

Fol Administrator Sends in his Besignation Following Stitlement of Coal Strike Without his Being Consulted. Says President Would Agree wit Him.

Wshington, Dec. 13 .- Principles underlying President Wilson's plan for the settlement of the coal strike, accepted by the miners, as based, are "fundamentally wrong as a matter of government," Dr. Harry A. Garfield, federal fuel administrator until today, tole a hastily assembled subcommittee of the senate tonight. His resignation, sent to President Wilson because of his views was accepted today with those of one or two of his associates, he.said.

While discussing with some freedom "a cleavage in the cabinet" caused by strike settlement negotiations, Dr. Garteld withheld answers to questions can, New Jersey; chairman of the subcommittee, on matters he regarded with his former associates during the strike period. He adhered to this refusal, though Senator Townsend, Republican, Michigan, and Senator chairman in urging replies, and re- cabinet. fused to furnish a copy of his letter of resignation, which he indicated had

explained his views to the president. Senator Frelinghuysen intimated that Attorney General Palmer and other officials connected with the

strike settlement would be called later. "My objection," Dr. Garfield said of

that the commission which I understand will be set up to decide wages and prices will be composed of three members. One to be a miner, another

to be a coal mine operator, and the third to represent the general public. Under it the public, which is the chief party at interest, would always be in the minority."

reasonable prices involved finally a determination of reasonable wages. rew up a statement of principles was an interference with the state powhich I thought should govern the lice powers and an undue exercise of determination of reasonable wages,

and submitted that to the cabinet." "They were with you on that statement?" Senator Frelinghuysen asked. "Yes, except as to the second of the principles stated," Dr. Garfield replied. "That was one which said the average wage of workers in the industry ought to be taken as a guide in fixing increases allowed to meet the cost of living, and not the wages of a single group. Secretary of Labor Wilson desired the increase so given to be estimated on the wages of pick miners."

"What was your objection to that?" Senator Townsend asked. "Basing the increase on the wage of pick miners," Dr. Garfield said, would have resulted in securing an average increase of 179 per cent. in wages in the industry over the period since 1913, when the secretary of labor conceded that the increase in cost of by Senator Frelinghuysen, Republi- living had been only 79 per cent." Some members of the cabinet, Dr. Garfield said, supported him, and some as touching confidential intercourse the secretary of labor, but all were the agreement on the balance of the proposal. He had finally taken the responsibility of putting through his

settlement suggestion without secur-Myers, Democrat, Montana, joined the ing a unanimous agreement of the "I conceived myself to be the re-

sponsible officer," he said, "believing that I had authority to determine price questions. The matter was not presented to President Wilson."

Applying the principles laid down Dr. Garfield said, he decided that 14 per cent would meet the increased

cost of living and that operators could the settlement plan, "goes to the point pay it out of profits and still keep enough mines running to supply the nation with coal under the fixed price of \$2.35 a ton. The miners decided to refuse and continue the strike.

## War Time Prohibition **Declared Constitutional**

"Has it been your experience with Washington, Dec. 15.-By unanithe coal industry that employees and mous decision, constitutionality of the employers might have a common in- wartime prohibition act was sustained

mean cessation of hostilities." the war powers of congress.

Congress did not intend for the war-

act to fix wages, but did have power private property without just compen- time act to terminate on the conclu- opinion added, "that the time when believed that demobilization had tero fix prices, and the determination of sation, that the period of the war sion of the war but at the end of the the act ceased to be operative should minated, the court said, "he would emergency for which the act was period of demobilization in the view be fixed by the president's ascertain- doubtless have issued then a proclapassed had terminated, that the law of the court which held that the con- ing and proclaiming the date when de- mation to that effect, for he had maniclusion of the war clearly did not mobilization had terminated." "Congress, therefore, provided, "the last, when he vetoed the Volstead act should end."

fested a "trong conviction that re-Had the president on October 28th strictions upon the sale of liquor

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terest in increasing wages and costs today by the Supreme Court. The and passing that increase on to the opinion, given by Associate Justice asked.

terest," Dr. Garfield responded, quali- mation of demobilization. the necessary result.

know his mind."

public in prices," Senator Townsend Brandeis, held in effect, however, that the war invoked "dry" period still may "They may have that common in- be terminated by presidential procla-

fying his answer by saying that he In rendering its opinion, the court, was not charging that this would be however, did not act on the validity of the Volstead prohibition enforce-

"I believe I represent the real opin- ment act or on appeals involving the ion of the president in the matter." he alcoholic content of beer, leaving those said later. "That is, if I were able to cases to future opinions which may be see him and talk it over, because I handed down next Monday before the court recesses for the Christmas holi-Sketching the history of strike ne- days.

gotiations, Dr. Garfield explained that Today's decision practically swept he thought the members of he cabi- away all bope of a "wet" Christmas net were standing with him in his sug- as the possibilities of the wartime act gestion of a 14 per cent. increase in being repealed before constitutional wages and an advisory commission to prohibition becomes effective one review the facts from which he derived month from tomorrow were considerthe 14 per cent clause. When this ed remote.

was refused, he added, he thought the The cases decided were those of the question was going to be "fought out." Kentucky Distilleries and Warehouse Dr. Garfield would not produce a company of Louisville, Kentucky, and telegram sent him by Attorney Gen- Dryfoos and Blum company, New York, eral Palmer confirming that under- instituted for the post office compellstanding for which he was asked. ing the government to release whiskey Discussing proposals which he had from bond. In both cases, the court submitted to the cabinet, Dr. Garfield denied contentions of Elihu Root and other attorneys for the distilleries that said: "I had no power under the Lever the act in vain of the constitution take

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