

## BAER AND DARROW SPEAK

### Court Room Crowded With People to Hear Arguments.

#### SUGGESTS A SLIDING SCALE.

#### Coal Baron Makes Offer to Contract Miners—Defends Combinations of Capital as Necessary and Says Union is Giant Monopoly.

Philadelphia, Feb. 13.—Before an audience that filled every part of the space in the United States circuit court room George F. Baer of the Reading company made his closing argument for the coal operators before the strike commission yesterday and Clarence S. Darrow, chief counsel for the miners, also began the summing up for the men. The two sessions were extremely interesting and the principal speakers held the attention of the auditors throughout their remarks. The greatest interest was manifested in Mr. Baer's appearance before the commission to plead the case of the mine owners. He declared that the miners' union is a giant monopoly and defended combinations of capital as necessary, maintaining that corporations are really distributors of the country's wealth.

Mr. Baer concluded his address by making a proposition to pay the contract miners on a sliding wage scale, their wages to fall or rise with the market price of coal at New York, but that in no case shall the wages fall below the present basis. The spokesman for the coal companies took up two hours and twenty minutes in delivering his address, and when he sat down he was congratulated by hundreds of persons. Mr. Darrow spoke at the afternoon session for two hours and a half and will take up all of today in closing the miners' case. The crowd that heard him was equally as large as that which listened to Mr. Baer, and he, too, was surrounded by an admiring throng when he temporarily suspended his speech at adjournment time. His remarks were directed principally at the wage statements presented to the committee, which he says could not be relied upon.

#### TILLMAN ASKS FOR BAIL.

#### Slayer of Gonzales Tells Story of Editor's Death in Affidavit.

Newberry, S. C., Feb. 13.—Owing to the failure of the defending attorneys of former Lieutenant Governor James H. Tillman, charged with the murder of N. C. Gonzales, to serve the prosecution with copies of the affidavits to be presented at yesterday's hearing for an application to bail, Chief Justice Pope ordered the application postponed until Feb. 19. In his affidavit, Tillman claimed that he had been abused and maligned by the editor of the State. He heard rumors that Mr. Gonzales had threatened him and had been advised to be on his guard. He was informed that Mr. Gonzales inquired for him at the state house, saying he would make him show the white feather. That on the day of the shooting he happened to be moving some of his effects, including two pistols, from the state house to his rooms. He saw Mr. Gonzales coming, glaring at him, saw him run his hand deep in his overcoat pocket and turn toward him, and believing his life in danger, he hurriedly said: "I received your message," and fired.

#### WHITE HOUSE TOO COSTLY.

#### Vote for Executive Mansion Leads to Strictures in House.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The house made slow progress with the sundry civil bill yesterday, covering only twenty-seven pages and leaving forty pages still to be disposed of. The delays were occasioned by a rather protracted discussion of the item in the bill for the maintenance of the white house, and considerable debate upon the item appropriating \$2,000,000 for the relief of distress in the Philippines. Gaines (Dem., Tenn.) and Fitzgerald (Dem., N. Y.) criticized the greatly increased cost of maintaining the white house. An amendment to cut in half the appropriation for the relief of distress in the Philippines was defeated, but the language of the paragraph was modified to require annual reports of the expenditure of the money.

#### Trainmen at Topeka.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 13.—The national officers of the trainmen and conductors arrived here yesterday and numerous conference regarding the Santa Fe wage situation have been held. Today the trainmen will confer with Third Vice President Kendrick and other Santa Fe officials. It is said the men insist on receiving a 20 per cent increase. President Ripley a few days ago said this would not be granted.

#### Good Roads Conference.

Detroit, Feb. 13.—An international conference on the subject of good roads was opened in this city at the Wayne hotel this morning, when President H. S. Earle of the American Road Makers and Mayor William C. Maybury, both of Detroit, welcomed 300 workers in the good roads movement. Delegates are here from Iowa, New Mexico, Texas, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, New York and Ohio.

