

ARMY OF MEN IDLE

One Hundred and Forty Thousand Anthracite Mine Employes Strike.

MITCHELL SAYS TIE-UP IS COMPLETE

Union's Order to Suspend Operations is Obedied in Every Instance.

COAL COMPANIES SHUT OFF A

Operators Believe President Mitchell

Opposed to the Strike.

CARRIED INTO IT BY THE WORKMEN

Scranton, Shamokin, Tamaqua, Pottsville, Hazleton, Reading and other large centers report collieries as a standstill.

PHILADELPHIA, May 12.—Mine workers throughout the entire anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania, to the number of 145,000, formally began their struggle today for increased wages and shorter hours. Never in the history of hard coal mining has a tie-up been so complete, not one of the 337 collieries in the territory being in operation. There is every indication for the belief that the suspension, which was to cover only the first three days of this week, will be made permanent by the miners' general convention which will meet at Hazleton Wednesday.

Absolute quiet prevailed everywhere today. In pursuance of the request of the district executive boards which met jointly at Scranton last week, all the local unions throughout the region met today and this evening and elected delegates to the Hazleton convention. It is significant that in every issue where a vote of the "local" became public property the ballot showed a decided majority for a permanent strike, unless the operators grant concessions.

Decisions are made that if it is decided on Wednesday to continue the strike the struggle will be longer and more bitter than was that of 1900, which lasted six weeks.

The coal companies in various parts of the region have already made preparations for a siege. Coal train crews, telegraph operators, switchmen, carpenters, machinists and other employes, numbering several thousands, not identified with the Mine Workers' union, have been laid off until further notice. The companies have also brought their mines to the surface and placed them in pasture.

President Mitchell spent a busy day at his headquarters. He was in close communication with all the district leaders and expressed himself as well satisfied with the way the men responded to the call for a suspension of work. He will leave for Hazleton tomorrow afternoon.

President Mitchell's Statement.

SCRANTON, Pa., May 11.—President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers stated that the tie-up in the three anthracite districts is complete. Approximately 146,000 men and boys are idle, of which number only one-half are in the Lackawanna and Wyoming regions. He stated that President Mitchell said, the order to suspend operations had been obeyed. About 30,000 mine workers are out in the Lehigh district and 60,000 in the Schuylkill field.

An official of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad company has announced that that corporation had no intention of resorting to a lockout. Continuing, he said: "We do not intend to irritate the men and the other companies are of the same mind. Nothing will be done until after Wednesday. The situation is now in the hands of the miners. Afterward it will be in our hands."

We appreciate the fact that John Mitchell does not want to see the coal companies, despite what is said to the contrary. While we do not want a fight with the coal companies, we do not desire it if they decide that there is to be one. From the same official source comes the announcement that the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad company has stopped rolling coal. Not a carload has been shipped since Saturday morning. Any order must be approved by the head of the coal department before being filed.

The other companies have taken similar action, and it is believed that the suspension is made permanent on Wednesday. The election of instructed delegates is in progress today and will continue today and tonight. Mr. Mitchell went to Wilkesbarre last night, but he said there was no significance in the trip.

Shamokin Collieries Closed.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., May 12.—The forty-five collieries in the Ninth mining district were completely tied up this morning by the 30,000 employes, excluding bosses, firemen, engineers and pump men, enforcing the three days' suspension ordered by the collieries. Two-thirds of the collieries are a strike at the Hazleton convention.

TAMAQUA, Pa., May 12.—Of the 7,000 men employed by the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company in the Panther creek valley less than a score reported for duty today. At the No. 4 breaker the slate picker boys went to work as usual and the breaker is now churning the coal which was mined on Saturday.

Efforts have been made to get the boys to quit work. During the strike of 1900 the Panther Creek valley men remained at work, and up to the time the whistle blew this morning the company expressed the belief that a sufficient number of men to operate the collieries would report for duty.

This afternoon the various locals of the United Mine Workers will hold special meetings and elect delegates to attend the Hazleton convention on Wednesday. The delegates will be instructed to vote for a strike unless concessions are granted in the meantime.

Same Story of Idleness.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., May 12.—From the Panther creek valley, in the extreme east of this coal basin, to Williamstown in the west, and from the Mahanoy and Shamondah valleys come the same story of idleness at the hundreds of collieries in obedience to the order of National President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of America. It is even greater than a Sabbath stillness, for not a man of the organization is coming under the suspension order is at work today.

