

BOOM M'SPARRAN AT PEACE PARLEY

Granger Stirs Palmer-McCormick Democrats by Attack on G. O. P.

BOOSTED FOR GOVERNOR

Special Dispatch to Evening Public Ledger Harrisburg, Feb. 24.—Leaders of the Palmer-McCormick Democratic faction, who met here today in the Orpheum Theatre to harmonize themselves, may find they have a real job on their hands.

John A. McSparran, master of the State Grange, made a speech and apparently swayed his hearers much as William Jennings Bryan a quarter of a century ago stamped a Democratic national convention with his "Cross of Gold" speech.

McSparran certainly made a dent. He showed an expertise in flaying the Special Administration that no other speaker even came within halting distance of.

The delegates went wild and there were calls of "McSparran for Governor."

Later when a slate committee was picked State Chairman Bruce F. Sterling dexterously named McSparran on the committee.

But Miss Mary A. Archer, of Reading, national committeewoman, objected. She said there were people who wanted McSparran for Governor and his hands should not be tied.

There was a roar of approval. McSparran, who sat in a box with the ladies, where he could be viewed by all the delegates, blushed and smiled, but made no objection when his name was taken off the committee.

"Barkis is Willin'" McSparran plainly came here with the bearing of a Barkis who is willin'.

He has made many speeches and is an expert in epuistic criticism, but his names claim his criticisms often are not based on facts.

They point to a recent speech he made in Danville, where he was quoted as severely criticizing Dr. Thomas E. Finigan, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and then turned around and demanded for the schools of the rural sections everything that Dr. Finigan's program aims to give them.

While there is no doubt McSparran gained a strong hold on the meeting, a lot of Democratic leaders don't want him, and already are trying to head him off.

These leaders frankly say he is "too wild," and his nomination would mean a Republican walkover next November.

In his attack on the Sprout Administration today McSparran made a big hit when he branded the Public Instruction Department as "the mushroom of Capitol Hill."

His job as head of the State Grange leads his friends to believe he can swing the "farmer vote," while they contend he "is right with labor."

Bob Pattison on Second Place There is some talk of young "Bob" Pattison, of Philadelphia, for Lieutenant Governor.

He is a son of the late Robert E. Pattison, twice Governor of Pennsylvania, and the only Democrat to fill that office in six decades.

Among the oldtimers is strong for young Pattison.

A. Mitchell Palmer kept away from the meeting, although he was in Harrisburg to give an appearance of an unboasted gathering of the unaffiliated. The Palmer men, just to show the meeting was open, left the fellows who have not been identified with them strongly to most of the talking and posing.

The Bonniwell element, led by Judge Eugene C. Bonniwell, did not care to be harmonized by the Palmer element and stayed away from the harmony party.

It took Mr. Sterling one hour to tell the delegates why the meeting had been called. Some severe denunciations of the Sprout Administration figured in the explanation.

"The hope of Pennsylvania," he declared, is the Democratic Party.

Referring to the Judge Small candidacy indirectly he spoke of "a prematurely announced candidacy." Later he added: "This is not the time to deal in personalities, but I do not believe what has been done will prove fatal."

Again he talked of "a division of the party, not for the benefit of the people, but for a little group who want control."

Mrs. Clarence E. Renshaw, chairman of the Democratic women, talked of the passing of the old triumvirate of bosses—Canavan, Quay and Frank Snyder—and made sarcastic references to the Quay statue in the capital.

MINE OWNERS PLAN TEST WITH UNIONS

Operators Prepare for Summer Strike if Demands of Men Are Pressed

MEET AT ATLANTIC CITY

Atlantic City, Feb. 24.—Just as the secret session of the anthracite operators got under way in the Hotel Traymore this morning to discuss the price of coal and the demands of the union miners, authoritative reports reached here that the mine owners in the Pennsylvania hard-coal fields were preparing for a strike.

It was said by those who have been on the ground in Lackawanna County, for example, that the mine owners were erecting fences, stockades and stringing barbed wire to protect the shafts in the event of a strike. Presumably, also, armed guards are being provided for.

This news is regarded as especially illuminating in view of the general feeling that the mine owners may be willing to precipitate a more or less short strike, a summer strike, in a plan to justify a continuation of the fall of the present high prices for hard coal.

Householders and others, such as those in charge of churches, are wondering if they will have to keep on paying \$14 to \$15 a ton for coal which is sold in coal regions, at retail, for \$7 or \$8.

No official word can be obtained from the operators here as to whether a strike might be developed when the present wage scale expires on April 1.

Opening is Delayed The meeting of the anthracite operators was scheduled to begin at 10 o'clock. The opening was delayed awaiting the arrival of several operators, particularly of S. D. Warriner, of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company, who presides at the meetings.

It is understood that the operators can afford a strike, there is coal on hand to last some time.

"But," say friends of the operators, "we have got to battle with the men or they may get out of bounds. They may want too much of the profits."

The anthracite miners through John L. Lewis, international president of the United Mine Workers, have suggested March 15 as the date for the opening of the joint conference with the coal operators along this line.

The suggestion for a new wage agreement to replace the present contract which expires March 31.

This suggestion from Thomas Kennedy, president of District No. 7, of the miners' union, will be taken up with the miners by a set committee of operators.

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Sport Coats, Capes, Suits

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Between these very moderate price limits, you will find the newest expression of sports apparel, developed into styles that far outrank many at higher prices.

