

COAL STRIKE MAY SPREAD TO CANADA

MINERS ACROSS LINE REFUSE TO NEGOTIATE SCALE.

TAKING A REFERENDUM VOTE

Nova Scotia Workers Advised by Their Leaders Not to Accept a Compromise Scale.

Chicago.—If the threatened coal strike actually comes April 1 it may spread across the Canadian border. International aspects of the coal situation were developed when John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers of America, received at Indianapolis a message from Robert Livett, of Calgary, Alta., reporting that operators in western Canada had refused to go into joint conference to negotiate new wage contracts.

One basic trouble in the coal situation is the overmanning of the industry. Operators estimate that between 150,000 and 200,000 more men work in the bituminous mines than are actually needed, or, rather, than would be needed if the mining business were efficiently organized.

Employment is more subject to fluctuation than perhaps in any other line of work. And the coal consumer has to pay for the period of idleness, for in fixing wage scales the annual earnings of the mine workers are the real starting point. Just as the building crafts, where the bricklayers ordinarily get a larger hourly scale than the carpenters on the ground that their working year is shorter, the "slack" season in coal goes on the fuel bill in the form of wages. During the strike of 1913 the fuel administration, in a memorandum to the White House, set forth that "the average wage of the lowest paid group among the mine workers, except boys, is about \$950 per annum, that is, nearly \$80 a month for 12 months, working, however, about 200 days in the year. These are unskilled day laborers. The similar class of laborers on the railroads receive about \$900 per annum, working about 300 days in the year.

Since then the wage rates have been increased, but the fundamental fact remains that ordinary labor in the mines, in normal times, drags down for 200 days or less work a year, as much as similar labor does for 300 days work in other lines, and, in fact somewhat more.

But during the business slump, the mines have been struck so hard that even at high wage rates the workers have suffered a great reduction of earning power. In the coal fields last summer men spoke of being able to earn \$8 to \$15 a day, but in many instances they were fortunate to get one or two days' work a week, as in the Peoria field. In the nonunion fields where wage rates began to move generally downward last fall, the miners have had more steady employment than elsewhere. As to how their actual weekly earnings compare, however, no authentic figures seem available.

The time lost at the mines in normal years is most largely due to conditions over which the workers have no control. The United States geological survey recently issued figures showing that strikes in the mining industry have been responsible for only one-tenth of the time lost at the mines in the last 20 years.

Lincoln, Neb.—Nathan Bernstein, of Omaha, has filed notice with the secretary of his candidacy, as a republican, for the nomination of congressman in the Second district.

Washington, D. C.—Jose Maria Orellana, recently elected president of Guatemala, was inaugurated at Guatemala City, according to advices received here.

Detroit, Mich.—The number of workers employed in the chief industries here has almost doubled since March 1, 1921, according to a report made public by the employers' association. An increase of 8,664 workers was shown for February, as compared with January.

Washington, D. C.—Gerhard A. Bading, former mayor of Milwaukee, Wis., was nominated by President Harding to be minister to Ecuador.



WHEAT GROWERS OF U. S. ORGANIZE AN ASSOCIATION

Association to Have Control of Export Sales of Wheat—Regared as 100 Per Cent Marketing Pool.

Denver, Colo.—Plans for the organization of a national federation of wheat marketing associations on the contract pooling basis were adopted by a conference of state associations covering practically the entire wheat producing territory of the United States at a meeting here.

The new federation, to be known as the American Wheat Growers, associated, will be placed in operation as soon as the middle western co-operative societies begin the actual selling of wheat, it was announced.

The new organization, as outlined, will consist of a board of directors selected by the various state organizations. It is to have control of export sales of wheat and will coordinate the domestic activities, arrange plans for wheat growers who are members of the organization and establish a statistical department and advise in the general operations of the state organizations.

The first action of the committee was to pass a resolution declaring an end to the antagonism which they declared had existed between the U. S. Grain Growers, Inc., and the co-operative societies of the various states.

New York.—The whirlpool of misfortune continued to drag down brokerage houses. The failure of George W. Kendrick, III, & Co., of Philadelphia, was announced from the rostrum of the New York Stock exchange and the Consolidated Stock exchange announced the suspension of Charles A. Bertrand, of C. A. Bertrand & Co., this city.