Meetings will be held today and tomorrow

PEOPLE ARE ROASTED ALIVE

Numerous Victims of Explosion Killed and Others Survive in Agony.

RAILROAD YARDS A MASS OF FLAMES

Saphtha Oil Explodes Setting Fire to Cars and Spreading Through Sewers to Other Parts of City.

PITTSBURG, May 12.—The Sheridan

yards of the Panhandle road, a few miles

from this city, is a mass of burning cars,

naphtha oil and merchandise. Many lives

have been lost and many others will die

from injuries received.

The cause of the catastrophe from the meager reports received was the explosion of a saphtha car, brought out by a train in the car coming to a switch light nearby. This explosion occurred about 5:30 p. m. Crowds of people, men, women and children, to the number of thousands quickly gathered to look at the billows.

The explosion of the saphtha car was the cause of the explosion of a switch light nearby. This explosion occurred about 5:30 p. m. Crowds of people, men, women and children, to the number of thousands quickly gathered to look at the billows.

When all danger had apparently passed a second explosion of naphtha followed, far worse than the first. The flames from the second car were thrown 500 feet in the air, completely enveloping the onlookers. In an instant the air was superheated to a degree impossible for human life to exist in. Those nearest the exploded cars were stricken and fell to the ground.

The clothing of those farther away was soon afire and the victims ran frantically about, tearing their burning garments from their bodies and screaming for help. In the meantime the fire had spread to other cars and in an incredibly short time the entire yard was ablaze. It is estimated that seventy cars have been burned and the flames are still in possession, feeding on scores of other cars.

The burning oil is said to have entered what is known as Cook Run sewer and came out one and one-half miles below, where another fire is now burning.

The burning oil was carried through the sewer to distant parts of the district, one of the results being an explosion in a pool-room at McKees Rocks, where hundreds of men were gathered. Four men are reported killed at this point.

Hard to Get Facts.

The intense excitement and confusion incident to the explosion make it impossible to get anything like a reliable estimate of the dead and injured, but from some of those who escaped it is learned that hundreds were lying around on the ground in all conditions of injury and death. All the ambulances from this city and Allegheny, together with many physicians, were quickly started for the scene and at the earliest possible moment the victims were brought to the city. All of the hospitals were crowded with writhing patients and the morgues are full.

Because of the burning of all telegraph and telephone wires near the scene of the accident news must be carried by messenger, making definite news concerning the catastrophe hard to get. Street cars are blocked a long distance from Sheridan and the Panhandle railroad tracks are completely blocked.

CONGRESS PASSES AID BILL

Senate Concurs in House Measure to Help West Indian Island Sufferers.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—The house today passed by an overwhelming vote a bill granting \$200,000 for the relief of the sufferers in the great island of West Indies. The bill was substituted for the relief measure passed by the senate and followed the receipt of a message from the president setting forth the magnitude of the calamity and urging the appropriation of \$200,000.

The special meeting of the appropriation committee was held to facilitate action on the bill and it was reported to the house within a short time after the receipt of the president's message. Mr. Helmway, the acting chairman of the committee, explained that the amount was limited to \$200,000 owing to the fact that large private contributions were being made. The discussion was brief. Mr. Underwood of Alabama was the only one to speak in opposition. The bill was passed by 194 votes to 9.

Those voting in the negative were Messrs. Burgess of Texas, Clayton of Alabama, Gaines of Tennessee, Lanham of Tennessee, The full governing board of Alabama and Williams of Mississippi.

The resolution offered by the appropriation committee follows: "To enable the president of the United States to procure and distribute among the suffering and destitute people of the islands of the French West Indies such relief as he may deem proper, and to charter and employ any other suitable steamships or vessels."

The senate concurred in the house bill.

CALVO SAYS PEACE PREVAILS

Minister from Costa Rica Declares There is No Insurrection in That Country.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—Mr. Joaquin Bernard Calvo, the minister from Costa Rica at Washington, issued today the following statement: "The news from Panama published today to the effect that the president of the neighborhood of San Jose, Costa Rica, is in insurrection refusing to recognize the authority of Don Ascension Esquivel is incorrect. There is no insurrection at any place in the country. President-elect Calvo is in insurrection. President-elect according to law and the news of the fact was insurrection. The president of the neighborhood of San Jose at Washington on the 9th instant, everything being quiet there as usual."

