

ACTS AS PEACEMAKER

ROOSEVELT ADDRESSES LETTER TO MITCHELL.

Urges That an Agreement in Soft Coal Fields Be Reached to Avoid a Calamity—Concessions on Both Sides May Be Offered.

New York, Feb. 27.—President Roosevelt has again intervened as a peacemaker between the coal miners and operators, and as the result of a letter addressed by him to John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers of America, a national convention of miners will be held at Indianapolis March 15 to try to reach an agreement with the soft coal operators, with the hope of averting the threatened strike of April 1 in the bituminous coal fields. The president's letter and the announcement that the national convention would be called were made public by Mr. Mitchell after a long conference with Francis L. Robbins, president of the Pittsburgh Coal company and chairman of the bituminous operators. Also present at this conference were W. C. Perry of the Southwestern Coal association and B. F. Bush, representing the soft coal interests allied with the Gould railroads.

The president's letter to Mr. Mitchell follows:

"I note with very great concern the failure of your late convention on the joint interstate agreement to come to a basis of settlement of the bituminous mining scale of wages. You, in this business, have enjoyed a great industrial peace for many years, thanks to the joint trade agreement that has resulted in the action of your successive conventions. A strike, such as is threatened on April 1, is a menace to the peace and general welfare of the country. I urge you to make a further effort to avoid such a calamity. You and Mr. Robbins are joint chairmen of the trade agreement committee of the National Civic Federation, and it seems to me that this imposes additional duty upon you both and gives an additional reason why each of you should join in making a further effort."

The conference did not adjourn until nearly 8 o'clock last night, when Mr. Mitchell announced that after the reading of President Roosevelt's letter it was agreed both by himself and the operators that the national convention should be called.

The miners were in session recently at Indianapolis, but failed to reach an agreement with the operators. President Mitchell himself has been quoted as saying that so far as he knew there certainly would be a strike in the bituminous fields April 1.

The negotiations for an agreement between the hard coal workers and the anthracite operators have been progressing smoothly to all outward appearances and arrangements have been made for a joint conference tomorrow between the sub-committees having the settlement of the differences in hand.

With the anthracite negotiations well under way, President Mitchell has been devoting most of his time to bringing about a settlement of the differences in the soft coal regions. March 15, Mr. Mitchell believes, is the earliest date the convention can be summoned and he believes that if there is to be peace the two weeks between the date fixed for the miners' assembly and April 1, when the present agreement with the operators expires, is sufficient time to bring about the desired result. Mr. Mitchell would not indicate what new propositions will be placed before the miners, but significance is attached to his statement that the operators agreed that the convention should be called. Concessions, maybe on both sides, may be offered, and President Roosevelt's interest in the situation may be held as an additional reason for bringing about a new agreement.

TILLMAN REPORTS RATE BILL.

Galleries Crowded to Hear Remarks, but Are Disappointed.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The Hepburn railroad rate bill was reported to the senate by Senator Tillman, in accordance with the action of the senate committee on interstate commerce last Friday. Large crowds assembled in the galleries, anticipating a field day of debate, but were disappointed. There was little of interest in the proceedings regarding the bill. A brief statement from Tillman, with the necessary arrangements for printing the report of the hearings before the committee, and a promise that a formal report would be made later, was followed by remarks from Aldrich, showing the position of the five Republicans who opposed the bill as reported. Aldrich indicated that there would be no unnecessary delay, but that the bill would be discussed in accordance with its importance.

Clapp called up the bill to dispose of the affairs of the five civilized tribes in the Indian territory, and the preliminary discussion showed that there was considerable opposition, also that there was to be criticism of

the disposition of the coal land owned by the Indians. Dick continued his speech in support of the joint statehood bill.

Henderson's Death Is Noticed.
Washington, Feb. 27.—The death of former Speaker David B. Henderson was the subject of appropriate action in the house of representatives. Resolutions of regret and esteem were adopted and adjournment taken as a further mark of respect to his memory.

NEWS OF NEBRASKA.

Asked Aid for Japanese Sufferers.
Lincoln, Feb. 24.—Governor Mickey issued a proclamation calling for aid for Japanese famine sufferers. The money is to be paid to Rev. F. M. Sisson, South Omaha.

For Municipal Ownership.
Lincoln, Feb. 27.—After a meeting in which red hot debate and a personal altercation were features, the Lincoln Commercial club endorsed municipal ownership of the street railways.

Omaha Murder Mystery.
Omaha, Feb. 24.—The body of Frank E. Wheeler was found in a lonely spot on South Fourteenth street with the head cut, bruised and crushed, evidently the victim of a mysterious and murderous assault.

Brown a Candidate for Senate.
Lincoln, Feb. 26.—Norris Brown, attorney general, is an avowed candidate for the United States senate to succeed J. H. Millard. He will not be a candidate for renomination for attorney general.

Thompson to Mexico.
Lincoln, Feb. 24.—D. E. Thompson, ambassador to Mexico, and Mrs. Thompson left in a special car for the City of Mexico, where Mr. Thompson will assume his duties. Urgent business called him to Mexico and it was stated by his friends that he will take hold of a number of problems connected with the trade relations of Mexico and the United States.