Newark, N. J.—A bride of three days, Julia Yonan, 21, caused the arrest of the Rev. M. Simonson Yonan, 57, a Nestorian priest, who said his pastor was in New Britain, Conn., charged that he first tricked her into marriage and then threatened to kill her because she refused to live with him.

New York.—A bandit wearing a yellow mask shot and wounded Benjamin E. Primm, assistant treasurer of the Tiffin Products corporation, in Long Island City, and escaped with a payroll of \$90,000.

Belfast.—Max S. Green, chairman of the Irish prison board, was shot and killed in Dublin, a Dublin message announces. He was a son-in-law of the late John Redmond, the Irish nationalist leader.

London.—Scattering reports to the newspapers indicated that the situation in India is causing increasing anxiety to the authorities, particularly in the Punjab and the united provinces of Bengal. The report of the impending arrest of Mohandas K. Gandhi, non-co-operationist leader, is reiterated. The Daily News says that the Prince of Wales has abandoned his intention to visit Amritsar, where it is recalled, troops first fired on agitators in April, 1919, killing 300 persons.

London.—Princess Mary, the only daughter of King George and Queen Mary, was married to Viscount Lascelles, with all the pomp and dignity befitting a royal wedding. The ceremony began in Westminster Abbey at 11:30 o'clock and soon thereafter the couple were pronounced man and wife, while the chimes of Westminster rang out the happy message, and vast crowds gave tumultuous greetings. The scene of the ceremony within the historic walls of the abbey was one of impressive grandeur.

Washington, D. C.—The administration plan for government aid for the American merchant marine was presented to congress by President Harding with the declaration that the influence of the United States in world councils is "sure to be measured by that unflinching standard which is found in a nation's merchant marine."

The president detailed to the two houses assembled in joint session the war time creation of America's great tonnage—an experimental venture, as he described it—and then he added: "Having failed at such enormous cost, I bring you the proposal which contemplates the return to private initiative and private enterprise, aid to a conservative success, wherein we are safeguarded against the promotion of private greed, and do not discourage the hope of profitable investment, which underlies all successful endeavor."

Aid estimated at \$32,000,000 annually, to be provided for principally by diversion of 10 per cent of the nation's customs receipts. Requirement that not more than 50 per cent of the immigrants to the United States be transported in foreign ships.

Signs of Spring

RICH IOWAN SLAIN BY TWO ASSASSINS

Angelo Ferrari, the Victim, is Fired On by Two Men While Putting Up His Machine.

Des Moines, Ia.—Angelo Ferrari, wealthy Italian bondsman, known as the "king of little Italy," was shot and killed by two unidentified assassins in a garage at the rear of his residence. A bullet from a pistol entered his right temple, passing through the brain. Four other bullets took effect in his body.

Immediately after the shooting neighbors saw two men run through a vacant lot north of the Ferrari residence. They hurried north and are believed to have made their escape in a waiting automobile.

Ferrari and his wife had just returned from a wedding. Ferrari drove the automobile into the garage and then accompanied his wife into the house.

Leaving Mrs. Ferrari in a front bedroom, Ferrari left the house, saying that he would wipe the mud off the car before going to bed. He had been gone but a few minutes when the shots of a revolver were heard.

Chicago.—Cheap eggs for Lent was signaled by a new drop in quotations. Prices showed a fall of a cent a dozen per day for the last 10 days. The wholesale quotation for first quality eggs here was 24 cents, as against 34 cents on the corresponding day a year ago, as well as for ten days back this season.

Washington, D. C.—Railroad passenger fares within the state are subject to regulation by the federal government, the supreme court declared. The court sustained the lower courts which prohibit the Wisconsin railroad commission from interfering with the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad in putting into effect increases in passenger fares in state travel authorized by the interstate commerce commission.

Washington, D. C.—Indictments against Charles W. Morse, New York shipbuilder; his three sons, Benjamin, Harry and Ervin; Colin H. Livingston of Washington, president of the Virginia Shipbuilding corporation, and seven other persons were returned by the federal grand jury which had investigated the war time transactions of Morse and some of his associates with the shipping board.

Nashville, Tenn.—Strenuous efforts by friends to stay the electrocution of four men condemned to die in the electric chair here, have failed to sway Gov. Alfred A. Taylor, the executive said. Charlie Petre, Otto Stevens, Tom Christmas and John McClure, the condemned men, were convicted of the murder last spring of George Lewis, Knoxville, a taxicab driver.

