

NO FEAR OF ILL LUCK

Striking Miners Choose F... Meeting of Convention.

SESSIONS ARE TO BE HELD AT SCRANTON

Offer of Ten Per Cent Increase by Operators to Be Fully Considered.

QUICK ACCEPTANCE IS LOOKED FOR

Discussion of Yearly Wage Scale May Delay Speedy Settlement.

LABOR LEADERS HAVE NOTHING TO SAY

Operators About Hazleton When Approached for Their Views Concerning Situation Refuse to Commit Themselves.

Hazleton, Pa., Oct. 8.—The issuing of the call today by President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of America for a joint convention of the anthracite miners to be held at Scranton, to begin Friday, for the purpose of deciding whether to reject or accept the 10 per cent raise offered by the operators, is a long stride in the direction of bringing the strike to a close.

It is believed the convention will not be a long one, as it is expected the miners will accept the advance. There is, however, a possibility that by the introduction of a proposition to abolish the sliding scale and another to have the operators agree to a yearly wage contract the termination of the strike might be delayed. None of the operators seen here today would have anything to say in regard to the convention call.

President Mitchell Refuses to Talk

President Mitchell refused to say anything as to what the convention would probably decide in the matter of the 10 per cent increase. Neither would he anticipate what business other than that relating to the advance in wages would be brought before the delegates. It is not likely that the abolition of the sliding scale will come in for consideration.

Some of the labor leaders here will say whether the increase will be accepted or rejected, but there is a strong belief that the men will vote to go back to work. Now that the convention is a certainty there is a feeling of relief in the entire region. It is expected that a week from today will see the mine workers going back to the mines.

President Mitchell will call the convention to order and will preside over its sessions. The secretaries will be elected by the delegates and it is most certain that the convention will vote that all of its sessions shall be held in secret. In the meantime the labor leaders say their efforts to close up the mines still in operation will go on.

Notices of a 10 per cent advance in wages and a reduction in the price of powder were posted this morning by M. S. Kemmerer & Co., operating the Sandy Run colliery, and Cox & Bros., operating six collieries. The notices are similar to those put up by the other companies last week. G. B. Markle & Co., Calvary Park colliery, and the silverbrook coal company are the only companies hereabouts that have not yet notified their men of an increase. These four concerns normally employ upward of 4,000.

Miners Are Called Together

The text of the convention call is as follows:

To All Miners and Mine Employees of the Anthracite Region—Brothers: In view of the fact that the mine operators have steadily notified you of their intention to reduce your wages and to increase the price of powder, you are called together to select delegates to represent you in convention.

You are therefore notified that a convention will be held at Scranton, Pa., beginning Friday, October 13, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. The basis of representation will be one vote for each 100 persons on strike, or if desired, one vote for each 100 persons employed. You are invited to bring with you as many as 500 mine workers, but no delegate will be allowed to cast more than five votes.

Each delegate should have credentials signed by the chairman and secretary of the meeting at which he is elected, and whenever possible credentials should bear the seal of the local union.

President of the United Mine Workers of America

T. D. NICHOLS, President District No. 1.

JOHN MITCHELL, President District No. 2.

JOHN FAHEY, President District No. 7.

N. B.—Delegates will be notified of the date of their arrival in Scranton.

After the call had been issued it was learned that the convention will be held in Music hall.

DISPUTE IS NOT SETTLED

Official of United Mine Workers Issues Statement Regarding the Strike Situation.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Oct. 8.—W. B. Wilson, secretary-treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, issued a statement today in which he says in part:

All of the coal operators having now conceded an advance in wages it can be truthfully said that the strike in the anthracite region has achieved a great victory. Yet the dispute is not settled, nor will it be, until the mine operators consent to the proposition of the operators and return to work. The sliding scale, the monthly wage, the pay and other grievances complained of by the miners have not been considered in the proposition of the operators and the advance in wages is not compensated with the reduction in the price of powder that many of the miners do not wish to accept.

Under these circumstances the urgent and best method of settling the dispute and establishing permanent peace is to be determined at a meeting of the operators with the anthracite miners being held in Music hall, under the offer of the coal companies.

The anthracite coal field is divided by its mountain ranges into three distinct regions, each having geological conditions peculiar to itself. This requires different systems of working and different methods of employment.

The only method by which satisfactory expansion can be made is for the operators to meet the miners when a convention is held to consider the offer of the operators.

See End of Fight

SCRANTON, Pa., Oct. 8.—The fourth week of the strike in the Lackawanna region began today, with a general feeling that this week will end the conflict. Preparations are being made for a big demonstration here Wednesday and the assembling on Friday of the mine workers' convention, which will take up the proposal of the operators.

MIL Work Resumed

JOLIET, Ill., Oct. 8.—Work was resumed by 800 men today in the converter and blast mill of the Illinois Steel company in this city, which were shut down recently. The work was also resumed by 500 men at the plant of the Pressed Steel Car company.