The assertion that the insurrectionists are proclaiming a leader that does not exist is also incorrect. The news of the report from Panama is incorrect. The news of the insurrection is incorrect. It has been made among the government officials and especially in the cabinet are facts simply consequent to the change of administration as it occurs elsewhere.

There is no insurrection in Costa Rica.

DEATH RECORD.

Mrs. B. Guilmette, Hastings.

HASTINGS, Neb., May 12.—(Special Telegram.)—Mrs. B. Guilmette died at her home at 1 o'clock today. The deceased was 64 years old and had been a resident of Hastings for twenty years. The funeral will be held from the Catholic church at 10 o'clock tomorrow morning.

DOES NOT LESSEN ACREAGE

Import Duty on Grain, Says Chancellor of Exchequer, Has no Effect on Cultivation.

LONDON, May 12.—The chancellor of

the exchequer, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, has

yielded to the storm of disapproval

aroused by the proposal of a bill

affecting checks and today definitely

announced in the House of Commons

the withdrawal of the extra tax of 1 penny

placed on checks. He added that he re-

served the right to impose another tax to

meet the resulting deficiency.

On the second reading of the finance bill Sir William Vernon-Harcourt (liberal) moved that "This house declines to impose duties on grain, flour and other food of the people." During the course of his speech Sir William urged that the innovation was a single tax to go out of cultivation in America. She must send her wheat here on account of the protective duties elsewhere.

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SUBSIDY TO BE RENEWED

White Star Line Agrees to Not Transfer Its Ships to Another Flag.

LONDON, May 12.—In the House of Commons today the president of the Board of Trade, Gerald Balfour, informed a questioner that after considering the agreement of February 4 between the Morgans and the White Star and Dominion lines, it has been concluded that the vessels concerned were not precluded from retaining their English register.

The financial secretary of the admiralty, Mr. Arnold-Forster, added the information that the agreement of the admiralty with the White Star Line was about to be renewed, with an exceptional provision, as follows: "The company shall not, without the previous written consent of the admiralty, transfer to a foreign flag any vessel subject to this agreement."

This provision, the secretary added, although it had been agreed to and an installment of the subsidy, on the terms of the new agreement, had been paid. The admiralty had been advised by the law officers of the crown that there was nothing in the agreement of February 4 which would interfere with the admiralty's right to enter into a new agreement with the White Star line.

The committee also decided the probabilities as to securing a vote on the Philippine government bill and the democratic members all gave assurance that they had no desire to prolong the debate beyond legitimate bounds. The opinion was generally expressed that the vote could be taken by the middle of next week.

FIRE RECORD.

Cardonvale, Kansas.

CARDONVALE, Kan., May 12.—A fire which originated in Frank O'Donnell's store this morning destroyed practically the entire business section of the town. Among the principal losers are Frank O'Donnell, general merchandise; the McCoom Hardware company, Nora Lewis, millinery; the Barry Harness company, their land and building were destroyed by fire early this morning. Price carried no insurance, but his loss is small. Taylor had \$300 insurance on his stock. The buildings were owned by C. A. Longster and were partially insured.

Two Stores at Exeter.

EXETER, Neb., May 12.—(Special.)—The bakery of C. A. Taylor and Mart Price's restaurant were destroyed by fire early this morning. Price carried no insurance, but his loss is small. Taylor had \$300 insurance on his stock. The buildings were owned by C. A. Longster and were partially insured.

Steamboat South Dakota.

YANKTON, S. D., May 12.—The steamboat South Dakota, J. Lach captain and owner, burned yesterday near Greenwood, Neb., while on a trip up the Missouri. The loss on the boat and cargo was \$23,000. No insurance. The passengers and crew escaped.

HYMENEAL.

Henry-Chapman.

The wedding of Mrs. Anna E. Chapman to Mr. Joseph Henry took place at Casper, Wyo., Sunday, May 11. Mrs. Chapman is well known in Omaha, this having formerly been her home. Mr. Henry has served the state for two terms as one of its state representatives and also is the owner of a large ranch. After a short trip Mr. and Mrs. Henry will be at home to their friends on the ranch, which is not very far distant from Casper.

Wright-Kuhn.

BEATRICE, Neb., May 12.—(Special.)—County Treasurer W. W. Wright departed yesterday for Flat Rock, O., where he is to be married Wednesday noon to Miss Tillie Kuhn of that city. After a short wedding trip they will take up their residence in this city.

California Limited Wrecked.

