finisterre, the westernmost headland of Spain today. Twenty-one persons were drowned. Four survivors were landed here by the steamer Fortimo.

ADDRESSES ON RECIPROCITY

G. H. Cowan, M. P. Of Vancouver, And O. S. Crockett, M. P. Of Fredericton, Addressed Large Meeting.

Special to The Standard. Fredericton, N. B., April 17.—G. H. Cowan, K. C. M. P. of Vancouver delivered an address on reciprocity at the Opera House tonight. A large audience of representative citizens was present. Excellent addresses on the subject were also delivered by O. S. Crockett, M. P., and Hon. H. F. McLeod, all of whom were loudly applauded by the large audience present. Mr. Cowan, who is one of the best speakers in the House of Commons, delivered an admirable address. The feeling of the audience seemed to be that reciprocity was not required and would not be beneficial to this section of the country. Mr. Cowan accompanied by O. S. Crockett will go to Woodstock tomorrow morning and both gentlemen will deliver addresses on this live subject at that place. While in this city Mr. and Mrs. Cowan were guests of O. S. Crockett at his home in this city.

A FIERCE BATTLE FOUGHT ON THE MEXICAN BORDER; AMERICAN TOWN IN PERIL

Diaz' Troops and Rebels Come Together in All Day Battle.

Bullets Flew Over Arizona Town and Seven Non-combatants were Wounded.

After Hard Fight Rebels Captured Guns of Government Forces—200 Killed.

Agua Prieta, Mexico, April 17.—(From the associated press correspondent in the field)—The most important battle of the Mexican revolution thus far was fought here today, between 1,600 federalists under command of Gen. Diaz, and 1,000 rebels under Balasario Garcia, and resulted in the repulse of the former.

The battle lasted from 6.30 a. m. until sundown. At midnight two federal machine guns were in the possession of the rebels and the federalists had sustained a loss estimated by the rebels as at least 200 killed and wounded. The rebels gave their own loss at 20.

From the beginning of the battle, regardless of the warning given by the United States government to the leaders of both forces a rain of bullets poured into the American town of Douglas, Ariz., and when the day was over, it was found that seven non-combatant residents of that city had been wounded. It was a day almost of terror in Douglas.

Douglas, Ariz., April 17.—At 2 o'clock the rebels appeared to have repulsed the federal forces at every point. About this time three rebel scouts, mounted and carrying the scout-leader flying from both arms which designated them on the field of battle, dashed off to the south extremity of Agua Prieta, and made a wide detour toward the east and north, completing their area of observation at the international boundary without drawing the attention of the government troops. This indicated that the rebels had been successful in keeping the federalists from gaining access to the locality immediately south of the border which would have made possible a flank movement against Agua Prieta.

With every moment of respite from the fighting the insurgents dug in their trenches. The United States guard at the line captured late today three stragglers from the rebel garrison who had crossed the border. El Pideo Arco, a Mexican, was on the roof of a house on sixth street when a bullet struck his instep. The fifth non-combatant to be wounded today in Douglas, Jesus Alcantara, a Mexican was shot while near the eastern limits of the city, eight blocks from the international line. His leg was pierced by a mauler bullet.

At four o'clock the firing, except of a desultory nature, had ceased to the south of Agua Prieta. A force thought to be Yaqui Indians, crawled forward on their hands and knees, from bush to bush, during the afternoon, and at 3.45 p. m. had approached to within 200 yards of the rebel trenches. At this distance they shot from their homes a rebel captain commanding a squad in the trenches.

Frank Williams an American, while standing in the very centre of the business centre of Douglas late today was wounded in the back by a mauler bullet and will probably die. His wife and child were standing by him when he was shot. A mauler bullet struck the front of the city water commissioner's office near the eleventh street, twelve blocks from the international line. Another was added late today to the list of Americans shot in Douglas, making seven in all. The latest was John Keith, employed by the Douglas Lumber Company. He was shot through the leg while in eighth street, nine blocks from the international line. He was taken to the Red Cross Hospital.

Bullets fell as far north as Twelfth street, which is thirteen full blocks from the Mexican border, and came thicker as evening came on. El Paso, Tex., April 17.—Juarez, Mexico, tonight is expecting an attack from rebels at any time. Federal troops worked on fortifications all day, while soldiers in squads were stationed on the tablelands overlooking the town. American trainmen coming from Sapallo, 23 miles south of Juarez, where they had been pressed into service by the insurgents, report that Giuseppe Garibaldi, one of Madero's lieutenants, is at that point with six hundred men. Garibaldi is quoted as saying an attack on Juarez would be made tonight or tomorrow. Mexican officer today found the body of Federal Lieut. Abigail Jimenez who was killed in Saturday's battle. The body had been mutilated by coyotes.

