

# The Watchman and Southerner.

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"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the ends Thou Aims't at be thy Country's, Thy God's and Truth's."

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## THE PRESIDENT AND SEN. FALL

Senator From New Mexico and Senator Hitchcock Visit President Wilson

## CONFER ON THE PRESIDENT MEXICAN SITUATION

Senator Fall Appeared Satisfied and Thinks the President is Strong Mentally

Washington, Dec. 5.—Two senators, delegated by the foreign relations committee to confer with President Wilson on the Mexican crisis and report whether in their opinion the president by reason of his illness was unable to exercise his functions, left the White House after a conference of three-quarters of an hour with him today agreeing that he was in touch with recent developments and was mentally keen enough to form judgments on the questions confronting the nation.

In the midst of the conference, while Senator Fall, Republican, of New Mexico was outlining the evidence on which he is urging a break of diplomatic relations, the president and his callers were informed that William O. Jenkins, the American consular agent, jailed in Puebla, had been released. The advices left some doubt as to the circumstances, but the development was accepted generally as relieving somewhat relations between the two governments.

The discussion with the president produced no definite conclusion as to Mexican relations, but it was regarded everywhere as bearing on a subject of endless speculation in congressional circles whether long illness of the chief executive has to any extent rendered him physically incapable of the duties of the presidency. Propped up in bed, the president talked of many features of the Mexican tangle. With a right hand and arm free above the bed cover, the senators said, he shook hands with them and took up and read papers which were on the table beside him. He was described as weak and nervous, but it was said he jested about exaggerated reports of his illness and promised within a few days to give congress his advice on what it should do about Mexico.

"He appeared to be a sick man," said Senator Fall afterward, "but mentally alert and perfectly able to cope with a question with which he might have to deal. He appeared to me, certainly, in as good mental condition as any man could be after being ill for nine or ten weeks."

The other delegate of the committee, Senator Hitchcock, Democrat, of Nebraska said the president seemed greatly improved since he saw him two weeks ago.

"My opinion is that he has been a very sick man, but is improving," said Senator Hitchcock. "He has a pretty good idea of the Mexican situation and although he did not give a final decision on the subject he indicated that too many serious considerations were involved to warrant any hasty action."

The conference with the president which the foreign relations committee decided to request yesterday after Secretary Lansing had told it that he had not seen his chief during the recent Mexican negotiations, was quickly arranged this morning when the two senators got in touch with the White House. They were told that if they considered it urgent to see Mr. Wilson, they would be permitted to do so. An appointment accordingly was arranged for 2:30 in the afternoon.

As the callers arrived they were met by Dr. Grayson, and Mrs. Wilson, who conducted them to the sick room. Asked how long they might remain, the president's physician replied that he would leave that entirely to the judgment of the two visitors. Mrs. Wilson remained in the room throughout the conference.

Announcement of Jenkins' release, it was said by those present, gave the conference its only dramatic turn. The news was telephoned to the White House after the two senators had arrived, and was communicated to Dr. Grayson by Secretary Tumulty. Returning to the sick room while Senator Fall, one of the bitterest critics of the administration's past policy toward Mexico, was in the midst of his argument for a diplomatic break, Dr. Grayson informed the president that Jenkins had been set free.

All of those present expressed gratification at the news, and then Senator Fall resumed his statement. He is chairman of a committee which has investigated the whole subject of Mexican relations, and he told the president of much of the evidence turned up by the inquiry especially regarding the alleged activities of Mexican officials in spreading Bolshevik propaganda in this country.

Senator Fall also gave the president a copy of his resolution asking that diplomatic relations with Carranza be withdrawn. This resolution now is before the foreign relations committee which meets again Monday to act upon it. It was said the president expressed no final judgment regarding it but indicated he would give his advice to the committee or to congress by the end of the week.

## END OF STRIKE NOW IN SIGHT

Attorney General Palmer Issues Statement on the Subject

## HE IS NOW ON WAY TO INDIANAPOLIS

Momentous Conference to Be Held By Miners and Officials Tomorrow

Washington, Dec. 7.—Government proposals for settling the coal strike were tonight cloaked in a veil of mystery which promised to lift only at Indianapolis Tuesday when the federal court and the leaders of the United Mine Workers alike will be called upon to consider them.

