

On September 4 Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, and Clarence Darrow, of Chicago, one of the federation's legal advisers, called on Gov. Ferris at Lansing and urged that he again endeavor to settle the strike by arbitration. Following is a copy of a letter written by President Moyer from Chicago on the same day and a copy of the governor's reply:

CHICAGO, September 4, 1913.

Mr. WOODBRIDGE N. FERRIS,

*Governor of Michigan, State Capitol Building, Lansing, Mich.*

DEAR SIR: Per your request, I hereby submit in writing the terms of settlement agreeable to the striking miners of the copper district in the State of Michigan.

First. The employer shall agree that all men who went on strike shall be reinstated in their former positions.

Second. The right of the employees to join any society, association, or organization shall be conceded by the employers. This being agreed to by the employers, the employees agree to submit all other questions in dispute, including hours, wages, and the one-man machine, to a board of arbitration, said board to be created as follows: Employers to select two members, the employees two, and the governor of the State of Michigan to act as the fifth member of the board, both parties at interest to be bound by the findings of the board.

Respectfully submitted.

CHARLES H. MOYER

(In behalf of the employees),

*President Western Federation of Miners.*

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STATE OF MICHIGAN, EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS,  
*Lansing, September 5, 1913.*

MY DEAR SIR: I have your communication of September 4, also one from Mr. Clarence Darrow, of Chicago, bearing the same date. I thank you for this communication. Rest assured that I shall continue to do everything in my power to bring about a settlement of this strike whereby justice will be the dominating factor.

I wish to assure you that I have done everything within my capacity to bring about a just settlement of this strike. My regret is that the very men I have pleaded for during the past 25 years should utterly misunderstand my attitude. I care nothing about this, provided the strike has a righteous conclusion.

Very sincerely, yours,

WOODBRIDGE N. FERRIS, *Governor.*

Mr. CHARLES H. MOYER,

*President Western Federation of Miners, Calumet, Mich.*

A dispatch from Lansing, dated September 15 and published in the Hancock Evening Journal of that date, said:

Gov. Ferris to-day received notice that another attempt to bring a settlement of the copper strike had failed. He received the following telegram from Allen F. Rees, of Houghton, attorney for the mine managers:

"We can not act along the lines of your telegram, because conditions seem to make it impossible."

The telegram referred to by Rees contained a plan of arbitration proposed by Chairman Hemans, of the State railroad commission, and embodied the withdrawal of the Western Federation of Miners from the controversy.

During September Gov. Ferris was urged to call an extra session of the legislature to enact measures which would provide for arbitration or for improved conditions in the mining districts. Among measures which he was asked by various persons to recommend were:

1. The enactment of a law reestablishing a State board of arbitration.

2. The enactment of an eight-hour law for men working underground, similar to such laws in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, Oklahoma, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

3. The enactment of a law which would prohibit sheriffs from bringing men from other States into their counties to act as "aids."

4. The enactment of a law which would change the burden of paying the expense of the militia, when called out on strike duty, from the State treasury to the treasury of the county where the militia should be sent.

5. The enactment of a law which would impose a tonnage tax on the production of the mineral mines of the State.

Gov. Ferris issued a letter to all the members of the legislature asking for their advice as to calling an extra session, and a large majority advised against it. He then abandoned the idea.

The Houghton and Calumet Daily Mining Gazette of September 11 said that Claude O. Taylor, president of the Michigan Federation of Labor, who had been in the copper district several days, and who had conferred with officers of the Western Federation of Miners, would call upon James MacNaughton, general manager of the Calumet & Hecla Mining Co., and lay before him another plan for arbitrating the strike. The Gazette further said:

The plan is practically the same as those already submitted to the corporations by Gov. Ferris, Clarence Darrow, and others, excepting that the labor people are willing to arbitrate the question as to whether or not the corporations shall recognize the right of the men to organize local unions not affiliated with the federation.

It is proposed to have the arbitration committee made up of seven men, three to be appointed by the strikers, three by the mining companies, and the seventh by these six. The strikers' three delegates are to be local men who are not officials of the federation of miners.