

HARD COAL MINERS STAND ON TERMS

Insist on Wage Increase, Closed Shop and Payment on "Legal Ton" Basis

YIELD ON SHORTER DAY

By the Associated Press
New York, April 8.—Officials of the United Mine Workers declared today that successful completion of a new wage agreement for the anthracite coal fields depends on whether the mine owners grant the workers an adequate wage increase; the closed shop, with the check-off system of collecting dues; the payment for coal on the legal ton basis wherever practical; and enforcement of an eight-hour work day throughout the industry.

The 200,000 miners in the field, the union officials said, have insisted that these points be included in the new contract now being drawn up here by a subcommittee representing both sides. Notice already has been served on the operators that there can be no compromise on the demand for a closed shop, with the "check-off" included.

The mine workers have not defined an "adequate" wage increase, but they state that they are entitled to 18 7-10 per cent more than the 27 per cent advance granted the bituminous miners.

The legal ton in Pennsylvania is 2240 pounds, and the workers declare they should be paid on this basis. In the past many mines have paid employees on a 2800-pound basis.

Owing to the unsuccessful attempt of bituminous miners to obtain a shorter workday, anthracite workers are reported to be willing to continue the present eight-hour day schedule, provided it is made universal throughout the industry and includes all classes of workers.

At present, they say, there are a large number of men in the coal stables and pumpmen, required to work from twelve to fourteen hours a day.

The operators are reported to be opposed to extending further the eight-hour day.

Pittsburgh, April 8.—(By A. P.)—A conference of representatives of United Mine Workers, District No. 5, and coal operators, held here today, to consider arrangement of President Wilson's wage settlement, broke up shortly before noon.

The break came when the operators submitted a proposition to increase the rent of miners' homes. The miners' representatives refused to listen to the proposal.

Taunted French Troops Open Fire

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corners to join the crowds watching the soldiers pass. The elated onlookers began laughing and jeering, but the French at first took no notice of them.

There was keen speculation whether there would be a strike by the workmen in protest against the occupation. It is understood that a movement was started to call a strike of short duration as a demonstration, but the correspondent was informed shortly that the leaders of the Social Democrats were counselling against a strike.

The general sentiment expressed by the populace up to the time of yesterday's disturbance, at least, was that the people of Frankfurt were powerless to resist the occupation and that the best course to pursue would be to accept the situation.

The Germans refer satirically to the occupation as "the conquest of Frankfurt," declaring that the French secretly surrounded the city and swooped

down upon it as if they expected to meet armed resistance.

Paris, April 8.—(By A. P.)—It is reported from Coblenz that there has been a collision of French and German patrols between Bad Nauheim and Nieder-Wollstadt, north of Homburg. In the exchange of shots a German officer was wounded. The report is not confirmed from other sources.

Reports that Great Britain and the United States had called upon France to withdraw her troops from Frankfurt are entirely without foundation. It was announced in an official note issued today.

"Certain agencies inspired by Germany," reads the note, "spread the report in Germany and some neutral countries that England and the United States had summoned France yesterday to remove her troops from Frankfurt. This report, which evidently was intended to be misleading and which produced a certain effervescence in the newly occupied regions yesterday, is absolutely without foundation."

Merciless repression by the Reichswehr forces in the Ruhr basin is reported by fugitives arriving in Frankfurt, according to a Mayence dispatch to the Journal des Debats. The fugitives allege they witnessed the shooting of all Westphalians who laid down their arms.

London, April 8.—(By A. P.)—Lloyd George and his cabinet met today, presumably to discuss the occupation of German cities by the French. The conference of allied premiers and foreign ministers, which had been arranged for today, has been postponed. It will probably be held tomorrow.

Baron Scialoja, the Italian foreign minister, who is here for the conference, expressed the opinion to the Associated Press today that there was no possibility of the Franco-German situation causing serious differences among the Allies.

"Intimations that there is danger of such a situation arising within the councils of France and her former comrades powers are entirely unjustified," he said. "I have every confidence that there is nothing in the present state of affairs that will make it difficult for the Allies to reach a common understanding and maintain a solid front."

With reference to a report from Washington that Italy, Great Britain and the United States were negotiating with France regarding the formation of a definite policy, Baron Scialoja said: "It was expected we would get together on this matter today, but now it is deemed necessary to postpone the conference until tomorrow. It is reported from Berlin, a note has been presented to Germany on behalf of the Allies demanding the reduction of her army to the treaty basis of 200,000 men on April 10, it must have been a move initiated by Marshal Foch, for so far as Italy is concerned, there has been no such action."

Berlin, April 8.—(By A. P.)—The Social Democratic Trades Union party has made public a declaration that it will most energetically support the government in repelling the unlawful French occupation of Frankfurt and other places. The Berlin Independent Socialist Trades Union party committee adopted a differently worded declaration, which, however, strongly

condemns the French action as "violent interference in internal affairs."

Dispatches from Frankfurt reaching Berlin through indirect channels report an uninterrupted arrival of French troops in that city and at Hanau, Offenbach, Darmstadt and Koenigsberg. It is estimated that the troops already on the ground aggregate 30,000.

