

MINERS WANT MORE PAY, LESS WORK

Demand Almost Certain to Be Made at Cleveland Convention

BRITISH LOOK TO AMERICA

By the Associated Press
Cleveland, Sept. 9.—With some 2000 delegates from the collieries of the United States and Canada gathered in the armory of the Cleveland Grays, the international convention of the United Mine Workers of America, the twenty-fifth consecutive gathering of that organization, was called to order at 10 o'clock this morning.

Events have conspired to make it probably the most important in the history of the United Miners, since, quite apart from the possibility of trouble contained in its almost certain demands for higher wages and shorter hours, the miners of Great Britain are looking to it for support and cooperation in the questions of the six-hour day and thirty-hour week and of the nationalization of coal mines.

Both articles of the British miners' program figure upon that of the Cleveland convention. Favorable action, which is anticipated, is expected to set sympathetically upon the struggle across the Atlantic.

Membership Shows Big Increase

Of great significance, in view of the desire to secure the support of organized labor everywhere for the plan for the nationalization of the railroads, was the presence upon the opening program of Warren S. Ebone, grand chief of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers; Timothy J. Shea, acting president of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen; W. C. Lee, president of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen; and L. E. Sheppard, president of the Order of Railway Conductors, who at a late hour had been added to those to extend a Cleveland welcome to the convention.

The response by acting President John L. Lewis, of the United Mine Workers of America, in the chair of the convention, owing to the illness of President Frank J. Hayes, will inaugurate the deliberations of the convention, which is expected to last from two to three weeks.

The report of Secretary Treasurer William Green showed the average membership in 1919 constituted the high-water record in the history of the organization, an average of 454,267 during the first nine months. The financial condition of the organization was stronger than ever before, the international union being out of debt and carrying in its treasury more than \$1,728,000.

Such a strong treasury, said Mr. Green, was bound to have a favorable moral effect during wage scale negotiations such as were now impending. Resolutions of local unions showed that the men were filled with a grim determination to secure shorter hours of labor, increases in wages and improved conditions of employment.

During the war, the report said, the local unions enlisted 53,812 members, of whom 3333 were killed. The international and local unions purchased more than \$9,500,000 in Liberty Bonds and War Savings Stamps; production of coal increased from 500,000,000 tons in 1916 to 651,000,000 in 1917 and 684,000,000 in 1918.

Threat of General Miners' Strike

Acting President John L. Lewis in his report discussed the greatly increased cost of living and the improbability of any sweeping reduction through "the hated" federal action. He recommended cancellation of the Washington wage agreement in the bituminous field not later than November 1 and the negotiation of a new wage scale to be enforced in case of failure to reach a satisfactory settlement by a general miners' strike throughout the entire jurisdiction of the United Mine Workers of America.

The basis of the proposed agreement should be, he said, outlined by the national policy meeting, held at Indianapolis in March, calling for the six-hour day and five-day week and "substantial" wage increases.

In other parts of his report he discussed difficulties with the United States railroad administration, resulting from the efforts of Directors General McAdoo and Hines to secure coal for railroad use below the rate fixed by the United States fuel administration. He expressed fear that the success of such efforts would tend to force upon miners' wages; strongly condemned policies and principles of the I. W. W. and similar organizations and opposed compromise with elements seeking to spread such doctrines in the United Mine Workers' organization. He recommended tariff legislation to cope with the problem of Mexican fuel oil, which contains a threat to the prosperity of those engaged in the coal industry.

The "astounding increase" in the cost of the necessities of life called for immediate action to enable mine workers to meet it.

Concerning nationalization of coal mines, recommended by the same committee on policy, Mr. Lewis said that the international officials had been unable to have the desired draft legislation prepared in time for the convention. He therefore placed the entire matter before the delegates for their consideration.

WILL POLICE SILESIA SOON

Allied Occupation by September 20, Predicts General Dupont

London, Sept. 9.—(By A. P.)—Upper Silesia, where serious conflicts are in progress between the Polish and German elements in anticipation of the proposed plebiscite, will be occupied in the near future by allied troops, according to a statement made by General Dupont.

General Dupont, representing France; General Malcolm, Great Britain; General Rencivenga, Italy, and Colonel Goodyear, the United States, after visiting the camps in the region, are declared to have telegraphed to Paris urging the necessity of this action.

G. A. R. PLANNING UNION OF SOLDIERS

Merger With Confederate, Spanish and World War Veterans Contemplated

By the Associated Press

Columbus, O., Sept. 9.—Plans for combining into one patriotic federation all soldier societies and auxiliaries are under way, according to Commander-in-Chief Adams, of the Grand Army of the Republic, meeting here.

Tentative plans, he said, call for the merging of the G. A. R., the Confederate veterans, Spanish War veterans and veterans of the World War, who are members of the American Legion.