#### Iowa Lutherans Elect Officers.

Burlington, Ia., Feb. 13.—The thirty-fifth annual Iowa conference of the

Evangelical Lutheran synod yesterday elected these officers: President, Rev. A. Norrbaum, Swedensborg; vice president, Rev. Joseph A. Anderson, Boone; secretary, Rev. B. Maddin, Bethesda; treasurer, Mr. C. O. Nelson of Olds.

#### MOUNTED MEN ROB A TRAIN.

#### Burlington Express Held Up Soon After Midnight Near Butte.

Butte, Mont., Feb. 13.—Sheriff Quinn is firmly convinced that the five robbers of the Burlington flyer No. 5, which was held up six miles outside of the city limits yesterday morning, reached Butte and are now in hiding in the city. From evidence, Quinn says he has, he declares he will land the robbers before several days have passed.

Fireman Jondrow said that the train was stopped by bits of burning paper and that within thirty-five minutes the robbers had finished their work and were on their way to Butte. He was forced to uncouple the engine, mail and express cars from the remainder of the train and carry dynamite to the robbers while one of the bandits fired a bullet between his legs to hurry him.

The trainmen of the passenger train after the robbers had left with the engine and cars, hastened back toward Butte and met an incoming freight train, the engine of which was uncoupled and run to Butte and the alarm given. A sheriff and posse and force of police have left for the scene on a special train.

Every officer in the city has been called to South Butte and all approaches to the city are carefully guarded. The sheriff is scouring the country and a fight is believed to be imminent. The robbers fired two charges of dynamite, blowing the safe to pieces and wrecking the express car. The safe, according to the railway people, contained nothing of value.

The train was a double-header and the engines with the mail and express cars were run about 600 feet ahead of the rest of the train. In a few minutes after the train was stopped there were two explosions of dynamite, which wrecked the express car. The roof was blown off, but no one was injured.

Various estimates are made as to the booty secured by the robbers. It is intimated in some quarters that the loss will run into the thousands despite the assertion of the railroad people that not more than \$500 was taken. William Cullagh, placed under arrest on suspicion of being one of the robbers, is still held by the police.

#### ESCAPING GAS KILLS FIVE.

#### Ten Others Overcome in Northwestern Plant at Blue Island.

Chicago, Feb. 13.—Five men met death and ten were overcome last night by the fumes of gas escaping from the purifying box in the plant of the Northwestern Gas, Light and Coke company at Blue Island.

The men, under the direction of Superintendent Russell, had been engaged in changing the purifying box. According to the statements of men at the plant, when the men finished the work of changing the substance in the box they did not close the covers of the box. When the gas was turned into the box for the purifying process it escaped in volumes and the men were overcome where they stood.

The dead: Martin C. Russell, superintendent; George C. Arnold, fireman; John Long, J. Larson, Albert Katolph, laborers.

Except William Black, the injured men are said not to be in danger of death.

#### WOULD POISON UTAH TEACHERS

#### Conspiracy of Reform School Girls Unearthed at Ogden.

Ogden, Utah, Feb. 13.—As a result of the general investigation brought about by the recent attempt of certain inmates of the state reform school here to burn the buildings, the officials have unearthed a conspiracy among some of the girl inmates to poison the teachers and others in authority at the school. It is known that at least two girls are concerned and that poison enough to kill a thousand people was found in their possession. The girls, it is said, got hold of a quantity of bichloride of mercury tablets recently purchased by the school authorities for disinfecting purposes. The conspirators, it is alleged, planned to put this poison in the coffee at breakfast.

#### Kansas Coal Investigation.

Topeka, Kan., Feb. 13.—General Superintendent Hiram S. Cable of the Rock Island was examined by the legislative coal famine commission yesterday on the subject of confiscation of coal in transit by the road. He recalled instances of confiscation of coal, but stated that orders had been issued that no state coal should be confiscated except where the only alternative was the stoppage of trains. Mr. Cable said he believed a law prohibiting the confiscation of coal would be perfectly just.

#### Fatal Effort at Triple Somersault.

New York, Feb. 13.—Henry P. Meyn, the champion tumbler of the Central Turnverein club, died at the Presbyterian hospital yesterday. A few days ago Meyn started to master the triple somersault, the most difficult of all tumbling tricks. He made several ineffectual attempts and was warned by his friends that his efforts might have a fatal ending. Finally he made a last desperate turn and landed on his head, breaking his neck.

