

LABOR SOLID FOR LA FOLLETTE, IS CLAIM OF CHIEFS

Supporters of 'Fighting Bob' Say He Will Receive 5,000,000 Votes.

WASHINGTON, July 17.—Organized labor's 5,000,000 votes will be swung behind Senator Robert M. La Follette, his campaign leaders claimed today.

The American Federation of Labor will sanction, if not openly endorse, the La Follette candidacy when its executive council meets in Atlantic City the first of August, according to progressive opinion.

Gompers Opposed

While Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor, is opposed to endorsement of independent political movements, La Follette chiefs have been informed the labor body will oppose the candidates of both Coolidge and Davis, and therefore will at least tacitly endorse the La Follette campaign.

This is the opinion of William H. Johnston, chairman of the national progressive committee, as expressed to the United Press today.

"The heart of labor is La Follette," Johnston said. "Of course no leader wishes to be put into the position of attempting to control the votes of labor, but the entire political career of La Follette has been a fight for the rights of laborers both in the factories and on the farms. Men know this and I am sure that the effect of the labor vote will be felt stronger next November than at any previous time."

3,000,000 Members

There are 3,000,000 members of the American Federation of Labor. There are more than a million more workers not members of that body. These two groups control at least a million more votes through their families—making the estimated present strength of the labor vote about 5,000,000.

In previous elections the labor vote has been somewhat nebulous and never has lodged solidly behind one candidate. La Follette leaders feel they can solidify the workers against Davis, whom Johnston describes as "a tool of Wall St." and President Coolidge, whom he calls a "reactionary."

FLOODS DESTROY CHINESE TOWNS

Thousands Toil on Dykes to Save City of Tien Tsin.

By United Press

PEKIN, July 17.—Peril of floods in western China continues grave.

Five villages west of Tien Tsin were inundated and destroyed, but the railroad running through the rice lands withstood the waters.

Thus far, the city of Tien Tsin has been spared. Two smaller dykes broke today, flooding districts east and west of the city, but dykes protecting Tien Tsin have held. Thousands of soldiers and coolies are toiling in relays repairing small leaks. Pekin still is menaced by a river torrent raging fifteen miles to the westward, but the capital is thought safe. Approximately 200 brick and mud houses here crumbled.

AMERICANS HELP AT CONFERENCE

Offer to Aid Reparations Parley Committees.

By United Press

LONDON, July 17.—American ambassador Kellogg and Col. James A. Logan Jr. placed their services at disposal of all three interrelated reparations conference committees today, ready to sit in and speed the preliminary work of the conclave whenever questions might arise requiring their presence.

There was an air of "strictly business"—the MacDonald keynote about the deliberations today, and an atmosphere of mingled good will and anxiety at the foreign office.

The conference will not meet in plenary session again until the committees have ironed out differences of opinion over agenda and other matters in dispute.

Today's London newspapers stress the perils of failure, but profess to take heart from the participation of the Americans.

IRISH PICNIC AUG. 16

Hibernians to Reconstruct Erin in Festivities at Columbia Park

Irish reels, Celtic dances, athletic contests, and all the festivities to go with a Hibernian picnic are on the program for the Ancient Order of Hibernians' picnic, Aug. 16, at Columbia Park.

The committee: Jerry Grady, Barney Kelly, F. T. Lalley, D. P. Sullivan, Nicholas Carroll, Mrs. I. R. LePorte, Mrs. P. J. Cahillane, Mrs. J. J. O'Brien, Mrs. A. Sullivan, Mrs. J. Christy, J. H. Deery, Edward J. Sexton, J. L. Kinney, M. J. Mannix, F. T. Flaherty, H. J. McManon and Francis Flaherty.

Speakers: Edward J. Sexton, James E. Deery and P. J. O'Mahoney. The Irish dances will be executed by Charles O'Donnell, Francis McGinn, John Gainer, John Ash, Jerry Grady and T. J. McCarty. The committee will meet July 29.

'Family Flivver' Steered Switchman to Art Lost Since Time of Egyptians and Road to Millions

By N.E.A. Service

ST. LOUIS, Ill., July 17.—Jim Cummings lost his job—and made a fortune because of it.

A little while back he was "broke" and on the verge of asking a "lift" from his neighbors.

Cummings—perhaps he will sign his checks "James Earl Cummings" now—lives here with his wife and half dozen children. He is 33.

Until he was thrown out of employment, he was a switchman. Before that he was a truckman.

Today he is worth a million and a half. And royalties are beginning to come in right along.

And he can thank the old family flivver for his good fortune.

"The family was about to go hungry," Jim explains. "We owned an automobile—one with a record of long service but disreputable aspect. I figured I might fix it up a bit and sell it."

And in the fixing operation he solved a problem that has been stumping scientists these last 2,000 years. Accidentally he discovered a process for hardening and tempering copper—lost art since the days of the old Egyptians.

In cleaning the gaskets on his car, Cummings used a chemical mixture he haphazardly had concocted. Now one of the gaskets was bent—and Jim tried to straighten it. But each time he hammered the metal it flew back into its old bent position.

Jim couldn't understand it. He told a yellow-workman about it. The latter, being better acquainted with mechanics, informed the perplexed Cummings he had made an important discovery.

Exhaustive tests were made at a copper concern. A check for \$1,500,000 already has been delivered him, along with a contract calling for royalties on every hundred pounds of copper treated with his process.

"I have been pestered to death



JIM CUMMINGS' WIFE AND CHILDREN. CUMMINGS IS SEEN IN INSET.

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