President Henry D. Lindley, Secretary Grosvenor Clark and Elliot Root, of the American Legion, will come to Columbus this week, he said, to talk over plans for the merger.

Final details, it was said, would be worked out at a meeting of the American Legion to be held November 11 and 12 at Minneapolis. Marshal Foch is expected to be principal speaker at that meeting.

The industry of visitors to the fifty-third annual convention of the Grand Army of the Republic continued today, special and regular trains bringing members of the G. A. R. and allied organizations from every state.

Commander-in-Chief C. E. Adams said fully 250,000 would be attending the week. Housing facilities are strained.

The encampment opened last night with addresses of welcome by Governor Cox and Mayor Kay.

Officials of the G. A. R. said James L. Hall, of Brooklyn, N. Y., probably would succeed Commander Adams, John G. Chambers, of Portland, Ore., senior vice commander-in-chief, it was said, also will be a candidate.

BOND MESSENGER SLAIN

New York Youth Disappeared With \$178,000 Worth of Securities

New York, Sept. 9.—A photograph of a youth found murdered in Millford, Conn., several weeks ago, was identified at New York police headquarters as that of Benjamin M. Binkowitz, a Wall Street messenger boy, who, according to the police, disappeared on August 12 with \$178,000 worth of Liberty Bonds entrusted to him for delivery by his employers, Whitney & Co., bankers and brokers.

The police expressed belief that, as Binkowitz's neck had been almost severed, his assailant had intended to cut off the head and bury it, in an effort to prevent identification.

There is no question that the messenger was murdered and that those who took his life escaped with the missing bonds. What now remains to be cleared up, besides the identity of the murderer, is whether the messenger stole the bonds himself and was killed by his confederates or by others who know of the robbery, or whether he was kidnaped by a daring band of robbers while he was honestly performing his duty.

His mother said last night: "He was a good boy, and he never associated with the bad element on the east side."

SEEK WOMAN FOR MURDER

Knoxville Business Man Said to Have Accused Her in Dying Statement

Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 9.—(By A. P.)—Leroy Harth, president of the Imperial Motor Company and a wealthy young business man of this city, was mysteriously shot last night and died on the porch of a farmhouse on which he took refuge. Today the police are searching for a woman, whose name, it is said, Harth uttered as having been his assailant.

Harth's automobile was found near the scene of his death and the police theory is that he and the woman left the car, that the shooting followed and that Harth ran to the farmhouse for help. The man's money and diamond ring were found upon him.

BELGIAN MINERS' DEMANDS

Want Nationalization of Workings Wage Scale and Free Fuel

Brussels, Sept. 9.—(By A. P.)—The miners' federation at Charleroi has adopted a resolution in favor of the nationalization of mines, a minimum wage scale, free fuel for all miners, control of production, and the creation of an organization representing both the miners and the government.

The decision of the miners is considered an important prelude to the approaching miners' congress to be held in Brussels.

PUNISH MEXICANS, PLEA TO SENATE

Father of Slain American Asks That Bandits Be Brought to Justice

By the Associated Press

Chicago, Sept. 9.—James K. McGill, father of Herbert S. McGill, killed by Mexican bandits on August 30, has appealed direct to the Senate foreign relations committee in an effort to bring to justice the murderers of his son.

The announcement was made that Mr. McGill, Chicago manager for the Bannan Growers' Company, had written a personal letter to Chairman Lodge, detailing the death of his son, and requesting that a full investigation be made without delay.

Herbert McGill while on horseback was wounded from ambush and then beaten to death. His body was thrown into the Copala river and later recovered.

Washington, Sept. 9.—Representations from the American State Department to the Carranza government, protesting against the continued outrages against American citizens in Mexico, went forward yesterday as the result of the death of Herbert S. McGill at the hands of Mexican bandits.

The representations directed by the State Department went to the Foreign Office in Mexico City and the local authorities at Copala as well. Officials of the local inquiry was to be made through the American consul and was sent to get additional details on the number of McGill.

MACHINE GUNS GUARD JAIL

Knoxville Sheriff Had Received Threats of Dynamiting

Knoxville, Tenn., Sept. 9.—(By A. P.)—As a result of numerous threats, coming by mail from unidentified persons to dynamite the county jail and release fifty-two men being held in connection with the release of twelve prisoners when the building was stormed by a mob recently, Sheriff Cate appealed to Governor Roberts to order out the local machine-gun company to erect possible trouble.

Four machine guns, manned by members of the unit, arrived at the jail at 8 o'clock last night under command of Captain H. P. Cox.

Adjutant General Sweeney stated that while he did not believe there was any need for the troops they had been ordered out as a matter of precaution and would be kept there as long as Sheriff Cate believes their presence necessary.