Every vote polled against Commission is a demand for a charter.

A FINAL WORD

Today's election will decide whether the citizens want to continue the system of representative government or hand the city over body and bones to the Commission boosters.

The Commission plan is likely to be most severely handled in the outlying districts, especially the North and West Ends, where the people realize that under Commission rule they have absolutely no chance of representation.

The remarks made by some of the speakers at last evening's meeting have also cost them many votes. The labor vote will also cost heavily against the plans of the commissionites. The request of the labor men for the abolition of the property qualification has been totally ignored and the questions asked on this line have never been answered. Even with a representative of the labor interests on the executive they will not be able to bring the vote of the intelligent working men to their support.

Many voters will not vote at all and this also will count against Commission. There is no doubt that all sorts of threats and promises will be made today in the wards by the Commission boosters, but the fact that they have no charter and can give the people no information will tell strongly against them.

To sum up it may be said that the men who have opposed the leap in the dark face the battle at the polls today with the utmost confidence and, although modest in their claims, feel that their contention that the citizens should have the fullest details submitted them before voting away their rights will be abundantly vindicated when the ballots are counted.

Vote early and fearlessly. The ballot is a secret one. Stand up for your rights. Remember the watchword NO CHARTER, NO COMMISSION.

THE REPORT HALIFAX MAN IS UNTRUE DIED IN WEST

Story Of Attack By Starving Indians On Hudson Bay Company's Posts Entirely Denied By Official.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, April 17.—Referring to despatches which have been sent out from Ottawa stating that there have been attacks by starving Indians on Hudson Bay Company posts and that they were looting the supplies cached by the government, Comptroller White of the Royal North West Mounted Police handed the following statement to the press today:

"The story is absolutely without foundation. It is the most atrocious thing I have ever seen. It is absurd. The man who sent out the story is a liar. No reports have been received by the Ottawa government indicating conditions such as are stated in the despatches. The government have no supplies cached at various points between Churchill and Lake Winnipeg, nor have they received any reports of the intention of the Indians or half-breeds to attack the Hudson Bay posts or the Mounted Police. There has been no skirmishing as far as the government is aware between the Hudson Bay posts and the ferocious half-breeds. On the contrary the reports state that the Hudson Bay officials and the half-breeds are working harmoniously and in conformity with the government arrangements. There are no ferocious half-breeds in the district between the north of Lake Winnipeg and Hudson Bay.

UNITED STATES WARSHIP TO CARRY CORONATION GUESTS.

Washington, D. C., April 17.—The battleship Delaware, which will represent the American navy at the coronation in connection with the Coronation of King George will sail from New York in time to arrive at Spithead June 19. She will carry across the Atlantic Rear-Admiral Vreeland, the envoy of the navy department on the special embassy to the Coronation.

The Delaware which is now homeward bound from Chile, will arrive at Boston shortly to be decked preparatory to her trip to England.

CHANGE FOR ALL TO BUY CHEAP FISH

Big Slump In Price Of Fish And Lobsters In Boston Market Yesterday—Prices Cut In Two.

Boston, April 17.—Enough ground fish to feed the entire population of Boston arrived at T wharf today and sold for almost a song. There were 1,175,000 pounds landed, which is a record for a single day. The fish dealers were kept busier even than during the lenten season. Another surprise was sprung on the trade when lobster prices were cut almost in two. From Nova Scotia 48,000 pounds of this luxury were landed yesterday, and today prices dropped with a thud. Wholesale prices last week were 23 and 25 cents per pound. The prices asked this morning were 12 and 15 cents.

DEATH TRAP OWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE

Proprietors Of New York Factory Where 145 Employees Were Killed By Fire, Are Held To Blame.

New York, April 17.—Isaac Harris and Max Blank, proprietors of the Triangle Waist Company, who are already under indictment, charging manslaughter in connection with the death of 145 employees by fire were found by a coroner's jury, today, to be responsible for the death of one of the operators.

The verdict was returned in the case of Mary Herman, a young girl whose escape from the ninth floor was cut off, it is alleged, by a locked door. Harris and Blank are responsible for the death, the verdict reads, "because of culpable and criminal negligence in failing to observe the legal precaution of leaving the said door unlocked."

The findings dealt with the crowded conditions in the working rooms, and made a number of recommendations for more effective legislation to govern conditions in factory buildings including the approval by the bureau of buildings of plans for the arrangement of machinery, etc., in factories, the control of inspection of fire escapes by the fire department, compulsory fire drill and automatic sprinklers.

VICTORY FOR HANS HOLMER

Swedish Runner Trimmed In Fifteen Mile Indoor Race In New York—Holmer Led Throughout.