The Coats are English-inspired in their cloths and make. Many styles, from raglan to plain boyish lines. Double-faced coating, tweeds, plaids and novelties.

The Suits include the plain-tailored box coat effects—the slip-over frocks with smart circular capes. Tweeds, herringbones and diagonals.

Dresses—"Of the Better Kind" Late winter arrivals—so far ahead in fashion thought that they offer an unusual opportunity for spring.

25.00 and 35.00 Formerly 45.00 to 125.00

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Hosiery—Formerly 3.50 and 3.95 } 2.65 All-wool with open clox; silk-and-wool with embroidered clox; green-heather, brown-heather and solid black.

Special Silk Under-vests, 1.65 Silk jersey with ribbon straps; flesh. Special Silk Bloomers, 2.95 Silk jersey with elastic cuff; flesh.

This "Different Kind of Juvenile Store" Announces Interesting News of Spring Apparel Silk Frocks 13.50 to 29.50 Wash Frocks 3.95 to 18.95

Coats and Capes 8.95 to 22.50 Coats and Capes 15.00 to 65.00

We Specialize in Apparel That Slenderizes the Larger Woman

EUROPE MUST PAY ALL, SMOOT SAYS

Debt-Funding Commissioner Would Exact \$11,000,000,000 and Interest

MUST WAIT OR RUIN TRADE

Washington, Feb. 24.—Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, one of the five American commissioners appointed by President Harding to arrange for the funding of Europe's \$11,000,000,000 debt to the United States, declared today in the first statement made by any member of the commission, he favored collecting "every dollar" of the loans, including principal and interest.

To attempt to enforce payment immediately would ruin American commerce, he asserted.

"There is no thought in my mind of forgiving those countries either the principal or interest on these obligations," Senator Smoot said.

Asked whether he concurred in the statement of Louis Louchoux, Minister of Finance in the Briand Cabinet and one of France's foremost financiers and economists, that France can never pay a cent of the United States' debt, the Utah Senator replied:

"Certainly not. Of course, they can pay it. And they will pay it—every cent of it. Not immediately, naturally. Any one would be foolish to expect the debt to be paid at once. But there is no doubt in my mind it will be paid eventually, and I am personally not in favor of canceling or scaling down any portion of the debt of any European country—France included."

Senator Smoot pointed out that to force the immediate payment of the debt would further depreciate European currency, close foreign markets to American trade, and seriously retard if not prevent economic stabilization.

He declared Congress would have to recognize the factuality of expecting to exact a prohibitive tariff and collect the European debt at the same time.

"Europe can only pay in goods," he said. "They haven't any gold with which to pay us. We can't exclude foreign goods and expect to collect the loans. That would be silly. The worst thing we could do, from the viewpoint of our own interest, would be to place an embargo on European goods and attempt to enforce immediate payment of the foreign debt."

"Just as soon as the people of the world get back to work and get to producing, the exchanges can be adjusted," he declared. "Then I would not only demand that all the interest on the European debt be paid, but I would demand part of the principal. And they could pay it then. But as long as the

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MRS. DUKE LOSES \$375,000

Says Broker Cheated Her Along With Other Prominent Women

MUST WAIT OR RUIN TRADE

New York, Feb. 24.—Through the filing of papers at New City, N. Y., by Mrs. Lillian N. Duke, divorced wife of James B. Duke, the "Tobacco King," it was learned last night that Alfred E. Lindsey, a broker of South Nyack, is suspected of swindling thirteen or fourteen well-known society women out of at least \$500,000.

Mrs. Duke charges that Lindsey has disappeared with her entire personal fortune of \$325,000 in cash and \$50,000 in jewelry.

It was said at the office of Mrs. Duke's attorneys that Mrs. Duke is suffering from a nervous breakdown.

Mrs. Duke says she advanced Lindsey \$80,000 to enable him to purchase a South Nyack estate. With part of this money Lindsey is said to have improved his property. Mrs. Duke says also that she gave Lindsey about \$200,000 to be invested in stocks. After many months had elapsed she asked Lindsey to return her money, but Lindsey refused to make any return, she declares.

CHILD MASSACRE UNLIKELY

Canadian Police Refuse to Take Threat Seriously

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 24.—(By A. P.)—Dispatches from Victoria and Grand Forks indicate that while Doukhobor leaders at Brilliant do not retract their proposal to massacre their children as a relief and protest against alleged excessive taxation, police refuse to take the threat seriously.

At Grand Forks it is reported that mounted police appeared to have been aware of the proposal before it was made public by the Doukhobors themselves.

12 DEAD, LOSS HEAVY, IN WESTERN BLIZZARD

Several Frozen to Death When Storm Sweeps Northwestern States Chicago, Feb. 24.—(By A. P.)—The Northwest today was beginning to recover from the blizzard which sent temperatures to zero and scattered heavy falls of snow and sleet over a wide area from Montana, the Dakotas, Minnesota and Wisconsin down into the northern part of Texas, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

The Northwest, where the storm was greatest, according to dispatches received here, reported a death toll of twelve and millions of dollars damage to property. Five trainmen met death in a train wreck between Delano and Montrose, Minn., when a passenger train crashed into a snow plough.

Four men were frozen to death in Minneapolis and St. Paul, a woman was frozen to death near Langford, D. C., a woman was electrocuted near Rochester, Minn., and a man frozen at Dilmore, Minn.

Wisconsin was battling with an enveloping mantle of snow to restore normal conditions. Railroad service had been paralyzed by heavy snowdrifts and damage estimated at several millions of dollars done.

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