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GOVERNMENT IS CONFIDENT OF RESPONSE

Administration Awaits Replies of Governors, Coal Operators and Miners With Assurance.

LEWIS IS CHEERFUL

(By Associated Press) WASHINGTON, July 19.—Administration officials awaited with confidence today the response of state executives and coal operators and miners to the government's determination to secure a resumption of coal production, notwithstanding the continued strike of mine workers.

Meanwhile plans sent forward to put the government fully in a position to fulfill the pledge of "every assistance at its command" given by President Harding in the telegram addressed to the governors of 28 coal states yesterday in which they were called upon by the executive to give necessary protection and safeguards to man and employees willing to resume work in the industry. The failure to reach a voluntary adjustment of the present controversy, the President said in his message, made it necessary in the name of the common welfare, that operators and miners under assurances of necessary protection be invited to resume production.

Despite the reduced car supply at present producing mines resulting from the rail strike, officials were confident that some additional supply would result from the government's action. The rail situation showed some improvement today, but it was evident that the government has decided to obtain a full resumption of transportation this week, and that high officials see a close relationship and interconnection between the rail and coal situations.

See Merely Gesture.

Assertion that the president's message to the governors was "merely a gesture which will not produce coal in any substantial quantity" was made in a statement by John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers, and a similar prediction was made by Samuel Gompers, president of the Federation of Labor.

Mr. Lewis faced the government's proposal to guarantee safety of strike breaking operation with apparent cheerfulness.

"We have been on strike 16 weeks," he declared, "we have more men out than we had in the beginning. There are between 600,000 and 700,000 men standing for the resumption of work only after an interstate agreement and upon the basis of wage scales as they were April 1. They will continue to do so in a peaceful and orderly fashion. Suggesting that miners would have to work sometime to eat brought the rejoinder that "they haven't nearly reached their limit yet."

In the government view, however, there was no certainty that the entire membership of the miners union would support their leaders in refusing arbitration and the possibility of separate district agreements in the face of the government determination to support mine operators was rumored here to-day.

RICHMOND, Va., July 19.—Opinion is that coal mine in Virginia could not be operated adequately during the miners' strike because of a law requiring inefficient man working in mines work, with an experienced miner, was expressed today by C. H. Morrisett, director of the Virginia state legislative bureau. The law was enacted in 1912.

WEST FRANKFORT, Ill., July 19.—Coal operators in Franklin county, the largest producing county in Illinois today stated there was "absolutely no possibility" of resuming coal production under President Harding's plan. Franklin is said to be the largest coal producing area of its size in the country.

CHICAGO, July 19.—Governors of Kentucky, Iowa, Georgia and Colorado, promptly upon receipt of President Harding's telegram urging co-operation in obtaining reopening of the coal mines, wired that the federal government could depend upon them to the fullest extent, said news dispatches received here today.

The governor of Kansas telegraphed that the policy suggested was being followed in his state. Governor Mecham of New Mexico replied that all mines in that state were operating, and Governor Pat M. Neff of Texas, on a campaign tour, had not received the president's message and would not comment.

Among the responses to President Harding were these:

Governor Kendall, Iowa: "As chief executive of Iowa I pledge every resource of the state to the support of the program you have inaugurated for the relief of the coal situation."

Governor Shoup, Colorado: "As a governor of Colorado I will co-operate with President Harding and the federal authorities to the fullest extent."

Governor Mecham, New Mexico: "All coal mines are operating and production is sufficient for all present needs."

Governor Hart, Washington: "Answering regarding the coal strike, I beg to advise you there is no trouble in this state, and I have faith in the operators and miners that no condition precipitating a demand for federal interference will arise."

Governor Morrow, Kentucky: "The president's position is unquestionably correct. Should be unhesitatingly pursued, and I will support and maintain it."

Governor Hardwick, Georgia: "I pledge full, prompt and whole-hearted support."

