COAL STRIKE MAY INVOLVE 3,000,000

Railwaymen and Transport Workers Are Calling Conferences.

OPPOSE WAGE REDUCTION

Government Is Preparing To Employ Naval Men At the Pumps.

LONDON, March 31.—Success or failure for the national coal miners' strike, which has been ordered to begin at midnight tonight is expected to depend upon the results of meetings of the railway and transport workers called for early next week. Those who had been hopeful that the railroad men and transport workers would find a way out of the difficulty received little to reassure them in statements issued on their behalf after morning conferences. These statements were to the effect that the attitude of the mine owners and of the Government was regarded by the railway men and transport workers as prelude to a general attempt to reduce wages and to get back to the old days of district instead of national negotiations in labor disputes.

Conference Called.

The National Union of Railwaymen has called a conference of delegates for April 6, at which it will be decided whether the railwaymen will support the miners. The transport workers also have decided to call a meeting of the executives of all the bodies affiliated with them for April 5, to take similar action.

If the statement issued today on behalf of the railwaymen and transport workers influences the railwaymen and the transport workers actively to support the miners through a sympathetic strike the outlook is ominous.

May Affect 3,000,000.

Some persons point out that there is an increasing likelihood of the entire triple alliance, numbering almost 3,000,000 workers, laying down their tools. They point to the fact that an identical situation, as regards the railroads, will be almost certain to come up again in August, when government control of the railways ceases. On this account, they argue, the triple alliance may see fit at the present time to make the miners' cause a test case.

The temper of the miners for the walkout is indicated in their strike order, which includes the pumpmen and the other workmen who are essential to keep the mines in working condition. This, however, it is declared, will be countered by the Government employing naval men to go into the pits, if it is necessary to take such action to prevent the ruination of the mines.

Ready For Emergency.

The Government's plan, it is understood, even contemplates measures for the carrying on of the vital services even in the event of a walkout by the entire triple alliance. Efforts to avert such a contingency are continuing, and in some quarters the belief is expressed that the railwaymen and the transport workers may confine their participation in the miners' strike to a refusal to handle coal.

The Government, in 1917, employed naval men for the pumping of mines during the strike at that time, but it is said that should the regular mine pumpers now be called out scores of mines inevitably must be flooded, as there are insufficient naval forces available for the work.

Neither side to the controversy showed signs of yielding today, and the situation tonight generally is regarded as the most serious since the 1917 mine strike, when the workers held out for sixteen weeks.

PAPERS AMALGAMATE.

STRATHROY, March 31.—Another amalgamation to meet the ever-increasing costs of newspaper production has taken place, and a deal has been completed by which the Strathroy Age and the Dispatch become one. The latter has been published by Richardson Bros. since 1887. R. F. Richardson will be associated with the Age, and George Richardson is going to Sault Ste. Marie.

EMPEROR IS RETURNING TO SWITZERLAND

Rumanians Are Concentrating Troops On the Hungarian Border.

VIENNA, March 31.—The Hungarian charge d'affaires has notified Austria that former Emperor Charles will return to Switzerland. The Swiss minister declares that Switzerland will agree to his return.

CONCENTRATING TROOPS.

BUDAPEST, March 31.—The countries neighbor to Hungary are watching with the most intense interest the events occurring in that country. It was learned today that the Rumanians are concentrating troops at Grosswardein, on the Hungarian border, and at Temesvar, farther south, to be ready in case armed interference should be necessary.

The Jugo-Slavs, who have mobilized five divisions, crossed the Hungarian frontier at several points, but withdrew yesterday. The Jugo-Slav diplomatic representative here, M. Milojesevich, is said to have told the military authorities: "Our question is, will Charles depart within 24 or 48 hours?"

DECLINE TO ACCEPT.

WINDSOR, March 31. — Following a conference with committees representing shop employees and clerks in Detroit, Henry Shearer, general manager of the Michigan Central, stated that the question of proposed wage reductions was discussed amicably, but the employees declined to accept any reduction. Owing to falling living costs the M. C. R. is pressing for a 20 per cent reduction. The road will appeal to the labor board, Mr. Shearer said.