Three Bridges Wrecked.
Fremont, Neb., Feb. 24.—The cutoff bridge over the Elkhorn river, north of Hooker, was swept away by the flood. The Platte has receded some. Trains on the Union Pacific are again running, the track having been repaired. Two spans of the bridge south of Fremont were swept out. The Great Northern's new bridge was bent out of shape in three places and is impassable.

Valley Bridge Swept Away.
Valley, Neb., Feb. 24.—Six spans of the wagon bridge west of Valley went out in the great rush of water down the Platte river and four more spans are likely to go out. The great mass of ice, which became dislodged when the Fremont gorge broke, came down upon the bridge and cracked its big timbers as if they had been reeds. The river is out of its banks and water a mile and one-half wide covers the bottoms.

Thomas Riley Convicted.
Central City, Neb., Feb. 26.—Thomas Riley, one of the men charged with the burglary of the Chapman State bank and the larceny therefrom of \$2,450, has been on trial in the district court all last week, having demanded a separate trial. The jury returned a verdict, finding Riley guilty as charged in the information. The other two men, Burke and Riley, have also demanded separate trials, and they will not be tried until about March 12.

McLaughlin Reprimanded.
Lincoln, Feb. 23.—Lieutenant Colonel McLaughlin was severely reprimanded by Adjutant General Culver at the school for the officers of the National Guard. While his superior officers were present, McLaughlin took charge of affairs before the school had been dismissed and called the National Guard association to order. This, General Culver stated in his reprimand, was acting in a discourteous manner to his superior officers. The reprimand was given publicly just previous to the beginning of the day's session of the school.

Refuse to Grant Marriage License.
Auburn, Neb., Feb. 24.—John Chuman, whose children are in a home for homeless children, has added to himself more notoriety by advertising for a wife. His advertisement was answered by a young woman in Georgia. She came to this city a few days ago and decided to marry Chuman. They appeared before Judge McCarty, who refused to grant the license. The woman worked herself into a state of mind bordering on insanity. She was taken in charge by Sheriff Rohr and placed in a straight jacket. Chuman sent her the railroad ticket which brought her here for the purpose of marrying him.

ADULTERATE FOOD PRODUCTS.

State Chemist Finds Little in Way of Jellies Which Are Pure.
Lincoln, Feb. 26.—State Chemist Redfern is nursing a nice little millet

plant which grew from a seed taken from a glass of jam which he bought for the pure strawberry variety. The little seed was taken from the jam and then planted in the laboratory of the chemist, where it has thrived and is now a husky little plant. Mr. Redfern has just completed a bulletin in which he gives the result of his analysis of jams, jellies and extracts, showing that nearly all of the samples examined are adulterated. Most of the jellies contained a large per cent of starch and glucose.

"If the proposed federal statute recently passed by the senate passes congress," says State Chemist Redfern, "it remains only for the states to enact more stringent pure food laws, and the legislature of Nebraska will undoubtedly be asked to do this. It has been useless heretofore for the state to prohibit the manufacture of adulterated food products in the state, for under the interstate commerce act we are prevented from interfering with such products shipped in from other states."

Henry Rustin Passes Away.
Omaha, Feb. 28.—Henry Rustin, chief engineer of the Omaha Water company's plant, died at his residence in Florence of consumption. The acme of his achievements was the installation of the wonderful electrical display at the St. Louis World's fair.

Lincoln Laborer Killed.
Lincoln, Feb. 23.—John Hammer was killed while at work in a sewer ditch on South Tenth street by the caving in of the sides of the ditch. He was buried under several feet of dirt and it required three hours of work to dig the body out. Hammer was twenty-seven years old and leaves a widow.

Torrey Taken Back to Kansas.
Kearney, Neb., Feb. 23.—Sheriff Wallace of Mitchell county, Kansas, left here with Charles Torrey, charged with abduction and for whom extradition papers had been issued. Torrey is accused of abducting from Beloit, Kan., Myrtle Gildersleeve, sister of his wife, who was but sixteen years old at the time. It is alleged they have since been married.

Editors Meet at Lincoln.
Lincoln, Feb. 28.—The Nebraska State Press association met at the Lindell hotel with over 200 editors in attendance. Mayor Brown delivered an address of welcome and it was responded to by Ross Hammond of Fremont. After the annual address by President Donovan and a paper read by Will M. Maupin, prepared by Editor Smith of the Deaf American, giving an account of how such a paper is edited and published, Editor Rosewater delivered an address on "Libel Laws."

Soldier Prisoners Escape.
Valentine, Neb., Feb. 26.—Two prisoners who escaped from the guard house at Fort Niobrara a week ago are reported to be headed for Arizona. A third prisoner, Private Rogers of the Ninth cavalry, who escaped with the other two, was captured and brought back to the post. He reports that his comrades told him they were going to buy guns and would vigorously resist any attempt to capture them. They are bad characters and will doubtless put up a stiff fight before surrendering.