ONLY ONE DISTRICT WORKING

Interest in Miners' Strike Centers There and in the Proposed Convention.

PANIC FOLLOWS FALSE ALARM OF FIRE

Sleeping Pilgrims Wakened and Mangled by Falling Ceiling in Falling from Their Wreckness.

ENGLISH RETURNS ANNOUNCED

Results as Reported on Monday Morning Leave the Party Gains Unchanged.

LONDON, Oct. 8.—It is being polling today in the United Kingdom. The election results announced this morning leave the party gains unchanged. Right Hon. Charles H. Balfour, formerly solicitor general for Ireland, liberal, retains his seat for North Tyrone, but by a reduced majority.

NO MARCHING AT HAZLETON

Mine Owners Had Armed Guards, but No Trouble Appears—Small Crowds Gather.

Hazleton, Pa., Oct. 8.—In anticipation of marching by the strikers this morning even in the matter of the 10 per cent increase in wages, in a more or less crippled condition, was virtually an armed camp during the night, but the expected did not happen and the community remains undisturbed. It was the universal expectation that Hazleton would be a scene of a riot since the strike began, three weeks ago today. In addition to the concentration of the sheriff's deputies in this city last night, every colliery in the region had extra forces of coal and iron police, fully armed. There was no marching of large bodies of men, but crowds of strikers gathered, as is their custom every week day morning, in the vicinity of the various collieries that remain in operation. The greatest crowd, which numbered probably 300 men, gathered in the neighborhood of the Cranberry colliery of A. Pardee & Co., outside the outskirts of this city. Quite a number of the workmen on their way to this mine were turned back, some through fear and others through persuasion. The company officials said the colliery is working as usual today. Another crowd gathered in the vicinity of No. 3 slope and No. 40 shaft of the Lehigh Valley Coal company in Hazleton, but no disturbance occurred. The incident was probably the result of a dispute with the specific condition of affairs. It rained hard during the night and a heavy mist hangs over the entire region today.

STRIKERS ARE JUBILANT

Men Are Pleased with the Prospect of an Amicable Settlement of the Difficulties.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Oct. 8.—The operators here today issued their proposal on any affair are in better shape in the Lehigh region today. Collieries are working that were idle the latter part of last week.

Notice of Withdrawal of Troops

SHENANDOAH, Pa., Oct. 8.—General Gobin, in command of the troops here, said today that he had informed Sheriff Toole of Shenandoah county of his intention to withdraw the remainder of his troops by tomorrow if favorable weather prevails.

More Pay for Mined Engineers

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Oct. 8.—A committee of engineers and firemen on the Lehigh Valley road have returned from New York, where they conferred with the officials of the road concerning certain grievances, of which the men have long complained. The committee says the officials of the road promised to redress the grievances. It is understood the engineers and firemen of the big mogul engines will be granted an increase of wages. The conductors on coal and freight trains will also be given an increase of pay.

No Miners at Work

SHAMOKIN, Pa., Oct. 8.—Not a colliery in this region resumed work today. It was expected that some of the men would report at North Franklin colliery, Trevorton, which was closed down Friday, but not a man appeared for work at the regular starting time. Pea and chestnut coal is being prepared for market at the Cameron colliery, the coal being taken from the main bank. Strikers are endeavoring to induce the few men at the mine to refuse to do this work and there may be a march to enforce the request.

Trouble Feared at Williamstown

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 8.—Two thousand miners participated in a parade at Williamstown, tonight. About half this number came from Lykens, where the collieries are idle. About three hundred men at Williamstown went on strike today and more are expected to remain out tomorrow. Trouble is feared tomorrow, as the strikers seem determined to accomplish the closing of the Williamstown mines. Sheriff Reiff has a large number of deputies on the ground.

New Case of Plague at Brisbane

BRISBANE, Queensland, Oct. 8.—A fresh case of the plague is reported here.

FORTY CRUSHED TO DEATH

Floor Falls in Upper Floor of the Monastery of St. Nikander.

CASH IN NEBRASKA BANKS

Increase in Deposits and Loans from June to December a Notable Amount.

VICTOR TACTICS AT CHICAGO

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Fishermen Fire on Gunboat

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Shipments of Money

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Clerks Need Not Contribute

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—By direction of Secretary Hay the employees of the Department of State have been notified through Chief Clerk Mitchell that they are under no obligations whatever by reason of their being in the public service to make any contributions or subscriptions for political or other purposes, or to render political favors, or to be in any way discriminated against for failure to so subscribe, contribute or to serve.

German Meat Laws Hurt Australia

PERLIN, Oct. 8.—This evening the Vossische Zeitung publishes a letter from Brisbane, asserting that the meat inspection law, especially the prohibition as to canned meats, has already proved a heavy blow to the Australian packing industry, in which Germans are heavily interested financially.

Loan to Pay Losses in Boer War

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Noted Men to Sail

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