Will Petition Government For New Experimental Station

Important Questions Discussed by Western Ontario O. A. C. Alumni Association—Delegates From All Over the District in Attendance.

ST. THOMAS, March 31.—The Western Ontario O. A. C. Alumni Association met for the second time since its organization at the city building tonight, with an attendance from many centres in the southwestern part of this province. The association was organized in October, 1919, with a membership of 70, and is reaching out for the hundred mark. The association mainly discussed the educative possibilities of an experimental station, and a petition will go forward to Premier Drury and Hon. Manning Doherty, minister of agriculture, to have an experimental and demonstration station placed in a central place in the southwestern part of the province, where specialized crops are grown, and so that the farmers of this district may be best served. It was recommended that the farm be operated by the provincial department of agriculture.

Promised Support.

The movement for the establishing of the demonstration and experimental farm was promised the support of the Chatham Chamber of Commerce, and received considerable encouragement from other organizations in the southwestern end of the province.

Both the corn growers and tobacco farmers, declares the association, are desirous of having experiments conducted. The corn growers are asking for the elimination of scrub varieties of corn and bringing out of varieties of corn that are better adapted to the soil and climate than the strains that are at present grown. The tobacco growers are anxious to have experiments conducted to bring out other varieties that would be in greated demand and would bring a higher price.

The Ontario Department of Agriculture has at the present time experimental demonstration stations located in other parts of the province for similar reasons and similar purpose, conducted at public expense, and the association considered the establishing of one nearer home as a concession due the farmers of the southwest district.

Tells of Results.

W. W. Diggs, superintendent of the tobacco experimental station at Harrow, gave an outline of his experiment there with results of considerable financial benefit to the farmers. With proper selection of plants and care taken in their development, the net profits will reach a substantial figure. The success following tobacco farming was considerably assisted by the work done and counsel given at the experimental station.

Topics of local interest were also discussed, and the change of the curriculum at the O. A. C. was given a favorable criticism.

The first outing of the association, "a summer field day," may be held at Rondeau during the holidays. Chairman F. S. Fry presided.

Election of Councillors.

Members of the council elected for the year were: Bruce, Campbell Lamont, Walkerton; Essex, A. McKenney, Walkerville; Elgin, D. E. Carroll, Iona Station; Kent, Roy Abraham, Chatham; Lambton, J. W. Lawrence, Sarnia; Middlesex, J. H. Wheaton, Thorndale; Norfolk, E. Neff, Simcoe; Oxford, G. L. Green, Woodstock; Huron, S. B. Stothers, Clinton; Perth, new agricultural representative.

The officers of the association are: Honorary president, Col. W. J. Brown, London; president, H. S. Fry, London; first vice-president, S. P. Brown, Ilderton; second vice-president, A. McKenney, Walkerville; secretary, R. A. Finn, London; treasurer, G. F. Kingsmill, London; publicist, W. H. Porter, London.

FARMERS AND GRAIN DEALERS WANT WATERWAY

Make Strong Representations Before International Joint Commission.

Detroit, March 30.—Arguments for and against development of the St. Lawrence waterway were submitted here today at the opening of the final hearings of the international joint commission. Representatives of middle western states and of Canada made pleas for the waterway, while Henry W. Hill of Buffalo, former New York State senator, urged against it. Former Senator Hill obtained permission from the commission to file with it a written objection within eleven days after copies of today's proceedings had been given him. He filed with the commission today copies of resolutions adopted by various eastern organizations opposed to the program.

C. S. Latchow, secretary of the Farmers' and Grain Dealers' Association, declared the proposed waterway was essential to the future prosperity of American and Canadian farmers, and said the national association he represented included in its membership 5,000 co-operative grain elevators.

