

LABOR UNREST REARS CLIMAX

300,000 Miners Quit Work Last Night—United States In a Ferment. Strikes and Rumors of Strikes Pour In From All Parts of the Country.

Washington March 31.—Three hundred thousand organized miners in the bituminous coal fields of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma and Arkansas quit work tonight.

The miners, members of the United Mine Workers of America, declared the walk-out was not a strike, but merely a suspension of work pending an arrangement between themselves and the operators, of wage scale for another year—the old scale having expired with the month of March.

Confidence was expressed by the operators that there will be no general coal famine, large supplies of fuel having been secured in anticipation of the walk-out.

While the miners predicted the suspension would be cut short by a prompt signing of wage scales, some of the operators of the mines might be kept closed for a month or sixty days or longer.

The conditions in the various states were as follows:— Illinois, 900 mines closed and 7,000 miners quit work.

NEW LINERS FOR THE C.P.R. SAYS PIERS

General Manager Of Big Railway's Steamship Service Declares Increase In Immigration Must Be Met.

EMPRESS OF BRITAIN ARRIVES AT HALIFAX

Special to The Standard. Halifax, Mar. 31.—That it is only a matter of a short time until the C. P. R. will build one or more new liners for the Atlantic division service was the information given tonight by Arthur Piers, general manager of the C. P. R. Atlantic steamship service.

NOVA SCOTIA HOUSE TO PRODUCE SHORTLY

Indications Are That Murray Administration Will Appeal To Country On Prohibition Legislation.

PARDEE BALKS UNDER LASH

Chief Liberal Whip And Mr. Pugsley's In Power Transmissi. Legislation To Move Amendment To Bill.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, Mar. 31.—Mr. F. Pardee, west Lambton, who is sponsor for the St. Lawrence Power Transmission Co. bill, has given notice that on the third reading he will move the following amendment: "Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute an approval by parliament of any future development of water power by erecting a dam in, or across the St. Lawrence river under the act I, Edward VII, chapter 3, instituted an act to incorporate the St. Lawrence River Company or otherwise. Nor shall the company hereby incorporated be authorized to transmit power generated by the St. Lawrence Power Company other than the power generated by and in connection with the works already constructed by the said St. Lawrence Power Company."

SUPERIOR OPENED FOR NAVIGATION

Port Arthur, Mar. 31.—Navigation on Lake Superior opened this afternoon with the arrival of the steamer Moore, of the Booth Line, Capt. Hector, from Duluth. She was saluted by all the boats that wintered in the harbor and are now being prepared for the season's work.

ENGLISH OWNERS CLAIMS SATISFIED

St. Vincent, B. W. I., March 31.—The owners of the British trading schooner Lady Kensington, which was unlawfully seized by Venezuelan authorities off Margarita, an island in the Caribbean Sea, belonging to Venezuela, and other claimants, have received from the Venezuelan government \$1,000 in satisfaction of damages sustained through the detention of the vessel in the fall of 1908, and was followed by a demand for compensation made by the British government.

ST. JOHN WOMEN'S COLLEGE GOVERNMENT ON BY POPE PIOUS AT HOME



Mrs. J. P. McInerney a Visitor to Rome is Granted Private Audience with His Holiness and is Recipient of Signal Honor—Presented with Colotte Worn by Pope.

Seldom, if ever, perhaps, has such a unique distinction been conferred upon any St. John person, than was given Mrs. J. P. McInerney upon the occasion of their recent visit to Rome when they were received in private audience with his holiness Pope Pius X. Beside being honored with a special audience, his holiness presented Mrs. McInerney with the colotte which he was wearing and replaced it with one which had been made especially for and ordered to him by Mrs. McInerney. In a letter received here yesterday from the doctor who is now

in Paris, Mrs. McInerney gives a description of her visit to his holiness and of the great honor which she was pleased to confer upon them.