Attorney General Palmer and his special assistant, Judge Ames, were traveling to Indianapolis tonight on the same train with John L. Lewis, acting president, and William Green, secretary of the mine workers union, whose secret visit and equally secret conference yesterday with Mr. Palmer and Joseph Tumulty, secretary to President Wilson, resulted in a provisional agreement to settle. Not one of the participants of the conference would discuss its meaning or intent.

Before boarding the train for Indianapolis Mr. Palmer, however, said he was quite sure that the end of the strike was in sight. It was learned that he would confer with Judge Anderson of the federal district court on reaching Indianapolis.

Fuel Administrator Garfield speaking with brevity and emphasis, added only doubt to the situation.

"My position has not been budged one inch and will not be," he said.

It was recalled that yesterday Dr. Garfield has reiterated that not one cent could be added to the price of coal to finance wage increases to the miners greater than the 14 per cent he suggested which operators could pay out of profits, and that the government was behind him in the stand. It also was pointed out that on November 26 he suggested this basis of agreement to the miners, with a proviso that an arbitration commission be appointed by the president to review his decision with power to change it if the commission should find economical justification. This proposal the miners' representatives then instantly rejected.

From other authoritative sources, there was only the attorney general's statement issued last night that "a definite concrete proposition from the president looking to the speedy settlement of the strike" had been before Lewis and Green and that they had agreed to recommend it to the national board and policy committee of the mine workers' union.

The miners' representatives, it developed today, arrived in Washington at noon Saturday and were closeted until midnight with the attorney general. They went from the department of justice to the home of a friend and did not appear until train time tonight, and would not talk, or add anything to the attorney general's published version of the situation. Who sent for the miners' leaders, or whether they came to Washington of their own accord, was a question left unanswered by all concerned.

That the step taken guaranteed the cessation of the coal strike was not claimed anywhere. A definite silence was maintained officially on this point. Likewise, the executive committee of bituminous coal operators watching the governmental activities had no information which it would divulge tonight.

Gossip was active over the situation which has involved almost exclusive attention of most government chiefs for two weeks. It was said in labor circles that the president's proposal would result in giving the miners more than previous government suggestions would allow. Other versions said that a practical repetition of Dr. Garfield's arbitration offer had been provisionally accepted by the mine workers' union chiefs.

It was further said that a difference of method in dealing with the strike had developed among the government agencies chiefly concerned, though all were working towards a settlement. But in responsible quarters only silence of statements guarded to the utmost were available.

Meanwhile, Dr. Garfield labored most of the day on a multitude of details of the great job of trying to conserve every pound of coal. Officials were confident that the country would weather the emergency and those who professed to see early settlement of the strike on terms agreed by the attorney general and Lewis predicted that it would be only a short while before the coal output would be back to normal.

Meanwhile, however, the fuel administration acting with regional coal committees continued to maintain restriction of fuel supplies of concerns not on the priority list and to reduce passenger train service to what it was in war days.

New York, Dec. 6.—Nine teams were tied for the lead in the six day bicycle race at 8 a. m. with 2,224 miles in eight laps, which is 252 miles behind the record.

## HOPE FOR PEACE IN COAL FIELDS

President Wilson Personally Outlines Basis of Settlement of Controversy

## MEMORANDUM WRITTEN BY EXECUTIVE

Official Washington Expects Settlement to Be Reached Tomorrow Afternoon

Washington, Dec. 8.—Hope for the settlement tomorrow afternoon of the "controversy between the miners and the government" is expressed in a formal statement issued today at the White House. The utmost secrecy still surrounds the president's proposal and Secretary Tumulty and other officials refused to supplement the statement. It is learned, however, that the proposal made to miners was from President Wilson himself and was in the form of a memorandum written by him.

