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TWO CENTS

STRIKERS REJECT NEW PEACE PLAN

Settlement in Miners' Strike Near

Operators From All Parts of Nation to Discuss Wage Agreement at Cleveland Monday.

Lewis Approves of Plans

Cleveland, Aug. 7.—(By A. P.)—Settlement of the nationwide soft coal strike under a definite plan that may result in the making of wage agreements on substantially a national basis, will be presented to a conference here Wednesday of coal operators, who are expected to come from all parts of the country, with officials of the union miners.

In the main, the plan provides for resumption of coal production by union miners under the wage scales that existed when the strike began April 1, and for the appointment of an advisory commission of inquiry within the coal industry, the personnel of this commission to be appointed by President Harding.

Outlook Hopeful.

Existence of the plan, which has been approved by some operators scattered over the country, became known here when union officials and operators, controlling about one-third of the output of the central competitive field, met both separately and jointly with a view of taking action toward breaking the coal strike.

The joint conference adjourned until 3 Wednesday, by which time it was announced officially that it was expected that "other substantial interests" would join in the meeting.

Lewis Approves Plan.

The plan, which was understood to have the approval of John L. Lewis, president of the miners, and Alfred M. Ogle, president of the National Coal association, may be presented to Indiana and Illinois operators Tuesday, their meetings to be held in Indianapolis and Chicago for the purpose of deciding who will join the conference here.

Confidence was expressed here by operators and miners that the Indiana and Illinois operators would join the conference Wednesday, and it was added that operators were expected from several districts outside the central field, including West Virginia, Missouri, Iowa, and Wyoming and some southwestern states.

When the first session of the joint conference of miners and operators ended, a statement was issued by Mr. Lewis and Michael Gallagher, president of the Pittsburgh Vein Operators' Association of Ohio, as follows:

Expect Many Operators.

In issuing the statement, Mr. Lewis and Mr. Gallagher refused to define whether the "substantial interests" were entirely within the central field. Indications, however, were that they expected a majority of the operators of the central field and also those from several other states. Some operators at the conference said practically all operators, excepting those in western Pennsylvania and southern Ohio, would arrive here Wednesday. They also said some operators would come from Pennsylvania and southern Ohio.

Mr. Lewis, who refused to affirm or deny the plan for settlement to be placed before the conference on Wednesday declared that he was "of the opinion that this week will see the end of the bituminous coal controversy."

As soon as this is accomplished the union officials are expected to ask the anthracite operators to renew negotiations on a wage scale that were broken off in June after continuing for weeks.

Would Renew Wage Scale.

Under the plan of settlement to be submitted Wednesday the wages of the miners paid under the scale that expired March 31, would be renewed until March 31, 1924, and meanwhile the advisory commission would decide what recommendation as to wages would be made for the future.

The commission also would be authorized to investigate all questions affecting the coal industry, and though its powers would be purely advisory, both operators and union officials here regarded this as an important factor in settling local strikes.

The plan does not specify that any agreement signed under it should apply only to the central competitive field, a district comprising Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and western Pennsylvania, which has long been the basis of establishing wages in the soft coal industry.

Woman Granted Divorce

Prefers Separation Decree

Mrs. Luisa Siragasa became so disgusted while acting as interpreter in domestic relations court yesterday that she walked out. Her sister, Mrs. Rosa Giuffrida, 1227 South Thirteenth street, who got a divorce decree last week, was back in court demanding merely a separation. Christoforo, the husband, said a divorce satisfied him.

"I Am No Thief," Says Accused Postmistress



her of ells of Lost Cash

"I Love My Children Too Dearly to Be a Thief," Says Accused Nebraska Postmistress.

Money Drawer Robbed

"Embezzlement of postal funds" is the charge lodged against Mrs. Maud Ballard, ex-postmistress at Bartlett, Neb.

But it takes a wide stretch of imagination to couple the word "embezzler" with the motherly looking woman of 40, now in the county jail here awaiting disposition of her case. "I am no thief—I love my four children too dearly not to consider them if I ever felt like taking money that didn't belong to me," she told an Omaha Bee reporter. "But I was careless—that was the trouble. I didn't always lock the drawer where the postal money was kept. Anybody could have come into the office and helped himself to it."