## TURF COMPANIES CLOSED

### Suspend Payment at the End of Third Day's Run.

#### GRAND JURY BEGINS PRODIG.

#### Drops All Other Criminal Business to Investigate Alleged Fraudulent Operations of St. Louis Betting Concerns—Crowds at the Offices.

St. Louis, Feb. 13.—At the end of the third day's run on the co-operative turf investment companies by investors demanding the return of their deposits the result stands: E. J. Arnold & Co., all payments suspended; John J. Ryan & Co., all payments suspended; International investment company, all payments suspended; Christy Syndicate investment company, all payments suspended; United Turf investment company, office closed.

The grand jury began an investigation of investment company methods of transacting business. Crowds of men and women, eager to regain their investments, surged into the offices of the various investment companies and all were doomed to disappointment, excepting the International investment company investors. About 2 o'clock this company suspended payments and demanded the stipulated thirty days' notice of withdrawal.

The investors in the firm of E. J. Arnold & Co. generally state they have given up all hope of recovering anything. This was the first concern to suspend business.

The February grand jury dropped all other business in order to take up the investigation of the turf investment companies.

Mr. Ryan was summoned to appear before that body and a similar subpoena was issued for the appearance of Mr. Arnold, but the latter is reported to be in Hot Springs.

#### WAIVES DEMAND FOR CASH.

#### Germany Willing to Receive Payment in Installments.

Washington, Feb. 13.—At the urgent suggestion of Baron von Sternburg, the German government has agreed to waive its demand for a cash payment of \$340,000 and has accepted the proposition of its minister that it receive this money from Venezuela in five monthly installments, the first installment to be paid two weeks after the signing of the protocol.

The probability is that the protocols for the raising of the blockade which has been maintained by England, Germany and Italy for more than a month will be signed by Minister Bowen and the representatives of the allied governments here today. Every indication points to that end. Minister Bowen has had a busy day conferring with the English and Italian ambassadors and the German minister regarding various features of the protocols, with the result that they are practically in final shape. The protocols will provide for the raising of the blockade at once, for a cash payment of \$5,500 to each of the three allied governments and the payment to Germany of \$340,000 in five installments, less the \$5,500 paid in cash. The protocols will also provide for the reference of the question of preferential treatment to The Hague, although it is understood this feature will also be worded as to leave a loophole in the event it is desired to settle the question without such reference.

For the payment of claims of the allies, Mr. Bowen has arranged for the immediate setting aside of 30 per cent of the receipts of Puerto Cabello and LaGuayra. The first receipts set aside will be those for the month of March. The funds will be retained in the custody of Venezuelan and will be paid out according to arrangements hereafter made.

#### Amending Littlefield Bill.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The senate committee on judiciary continued its consideration of the trust question. The committee was especially concerned in an effort to so amend the Littlefield bill as not to make it burdensome to small corporations. It practically is the unanimous opinion of the committee that the bill should be enacted into law, but there is much difference as to the phraseology to be employed. There also is practical unanimity as to the desirability of making the proposed law apply to corporations which are capable of becoming oppressive in their operation and of relieving those which are beneficial in their operations and are not extensive enough to require close supervision. The committee is finding difficulty in defining a line of demarcation.

#### Arizona Excited Over Gold Strike.

Tucson, Ariz., Feb. 13.—News from Douglas states that great excitement prevails over a fabulous gold strike reported in the Torres mountains, forty miles from the terminus of the Nacochari railroad. More than a score of expeditions have left Douglas since Monday for the scene of the strike. Samples of ore brought to Douglas yesterday assay from 2,000 to 3,000 ounces gold. Almost the entire district in which the find was made is open to location.

#### Favor Private Land Amendment.

Marshalltown, Ia., Feb. 13.—The Northwestern Iowa Wholesale Grocery association, at its meeting yesterday

relative to the pure food bill now pending in congress, declared in favor of an amendment allowing grocers to put on the market goods under private labels. The desire of the association were wired to the Iowa delegation in congress.