Mrs. McInerney presenting him with her gift his holiness displayed keen appreciation and thanking her graciously removed the colotte which he was wearing at the time and presented her with it as a remembrance of their visit. He then conferred upon them his special benediction and also sent it to their family in St. John.

TROUBLE AT THIS CAPITAL

Prince Edward Island's Legislature Hold Warm Session—Committee Throws Out Bill To Permit Automobiling.

DORANDO WINS FROM INDIAN

Special to The Standard. Pittsburgh, March 31.—With a lead of only fifty feet Dorando, the Italian runner tonight beat Tom Longboat, the Canadian Indian in a foot race of 20 miles at Exposition Rink. It was one of the closest races perhaps ever run, for at no time was the leader more than a lap ahead of his adversary.

SUSSEX MASONS HOLD PLEASANT AT HOME

Zion Lodge Entertain Guests At Big Easter Function—Getting After Scott Act Violators.

MARIE CORELLI IS DANGEROUSLY ILL

Noted Novelist Suffering From Severe Attack Of Pneumonia At Historical House—The Townspeople Not Anxious.

CHILD KILLED BY MONTREAL STREET CAR

Five-Year-Old Boy Victim Of Trolley Accident In Which Little Sister Is Seriously Hurt.

EDIBLE FRUIT FROM THE CLIMBING ROSE

Berkeley, Cal., March 31.—Hugh Lilenthal, local horticulturist announces the discovery of an edible fruit from the climbing rose. Lilenthal succeeded in obtaining the fruit by cross-grafting. The fruit, which he says is quite nutritious and has a flavor like a pineapple, may be eaten either raw or cooked.

AUSTRIA IS SWEEPED BY FIERCE TORNADO

Death And Devastation In Wake Of Giant Storm—Passenger Train Blown From Rails.

ENGLAND'S BIRTH RATE LOWEST ON RECORD

Special to The Standard. London, March 31.—England's birth rate last year was the lowest on record, 25.58 per thousand of population. This is nearly 1.0 below the rate for 1908, which showed a slight increase over 1907, the first for many years.

WINSTON CHURCHILL IN VIGOROUS SPEECH

Sir Robert Finlay Moves Strong Resolution In British House Of Commons On Reform Of Lords.

STARTLING DISCLOSURES OF OVERCLASSIFICATION ON TRANSCONTINENTAL EFFECTED BY OPPOSITION.

Special to The Standard. Ottawa, March 31.—The Lumden charges occupied the house of commons all day. After persistent and calculated delay the remainder of the Lumden committee reported to the house just before the Easter adjournment and today Mr. Houghton Lennox moved to receive the report. The result was a rather curious debate.

So far as the matter of the debate was concerned, the Conservatives were primarily interested in the broad fact that an amazing over-expenditure has taken place. As Mr. Lennox put it, it will cost fifty one millions to excavate the rock alone, the exact figure which Mr. Fielding estimated as the cost of the road completed, down to stations, telegraph lines, shops, etc.

Secondly the Conservatives showed that the government was mismanaging the committee of inquiry to stifle investigation. The Liberals confined themselves to the matter of procedure, and made no attempt to deal with the general fact that the cost has grown so strangely and so enormously.

Mr. Lennox. Mr. Houghton Lennox opened the attack. The important part of his speech was a set of compilations, the result of careful and patient examination of government returns and of Mr. Lumden's evidence, all official information.

TABLE

Table with columns: No., To Cost, Costing. Rows 1-21 showing various cost estimates.

The original estimate was that the line would cost \$28,000 a mile. The present official estimate is \$34,000 a mile or just three times the original.

THE ORIGINAL ESTIMATE.

Table with columns: No., To Cost, Costing. Rows 1-21 showing original cost estimates.

Or an excess of 60 per cent. A Similar Percentage.

It would be fair, Mr. Lennox argued to add a similar percentage to the estimates on the other eight contracts. His calculation then stood as follows: Continued On Page Two.