The postoffice is in the front part of the store and she lives in the rear, she explained.

Missed Small Sum.

"When I was busy with my housework and the babies I didn't always hear people come in the front door. Every once in a while I missed small sums but I didn't know who took it, or what I should do about it. So I let things run on until the postal inspectors came."

Mrs. Ballard said she took the postal job several years ago to help the family finances.

"My husband is a blacksmith and doesn't earn enough for such a large family as ours. I used to earn \$250 each three months and that helped a lot. As it was, we live very simply, never go to the movies or spend money on myself—so I think the people in Bartlett believe me when I say I did not take the money."

Bondsmen Pay.

Mrs. Ballard's bondsmen came quickly to her rescue, she said. "They told me they would make up the deficit, close to \$1,000, and would let me pay them back, as I was able," she said.

With this understanding, Mrs. Ballard waived arraignment before the United States commissioner at Grand Island Friday. Date of her appearance before Federal Judge Woodrough will be determined on his return from Lincoln.

Concerned Over Children.

Mrs. Ballard's chief concern was not about herself, but her young children, whom she left in the care of the eldest, a girl of 16.

"I never left them alone before," she said.

Before coming to Bartlett, five years ago, the Ballard family lived in Albion.

So far as known Mrs. Ballard is the first woman ever held in Nebraska on a similar postal charge.

Mrs. Jones Succumbs to Revolver Wounds

Mrs. Bess Jones, 27, died yesterday afternoon at St. Joseph hospital after having lingered unconscious for seven days from bullet wounds received in her apartment at Sixteenth and Jackson streets.

The only clue police have to the shooting is one which they connect with the name of Fred P. Swan, a retired farmer, formerly of Missouri Valley, Ia.

Shortly before the shots were fired, women in another apartment called to Mrs. Jones and asked her to come to their rooms. Her answer was that she was entertaining "Swannie." Search for Swan has so far been unsuccessful.

Strikers Chop Wood to Get Winter Fuel

Beatrice, Neb., Aug. 7.—(Special)—Striking shopmen at Wymore observed today at tag day and one business man paid \$50 for a tag. The strikers expect to raise money in this way with which to pay expenses. Some have gone to chopping wood near Wymore in order to prepare for winter.

Sun Yet Seen Suffering From Mental Disorders

London, Aug. 7.—Dr. Sun Yat Sen, former head of the southern Chinese government, is suffering from a mental trouble which has already required the attendance of two foreign brain specialists, says a Hongkong dispatch to the Daily Telegraph.

Many Opportunities

—are offered the prospective purchaser of a home in the "Want" Ad columns of The Omaha Bee.

Cultivate reading these columns every day until you find the little home you have often dreamed of.

It will pay YOU to consult Omaha Bee "Want" Ads when you want to fill some need.

Omaha Bee "Want" Ads Bring Better Results at Lesser Cost

Soft Spot in Sand Ends Cross-U. S. One-Stop Flight

Jacksonville, Fla., Aug. 7.—A soft spot in the sand of Pablo beach here brought Lieut. J. S. Doolittle's attempt to hop to San Diego, Cal., with a sight stop for fuel at San Antonio to an abrupt end last night within 500 yards of the start of his 2,000-mile trip.

The plane did not get into air at all. It started from its course along the beach at the getaway nose down into a roller and stopped with a wing and the propeller wrecked.

The army flier was unhurt. Just how badly damaged the plane was had not been determined early today.

Morgan Continues to Gain Lead in Kansas Primaries

Topeka, Kan., Aug. 7.—Returns from 2,500 of the state's 2,536 precincts put the plurality of W. Y. Morgan, Hutchinson editor, past the 12,000 mark in the quest for the republican nomination for governor.

Tabulation of Tuesday's ballots gave his closest rival, former Governor W. R. Stubbs of Lawrence 43,458 and Morgan 55,552, a plurality of 12,094.

On the democratic ticket, Jonathan M. Davis of Bronson continues to lead for governor over Henderson S. Martin of Lawrence, with Col. Leigh Hunt of Kansas City running a poor third.

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