## STRIKE PROPOSAL NOT DISCLOSED

Washington, Dec. 8.—The public is still in the dark today as to the government's last move in the coal strike. Nothing of the nature of the proposal has been made public, either by the miners or officials, but comfort is taken in the statement by Attorney General Palmer last night that he was sure the end of the strike was in sight. The success or failure of the plan cannot be determined until Tuesday when the federal court at Indianapolis and the strike leaders will consider it.

## THE MAYORALTY IN CHARLESTON

Mass Meeting of Citizens Held In Opposition to Grace's Usurpation

## MAYOR HYDE WILL NOT RUN AGAIN

Lawrence M. Pinckney is Urged to Be Candidate to Oppose Grace

Charleston, Dec. 5.—Some 300 "anti-Grace" men held a public meeting tonight and, after adopting resolutions to the effect that no nominee of the Democratic party had been properly selected, John P. Grace being merely the candidate of 13 men, it was asserted, and that the meeting nominate a candidate for the people of Charleston to elect on December 9 as mayor or J. L. Gantt nominated Lawrence M. Pinckney, the nomination being carried by a "hand primary."

A committee was dispatched to notify Mr. Pinckney at his home of his selection as the mayoralty candidate of the meeting. Mr. Pinckney sent word he appreciated the honor, but said he would not be able to give his answer on accepting or rejecting the nomination until tomorrow. Another meeting will be held Saturday night to receive Mr. Pinckney's decision.

W. K. Powers, a pipe fitter, presided at the meeting. He stated its purpose to be an expression of qualified electors of Charleston who were not in sympathy with the decision of the supreme court or of the executive committee. He referred to Mr. Hyde's statement that he would not be a candidate in the general election as throwing cold water on the movement he spoke for, but he was encouraged, he said, by the large and representative gathering before him. A collection for funds netted about \$150.

J. L. Gantt presented the resolutions and nominated Mr. Pinckney. Addresses were made by F. B. McLeod, who referred to "the parting of the ways" and urged that there was no mayoralty nominee binding the Democratic primary voters, J. A. Rosemond, a machinist, T. T. Bolger, a florist and E. J. Simmons. Only a mayoralty candidate was nominated.

This action tonight makes it practically certain that Mr. Grace will have opposition in the general election for the office of mayor. Those at the meeting were mainly of the Hyde faction and many are well known citizens.

## STATEMENT MADE BY D'ANNUNZIO

Fiume, Sunday, Dec. 7.—Gabriele D'Annunzio assured the Associated Press correspondent today that he is not preparing an expedition against Spalato or Lissabach. He gave his word of honor that this statement is true.

## PEACE TERMS TO BE MODIFIED

The Allies Consent to Eliminate Some of Objectionable Features of Protocol

## GERMANS EXPECTED TO SIGN TREATY SOON

Responsibility For Sinking of Fleet Placed Upon the Germans

Paris, Dec. 8.—The allies have consented to modify some of the terms of the protocol putting the peace treaty into effect to which Germany has made objection. The clause providing for an indemnity for the destruction of the German fleet at Scapa Flow has been modified so as to refer to the Hague tribunal the question whether the delivery fulfilled the terms of the armistice. If other features of the protocol most objectionable to the Germans are eliminated it is expected the German plenipotentiaries will sign the protocol without much further delay. The final paragraphs of the protocol providing that even after the peace treaty is in effect the allies might use military measures of coercion to ensure the execution of the treaty's terms will be eliminated entirely, as also the clause relating to the evacuation of the Baltic provinces by the German troops.

The imputation of responsibility to Germany for the sinking of the fleet is left in the protocol. It is expected that the note setting forth the allies' position will be handed the Germans today.

## THE ALLIES MAY CROSS RHINE

Threat Made to Occupy Essen and Frankfurt Unless Germans Comply

## THEY MUST BE MADE TO ACCEPT PEACE TERMS

London Stock Exchange Circles Excited Over Rumor From Paris

London, Dec. 5.—There was a persistent rumor on the stock exchange this morning that the supreme council of the peace conference had threatened Germany that unless the final peace terms were agreed to the allied troops would occupy Essen and Frankfurt. The official announcement that Field Marshall Wilson has gone to Paris in response to "urgent summons, to consult Marshall Foch in connection with the peace treaty" is regarded by the newspapers as of considerable significance.

