

# SENATORS TO END STEEL PROBE SOON

### Kenyon Committee to Examine Only a Few More Witnesses Before Reporting

#### SCORE HELD IN GARY PLOTS

By the Associated Press  
Washington, Oct. 17.—The Senate labor committee today decided to end its investigation of the steel strike as quickly as possible, probably after hearing a few more witnesses, but without further visits to strike zones.

The investigation will be closed next week with the examination of witnesses on the activities of radicals in the strike. In making this announcement today, Chairman Kenyon said the decision to close the inquiry next week was reached because of the committee's desire to report to the Senate and expedite consideration of legislation for the Americanization of foreign-born residents of the United States. This legislation will be considered by the committee next Wednesday.

Final witnesses in the steel strike will be heard Monday and Tuesday, Chairman Kenyon said, and the committee then will draft its report.

Gary, Ind., Oct. 16.—(By A. P.)—Investigation of radical and anti-government plots and surveillance of suspected Reds continue today at Gary where army intelligence officers and federal operatives already have uncovered a number of alleged plots and arrested a score of more agitators. Seven men taken in a series of raids Tuesday night are held on deportation warrants, it was stated today, and three others remain in custody.

An official report by Colonel W. S. Mapes, commanding the federal troops sent here when the situation growing out of the steel strike got beyond the power of state authorities, presenting what was said to be documentary evidence of the connection of radical leaders with the steel strike in Gary elsewhere, today nearly 4000 men of Major General Leonard Wood, commander of the central army department, General Wood declared Gary "is a hotbed of anarchy."

The evidence submitted in the report was said to be of a sensational nature. It also is said to contain proof of the alleged radical plot to capture the civil government of Gary and other steel cities in the strike area.

Chicago, Oct. 16.—The industrial situation at the steel plants in the Chicago district today was reported better than at any time since the steel workers' strike was called, nearly four weeks ago. Mills were said to be running at 50 per cent or more of their usual capacity, while virtually every plant affected by the walkout was operating on at least a reduced scale.

On the other hand there were statements by labor leaders that the unskilled workers were the only ones returning to their places in appreciable numbers, and that so far the effect of the strike had not been diminished.

John Fitzpatrick, president of the Chicago Federation of Labor said today that he would demand of the War Department the publication of the name of every alleged radical member of the federation suspected of fomenting disorder in connection with the steel strike.

"I have been told that General Wood has said there is not a scrap of evidence to connect any of the men arrested at Gary, Ind., with any plot of radicals," said Mr. Fitzpatrick. "The reports that radicals are running the strike are absolutely untrue. Ninety-five per cent of all those arrested are men who were discharged from the steel mills because of their activities in the union. I believe that all this talk of radical plots to overturn civil government and establish soviets is bunk."

Youngstown, O., Oct. 16.—The eyes of union men in the Youngstown district were focused on strike leaders, as the result of an announcement yesterday that arrangements had been made for a conference with representatives of two of the lesser steel plants in the valley.

Secretary J. E. McCadden and other strike leaders yesterday addressed strikers in Struthers and afterward entered the office of the Struthers Furnace Company, evidently for a conference with officials of the concern. It was not divulged what companies had asked to meet the strike leaders. It was stated at strike headquarters, however, that it was hoped to get adjustments with the smaller companies and that this would bring influence upon the

larger employers to grant conferences with the men.

Pittsburgh, Oct. 16.—Large numbers of workers who went on strike September 22 are returning to work daily in the Pittsburgh district, according to representatives of the companies, who claimed today that the mills in this region were fast returning to normal conditions. Production is on the increase, they declared, and the situation, so far as the companies are concerned, is assuming a brighter aspect each day.

# Industrial Parley Hits Stone Wall

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sider some line of orderly procedure the conference evinced a purpose to get down to business. Up to the present its progress might be likened in crude simile to a bird with a broken wing.

### Right About Face

The labor group in voting for postponement of action on the resolution to arbitrate the steel strike turned right about face on its action yesterday. It then demanded a vote. The real truth is that the group fell into confusion over the absence of Mr. Gompers.

It matters not what opinions may be expressed by members of the employers' and people's groups, the power of Samuel Gompers as a leader of men is recognized by all. He is in reality "a big little man," as he has been called.

His cool judgment, experience and far-sightedness have saved several critical situations here.

In the absence of Gompers's guidance and advice the labor group decided to gain time by postponement in hope of his speedy recovery.

S. Pemberton Hutchinson, of Philadelphia, of the employers' group, expressed the sentiment of his associates when he objected to adjournment for the purpose of enabling the steering committee and each group to discuss and report on the subject of collective bargaining. He said that the subject was of such magnitude and importance that it could not be acted upon by his group; by this afternoon or even Friday afternoon.

### Conference Much in Earnest

I do not believe, as a matter of fact, after talks with members that the convention itself will be prepared to act within the specified time. It must not be inferred from criticisms of its methods of procedure that this conference is not in earnest. It is very much so. It is a body of sincere, thoughtful and patriotic men and women, but it has been hampered to a certain extent from the beginning by an awkward and cumbersome system of parliamentary usage. It has succeeded within the last twenty-four hours in freeing itself from some of these obstacles.

Adherence to group voting had reached a point where on the railroad question a question of adjournment, the negative vote of the employers' group would have defeated the combined votes of the other two groups. The chairman, Secretary Lane, decided that such a rule was unthinkable and that hereafter all purely parliamentary questions would be settled by a majority vote of all the members.

Collective bargaining, which was under discussion last night and this morning, is inseparably linked with the reason I am of the opinion that the convention will be unable to decide upon any plans on the subject by this afternoon, if indeed, this week.