Finds Valuable Documents.
Lincoln, Feb. 26.—A valuable addition to Shakespearean history has been made by Professor Charles W. Wallace of the University of Nebraska, who is studying in England this year on a leave of absence. While delving among the ancient papers of the public record office of London recently Mr. Wallace discovered records which are the complaint, answer and decree of a suit in the court of chancery in which William Shakespeare was one of the plaintiffs and Mathew Bacon was the defendant. The documents were filed 300 years ago, and apparently no one has seen them since. Literati declare the find the most valuable additions to knowledge of the life of Shakespeare that have been unearthed during the last thirty-five years.

Try to Save Printers From Jail.
Chicago, Feb. 28.—Mittini for the incarceration of President Edward Wright and Edward Bessette of the Typographical union were given to Sheriff Barrett for service. Both men were sentenced to thirty days in jail for violation of an injunction restraining them from interfering with non-union men employed in the shops of the members of the Chicago Typothetae. When Wright and Bessette surrendered to the sheriff their attorney went before Judge Walker of the circuit court and petitioned for a writ of habeas corpus. The petition for re-

lease attacks the jurisdiction of Judge Holdom to hear the contempt case against the two men while the validity of the original injunction remained to be passed upon by the appellate court.

Anthracite Matter Waits.
New York, Feb. 28.—Pending a settlement of the controversy between the soft coal operators and miners, in which President Roosevelt has taken a hand, the negotiations with the anthracite operators have apparently been suspended. No meeting between the anthracite operators' sub-committee and the miners' sub-committee will take place today, as has been announced, and no other date has been arranged. It is said by the operators that President Mitchell will probably allow the anthracite question to await a settlement of the bituminous controversy, and that his demands may be affected by the situation then in the soft coal field.

Mann Perjury Trial Postponed.
New York, Feb. 28.—In the hearing of the perjury trial of Colonel Mann, editor of Town Topics, Martin W. Littleton, Colonel Mann's counsel, moved to dismiss the perjury charge, and in the course of his address vigorously attacked the district attorney's office. At the request of Assistant District Attorney Hart the hearing was adjourned until March 12, when Mr. Jerome personally will reply to Mr. Littleton's charges and oppose the action to dismiss.

Why It Quit Missouri.
New York, Feb. 28.—The Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company gave out a statement relative to the withdrawal of the company from the state of Missouri. The withdrawal followed a discussion as to an examination of the company by Missouri examiners at the expense of the company. The Mutual Reserve objected to the expense in prospect, holding that it was excessive and illegal.

Dice From Billiard Balls.
"What becomes of the wornout billiard balls?" said an idler in a billiard room.
"Well," the man at the desk replied, "when a ball is only a little off it is sent to the factory to be trued up. We get our balls trued up until they become too small for use. Then we sell them at so much per ounce."
"After their sale they are carved into various small trinkets, but in the main they are made into dice. Of the forty or fifty balls rolling and clicking busily here this evening it is safe to say that 90 per cent of them a few years hence will be working just as hard in the form of dice."

Curious Astronomical Calculation.
A European astronomer has recently made some remarkable calculations. He figures that if all the living representatives of the human race were strung out in space and separated from each other by intervals of a mile the line would only reach one-third of the distance to the planet Neptune. If separated by distances as great as that between London and Constantinople the line would only reach halfway to the nearest star.

His First Intimation.
"How did you find out you could draw?" inquired the admirer of the celebrated illustrator.
"By the marks I received in school for the excellence and fidelity of my work," replied the eminent one. "My work was a caricature of my beloved teacher on the blackboard, and the marks came from the teacher's cane."
—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

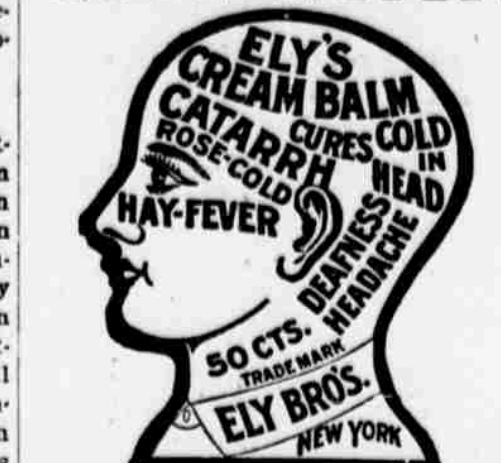
In Blossom.
Clara—Fred's mother called on me shortly after our engagement. She says he is the flower of the family. Maude—I guess that's right. His Uncle John says he is a blooming idiot.—Chicago News.

Goethe was pronounced "the handsomest man of Europe." He was a little over six feet in height, but so well proportioned that he did not seem tall. His features were of the Roman type, his hair rather light than dark, his whole appearance commanding. Even to extreme old age he retained a large share of the personal good looks that earlier in life had made him so attractive.

Women Must Weep.
"You look discouraged."
"I am," answered the newly married man. "I have done all in my power to make my wife happy. She can't find anything at home to cry about, so she goes downtown and weeps over the heroine at the matinee."
—Washington Star.

Even the lion has to defend himself against flies.—German Proverb.

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