

REPLY OF MITCHELL

President of Mine Workers' Union Issues Statement Relative to Strike.

DISCUSSES MERITS OF THE CONTROVERSY

Says He Has Hesitated to Say Anything in Hope that Settlement Would Come.

CONDITIONS OF WORKERS INTOLERABLE

Average Earnings Said to Be Less Than of Any Other American Workmen.

TAKES UP COST OF MINING ALL COAL

Also Makes a Comparison with the Price and Asserts that While the Price Has Advanced Wages Have Not Changed.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., June 22.—President John Mitchell of the United Mine Workers of America issued an address to the public for publication in the newspapers tomorrow morning. It is partly a reply to the letters of the operators declining to accede to the demands of the union, which were published about ten days ago.

Briefly summarized, the address says that every possible means was resorted to in the effort to avert the strike; claims that the cost of living has increased to the point where the miner was compelled to ask for higher wages; denies the allegations of the operators that the productive capacity of the mine workers has fallen off, but, on the other hand, has increased, quotes official figures to substantiate the latter contention; says that the operators can pay higher wages without increasing the cost of coal to the consumer; asserts that the coal-carrying railroads which control about 85 per cent of the mines absorb the profits of their coal companies by charging exorbitant freight rates, claiming that a ton at the mines means a profit of \$1.70 to \$1.90 instead of \$2.40, and says that more men are killed and injured in the anthracite mines of Pennsylvania annually than were killed or wounded during the Spanish-American war.

The address also says that in the event the union is crushed, which it adds is not likely, a new organization would rise from its ruins. It concludes with another appeal for arbitration of all questions in dispute. The address in full is as follows:

Statement of Mitchell.

To the Public: If the contest now in progress in the anthracite coal regions of Pennsylvania affected only the welfare of the railroad and the coal mine workers on the one hand and the public welfare on the other, the public would consequently be less concerned than it is now in the continuance of the contest, but inasmuch as there is a third and important interest involved, which is the welfare of the people, for the present strike, it is, nevertheless, an innocent victim thereof, it is not fair and proper that the suppression of the contest be fully and accurately informed upon the merits of the question in controversy.

It is the duty of every citizen until the close of the sixth week of the strike to issue a statement of the nature, scope and extent of the contest, and to say that we have hesitated to utter any word or to take any action which would tend to exacerbate any reconciliation with the coal operators. Every day and precaution, every conceivable means have been taken by honorable and conservative men could take to avert a rupture, and every means that thought could suggest has been used in dispute to arbitration was resorted to by the union both before the strike order was issued and since it went into effect, but without avail, the coal magnates replying to all our overtures with nothing to arbitrate.

This statement on their part is equivalent to saying that the coal mine workers have made unreasonable demands and have struck without real or sufficient cause. To this let plain, unvarnished facts and figures reply.

Mine Workers Have Suffered.

For more than twenty-five years the anthracite coal miners of Pennsylvania have been chafed and grieved under the most intolerable and inhuman conditions of employment imaginable. The annual earnings have been less than those of any other class of workmen in the United States, notwithstanding the fact that their work is more hazardous and the cost of living greater than in any other important manufacturing industry. The total number of persons employed in and around the anthracite coal fields is 200,000; they are employed never to exceed 30 days in any one year, and they receive as compensation for their services the sum of \$1.42 for a ten-hour work day. It will thus be noted that they earn annually less than \$20. Such a paltry wage for a man on a par with some classes of European laborers, but who will say that it is sufficient to enable him to support a family of five or six children, and to enable him to educate and maintain their families?

True it is that a 10 per cent increase in wages was granted by the coal operators in a strike which cost the miners \$100,000,000; it is also true that a large portion of this 10 per cent was paid back to the companies to buy the suppression of an old power grievance. Moreover, according to reliable commercial agencies the cost of living has increased in the anthracite coal fields from 20 to 40 per cent, so that the purchasing power of a miner's earnings has less now than it had in 1880.

Says Allegations Are Misleading.

The presidents of the various coal-carrying railroads have given publicity to an statement that during the past year the productive capacity of the mine workers had decreased, and that there was a decline in the productive capacity of the men after they became reconciled to the conditions of the unprejudiced effect upon these facts and concludes that the anthracite miner is not a better workman than he was in 1880, and that the 10 per cent concession in wages two years ago?