Garage and Autos Burned

Shenandoah, Pa., Sept. 9.—Fire of undetermined origin destroyed the garage of William Hooswood, at Girardville, together with two automobiles early this morning. Flames communicated to adjoining property, which was damaged considerably. The loss is estimated at \$15,000.

RUMANIA REFUSES TO SIGN TREATY

Announcement Follows Supreme Council's Denial of Right of Reservations

By the Associated Press

Paris, Sept. 9.—The Rumanian delegation to the Peace Conference announced today that it would not sign the Austrian peace treaty, the signing of which by Austria and various other powers in interest is set to take place at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

Before the Rumanian announcement was made it had been indicated by members of the Supreme Council that Rumania was expected to take the course she has announced in refusing to sign the treaty, because of the council's flat refusal to grant her the privilege of making reservations in connection with the rights of minorities in territories detached from the former Austrian empire, as provided for in the peace treaty.

It is also considered as improbable that the Jugo Slav delegation will sign the treaty. It will be granted several days' delay, however, to communicate with its home government. The Jugo Slav objections are similar to those of Rumania.

The reply to be made to the German note regarding the allied demand for the suppression of Article 61 of the German constitution, which provides for Austrian representation in the German parliament, was again discussed by the Supreme Council at today's session.

No agreement was reached as to the terms, but it is expected that those will be framed tomorrow.

BOSTON POLICEMEN PLAN STRIKE TODAY

Central Labor Union Promises Sympathetic Walkout if Necessary

By the Associated Press

Boston, Sept. 9.—While conciliatory efforts were in progress, state and city officials and private interests completed plans today for the protection of life and property in the event the policemen's strike planned here for late this afternoon could not be averted.

The policemen voted for the strike at meetings held last night after the suspension of nineteen men by Commissioner Edwin U. Curtis, who found them guilty of violating rules in joining the union. More than 1400 of the 1600 patrolmen in the city belong to the union, it is said.

Credentialed giving the power of arrest have been issued to several hundred citizens and a volunteer force also has been organized. Volunteers include Prof. Edwin H. Hall, of Harvard; Percy H. Haughton, former Harvard football coach, students, business men and world war veterans.

Delegates to the Central Labor Union, representing about 80,000 organized workers, have pledged support

to the extent of a sympathetic strike in the event the police go out.

29,000 MINERS ON STRIKE

Union Officials Fail to Keep Lackawanna Men at Work

Seranton, Pa., Sept. 9.—Fifteen thousand employees of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad Company at its mine collieries in Lackawanna county went on strike today. Reports from Wilkes-Barre and other points in Luzerne county are to the effect that employees at the company's workings in that section are at work.

Last hour efforts of the officials of the union to keep the men from leaving their places availed nothing. Fully 29,000 mine workers in the Lackawanna Valley are idle today, 14,000 employees of the Hudson Coal Company having struck yesterday.

Officials of the United Mine Workers of America, who are trying to get the men to reconsider their action, regard as significant the interest being taken in the strikers by Enock Williams and others active in the insurgent group of the miners' organization. Williams was defeated for district president in July.