## WILSON STILL AT THE HELM

Writes Senator Fall Regarding Severing of Relations With Mexico

Washington, Dec. 8.—President Wilson would be "gravely concerned to see such a resolution pass the congress," he wrote Senator Fall today, referring to the Fall resolution requesting the president to sever diplomatic relations with the Carranza government. "It would constitute a reversal of our constitutional practice which might lead to very grave confusion in regard to guidance in our foreign affairs." The president expressed confidence he had to support every competent constitutional authority in statement that direction of government's foreign affairs was assigned by the constitution to the chief executive and to him alone.

## PEACE COUNCIL NEARING END

Plans Made For Disposing of Unfinished Business

Paris, Dec. 8.—The supreme council this morning took up the unfinished business of the peace conference in an effort to dispose of the most urgent questions. It is the purpose also to decide upon the reference of other pending questions for decision after the "big five" becomes the "big four," as it is expected the supreme council will continue to meet after the American delegates leave tomorrow.

## RELEASE JENKINS FROM MEX. JAIL

American Embassy in Mexico City Sends News to the Nation's Capital

## ANOTHER REPORT IS CAUSE OF CONFUSION

Dispatches Tell of Money Deposited, But State Dept. Says Release Was on Demand

Washington, Dec. 5.—William O. Jenkins, the American consular agent, imprisoned at Puebla, Mexico, was released Thursday night.

The American embassy in Mexico City reported his release in an official dispatch received by the state department this afternoon and almost at the same time news dispatches were received from Mexico City which said a check for \$500 had been deposited with the civil authorities at Puebla.

This difference in the two reports seemed to raise some doubt as to whether Jenkins was released unconditionally on the diplomatic representations of the United States government or whether he had been released on bail, as the Mexican authorities have contended he could.

The state department, however, took the view that Jenkins had been released on its diplomatic representations and issued this statement:

"The release of William O. Jenkins, the American consular agent at Puebla, Mexico was reported late this afternoon from the American embassy at Mexico City.

"The release of Consular Agent Jenkins was brought about by urgent diplomatic representations made by this government and the resulting investigation made by Gen. Pablo Gonzales who was sent to Puebla, by the Mexican government to investigate the facts in the case. The investigations by General Gonzales, who was at Puebla on December, had then practically substantiated the position taken by this government on behalf of Jenkins.

"Two poems from Santa Lucia admitted to General Gonzales that they had made declarations against Jenkins under threat of execution. Other witnesses testified they had been compelled to make false statements against Jenkins under duress. One witness was threatened by a rope, and still another beaten until he made his declaration against Jenkins.

"These facts are shown in the court records of the case."

Every effort was made here today to check up on a cable report from Mexico City saying that according to a Puebla dispatch to a Mexican City newspaper Jenkins was released after J. Salter Hansen had deposited a \$500 check for bail. Officials of the state department said they had no information whatever concerning Hansen. They stood on the statement that the consular agent had been released on demand of this government.

In some quarters however, there was a suggestion that there may have been a confusion of names, as Secretary Lansing announced that a dispatch from the American embassy said Third Assistant Secretary Matthew E. Hanna had been sent to Puebla in connection with representations for release of Jenkins. Officials declared, however, that even if the names had been confused there was no information here to indicate that Hanna had put up bond and in fact they expressed utmost assurance that he had not done so.

Reports from Jenkins since his arrest and personal letters from him to relatives in this country have all quoted him as being most determined not to put up a cent of bail in order to obtain his release. This fact was cited by officials to support their contention that the release of the consular agent was brought about "by urgent diplomatic representations made by this government and the resulting investigation made by Gen. Pablo Gonzales, who was sent to investigate the facts in the case."

Mexico City, Dec. 5.—W. O. Jenkins, United States consular agent at Puebla who was released from prison there on Thursday night, attempted to secure his reimprisonment there today, according to special dispatches received here tonight by Excelsior. Judicial authorities at Puebla refused to allow the consular agent to reenter the prison.

