

## DAVIS TO CALL CONFERENCE IN MINE TROUBLE

Secretary of Labor Will Direct Attention to 1920 Stipulation.

### PROVIDES FOR SESSION

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Secretary of Labor Davis will call to the attention of the two groups in the present controversy that the bituminous wage award of 1920 stipulated that an interstate joint conference be held prior to April 1, 1922, to discuss any differences that may exist between employers and the workers.

Inasmuch as there is no super-organization existing among the operators, it is probable that Secretary Davis will informally call the attention of individual operators to the existing pact between them.

Officials were confident that there would be little difficulty in bringing about a conference between the operators and miners.

Special to Indiana Daily Times and Philadelphia Public Ledger.

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The president's decision to intervene in the impending controversy in the coal industry was based upon Mr. Harding's belief that the parties to the existing contract should abide by the clause pledging them to the conference. It represents the first move on the part of the Government to avert a strike in the unionized coal fields as a result of the failure of the miners and operators to get together.

The present wage agreement covering the mining operations in the central competitive field, involving Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and western Pennsylvania, expires on March 31. Under the provisions of the contract, John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, has twice invited the operators to send representatives to a meeting of the joint committee to Louisville.

The first invitation was sent out less than a week ago, but again met with refusal on the part of the representatives of the operators in the Ohio and western Pennsylvania fields. The representatives in the other fields accepted the invitations conditionally.

### ATTENTION DIRECTED TO INDUSTRIAL CONFERENCE.

Since the convention of the United Mine Workers in Indianapolis it has become increasingly apparent to the Administration that some action on the part of the Government would be necessary to avert a strike in the coal industry. From representatives of the Department of Labor, the reports were that neither sides were disposed to get together on their own volition.

The decision of Judge Anderson in Indiana, according to the press, to use the "check-off" system in the central competitive field and the contract generally is not regarded by the Administration as invalidating the obligation of the parties concerned to confer in an effort to arrive at some agreement.

President Harding has received from the Department of Justice an opinion bearing upon the effect of this decision and the administration will take steps toward bringing the operators and miners together. He is convinced it offers no objections to the course the Government now proposes to pursue.

The time of the meeting has not been set, but it is presumed that it will be called before the end of March in ample time to give the miners and operators an opportunity to get together. The meeting probably will take place in Washington.

### DAVIS AGENT OF GOVERNMENT.

President Harding has made Mr. Davis the Government's agent in dealing with the coal controversy, but possibly will enlist Secretary of Commerce Hoover in the efforts to avoid a break. The hopes of the Administration are that there would be no strike.

For several months the situation has been followed closely by Mr. Hoover, whose advice on industrial questions is known to be held paramount by the President. The Secretary of Commerce not long ago predicted a break in the coal industry.

In the meantime there has been gathering of the operators and miners and the Department of Commerce obtained information with which to deal with the controversy. The position of the Administration's officials long has been that a strike would injure the public interest and make imperative interference on the part of the Government.

Hope that the miners and operators would get together without the efforts of a third agency have been lost with the departure of Mr. Davis from Indianapolis and the operators' willingness to meet them. The last refusal of the operators to meet with the miners followed by the call of the miners' leaders for a referendum on a strike is understood to have brought about the Administration's decision. Copyright, 1922, by Public Ledger Company.

### ANTHRACITE OWNERS TO MEET FRIDAY

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., Feb. 25.—The deliberations of the policy committee of the anthracite coal operators ended today with the announcement that a committee representing the operators would meet a committee representing the miners in New York March 15.

### WISHES NO MONEY FROM FIREMEN

Original South Side Club Ex- plains Its Stand.

The Original South Side Woman's Club at the home of Mrs. Charles Werle, 1415 South Meridian street, yesterday passed a resolution to the effect that the Original South Side Woman's Club wishes the city firemen to know that at no time has this original club solicited funds from firemen for the organization's relief fund.

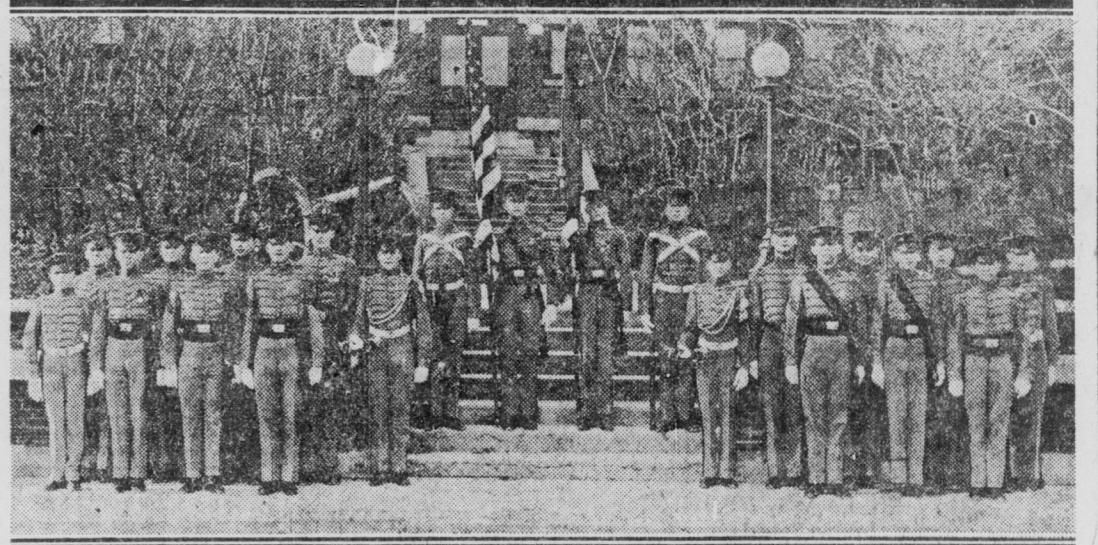
The Original South Side Woman's Club, formerly known as the South Side Woman's Club, did have an active part and was the group of women who helped to put over the two platoon system for the firemen of Indiana, it is announced.

A resolution was passed and a committee was appointed to the meeting of the board of safety, asking that Miss Laurel Thayer be retained as probation officer.

Another resolution to the board of safety was that the matrons at the Kentuckiana comfort station be placed on the same salary as the custodians of the station.

A complaint was received by the club that the South Meridian street dumping ground is being made a rendezvous for bootleggers. Objections were made to the immoral dancing in halls in South Illinois and South Capitol avenue. This will be taken up by the grievance committee.

## CADETS WILL ENTERTAIN RAILWAY EXECUTIVES



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