Paderewski, Sailing, Will Return for Concert Tour



FRANK L. WAIDLE, 49, COUNCILMAN 8 YEARS, IS FOUND DEAD IN BED

Frank L. Waidele, 49 years old, died Wednesday morning at his home, 711 South West A street. He was found dead in bed by his wife, Carrie Waidele, who had risen and thought that Mr. Waidele was still sleeping. Mr. Waidele was born Sept. 1, 1873.

He was a member of the city council for about eight years and was an officer of St. Joseph's society and of the Young Men's Institute. Mr. Waidele was also vice-president of the St. Joseph's State League of Catholic societies. He had been president of the St. Joseph's society for three years. Mr. Waidele was chairman of the public utilities committee of the city council.

Mr. Waidele is survived by his widow, Carrie Waidele and one daughter, Alma.

Besides having lived in Richmond all his life, Mr. Waidele had worked at the George Gause green-house for 22 years, and was foreman of the plant at the time of his death. Coroner Bond attributes death to heart disease.

Funeral services will be held Saturday morning at 9 o'clock from St. Andrew's catholic church. Burial will be in St. Andrew's cemetery. Father F. A. Roell will officiate.

Council will meet Wednesday night in special session to consider plans for attending the funeral.

Mrs. Waidele received word from the president of the St. Joseph's League of Catholic societies that the officers of the league would attend the funeral.

MICHIGAN OPERATORS CONSIDER STEPS TO RESUME MINE WORK

(By Associated Press)

SAGINAW, Mich., July 19.—Mine operators met Gov. Alex. J. Groesbeck here today to consider possible steps by the state government to open the way for resumption of mining operations. The conference was called by the governor upon receipt last night of President Harding's request that the policy suggested was being followed in his state. Governor Mecham of New Mexico replied that all mines in that state were operating, and Governor Pat M. Neff of Texas, on a campaign tour, had not received the president's message and would not comment.

Prior to the conference the executive indicated he would immediately strengthen the force of the state police stationed here or call upon the national guard should such a step be necessary.

Mine operators announced they might undertake to reopen the pits, but expressed doubt they could get a sufficient force. Virtually all the bituminous coal produced in Michigan is mined in this region.

REPARATIONS SLASH OPPOSED BY BELGIUM

(By Associated Press)

BRUSSELS, July 19.—The Belgian delegate to the reparations commission is absolutely opposed to the proposed reduction of the German indemnity to 50 billion gold marks. It is understood upon good authority. The proposed reduction it was pointed out would do away with Belgium's priority on 1,500,000 gold marks.

TARIFF BILL DUTIES ADEQUATE BUT NOT EXCESSIVE, ELLIOTT

Although he has not been informed through official sources that President Harding contemplates calling the house of representatives to resume its sessions before the end of the summer recess, Aug. 15, because of the gravity of the situation resulting from the railroad and coal strikes, Representative R. N. Elliott will not be surprised if such action is taken.

The congressman was in Richmond a few hours Tuesday, driving here from his home in Connersville. While he was in Richmond he met a number of his Wayne county friends and accepted invitations to address a meeting of the Wayne County Republican club Friday evening at the Morton high school and to attend the annual summer picnic of the Denver Brown camp, Spanish-American war veterans, to be held Sunday at Beavly park.

Before returning to Washington, Representative Elliott hopes to visit all the eight counties of the Sixth congressional district. This is the first opportunity he has had to make a canvass of the district in more than two years, as congress has been in almost continuous session during that time.

Discussing the tariff bill Tuesday with some Richmond friends, Mr. Elliott expressed the opinion that when work on the measure had been finally completed adequate but not excessive protection would be provided for American industries and agriculture.

Blames Propaganda

A flood of propaganda aimed to poison the minds of the American people has been directed against the tariff bill, the congressman said, and for this he places most of the blame on large importing interests.

These big importers have been flooding our markets with cheaply made foreign goods. It is a competition American industries cannot meet.

If the tariff bill now in the making provides adequate protection the enormous profits of the importing interests will be sacrificed, so these interests are conducting an aggressive publicity campaign against the measure," Mr. Elliott remarked.