### Farmers Long-winded

Unless some one whispers a word of kindly advice to them the farmers' representatives will write their cause to death. Every other group or industry endeavors to give expression to its views in briefest possible form. The farmers go to the other extreme. They are long-winded and prosy. The art of condensation, or of saying much in a few words, is apparently unknown to them.

This was illustrated when half the time of the morning session yesterday was consumed in listening to the secretary read six closely typewritten pages of foolscap, a statement from them. After the first page the members lost interest. Some read newspapers; others dozed and a few conversed together in whispers. This is the second pronouncement the farmers have put forth. To their credit, however, they have not retarded the work by speechmaking; they have taken it out in writing.

The much-exaggerated Plumb bill for control of the railroads has been presented in a somewhat milder form to the conference. It came from one of the railroad brotherhood's members. The plan not only embraces transportation lines, but private industries, in which the workers shall be entitled to a one-third representation of the directorate. In all industries of a public character, existing by rights of public grants or monopolies, a similar plan is contemplated.

# EXPERTS DIVIDED ON RAIL CONTROL

### Utilities Commissioners Differ on Merits of Public Ownership

#### HINES DEFENDS HIGH PAY

By Associated Press  
Indianapolis, Ind., Oct. 16.—Discussion of the merits of government control of railroads, begun yesterday at the afternoon session of the convention of the National Association of Railway and Utilities Commissioners here, was continued today.

Division of sentiment as to the future of the railroads has been manifest throughout the meeting and yesterday George C. Wiles, of West Virginia, a member of the association's committee on public ownership and operation, submitted a statement attacking the annual report of the committee as not being vigorous enough against government ownership. On the other hand Lawrence B. Fin, of Kentucky, spoke for an hour in advocacy of government control.

This morning's session of the convention took the form of a conference on electric railroads and on practices in fixing rates, the conference on this subject having been postponed from yesterday afternoon. This change in the program moved the final general session up to this afternoon.

New executive and valuation committees were announced by William H. Shaw, of Illinois, the new president as follows:

Executive—Dwight N. Lewis, Iowa, chairman; Joseph B. Eastman, Interstate Commerce Commission; E. I. Lewis, Nixon, New York; J. J. Murphy, South Dakota.

Valuation—H. G. Taylor, Nebraska, chairman; John M. Kinkel, Kansas; Frederick J. MacLeod, Massachusetts; John A. Guiber, Iowa; E. F. Morgan.

# Soft Coal Issue Will Bring Crisis

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their British brothers, that the present operation of soft coal mines is inefficient.

They have invited co-operation of the labor unions in the other key industries of the country and the formation of an alliance like the triple alliance in England.

They threaten capital much more seriously than do the labor unions in steel, and it may be that capital will elect to make its stand now against the development of the British trade union idea in American industry, and will resist the demands of the soft-coal workers.

Mr. Hines declared that it has been the custom of critics of the administration to dwell upon the extreme cases of increases in pay of railroad employees as one of the causes of increased cost of operation.

"In a matter of this sort," he said, "we must look at the general situation and not the extreme cases. The general situation is that the average increases in pay which have been made for railroad employees throughout the United States have been about 50 per cent over the rates of pay which were in effect in December, 1917. I have yet to learn of any important industry which has shown a more conservative average of increase in pay in the same time."

Among other items which the director general cited in connection with operation costs was a saving of \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 annually through improved methods of handling locomotives in roundhouses and at terminals and a saving of from \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000 in conservation of locomotive fuel.

### John Frederick Lewis Resigns

John Frederick Lewis, maritime lawyer and president of the Academy of the Fine Arts, has resigned as chief of the United States shipping board's recruiting service. He had entire charge of the navigation and marine engineering schools established in Brooklyn, New York, Jersey City, Philadelphia, Baltimore and Norfolk.

He entered government service shortly after the declaration of war, and retained his wartime position until he had placed the navigation schools on a permanent footing.

# Soft Coal Issue Will Bring Crisis

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Officially the mine workers here were averse to commenting on the possible outcome of the Washington meeting, but it was stated that it might result in another effort on the part of the operators and miners to get together. It was pointed out that should an agreement be reached before November 1 the agreement would not become effective until ratified by the full convention of the United Mine Workers.

Mine workers officials here also admitted that should negotiations be resumed with possibility of final agreement, it was likely that the strike would be called off pending the final outcome, even though the deliberations extended beyond November 1.

### DISCUSS TRADE WITH RUSSIA

Near East Commercial Problems Engage Export Association  
New York, Oct. 16.—(By A. P.)—The future of America's commercial relations with Russia and the central empire was the main topic taken up in the "intensive discussions" which opened the tenth annual convention of the American Manufacturers' Export Association here today.

Nearly 1000 members from all parts of the country were present for the two-day gathering.

Expansion of America's consular and diplomatic service to meet the new demands created by the war was another subject on the program for discussion, while experts were to discuss the trade situation in the Near East and the newly created states of Europe.

### MINERS SKEPTICAL OF PEACE EFFORT

Indianapolis, Oct. 16.—(By A. P.)—Plans for a strike of bituminous coal miners of the country on November 1 were continued today at international headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America here, the officials proceeding on the assumption that nothing would come of the conference in Washington called by Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson, in an effort to avert the threatened walkout.

The official strike call, issued by Acting President John L. Lewis, was sent out yesterday afternoon to the more than 4000 local unions and plans for making the strike effective are taking form at headquarters.

Mr. Lewis left late yesterday afternoon for Washington for a conference with Secretary of Labor William B. Wilson, in an effort to avert the threatened walkout.

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