#### WAR CLOUD IN FAR EAST.

#### Other Nations to Take Hand in Turkish Eorder Troubles.

London, Feb. 13.—A special from Rome says: Italy was fully consulted in the course of the Lamdorff-Goluchowski conferences on Macedonia and promised to support the proposed action. The scheme for reforms includes a demand for the assembling of an international congress to adjust the details. This will be supported by a demonstration of European warships off Salonica, where they will remain while the congress is in session.

Orders have been given to the Austrian Lloyds at Trieste to be prepared at short notice to furnish sufficient transports to convey a large army to Dalmatia. Leaves of absence have been cancelled, the reserves have been warned and the railroads notified to be ready to deal with large bodies of men and supplies.

#### LADRONES ATTACK A TOWN.

#### Repulsed by the Constabulary After a Fight Lasting Several Hours.

Manila, Feb. 13.—A hundred ladrones attacked the town of Nanjan, island of Mindora, yesterday. The constabulary repulsed them after a scattering fight, which lasted several hours, during which one ladrone was killed and one wounded.

Twenty women and children living in the town were injured. Inspector Crowkett, with a large force of mounted constabulary, has swept through northern Rizal and southern Bulacan, where ladrones have been operating, but failed to find a trace of them.

#### Critical Situation in Central America.

Panama, Feb. 13.—According to late advices the whole of Central America may be involved in war, as the political conditions are most critical. The civil war in Honduras continues and Guatemala is aiding the adherents of Bonilla, the elected president of Honduras, who is unable to assume office owing to the opposition of General Sierra, the president of the republic, whose term has expired. Nicaragua and Salvador are understood to be co-operating against Guatemala and to be furnishing the enemies of the Guatemalan government with arms and ammunition. About 3,000 Salvadoran troops are reported near the frontier of Guatemala.

#### Coaling Station in Cuba.

Havana, Feb. 13.—Minister Squiers spent yesterday at the palace going over the naval coaling station bill with President Palma and Secretary Zaldo. No hitch occurred on either side. According to the Platt amendment this agreement will be between the president of Cuba and the president of the United States. President Palma suggests that it be signed here simultaneously by both parties, and it is expected Mr. Squiers will be authorized to sign by President Roosevelt. The agreement permits the establishment of a naval station at Guantanamo and a coaling station at Bahía Honda.

#### Death of Dr. Curry.

Charlotte, N. C., Feb. 13.—Dr. J. L. M. Curry, one of the most prominent educators in the south, died in Asheville, N. C., last night of Bright's disease. Dr. Curry had been critically ill for the last two weeks. During former President Cleveland's first administration Dr. Curry was minister to Spain. He was also general agent of the Peabody fund and chairman of the educational committee of the John Slater fund. Dr. Curry was a veteran of the Mexican war and was a lieutenant colonel in the Confederate army.

#### Committee Against Crum.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The senate committee on commerce agreed to report adversely the nomination of W. D. Crum to be collector at the port of Charleston, S. C. The vote on confirmation was 6 to 8. All the Democrats voted against confirmation and were reinforced by Jones (Nev.) and Perkins (Cal.).

#### SPARKS FROM THE WIRES.

The Missouri house Thursday killed Representative Raines' whipping post bill by indefinitely postponing it. Macedonian agitators are apparently trying to involve Bulgaria, Serbia and Russia in war with Turkey. Rev. Martin Leucke of Springfield, Ill., has been elected president of Concordia Lutheran college, Fort Wayne, Ind.

John Firth shot and killed Witten Height and Frank Williams and wounded two persons at Eckman, W. Va., Thursday.

A new world's record bowling score of 1,141 was made at Chicago Thursday by the Gunthers, a five man team, in a regular scheduled series in the Illinois Bowling league.

James Anderson, a Muskegan (Mich.) pioneer, is digging in a deserted factory for \$308,000 treasure believed buried there by Ole Larson, a miser, who died in 1902.

President Roosevelt, in a preface to "The Woman Who Toils," written by Miss Marie and Mrs. John Van Vorst, declares men or women who avoid marriage and dislike having children are criminals.

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