New York, N. Y., April 17.—Hans Holmer, the American long distance runner defeated Gustav Ljungstrom, of Sweden in a 15 mile indoor race here tonight. Holmer's time was 1 hour, 21 minutes and 53 seconds.

Holmer led at every mile with Ljungstrom close behind until a few laps from the finish. Then Holmer sprinted and gradually drew away from the Swede winning by about 20 yards.

NEW OIL WELL FOUND IN WESTMORLAND CO.

The New Gusher Has a Capacity Of 6,000,000 Feet a Day—London Newspaper Man Talks Of Province.

Special to The Standard. Moncton, April 17.—W. Leonard Palmer, of the Financial News, London, England, addressed a large meeting of the Board of Trade this afternoon. He spoke of the great possibilities of this province with its oil and natural gas, but said New Brunswick was comparatively unknown in England, and a systematic plan of advertising should be carried on.

Manager Boggs, of the Maritime Oil Fields visited McLatchey's today and succeeded in capping well No. 19, which has a capacity of six million feet a day. This makes it the third or fourth largest producer, and as it is some distance from the other wells, shows that the field is an extensive one.

The Central Methodist congregation in this city decided at a meeting tonight to build a new parsonage and clean off the debt now standing on the church. About \$8,000 will be required, of which \$2,500 was subscribed at tonight's meeting.

IMPROVING "WEATHER BUREAU."

Toronto, Ont., April 17.—The Dominion Meteorological service is to be greatly improved this summer. The government of Newfoundland and the Federal authorities have arranged to secure the forests for the colony. The station at Sable Island is to be improved and a new station is to be established at Cape Whittle near the entrance to Belle Isle.

UNCLE SAM TO STEP IN MEXICO

American Government May Intervene And This Would Mean War—Suggestion That Great Britain Help.

Washington, April 17.—President Taft felt tonight that he has done personally all that can be done by a chief executive to control the situation along the Mexican border. He and his advisers believe that now Congress must say whether the situation is grave enough to warrant intervention and its consequences.

Through the State Department the administration today reiterated the representations made to Mexico that affairs like that at Douglas, last night, must not be repeated. Instead of awaiting the customary period for a formal reply from Mexico, the department asked for immediate action. It is believed that there be no more fighting that endangered Americans in the border towns. Information was requested also as to what measures the authorities had taken to prevent future combats of this kind. Tonight, no reply had been received from the Mexican authorities.

The president is plainly worried. He talked but little, but the bulletins that came through the war department and through the press were taken to him wherever he happened to be and read with interest. The president had two important conferences. He talked with Secretary Knox in the afternoon and tonight he had a conference with Ambassador Bryce. The official explanation of Mr. Bryce's visit was that he came to talk about the proposed arbitration treaty between the United States and Great Britain. It is practically certain, however, that Mexico figured in the conversation. It is believed that the ambassador explained to Mr. Taft the landing of the British marines at San Quintin, Mexico, last week. He was able to tell the president that the landing was only after Americans—and it was explained that Americans came first—and British subjects asked for protection from the British vessel of war put the marines ashore.

In connection with Mr. Bryce's visit a suggestion that there might be joint intervention in Mexico by the United States and England was discredited. It was pointed out that any such joint intervention would be constructed as an acknowledgement by the United States that this nation is unable to handle the situation and that it would be almost an abandonment of the Monroe doctrine. President Taft has shown to leaders of both the senate and house the duty to take any further action. The president himself has let it be known that no United States troops would cross the line unless authorized by congress and secretary of War Dickenson confirmed that statement tonight.

No one here doubts that intervention would mean war. War in Mexico the president's advisers say, would mean a conflict that would rage for months, probably years. The topography of Mexico, the mountains, the insufficient means of communication and a dozen other things that must be figured, would have to be met. Intervention would mean a long drawn out struggle in which the United States and the Mexican insurgents might soon be found fighting side by side. Furthermore, intervention would be likely to dissipate the feeling that years of careful diplomacy has created between the United States and the Latin American countries.

NO CHANCE FOR THE BILL THIS SESSION

Hamilton, April 17.—T. J. Stewart, the member for West Hamilton, predicted today that parliament would do no more than give the preamble to the reciprocity pact a reading before the house prorogues. He intimated that the Conservatives would then debate the three hundred odd clauses in the agreement until it forced the government to go to the people.

"I don't think there is much in the annexation talk at present," but it is hard to tell what will happen with the future generations if the west becomes Americanized through immigration, and we have reciprocity with the States."

A SECRET BALLOT.

It was reported last night that there had been attempts at intimidation in some sections of the city, and that men opposed to commission had been threatened that if they voted against the commission + boosters today their action + would be to their disadvantage. + Don't let them frighten you. + Threats are the last resort. + Remember that the ballot to + day is absolutely secret and + you are free to follow your + own mind without fear of consequences. +