

The Laurens Advertiser

VOLUME XXXV.

LAURENS, SOUTH CAROLINA, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1919.

NUMBER 22

GARFIELD CRITICIZES STRIKE SETTLEMENT

Resignation Handed In and Accepted

PRINCIPLE WRONG HE CHARGES

Fuel Administrator Sends in his Resignation Following Settlement of Coal Strike Without his Being Consulted. Says President Would Agree with Him.

Washington, Dec. 15.—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, told 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. Garfield withheld answers to questions by Senator Frelinghuysen, Republican, New Jersey, chairman of the subcommittee, on matters he regarded as touching confidential intercourse with his former associates during the strike period. He adhered to this refusal, though Senator Townsend, Republican, Michigan, and Senator Myers, Democrat, Montana, joined the chairman in urging replies, and refused 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 the settlement plan, "goes to the point 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."

"Has it been your experience with the coal industry that employees and employers might have a common interest in increasing wages and costs and passing that increase on to the public in prices," Senator Townsend asked.

"They may have that common interest," Dr. Garfield responded, qualifying his answer by saying that he was not charging that this would be the necessary result.

"I believe I represent the real opinion of the president in the matter," he said later. "That is, if I were able to see him and talk it over, because I know his mind."

Sketching the history of strike negotiations, Dr. Garfield explained that he thought the members of his cabinet were standing with him in his suggestion of a 14 per cent. increase in wages and an advisory commission to review the facts from which he derived the 14 per cent. clause. When this was refused, he added, he thought the question was going to be "fought out."

Dr. Garfield would not produce a telegram sent him by Attorney General Palmer confirming that understanding for which he was asked.

"Discussing proposals which he had submitted to the cabinet, Dr. Garfield said: "I had no power under the Lever act to fix prices, but did have power to fix prices, and the determination of reasonable prices involved finally a determination of reasonable wages. I drew up a statement of principles which I thought should govern the 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."

LAURENS TRUST COMPANY INCREASES CAPITAL STOCK

Stockholders Decide to Increase Capital Stock to \$200,000.

At a meeting of stockholders of the Laurens Trust Company held Monday afternoon a resolution was adopted providing that the capital stock of the company be increased from \$75,000 to \$200,000. It is understood that applications have already been made for a large part of the new stock and that little difficulty will be obtained in securing the remainder. With this much capital the Laurens Trust Company will be the largest capitalized corporation in the county outside of the cotton mills.

Following the meeting of the stockholders a meeting of the directors was held when the regular 4 per cent semi-annual dividend was ordered paid and also a disbursement of the entire surplus of the company, representing about fifty per cent of the present capital stock.

Mr. M. J. Owings is president of the company, Mr. D. E. Todd is manager of the real estate department and Mr. Jas. F. Tolbert manager of the insurance department. Mr. Owings said yesterday that the year 1919 had been the most prosperous in the history of the company and that bright prospects were held out for the future.

LAURENS LODGE ELECTS.

Laurens Lodge No. 260, A. F. M., Holds Election Friday Night.

Laurens Lodge No. 260, A. F. M., held its regular annual election Friday night when officers were elected for the ensuing year, James H. Sullivan being elected Worshipful Master. Installation ceremonies took place on the same night. The following were elected:

James H. Sullivan, W. M.; B. L. Clardy, S. W.; J. K. Poole, J. W.; Dr. Clifton Jones, Treas.; W. L. Taylor, Sec.; Phil D. Huff, S. D.; R. W. Briggs, J. D.; R. M. McKemie and D. M. Norwood, Stewards; W. G. Wasson, Tyler.

Church Hours Changed.

At a meeting of ministers of the Baptist, Episcopal and Presbyterian churches held the first of the week it was decided to change the hour of Sunday morning services so that Sunday School will begin at 10:15 o'clock and preaching services at 11:30. Rev. A. E. Holler, pastor of the Methodist church, was not present but it was understood that he was in agreement with the plan and that his church will observe the same hours. The evening services, both on Sunday and Wednesday, will remain at the same hour of 7:30. Congregations of the various churches are requested to bear the change of hours in mind.

Laundry to Make Repairs.

Mr. Shell McDaniel, proprietor of the laundry, said yesterday that the laundry would close down this afternoon to remain closed until Monday to make needed repairs.

