

LABOR UNYIELDING ON COLISEUM WIRES

Leader Declares Western Union Cannot Run Lines Into Chi- cago Convention Hall.

WON'T CONSIDER A DEAL

Insists Company Must Meet the Union's Terms or Stay Out of the Building.

Special to The New York Times.

CHICAGO, May 29.—Labor leaders here, headed by Simon O'Donnell, President of the Chicago Building Trades Council, were standing pat tonight on their declaration that not a wire of the Western Union Telegraph Company shall be put into the Coliseum, where the Republican National Convention is to be held on June 8.

O'Donnell told THE NEW YORK TIMES correspondent that there was going to be a showdown, and that he would not give an inch. He charged that the Western Union had double-crossed labor in the past, and that there could be no talk of compromise, either. The Western Union must meet the terms of labor or stay out—unless the Republican National Committee wishes to start a war with labor over the matter, which, apparently, it does not.

The row has apparently resolved itself into a fight over local labor troubles, and this may let the Postal Telegraph Company into the Coliseum. When the battle started the Postal Company was put into the same boat as the Western Union, and the hue and cry of past differences—the old telegraphers' strike, which has never been called off, for instance—was drawn in.

O'Donnell said tonight, however, that there might be a chance for the Postal Company; that the fight would be restricted to a local matter, and that, in his opinion, it would not spread to the Democratic National Convention at San Francisco, as some had feared.

"The Western Union will never get into the Coliseum so long as it continues to employ non-union labor and refuses to recognize the unions," said O'Donnell. "It does not look to me now that any compromise can be reached.

"When the Western Union erected the new building we played fair with them. They promised to meet our conditions, but afterward they did not, and so we have got to meet this situation. They have continued to employ non-union labor. We have not been approached by the Western Union since we made our stand, and certainly we will not make any offer. If the Western Union gets into the Coliseum it will be on our conditions."

Mr. O'Donnell was asked if the Building Trades Council controlled the men who would give service at the convention after it opened, such as the electricians.

"Yes," he said, "we will call all of our men out if the situation requires such action. We are not going to let the Western Union get away with a scab labor proposition again."

And there the matter stood tonight. If the Postal Company cannot give service, only the American Telephone and Telegraph Company will string wires into the hall to send news of the convention out to the country. The Western Union will have to open headquarters in its branch office across the alley.

At the Western Union office here it was said there had been no change in the situation; that the Western Union would not make any concession to the Building Trades Council, and that other arrangements would be made if necessary. There is some talk that a compromise may be reached, but the stand taken by O'Donnell seems to make that impossible.

The Republican National Committee has shown no disposition to enter into the fight.