

JUDGE THREATENS HOWAT WITH JAIL

Postpones Hearing but Declares Mining Injunction Must Be Obeyed

OWNERS DENY AGREEMENT

By the Associated Press
 Indianapolis, Dec. 22.—Hearing on the complaint charges in United States District Court against Alexander Howat, president of the Kansas miners' organization, was postponed by Judge A. B. Anderson today to Monday, December 29, at 2 p. m., to permit the accused to prepare his defense.
 Judge Anderson declared that violations of the Federal Court's injunction under the Lever act against furthering the coal strike in Kansas must stop, if persons guilty have to be put in jail and kept there.
 Henry Warrum, chief counsel for the international organization of the miners, and Howat were given until 2 o'clock this afternoon to present to the court some evidence that violations of the injunction charged against the miners' district official will not be continued during the interim from now until the hearing on next Monday. Otherwise, Judge Anderson declared, he would be forced to send Howat to jail.

Washington, Dec. 22.—The coal operators have refused to accept the government's strike settlement terms. It was pointed out today that this might embarrass the operation of the commission appointed Saturday by President Wilson and authorized to investigate miners' wages and working conditions and increase coal prices if necessary.
 Further efforts probably will be made today to induce the operators to accede to the government's proposal, despite the renewed insistence of the operators' executive committee that neither have they accepted nor had they indicated they would accept the terms. The operators declared the proposal they had agreed to was the one advanced by former Fuel Administrator Garfield.
 The question of whether the operators would stand aloof from the commission's investigation or co-operate with it has not been decided. It probably will be settled at a meeting tomorrow in Cleveland, where a general session of the senate committee of the central competitive field and other operators has been called.
 The coal operators make the charge that the agreement which the miners

accepted in Indianapolis on December 17 is an amplification and interpretation of Doctor Garfield's and President Wilson's program interpreted by A. Mitchell Palmer, attorney general and John L. Lewis, acting president of the United Mine Workers, on which they were never consulted and to which they have not agreed.
 In proof of their contention the operators quote Mr. Palmer's own acknowledgment that the memorandum of agreement was written on the train on the way to Indianapolis, and say that it was at that conference that not the Palmer-Tumulty-Lewis-Green meeting at the Washington home of the attorney general that the final terms of settlement were made.
 The bombshell thrown into the camp of the operators is the power which the commission, consisting of Representative Poole, John P. White and Henry N. Robinson. It is in that they say they can see compromise to the miners which brought about the Palmer-Lewis agreement, but a compromise which they regard as entirely unnecessary and a clear backdown by the government, because, the operators say, the miners knew they were beaten when they came to Washington for the conference of December 7.
 President Wilson, in his letter to the members of the coal investigating commission announcing their appointment, said that if a readjustment of coal prices should be found necessary he could transfer to the commission the powers, inspectors invested in the fuel administrator.
 The President said it is important that the conclusion should be reached by unanimous action of the committee. The members of the commission were informed by the President that they would have the powers and duties set forth in the memorandum prepared by Attorney General Palmer and approved by the President, which the United Mine Workers accepted at Indianapolis December 11 and under which the strike came to an end. I am informed also that the operators have generally agreed to the plan therein outlined," the President wrote to the new commission.

Chicago, Dec. 22.—(By A. P.)—Representatives of Illinois coal operators and miners today called a meeting to be held tomorrow to discuss technical application of the 14 per cent wage award granted under the coal strike settlement. Spokesmen for the operators, while announcing their adherence to the 14 per cent wage increase, voiced their refusal to accept the government's plan for settlement of the strike controversy.

Women Smash Egg Prices
 Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 22.—Fifty-five cents a dozen will be the retail price of eggs here today, which sold ten days ago for eighty-five cents. Two thousand women who united to fight the high price claim the credit for bringing about the reduction.

YULETIDE PEACE NOW ALLIES' HOPE

Efforts Being Made to Have Versailles Treaty Ratified by Christmas

COUNCIL'S WORK NEAR END

Paris, Dec. 22.—The Supreme Council, it became known today, is making every effort to reach an agreement with Germany on the question of reparation

for the sinking of the German fleet at Scapa Flow so that the protocol may be signed and ratification of the Versailles treaty exchanged before Christmas.
 The terms of the note replying to the last communication of the German representatives were considered by the council this morning. No decision being reached, it was planned to hold another session this evening.
 It was believed that the note, if then completed, would be handed during the evening to Baron Kurt von Lersner, head of the German mission.
 Few details now remain to be disposed of to clean up the work of the Peace Conference, with the exception of the Hungarian and Turkish treaties and the Russian situation. It was thought today that all else might be disposed of in time to permit the celebration of Christmas in a state of effective peace with Germany unless that nation maintained certain of her objections to the final terms, after receiving the council's note.

Serbia's demand for priority to the amount of 2,500,000,000 francs in reparations, on the same footing as that accorded Belgium, was discussed by the Supreme Council today but no decision was reached.
 Abandonment of the British plan guaranteeing the neutrality of Belgium for five years on the part of the Allies is reported by the Petit Parisien, which says the French and British Governments are seeking to reach an agreement which will give entire satisfaction to Belgium.

SEIZE ALIEN MOONSHINERS

Dozen Armed Men Taken in Raid When Odors Attract Officers
 Lewistown, Pa., Dec. 22.—The professional moonshiners of the South had nothing on the amateurs in the moun-

tain of the Lewistown Narrows, Saturday night, when Sheriff Davis, Patrolman Dockey and Chief of Police Dressler, of Hawtens, arrested an even dozen foreigners on the technical charge of carrying concealed deadly weapons, but in reality on suspicion of the illicit distilling of whisky.
 Every man was armed with a revolver, silletto and blackjack when cornered by the officers, and there is little doubt they would have used them to good effect had they been approached as a body instead of singly.
 The authorities thought that, with the arrest of George Buel and the destruction of his still, on Friday, they had broken up the practice for the present.

but the odor of distilling and fermenting fruit and vegetables remained too strong on the crisp mountain air, and the officers began to dig deeper, with the result that the men were seized.

Two Die in Bridgeton

Bridgeton, N. J., Dec. 22.—Mrs. Mary B. Hanners, widow of John Hanners, ninety-one years old, and Frederick H. Richmond, a retired merchant, eighty-two years old, died yesterday.

Snow-White Wild Ducks Shot
 Lansdale, Pa., Dec. 22.—Two of three snow-white wild ducks that have been in the vicinity of Lansdale for the last few days have been killed. The first was shot under the glare of an arc light in the center of the borough by Fire Chief John B. Detweiler. He saw the three white fowls and walked to within three feet of them. Yesterday, a second of the white wild ducks was shot at Oak Park on the outskirts of the borough.

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 8. To Richard Harding Davis about "pink-tea diplomats"—
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