Christmas Tree.

The Mount Pleasant School will have a Christmas tree and exercises at Mt. Pleasant church Friday night, the 19th, at seven o'clock. The public is cordially invited to attend.

"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 living had been only 79 per cent."

Some members of the cabinet, Dr. Garfield said, supported him, and some the secretary of labor, but all were in agreement on the balance of the proposal. He had finally taken the responsibility of putting through his settlement suggestion without securing a unanimous agreement of the cabinet.

"I conceived myself to be the responsible 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 pay it out of profits and still keep enough mines running to supply the nation with coal under the fixed price of \$2.25 a ton. The miners decided to refuse and continue the strike.

SERVICE FLAG TO BE FURLED

Soldiers Who Went out from the First Methodist Church to be Entertained by the Congregation.

The congregation of the First Methodist church is preparing to honor the men who went out to the war from that church at an entertainment to be given in their honor on the evening of December 26th. A committee composed of Mrs. J. P. Bolt, Mrs. L. G. Balle, Mr. T. C. Switzer and Mr. W. G. Lancaster, has been appointed to supervise the arrangements. In connection with the entertainment to be held, the occasion will be marked by the furling of the service flag which has hung in the church since the early part of the war.

The service flag of the church contains 37 blue stars, one gold star and a red cross star, the gold star being for Lieut. Thos. D. Lake who was killed in the Argonne Forest.

The following letter has been sent out to each of those of the church who served during the war:

My Dear Brother:

The First Methodist church, desirous of preserving the record of each of her enlisted men, and also wishing to do them some honor, invites you to be present at the church on Friday, December the 26th, 1919, at 7 o'clock P. M., at which time the Service Flag will be furling with appropriate ceremony. After which the ladies of the church will serve a turkey dinner to every man for which we have a star.

Each man is at liberty to bring either his wife, sweetheart or mother.

Please answer by return mail and say whether or not you can be present. Whether you can come or not, please answer the following questions so we can file away with the flag the record of each enlisted man.

Sincerely yours,
A. E. HOLLER
Pastor.

Please tear off and return.

Your name in full

Where born and when

Parent's name

When did you enlist

Where from?

In what part of the service, (division, etc.)?

Rank

Did you go overseas

In what engagements?

Were you wounded?

When mustered out?

(Sign here.)

PRINCETON MASONS ELECT.

Princeton Lodge No. 129, A. F. M., Elected New Officers Saturday Afternoon. W. B. Davis, W. M.

Princeton, Dec. 15.—At its regular meeting Saturday afternoon, Princeton Lodge, No. 129, A. F. M., elected officers for the ensuing year as follows:

Wille B. Davis, W. M.; W. Vincent Kirby, S. W.; G. Dewey Wood, J. W.; A. J. Monroe, Treas.; A. K. Hughes, Sec.

Officers for the other stations will be appointed at a meeting to be held Friday, December 26th, at 11 o'clock at which time the installation exercises will take place.

REINSTATE NOW!

Under a special ruling issued recently by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Washington, D. C., all former soldiers, sailors and marines whose Government insurance has lapsed or been cancelled may have until December 31, 1919, within which to reinstate their insurance, by paying only two months' premiums on the amount of insurance they wish to reinstate.

The only other condition imposed is that the insured shall now be in as good health as he was when discharged from the service, or as he was when the grace period of his insurance expired (whichever is the later date), and shall so state in his application.

Make the check or money order payable to the Treasurer of the United States and mail it, with your application for reinstatement, to Premium Receipt Section, Bureau of War Risk Insurance, Washington, D. C.

SEN. DIAL WARNS SOUTHERN ELECTORS

Says They Should Watch Current Proposals for Reduction of Southern Representation.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Senator Dial of South Carolina, in a statement today, said that Southern people would do well to give more than their usual notice to current proposals for the reduction of Southern representation in congress, especially as the threat of such action is now complicated with other issues, among them the contest over the seating of Senator Newberry, of Michigan. Senator Dial said:

"Our people should strengthen their electorate and look generally to their election machinery, not take it for granted, as they have heretofore, that the recurrent demands for investigation will amount to nothing. The resolution of the senator from New Hampshire, Mr. Moses, which is now pending, provides for investigation, not only of the laws governing the elections, with a view to ascertaining whether in any state the right of citizens of the United States to vote is denied or abridged and that 'if it shall be found that representation in the electoral college and the national house of representatives is enlarged through such denial or abridgement,' the committee 'shall recommend to congress such legislation as will reduce the representation in such state or states.' But the Moses resolution provides also that the joint committee of five senators and five representatives shall take into consideration all conditions under which the suffrage is exercised, denied or abridged, no less than the law themselves under which 'it is done' and shall report its conclusions to the congress not later than July 1, 1920."