KEOKUK, Ia., May 12.—The California limited, eastbound, on the Santa Fe, was wrecked this morning at Revere, Mo., ten miles from the scene of the wreck of the same train two weeks ago. The axle of the dining car broke and the train ran into a switch. The train crashed into a boxcar on the siding. The corner of the dining car was torn off and six coaches were thrown from the track. The speed of the train at the time was more than a mile a minute. One passenger, Miss Adams of Chicago, was slightly injured.

Katy Will Build Own Track.

KANSAS CITY, May 12.—It is stated that the Missouri, Kansas & Texas will build its own line between Paola, Kan., and P. J. Dale, Kan., a suburb of Kansas City, forty miles, and enter this city over the San P. tracks. The "Katy" now reaches Paola from Paola over the "Frisco" track, but the increasing traffic renders it necessary to build a new road, which will almost parallel the "Frisco."

Negroes Attempt to Wipe Out White Settlement at Bragg.

MUSKOGEE, I. T., May 12.—A race war is on at Bragg, twenty miles east of Muskogee. Five negroes and one white man have been shot and one killed. Seventy-five negroes attempted to wipe out the white settlement of fifteen families near Bragg which is one of the worst districts in the Indian Territory.

The whites have applied to the United States marshal for protection and have been instructed to arm and protect themselves.

FIXING RAILROAD VALUES

E. Roosevelt Asks for a Hearing Before State Board of Equalization.

BOARD FIXES THE DATE FOR WEDNESDAY

Effort to Get Light on Question of Corporation Property Takes Form Which May Lead to Results.

(From a Staff Correspondent.)

LINCOLN, May 12.—(Special.)—E. Roosevelt, accompanied by E. W. Simeral, appeared before the State Board of Equalization this morning to plead for the fixing of a higher and more equitable valuation of railroad property of the state. At the conclusion of his brief remarks the board agreed to listen to his statement next Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Roosevelt called attention to the fact that the railroads pay only one-sixth of the taxes of the state, which is a smaller proportionate burden than that borne by the other taxpayers.

Governor Savage remarked that he was glad to get all the light that can be thrown upon the subject, and expressed himself as willing to stay there six months if necessary to probe the matter to the bottom. He declared that instead of being \$180,000,000, the aggregate state valuation should be more than \$1,000,000,000. Auditor Weston asked some questions concerning the scope of the investigation, and Mr. Roosevelt stated that he did not feel justified in attempting to discuss the subject in all its bearings until he had examined records on file in the auditor's office.

It now transpires, since this action was begun, it has leaked from the upper story of the state house that the democratic leadership in Omaha and Lincoln had seriously discussed the propriety of starting the very proceedings which were begun today, with the anticipation that they could make capital for their candidates in the coming campaign. R. L. Metcalfe of the World-Herald was in Lincoln in conference with some of the populist and democratic leaders.

A representative of a railroad who was present during the brief discussion interrupted to inquire whether or not the taxes on the Bee building had been paid, to which Mr. Roosevelt replied that the Bee Building company had paid in the last year approximately \$60,000 in taxes, of which amount \$7,000 was paid last year.

TO CALL CLEMENCIA LOPEZ

Philippine Committee Decides to Summon Woman to Give Testimony.

WASHINGTON, May 12.—The senate committee on the Philippines today decided to call Clemencia Lopez, a sister of Sixto Lopez. The woman is now in Boston and she will be asked to come from that city to Washington to give her testimony. The date of her appearance has been fixed. Senators Lodge, Hale and Burrows voted with the democratic members to ask her attendance.

The committee also decided the probabilities as to securing a vote on the Philippine government bill and the democratic members all gave assurance that they had no desire to prolong the debate beyond legitimate bounds. The opinion was generally expressed that the vote could be taken by the middle of next week.

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CONDITION OF THE WEATHER

Forecast for Nebraska—Partly Cloudy Tuesday; Wednesday Fair in East, Showers and Cooler in West Portion; Variable Winds.

5 a. m. 64 1 p. m. 87

6 a. m. 65 2 p. m. 88

7 a. m. 65 3 p. m. 88

8 a. m. 68 4 p. m. 92

9 a. m. 70 5 p. m. 90

10 a. m. 75 6 p. m. 82

11 a. m. 80 7 p. m. 81

12 m. 87 8 p. m. 77

0 p. m. 75

CONVENTION OF BANKERS

Meeting Will Be Addressed by Henry W. Yates of Omaha and Others.