Mr. Jenkins' move, according to dispatches, was prompted by a desire to secure unconditional liberty, Mr. Jenkins being quoted as declaring that bail was furnished by his friend, J. Walter Hansen without his knowledge and that he refused to accept conditional freedom.

Hilario M-dina, under secretary of foreign relations is quoted by the Excelsior as stating that the release of Mr. Jenkins had removed all cause for friction between the United States and Mexico.

## SOVIETS AVENGE DEATH OF CZAR

Copenhagen, Dec. 6.—The Soviet authorities in Russia have punished by death the individuals who were immediately responsible for the execution of former Emperor Nicholas and family.

## THE COUNTRY IS ON FUEL RATION

Situation in All Sections of the Country Is Growing More Serious

## THE COAL SHORTAGE HAS BECOME ACUTE

Middle West Asks That Other Sections Share Surplus With Those Who Have None

Washington, Dec. 4.—The country as a whole now is involved in coal rationing measures which have been proposed to eke out supplies shortened by the nationwide strike of bituminous mine workers.

The flow of appeals to the reestablished fuel administration showed general alarm over the situation. Middle western territory where the shortage has become acute, through representatives in congress today demanded that the eastern seaboard and New England be compelled to share surplus supplies and live up to restrictions on power and light consumption as drastic as those effective in the west. Senator Cummins, Republican, Iowa, announced after consulting the fuel administration that he had obtained an increase in the allotment of coal to the Mississippi valley states. Louis W. Hill, chairman of the board of the Great Northern railroad, representing Northwestern consumers, made a plea for better distribution of coal resources at the head of the Great Lakes, visiting both the railroad and fuel administrations.

Meanwhile the responsible heads of the larger coal mining concerns of the country, in a second day of general conference here, announced that they had agreed to pay miners an additional sum of 11 cents per ton for coal mined, basing the figure on conditions in "thin vein areas," and thereby fixing a scale practically for the entire country.

This more than carried out the proposal of Fuel Administrator Garfield that the coal miners be given a 14 per cent advance without increase in the selling price of coal, they asserted, because average figures showed that an advance of 10.56 cents per ton would meet the requirement.

Proposals were made at the final session that the mine operators adopt an aggressive policy of fighting the strike by resuming production on an "open shop" basis, but no definite stand was taken on a collective policy. It was said the majority preferred to await the result of the renewed efforts by the government to prosecute the leaders of the striking mine workers in the federal courts for violating the Lever law.

Coal production was said to be continuing at a slight advance over the last week, according to the reports, available in advance of the geological survey's weekly summary.

The railroad administration, since the fuel shortage became acute in the Middle West has been sending coal westward on fast schedules. In the last two weeks approximately 20,000 cars have moved to districts west of the Mississippi river. Of the total, 7,654 cars were consigned to communities in the Central Western region, and 3,881 cars to the North Western region.

Officials said that within the last week an average of 800 cars a day had been sent to each of the three areas. This was expected to represent about the maximum amount which will be shipped because of the gradual lowering of reserves in the East.

## BAPTISTS GET MUCH MONEY

Southern States Continue to Send in Reports

Nashville, Dec. 5.—Additional subscriptions of \$2,500,000 were reported to the Baptist \$75,000,000 campaign headquarters Thursday, this sum coming largely from Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina, Alabama and Louisiana, which are rapidly approaching their goals, along with Tennessee. The seven states already over the top are reporting good oversubscriptions. Georgia having more than \$1,500,000 surplus and South Carolina's excess being \$1,250,000.

## SURFACE MINES SEIZED BY STATE

Fifteen Are Seized By the Governor of Missouri

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 4.—Fifteen surface mines in Barton county were seized today by Gov. Frederick D. Gardner, who issued a proclamation, which declared that possession and control of the pits was necessary in order to relieve distress among the public and the inmates of the egyptian and penal institutions. Before issuing the proclamation the governor said he had been informed that 700 children in the home for feeble-minded at Marshall were suffering from cold. He instructed the manager of the institution to chop down shade trees if necessary.