"Partisan prejudice and prejudice would seem to be inferable in the outset from the fact that the author of the resolution specifically requested, in presenting the measure, that it be referred to the committee on privileges and elections. Now it so happens and probably not by chance, that not one Southern senator has a seat in that committee. Vice President Marshall promptly and properly referred it to the committee on the judiciary. That committee includes senators from North Carolina, Georgia, Tennessee and Texas, although of course, it has a majority membership of Republicans. We also have ample assurance that if ordered the investigation, coming as it will in a presidential campaign, will be of a partisan character, for the resolution provides that the five members from the upper rank shall be appointed by the president of the senate and the five representatives by the speaker of the house, and in accordance with congressional practice the majority party will have majority representation in both groups.

"We may expect that if investigation of the Newberry election is pressed by the Democrats, the Moses resolution will be pressed by the Republicans and the more vigorously because the measure would be accounted a strong bid for negro support of the Republican party in the presidential campaign.

"Southern senators and congressmen have from time to time through many years endeavored to awaken our people to the importance of qualifying as electors and generally preparing to carry at the polls in general elections the nominations made in their primaries. All that they have said heretofore has special point and urgency now."

Buys Machen Residence.

Mr. O. L. Long, who has been practicing law in Greenwood for several months, bought the J. S. Machen home place on South Harper street last week through the Davis Realty Company, paying \$10,000 for the property. It is understood that Mr. Long will move to Laurens and open an office for the practice of law. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. G. Wash Long, of this city, and has many friends here who will be glad to see him a resident of this place.

To Have Christmas Carnival.

Teachers and pupils of the Gray Court-Owings graded school are preparing for a "Christmas Carnival" to be given at the school on Friday night, December 19th. A good program will be given and a delightful evening is promised to be attended. The public is cordially invited.

STEEL WORKERS TO RESUME STRIKE

Continuation of Nationwide Steel Strike Voted on at Meeting of Union Heads Saturday.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Continuation of nationwide steel workers' strike was voted today by the conference here of the 24 presidents of unions connected with the steel industry. It was said there were only two dissenting votes, most of the union leaders maintaining that victory in the controversy was in sight.

Members of the strike committee commenting on the vote declared that the recent cancellation by the United States Steel Corporation of the huge foreign contracts was one of the most favorable auguries of the eventual success of the strike. It also was asserted that while many steel plants had resumed operation, production had been far below normal with the overhead charges of the company remaining the same as during normal production.

Definite plans for an active field campaign of four years were formulated at the conference which opened yesterday members of the committee said. The meeting was described by Chairman John Fitzpatrick as the most enthusiastic which had been held since the original declaration of the strike in September.

Replying to the question as to whether many of the strikers had returned to work, Mr. Fitzpatrick said that while there had been some defections among the strikers they were not sufficient to imperil the strike's successful issue.

COTTON GINNING INCREASE.

Laurens County Farmers Ginned Nearly 45,000 Bales of Cotton Prior to Dec. 1.

Laurens county farmers ginned 45,000 bales of cotton prior to December 1st, as shown by the report to the census department by Mr. C. W. McCravy, local cotton reporter. During the same period last year 33,517 bales were ginned. The consensus of opinion is that the cotton is more generally ginned at this period than it was at the same time last year and it is hardly probable that final ginnings will show a large increase over the ginning to December 1st. However, it is understood that the present ginnings already surpasses the ginnings of the last season by several thousand and the total increase may be over five thousand bales.

J. A. Thomason Injured.

Mr. J. A. Thomason, of Owings, was forced to have his arm amputated Sunday as a result of an accident which befell him Saturday when he was working at the ginney at that place. In some manner Mr. Thomason's coat was caught in the shafting. When he attempted to pull the coat out with his right hand his hand was drawn between the belt and the pulley and fearfully mangled. His entire body was thrown around the pulley several times, and his life was barely saved by the fortunate circumstances of the power being cut off just as the accident occurred. As it was he was very much shaken up in addition to the injury to his arm. It was stated yesterday that he was getting along very well under the circumstances.