B. R. Inman of Indianapolis, representing the Indiana State Chamber of Commerce, declared the waterway would aid in re-populating American farms by providing cheaper transportation for farm products.

Former Governor W. L. Harding of Iowa declared the waterway would insure prosperity for the United States and Canada for years to come. L. G. Macomber, chief of the Toledo Chamber of Commerce traffic department, and U. S. Coney, congressman for Ohio, also spoke in favor of the project.

A. C. Lewis, secretary-treasurer of the National Waterways Association of Canada, both of Toronto, presented a plea for the waterway. They declared a water route from the Great Lakes to the Atlantic was necessary for the expansion of Canada, and declared the possibilities for electric power were unlimited.

The hearing will be continued tomorrow.

JOHN GLASSFORD OF CHATHAM SUCCUMBS TO HEART FAILURE

Manager for Mason & Risch Was Well Known in London.

CHATHAM, March 31.—John Glassford, local manager for Mason & Risch for the past ten years, dropped dead at his home on Victoria street, while preparing to retire last night. Heart failure was given as the cause. He was thought to be in perfect health, and only this week had made an extensive business trip.

Mr. Glassford was well known in London and throughout the district, as well as in Chatham and the surrounding district. He was prominent in Masonic circles, and was a member of Mocha Patrol of the Shriners. He was a member of the I. O. F. as well. As elder of the Presbyterian Church, he took a prominent part in its activities. He was an enthusiastic horticulturist, and a member both of the local and the provincial societies. Largely through his efforts the flower stands with which Chatham streets are lined were erected.

He was 59 years old. His wife and daughter survive him. The funeral will be held Saturday.

CRAZE FOR BUDDHISM IS VOGUE IN PARIS

PARIS, March 31.—The Paris literary and social worlds have gone mad over Buddhism. There is hardly a Paris home which does not have its statues of the various Hindoo deities, but it is only fair to add that there are as yet no signs of a religious ritual being adopted.

The fad seems to have started in a small circle of poets who profess that Buddha's physiognomy is especially conducive to high spiritual thought, even more so than the green talkative parrots which have always been considered indispensable in the studios of poets here.

Roger Gaillard, who is the author of two volumes of verse and a member of the Comedie Francaise, is among the latest to adopt Buddha as an inspiration. He is now reported to have extended the fashion by insisting that Buddha statues of all sizes surround him while he corrects his work.

Meanwhile it is only natural that the dealers in antiques are not losing the chance to profit by the fad and have doubled the price on any bit of hideous clay work which might resemble the popular conception of the new toy of the Parisians.

Being an expensive fad the upper social crust has adopted it, abandoning for the moment the soothsayers and spiritualists who have been reaping fortunes during the last two months by the vogue which has attended their seances.

Children Cry
FOR FLETCHER'S
CASTORIA

WIFE BEATER IS SENT TO ASYLUM

GUELPH, March 31.—Herbert Evans, a local man who was arrested a few days ago charged with wife-beating, was this afternoon removed from the county jail to the Hamilton Asylum. He was examined by a board of local doctors who reported the prisoner insane. He acted in a very peculiar manner since his arrest, and the doctors came to the conclusion he was not responsible for his actions when he committed a most brutal assault upon his wife by attacking her with a poker at his home about two weeks ago, and inflicting three nasty gashes in her head which required several stitches.

WILL BE COMBINED

Customs and Inland Revenue Offices At Guelph Amalgamated.

GUELPH, March 31.—Big changes are about to be made at the local offices of the customs and inland revenue departments, an order having been issued from Ottawa for the amalgamation of the two branches. The move will go into effect Friday. The inland revenue office will be switched from the present quarters to the customs department on the second floor. George J. Thorp, collector of customs, has been appointed acting collector, and the local inland revenue officials will hereafter perform their duties under the acting collector's supervision, pending the reclassification of the combined service.

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O-Hi-O (O-My-O) / Billy Jones } 216266
Oh! It's a Lovely War / Elliott Shaw
I Love the Lassies / Charles Hart } 216265
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