Sioux Falls, S. D.—Campaign headquarters for George W. Egan, independent republican candidate for the gubernatorial nomination, sent a challenge to Gov. W. H. McMaster, majority candidate, offering him \$1,000 to meet Mr. Egan in a series of three joint debates on the issues of the campaign.

Des Moines, Ia.—On his return from Washington where he appeared before the interstate commerce commission, Gov. Kendall declared there was little doubt, but that congress would repeal the guaranty clause of the Esch-Cummins law as well as restore full jurisdiction to the state on intrastate traffic.

Washington, D. C.—The woman's suffrage, or 19th amendment, was declared constitutional by the supreme court. The supreme court dismissed for want of jurisdiction the suit brought by Charles S. Fairchild of New York, who sought to challenge the constitutionality of the amendment.

Hoboken, N. J.—The first ship of the North German Lloyd line to come into New York harbor in eight years, steamed up the bay and received a rousing welcome from German clubs and organizations and the city officials of Hoboken.

Washington, D. C.—Committee consideration of the arms conference treaties was completed when the senate foreign relations committee ordered, favorably reported without reservations, the general far eastern and Chinese tariff treaties. In both cases the action was unanimous.

Washington, D. C.—The North Dakota law regulating grain inspection and purchase was declared invalid by the supreme court.

NEBRASKA IN BRIEF

Timely News Culled From All Parts of the State, Reduced for the Busy.

Hundreds of carp are frozen solidly into the ice in a large pond on the Partington farm, near Havelock, according to John L. Spidell of Lincoln, who claims to have discovered them. The fish had apparently flocked to the center of the pond, where there was an air hole, and there had been overtaken by a zero snap when they were too exhausted for lack of air to get away, Spidell says.

Following cremation of his body the ashes of the late Matthew Gering, well-known Omaha and Plattsmouth attorney, will be taken to his childhood home, Kempton, Bavaria and scattered over the waters of the River Rer, along which he played when a small boy. The disposition of his ashes will be in accord with a wish often expressed by Mr. Gering.

Douglas county post, American legion, was awarded judgment of one cent by default in Judge Redlek's court against F. H. Shoemaker, former labor leader on charges of slander. It was charged Shoemaker in a labor speech last December stated "the legion was subsidized by the big business and interfered with picketing among labor unions."

For selling liquor to Indians on the Winnebago reservation near Walthill, Neb., Earl Rose was given a 60-day jail sentence and a \$100 fine by Federal Judge Woodrough. This is the minimum sentence set by law. Rose pleaded guilty. Indian agents testified that Rose sold pint of whiskey for \$12.

A cow kicking over a lighted lantern was the cause of Hans Schrum, a farmer residing near Wolbach, losing his barn by fire. All of the livestock was gotten out, but the barn, a quantity of hay and grain, several sets of harness and a Dodge automobile were entirely consumed.

Eighty-six convicts at the state penitentiary at Lincoln are now learning to operate machines for making parts of shirts, overalls and other work clothing, and within another week prison officials expect the new factory of the D. M. Oberman company will be in full operation.

Corn touched 48 1/2 cents a bushel on the Fremont market. Even that high price, it is said, is failing to interest many of the farmers who have filled cribs. Two months ago corn was 23 cents a bushel on the Fremont market.

The state board of educational lands and funds has invested \$75,000 of \$1,950,000, the interest of which the legislature set aside for soldier relief, in Nelson, 5 per cent school bonds. The board had previously invested \$63,000 in bonds.

W. E. Chapin, 73, banker and capitalist, member of the board of directors of the Federal Trust Co., of Lincoln, and connected with other financial institutions of Lincoln, is dead, after a brief illness.

At a bond selection held in Stratton for the purpose of issuing \$12,500 light extension bonds to replace a similar issue that were declared illegal the issue carried by the wide margin of 68 to 8.

Influenza is breaking out in Norfolk according to physicians. City Physician Holland is one of the victims. About twenty cases have been found during the past week.

A potato growers club has been organized at Gothenburg with a large membership. Several cars of certified seed have been purchased and a large acreage will be planted.

William E. McMahon, former commander of Omaha post, Disabled American War veterans, has confessed to a shortage of \$1,500 in his accounts.

A new tourist park is being planned at Cozad. It will have all the modern conveniences and will be larger than the present park.

