

2,500 CAUGHT IN PARK FLOOD

Labor Day Crowd Up to Waist in Water—"Dam Has Broken" False Alarm

DITCH BECOMES MILLRACE

Hysterical Women Fall in Torrent and Are Rescued by Men Waders

Darkness Settles on Crowd During Cloudburst and Firemen Help with Lanterns

Water running over the West Heights hills after a cloudburst last evening flooded nearly every spot in Ricadona park where the Labor Day picnic was held and 2,500 or more persons attending the celebration were forced to wade in water up to their knees and in some places even deeper to get home. A ditch runs through the center of the park, five feet deep, and the water ran like a millrace through the trench. One of the two bridges over the ditch was taken by the flood but fortunately there was no one crossing when it gave way.

Over half of the picnic crowd had left when the water began to flood the park. The 2,500 who were caught sought shelter in tents in the park instead of running for the cars and outside buildings.

Suddenly a negro came running through the grounds shouting "The Silverlake dam is broke and the water will soon be over head deep in the park."

Silverlake is on the hillsides of Silverlake park in West Heights. Ten years ago the dam at one end of the lake broke and several houses in the neighborhood of Ricadona park were swept from their foundations and considerable stock was lost.

Crowd Urged to Leave Park

When the frightened negro announced that the dam had broken W. F. Jans, secretary of the C. L. U., jumped to the speakers' stand and ordered everyone to leave the park immediately. It was then raining hard. Very few took heed to the warning and in a few minutes the water overflowed the ditch and all were left in water up to their knees. The speaker's stand was on low ground and Secretary Jans walked in hip-deep water to leave the warning the crowd.

Several women and women fell in the water and only by the assistance of C. L. U. members were saved from drowning. The members waded in waders to places up to their waists, helping women and children out of the water.

The fire truck from No. 1 hose house and the wagon at No. 5 hose house were called. They stretched ropes on both sides of the ditch, held lanterns and helped lead the people out.

John Moore, 1112 Division street, walked through the water, struck a deep hole and went under. He was rescued by some of the picnickers and sent to his home in the patrol wagon.

Save Cripple from Drowning

John Young, a cripple, 414 Fountain avenue, was rescued from drowning near one of the bridges and sent to his home.

"Butch" Stuter 1116 East Missouri street, stepped in deep water and was almost drowned. He was cared for by C. L. U. members.

Many of the persons caught in the flood took off shoes and stockings to wade out of the kneedeep water. Some accidentally walked into the ditch and went up to their necks in water. Some of the men carried women out and several of these slipped and fell.

Several West Heights citizens investigated Silverlake last night and found that the dam had not broken. The dam is high and strong and there is very little danger of it giving way. The rain water had filled the lake within three feet of overflowing the dam.

The flood at the park was caused by the heavy rain flowing down on it from the adjoining hills in West Heights.

The C. L. U. estimates its damages by the flood at \$1,500. Considerable stock in the country store and other concession stands was lost. A meeting of the picnic committee will be held at the park today.

WILSON PLEADS FOR STRIKE END

Asks Miners and Operators in Colorado to Settle "for Public Good"

SUGGESTS AGREEMENT BASIS

Calls on Diggers and Mine Owners to Consider International Relations

President Begs Men to Get To- gether for the "Good of the Whole Country"

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7.—President Wilson sought to end the Colorado coal strike today by appealing to the employers and employes to adopt a tentative basis for the adjustment of the strike, drawn up by the commission of conciliation appointed by Secretary Wilson of the labor department.

The appeal was sent to the president of the Colorado Fuel and Iron company; the chairman of the Victor-American Fuel company; president of the Rocky Mountain Fuel company and to the officers of the United Mine Workers. It was forwarded after the president had held several conferences with Secretary Wilson.

The basis of agreement offered by the president includes the establishment of a thirty-year truce, subject to the enforcement of the mining and labor laws of Colorado; the return to work of miners who have not been convicted of law violations; the prohibition of intimidation of union or non-union men; the publication of current scale of wages and rules; and the appointment of the grievance committee by the employes.

The agreement provides that in cases where the officers of the company or the grievance committee cannot settle difficulties, a commission of three men named by the president shall step in and act as final arbiters of all disputes.

Under the agreement, the claim for contractual relations would be waived, no mine guards would be employed, the federal troops now on duty in the strike district would be withdrawn, picketing, parading, colonnades or mass campaigning by the miners would be stopped, and the suspension of work would be prohibited pending a declaration by the commission. The expense of the commission would be divided between the employers and employes.

President Wilson's Letter

The president's letter follows:
"I feel justified in addressing you with regard to the present strike situation in Colorado because it has lasted so long, has gone through so many serious stages, and is fraught with so many possibilities that it has become of national importance.

As you know, federal troops have been in the state for the purpose of maintaining order now for a long time. I have been hoping every day during that time that some light would come out of the perplexities of the situation, some indication that the mine operators and the miners who are now on strike were willing to consider proposals of accommodation and settlement, but no such indication has reached me and I am now obliged to determine whether I am justified in using the army of the United States indefinitely for police purposes.

"Many things may come out of this situation if it is not handled with public spirit and with a sincere desire to safeguard the public as well as the others concerned; perhaps the most serious of them all is the feeling being generated and the impression of the public that no one is willing to act, no one willing to yield anything, no one willing even to consider terms of accommodation.

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Earnestly Urges Peace

"As you know, two representatives of the government of the United States have been actively engaged in investigating the whole situation and in trying to reach a dispassionate conclusion as to what it is possible to do in justice not only to both sides but also in the interest of the public. The result of their investigation and of their very thoughtful consideration in the matter has been the drafting of the enclosed tentative basis for the adjustment of the strike. I recommend it to you for your most serious consideration. I hope that you will consider it as if you were acting for the whole country and I beg that you will regard it as urged upon your acceptance by myself with very deep earnestness. This is a time, I am sure you will feel, when everything should be done that it is possible for men to do to see that all untoward and threatening circumstances of every sort are taken out of the life of the people of the United States.

Sincerely yours,

"WOODROW WILSON."