KANSAS CITY, May 12.—A joint convention of the Bankers' associations of Missouri, Kansas and the Indian and Oklahoma territories will begin here tomorrow for a two days' session. It is expected that 500 bankers will attend, among them several financiers of national reputation. The program includes the following: Tuesday Morning Session—Report of E. A. Kelly, Leavenworth, Kan., on bank money orders and address, "The Evolution of Banking Law," by Thomas B. Paton of New York, editor of the Banking Law Journal.

Tuesday Afternoon—Addresses on the subject of branch banking by Horace White, editor of the New York Evening Post, and Henry W. Yates of Omaha, president of the Nebraska National bank. Wednesday Morning—Addresses by Morton Albaugh of Toledo, state bank commissioner, and by W. T. Jones of St. Louis, the latter taking for his theme "The Federal Bankruptcy Law."

Wednesday Afternoon—James H. Eckels, president of the Commercial National bank of Chicago, address on "Assets, Currency," and Charles G. Dawes on "Assets Currency and Branch Banking."

Among the arrivals today were a number of New York bankers, including G. S. Whitson, Charles L. Robinson, Lewis E. Pierson, John C. Van Cleaf, J. R. Bronch, W. O. Jones and Horace White.

ODELL GUEST OF HARRIMAN

Governor of New York Central Figure at Banquet Given by Railroad Magnate.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 12.—Governor Odell of New York was the guest of honor tonight at an elaborate banquet given by E. H. Harriman, president of the Southern Pacific company, at the Pacific Union club. This will be the only affair of the kind the governor will participate in during his stay in California, though he will be greeted at informal receptions by the United League and other organizations.

The banquet room was elaborately decorated and when the seventy-one guests were seated presented a scene of great beauty. E. H. Harriman presided as host. Governor Odell was seated on the right and Governor Gage of California on his left. Immediately opposite Mr. Harriman sat Mayor Schmitz of this city.

Among the other prominent guests were Chief Justice Beatty of the supreme court of California, United States Judges Morrow and Ross, Admiral Miller and General R. P. Hughes, President Wheeler of the University of California and Jordan of Stanford, W. H. Crocker, Postmaster Montague, Collector of the Port Stratton, Congressman E. J. D. Spreckels, J. Kruttschnitt and J. C. Stabbs.

The affair was purely social. Governor Odell and Mr. Harriman being old friends and natives of the same county of New York state.

MOB HANGS NEGRO TO A TREE

Lynch Prisoner Who Boasts of Killing and Threatens More Such Crimes.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 12.—News has reached here of the lynching of Jim Underwood, a negro, at Decatur, Meigs county, Tenn., Sunday morning. Underwood was in jail charged with carrying a pistol. He openly boasted that he had killed two men and threatened to kill two prominent citizens at the first opportunity.

About 10 o'clock Sunday morning Jailer Legg was aroused by the breaking of the door of his room. A score of men with blackened faces forced their way in, secured the jail keys and, taking the negro a mile from the town, hanged him to a tree. On his breast was pinned a state-ment which was banged because he had threatened to take the lives of two good men.

MANY NON-COMBATANTS DEAD

Venezuelan Government Troops Violate the Rules of Civilization.

NEW YORK, May 12.—Great carnage was wrought at Carupano, the Venezuelan seaport town which was attacked, says the Port of Spain, Trinidad, correspondent of the Herald, by land and sea on May 6, by government troops and gunboats without twenty-four hours' notice having been given so that non-combatants could leave the town.

Foreigners in Carupano are without assistance from their respective governments, notwithstanding their appeals. Many women and children were killed.

TAINTED MEAT ON TABLES

Impure Beef Is Said to Be Sold in Cheap Restaurants and Chop Houses.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., May 12.—Through revelations made at the investigation of the Beef trust, the Board of Health of this city has been apprised of the use of tainted meats in the chop houses and cheap restaurants in this city. Warrants were today sworn out for the arrest of many offenders who were trapped by detectives tracing carcasses of "lumpy jaw" cattle and other diseased meats from markets to consumers.

THREE MEN ARE KILLED

One is a Ranchman and Band of Cowboys Are Seeking Revenge.

LIBERAL, Kan., May 12.—At Tucuman, the new Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific extension southwest of here, three men were killed in a fight last night.

One of the men was a ranchman and a band of cowboys, armed with Winchester rifles, were at last reports marching into the town to seek revenge. Much excitement prevailed.