Locates Brick Plant.

Mr. H. M. Franks, who will be the manager of the brick plant to be put in operation here by him and Mr. R. F. Fleming, stated a few days ago that his company had secured a part of the Ball property just north of the C. & W. C. railroad and that the plant would be located in what is now a pasture. A siding will be built on higher ground adjoining the railroad track. He said that they expect to be making brick in the early spring.

Case Sent to Federal Court.

Mr. E. B. Machen, the local wholesale grocer, who was given a preliminary hearing Friday before U. S. Commissioner R. E. Babb on the charge of profiteering in sugar, was bound over for trial at the Greenwood term of the federal court. He was released upon bond in the sum of \$1,000.

Schools Close Friday.

The local schools, according to an announcement by Superintendent Gasque, are to close Friday for the Christmas holidays and will remain closed until Monday, January 5th. This gives teachers and pupils two weeks of holiday.

SUPREME COURT UPHOLDS DRY ACT

Constitutionality of War-Time Act Upheld

JUSTICE BRANDEIS RENDERS DECISION

United States Supreme Court by Unanimous Decision Upholds War-Time Prohibition Act. Decision Practically Sweeps Away "Wet" Christmas.

Washington, Dec. 15.—By unanimous decision, constitutionality of the wartime prohibition act was sustained today by the Supreme Court. The opinion, given by Associate Justice Brandeis, held in effect, however, that the war invoked "dry" period still may be terminated by presidential proclamation of demobilization.

In rendering its opinion, the court, however, did not act on the validity of the Volstead prohibition enforcement act or on appeals involving the alcoholic content of beer, leaving those cases to future opinions which may be handed down next Monday before the court recesses for the Christmas holidays.

Today's decision practically swept away all hope of a "wet" Christmas as the possibilities of the wartime act being repealed before constitutional prohibition becomes effective one month from tomorrow were considered remote.

The cases decided were those of the Kentucky Distilleries and Warehouse Company of Louisville, Kentucky, and Dryfoos and Blum company, New York, instituted for the post office compelling the government to release whiskey from bond. In both cases, the court denied contentions of Ellhu Root and other attorneys for the distillers that the act in violation of the constitution take private property without just compensation, that the period of the war emergency for which the act was passed had terminated, that the law was an interference with the state police powers and an undue exercise of the war powers of congress.

Congress did not intend for the wartime act to terminate on the conclusion of the war but at the end of the period of demobilization in the view of the court which held that the conclusion of the war clearly did not mean cessation of hostilities.

"Congress, therefore, provided," the opinion added, "that the time when the act ceased to be operative should be fixed by the president's ascertaining and proclaiming the date when demobilization had terminated."

Had the president on October 28th last, when he vetoed the Volstead act believed that demobilization had terminated, the court said, "he would doubtless have issued then a proclamation to that effect, for he had manifested a strong conviction that restrictions upon the sale of liquor should end."

The wartime act, the court also held, is not confiscatory, asserting that more than nine months were given distillers to dispose of their stocks, which time the court believed to be adequate. The act also was not repealed, the court held, by the prohibition constitutional amendment, which, it asserted, is binding, not only in peace but also in war times.

Announcement was made tonight that the house agriculture committee will meet tomorrow to vote on the motion to table the bill of Representative Gallivan, Democrat, of Massachusetts, which would repeal the wartime act.

Internal revenue officials explained tonight that the court's opinion would not effect the bureau's plans for enforcing national prohibition in the least as all preparations had been made upon the assumption that the act was constitutional.

First Presbyterian Church Notice.

Next Sabbath, Dec. 21st, there will be a change in the hours of service.

Sabbath School, 10:15 A. M.

Morning Preaching 11:30 A. M.

Instead of the evening preaching service the Sabbath School will observe its Christmas celebration in the church at 6:30 P. M. Everyone is cordially invited to all of these services.

All members of the Sabbath School are urged to be present next Friday at 3:30 P. M., for a rehearsal.

C. T. SQUIRES, Pastor.