As an example of the methods which have been employed to discredit the tariff bill, Rep. Elliott mentioned the recent attacks which have been made upon the wool schedule, the charge being made that the rates proposed by the finance committee would increase the cost of a suit of men's clothes \$5 and increase the cost of an overcoat \$7.50. The congressman was struck by this charge as absurd.

Wool Duties Reduced

Duties on clean wool and green wool proposed in the pending tariff bill represent, in each instance, a reduction, not an increase, in the existing tariff duties, Mr. Elliott said.

Mine operators announced they might undertake to reopen the pits, but expressed doubt they could get a sufficient force. Virtually all the bituminous coal produced in Michigan is mined in this region.

"Just why the cost of men's clothing would have to be increased because it is proposed to reduce tariff rates on wool is beyond my comprehension," Rep. Elliott added. "Even in the event that the wool duties proposed by the new tariff represented an increase instead of a decrease I cannot see how it would be possible to increase the cost of men's clothing \$5.00 a suit for the reason that not more than two pounds of wool is used in the making of a good suit of clothes, and the duty on two pounds, under the proposed rate for clean wool, would amount to only 66 cents."

For Indiana by the United States Weather Bureau—Fair tonight and Thursday; rising temperature Thursday.

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RUSS PROPOSE DIRECT DEALS ON PROPERTY

SUGGEST ARRANGEMENT WHEREBY RUSSIA WOULD UNDERTAKE TO NEGOTIATE FOR PAYMENTS TO FOREIGNERS

DROP CREDIT PROBLEM

THE HAGUE, July 19.—New proposals in connection with compensation for confiscated property and payment of the Russian debt were advanced by the Russian delegation at a meeting today with the entire non-Russian commission of the conference on Russian affairs here.

The Russians suggested an arrangement by which Russia would undertake to negotiate directly with foreigners for the payment of compensation for confiscated property and with bondholders for settlement of the Russian debt.

The Russians proposed that all the delegations, including the Russian, submit this project to their respective governments and await an answer for one week at the Hague. The Russians for the time being dropped the question of credits as, they said, the non-Russians had declined credits.

To Discuss Proposal

It was announced that the non-Russian representatives would meet later to discuss the proposal. Russia, her representatives said, would engage to make arrangements with foreign claimants within two years.

This was the Bolsheviks last chance to save the conference from definite and complete disruption. They had insisted upon a joint preliminary and they were accorded it.

Opinions were radically divided today as to the probable length of The Hague conference. The pessimists argued that it would crash today and the optimists insisted that it would continue for several months and would do great good for Russia and all of Europe. At any rate today's developments were expected to shape the future course of the conference and determine whether the end would be immediate or remote.

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Prominent Americans Return From Abroad



STRIKE CONTROVERSY GOES TO HEART OF GOVERNMENT THEORY

BY MARK SULLIVAN

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 19.—Coal mining is a complex business, and the principles and interests involved in the present controversy go to the heart of the theory of government.

For both these reasons it is difficult and probably imprudent to attempt to apportion with any degree of certainty or justice the responsibility for the failure of President Harding's attempt at mediation. The officials of the miners' union were the first to back away. That was most regrettable action. The miners had much to gain. Thereafter the anthracite mine owners accepted. Still a little later a very considerable majority of the bituminous mine owners accepted without reservation. The final burden for failure falls on a small group of bituminous mine owners, chiefly ones who are now working with non-union labor.

It seemed apparent at the close of the negotiations that there was on the part of the administration a state of mind about this group of recalcitrant mine owners which it would be hard to describe as regret. It was also apparent that the strongest kind of pressure was used by the administration, working through extraordinary resources to persuade this group of mine owners to get in line.

TO EARLY TO APPORTION BLAME

It is too early to apportion blame for the failure of the attempted mediation but sooner or later a clear judgment on this point should be given to the public. Also, deep convictions about fundamental principles may have mingled with selfish motives. It is a fact, however, that the principal ones among the mine owners who refused to accept are the same ones who are in a position to get advantage from the continuance of the strike.

The mines employing non-union labor are at work and producing heavily at a time when many of