It is declared by Vorwaerts that Minister of Defense Gessler informed the deputations which presented the demands of the labor leaders yesterday that he would immediately order the withdrawal of all troops from the Ruhr region which had committed any excesses. The minister said that the Ruhr troops would be disbanded and the civil guards reorganized, Vorwaerts states.

League Is Deaf to Berlin, U. S. View

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ing in formal resolutions the withdrawal of the Reichswehr troops.

Germany's error was in sending too many troops into the neutral zone. There seems to be little doubt that Germany technically violated her agreement with the Allies by sending more than were permitted under the protocol of August.

She afforded an excuse for France's military move by violating the treaty. Morally and legally she had a right to take steps to put down disorder. But she overdid it. Her motives are hard to seek. Perhaps her government was in a panic over the Red disturbances. But she acted with mere Prussian thoroughness.

Perhaps she wished to demonstrate anew that the treaty could not be carried out, always a popular thing in Berlin, and counted upon the sympathy in England and Italy which events meant to snap her fingers at France. Now the government has got itself in the position where the labor leaders can declare once more that the militarists have made mischief. For the government to yield now is to seem weak before Herr Legien; therefore the government turns to the League of Nations.

France Tempted to Display Force
The explanation of France's precipitancy is the weakness of the French position through the failure of the League of Nations and of the French and American alliance, and the disposition in England and Italy to mitigate the rigors of the treaty. Men who are weak are likely to be hurried into a show of force. France was tempted to show the mailed fist.

The invasion of Germany by the French has been threatened many times since the signing of the armistice. It has always been popular with certain army leaders. It was threatened three times last summer. At that time the Supreme Council had sufficient authority to hold the French back. But a man who makes a frequent gesture of reaching to his hip pocket ends by completing the gesture.

The motive of the army is easily understood. There is always a militaristic spirit in an army. In this case the French Government yielded to the army.

It Appears to Have Had Certain Political Motives

One aim was to show the people of France that the treaty was not to be enforced to the letter. Doubts of its enforcement were permeating French public opinion as a consequence of the progress which critics of the treaty were making in England.

Only Superficial Support
The French Government wished to confront the Allies with a fait accompli which would force them to her support. She has done so, but it is an open question whether she has not really weakened herself and the treaty because the support given by England, Italy and United States is only on the surface.

And Germany is likely to exact a price for backing down to save the face of the French.

In a sense this episode is a dying spurt of militarism west of the Rhine, just as the Kapp revolt was its dying spurt east of the Rhine. The militarism of which President Wilson complained in his letter to Senator Hitchcock is confined in France to a few leaders of a small army group. The people are not militaristic. The country has not risen to the glorious exploit. The financiers are cold. The franc is disconcertingly going down.

Unless a quick solution is found the Millerand government will apparently be in danger for its part in provoking the controversy.

Y. W. C. A. DINNER TONIGHT
Moore and New Yorkers to Address Meeting to Assist Drive

Mayor Moore will be one of the speakers and a guest of honor at a dinner given at the Ritz-Carlton tonight in the interests of the new Y. W. C. A. movement.

Several hundred invitations have been issued in the name of Mr. and Mrs. John Gribbel, Mr. and Mrs. John W. Henry and Mr. and Mrs. George McFadden to representative Philadelphians in order that the new plans of the organization may be fully explained.

Mrs. James S. Cushman, vice president of the National Y. W. C. A., and William Fellows Morgan, both of New York city, will also speak.

SAYS DRY ERA AIDS HEALTH

Tuberculosis Expert Declares Improvement Will Amaze World
Burlington, N. J., April 8.—Improvement of public health under prohibition will amaze the world and will do more than any economic or moral argument to force European statesmen to follow "dry footsteps of Uncle Sam," declared Dr. Marcus W. Newcomb, of New York Mills, president of the Anti-Tuberculosis League, discussing general health topics at a session of the New Jersey Health Officers' Association. Public Health officers from all parts of the state attended the meeting.

Miss Margaret Haines, executive secretary of the Burlington County Anti-Tuberculosis League, gave a report on the organization's child welfare campaign. Miss Eugenia V. Dubs, of Trenton, told of the rapid development and practical benefits of the campaign to promote public health nursing in rural districts.

New York Labor Unions to Merge
New York, April 8.—(By A. P.)—A merger of all labor unions in New York city, with a combined membership of almost 400,000 workers, was said last night to be virtually assured. The referendum conducted by the bodies affiliated with the Central Federated Union of Manhattan shows, it was stated, that 90 per cent of the unions favor amalgamation.

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A lady, who has recently purchased a PAIGE car from us, asks us to sell the car which she formerly used. It is a 1919 Roamer (collapsible Brougham) and is in excellent condition, equipped with wire wheels and extra tires, and has been run 7,400 miles.

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Dancing between bites.
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Saturday, April 17
is date set by the publishers to make their Spring announcements of their newest publications in the PUBLIC LEDGER and EVENING LEDGER. Biographies, History, Economics, Romance of the most interesting type, Fiction of gripping force.

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The vital mineral salts so much needed for repairing daily wear and tear and for building sound body tissues, abound in this food of fine flavor.
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