One hundred Nebraska editors attended the forty-ninth annual meeting of the Nebraska Press Association just held at Lincoln.

Approximately 180 inmates of Nebraska penitentiary will soon be steadily employed in the new prison shirt and overall factory. Installation of 129 large power sewing machines is expected to be completed soon. Large quantities of buttons, thread and cloth are already on hand. The factory will probably turn out 125 dozen shirts a day, according to Warden Fenton. The entire product will go to a Jefferson City, Mo., wholesale concern, which has contracted for the labor.

Forty-nine cows, 8 bulls and 14 calves were burned to death near Lexington in a barn belonging to J. Stuart. The animals were all choice thoroughbreds and were tied in long rows of stalls in the barn when the fire started. According to Stuart, he was grooming them for his large sale of fancy stock to be held next month. The origin of the fire, which started about midnight, is unknown.

Organized farmers of Nebraska are opposed to the proposed sales tax to create revenue for the soldiers bonus or for any other purpose. H. D. Lute, of Lincoln, secretary of the Nebraska Farm Bureau federation, wired members of the Nebraska delegation in congress. Mr. Lute said the farmers suggest that funds for the bonus should come from either a tax on excess profits or from the income tax.

Fairmont is in doubt as to whether to light the town by long distant electric service or continue its own plant. At a mass meeting the Public Service company and the Blue River Power company each made a proposition. The matter was dismissed when a motion prevailed to print all propositions on the ballot at the election April 4.

A large golden eagle, weighing 10 pounds, measuring seven feet from tip to tip of the wings and three feet from the tip of beak to end of tail was caught in a trap by R. L. Gray, 10 miles south of Fairbury. Mr. Gray had arranged several steel traps near a dead hen to catch chicken hawks.

Gering and Scottsbluff business men, at a meeting in which past grievances and jealousies of town against town were wiped off the slate, decided to co-operate in pushing to completion the raising of \$150,000 for the north-west Nebraska Methodist hospital.

The Richardson county board took another step in the building of a new \$200,000 court house when at their meeting, W. F. Grandt of Omaha was selected as the architect. It is not yet known when active work will be commenced.

Fire destroyed the five-room home of W. D. Shaal near Springfield. Mr. Shaal was alone in the house at the time of the fire and almost suffocated before rescued. The firemen were unable to save the house or contents. The loss is estimated at \$3,000.

Dan Swanson, state land commissioner, and secretary of the board of educational lands and funds, has announced that he had invested \$75,000 of the \$2,000,000 bonus passed by the last legislature in school bonds of the city of Nelson.

Seven hundred suits are to be brought in federal court, Omaha against parties who subscribed for stock of the Skinner Packing company and have failed to make payments. The subscriptions approximate about \$1,000,000.

The Omaha Automobile show, the big auto event of the year will be held in the Municipal Auditorium, March 13-19. The entries give promise of being fully as numerous as during former years.

The railway commission has authorized the Monroe Telephone company, which has 3,000 subscribers at Monroe, Albia and neighboring towns, to continue present rates until December 1.

Merchants Week in Omaha this year, March 6-11, promised to bring a large number of Nebraska and Iowa business men to the city. A great entertainment program has been prepared.

At a special election to be held in Scribner soon, the proposition of a new \$85,000 school building will be placed before the voters.

The Callaway school district has voted bonds of \$45,000 for the erecting of a new high school building. The bonds carried, 229 to 73.

A 10 per cent reduction in wages of grade teachers of the Steele City schools has been announced by the board of education.

J. D. Phillips, Fremont contractor, submitted the lowest bid among 16 firms, for the construction of the new junior high school to be built at Fremont this summer. The bid was \$157,469.

The thirty-mile gale accompanied by sleet put 20,000 miles of telephone lines out of commission in the South Platte district, with a financial loss of \$20,000. M. T. Caster, plant superintendent of the Lincoln Telephone and Telegraph Co., announced. The heaviest loss was in Butler county.

A. H. Byrum of Franklin county, member of the Nebraska house of representatives, has filed with the secretary of state notice of his candidacy as a republican for governor.

The Superior High school will have a new gymnasium. The proposed building is to be 50x50 feet. The basement room is to consist of class rooms, which will relieve the congestion of the seventh and eighth grades and the high school. The ground floor will make a gym 30x70 feet, with a maple wood basketball floor and a seating capacity of 500.