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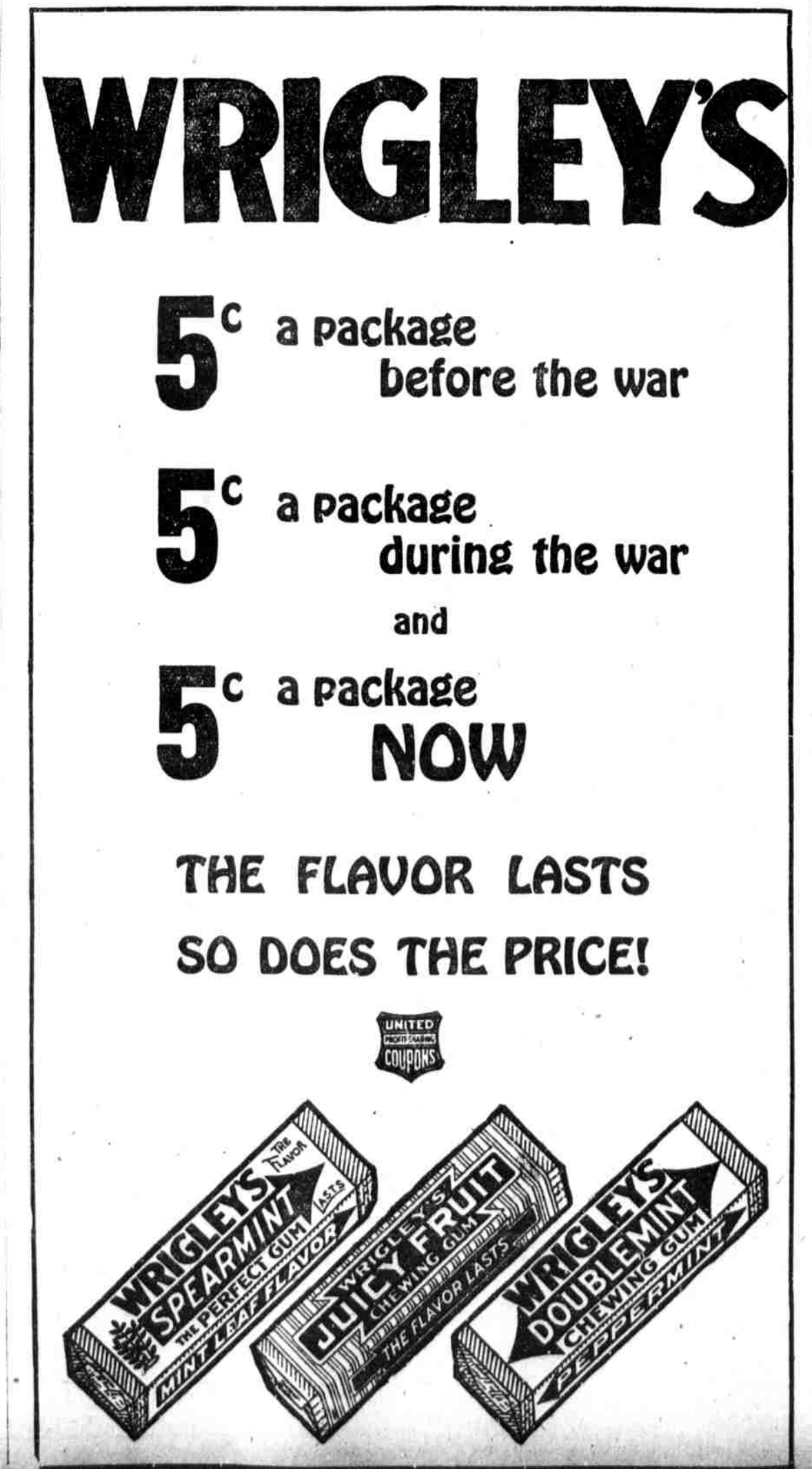
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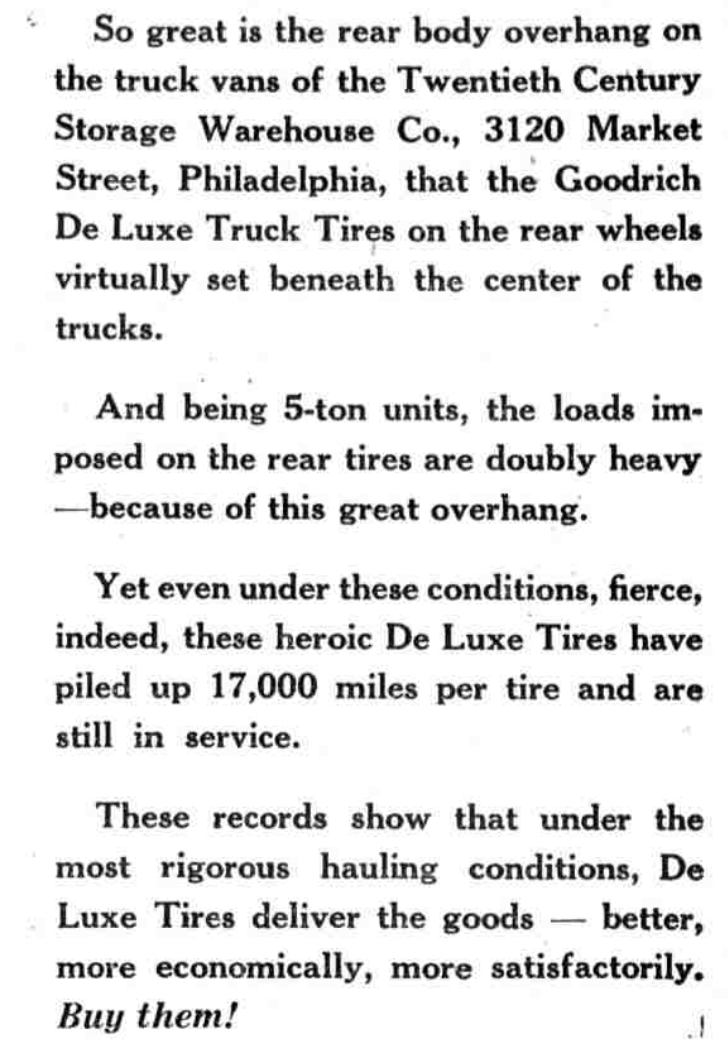
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