The railroad presidents contend that they cannot increase wages without making a corresponding increase in the selling price of their product to the consumer. They have accused the mine workers of suggesting a proposition that would impose a hardship upon the public by increasing the market price of coal 10 cents a ton, the amount that would have been required to meet all the demands made by the miners. However, their alibi for the public well has not deterred them from advancing the market price of their coal more than \$1 per ton since the strike was inaugurated without giving any part of this increase to the mine workers.

Can Afford Increase.

In substitution of our claim that the coal companies can afford to pay increased wages to the mine workers without increasing the cost of coal to the consumer, we submit the following extracts from the government reports, showing the selling value of coal loaded on cars at the mines for the eleven years beginning with 1880 and ending with 1901.

(Continued on Third Page.)

GOVERNMENT AID TO WEST

Possibilities for Good Connected in the New Irrigation Work Undertaken.

CHYENNE, Wyo., June 22.—(Special.)—Prof. Clarence T. Johnston, expert in charge of the irrigation investigations office in this city, which controls all of the irrigation work done by the national government in the west and south, gives the following interesting interview regarding the new irrigation bill. Johnston is one of the greatest irrigation experts in the country and has but recently returned from an extended trip through Egypt and Italy as an expert of the Agriculture department of the United States to study the irrigation systems in those countries.

The first act of congress carrying an appropriation for reservoir surveys which has given us any valuable results was passed in 1892. The first amount donated was appropriated to pay for the examination and survey of reservoirs in the arid region. Colonel Johnston's conclusions are that the summer of that year.

While the present under him were making certain surveys and estimates of the cost of the proposed work Colonel Chittenden spent his time in making examinations of the sites and in studying reservoirs generally. In his report he gives full particulars of the work done, and the results of the surveys, which are available for every citizen. He also states that the work was not done in any way necessitate government control, and strongly recommends that the complete control be in the hands of the states. The government should, however, build, own and maintain the reservoirs, but should not operate the works in cases of emergency.

Possibilities of Storage.

He estimates the total volume of water which can be stored in the west at some 100,000,000,000 gallons, and estimates that this could be stored in 100 years. Construction at this rate would doubtless furnish the means for storing the surplus water. The mean cost of a large number of complete reservoirs, which he has estimated at \$100,000,000, assuming that those constructed by the government should be operated by the states, would require a yearly expenditure thereof of some \$1,000,000,000 to store the entire surplus water. The cost of the surplus water made available by the bill just passed is twice this amount. Should each of the states receive an average of \$100,000,000 per year for the task of storing the surplus water, it would be able to do so with sufficient rapidity to enable each state to yearly offer new lands for irrigation.

In the light of recent experience in reservoir construction it is plain that these figures are not far from the truth. It is a few large enterprises in the country which have been exploring by engineers and parties having no special interests. These works will not be solely reservoirs, but will include canals, ditches, and other works, and will be of great value principally in the diversion of water from one drainage basin to another. The cost of such works is not to be estimated by the cost of the water, but by the cost of the work itself. It is in many places private enterprise is sufficiently active to show that the government should not undertake to build such works at first, but should leave them to private enterprise, and should only furnish national aid, sufficient to cover the cost of the water, and to assist in the work in the arid west to demonstrate that practical irrigation can be carried on in small basins, and at a reasonable cost. Under an arrangement of this kind the government would not be required to irrigate and become more like ditches or canals as far as private interest in them is concerned.

Government Should Assist.

Because the government did not store water for the irrigation of its lands when it should have done so, it is now faced with the problem of how to help the farmers who have done so much to help themselves. The government should assist in the work, but should not undertake to build such works at first, but should leave them to private enterprise, and should only furnish national aid, sufficient to cover the cost of the water, and to assist in the work in the arid west to demonstrate that practical irrigation can be carried on in small basins, and at a reasonable cost. Under an arrangement of this kind the government would not be required to irrigate and become more like ditches or canals as far as private interest in them is concerned.

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SUNSHINE BRINGS GLADNESS

First Day of Coronation Week in London Flashed in Without Murky Weather.

WEIRD TALES OF PLOT TO ASSASSINATE KING EDWARD DISPELLED BY HIS FRIENDS AND ALL ENJOICE PREPARES TO REJOICE.

LONDON, June 22.—The reappearance today of brilliant sunshine after weeks of murky weather and rain gave to the first day of coronation week an air of unusual gaiety and gladdened the hearts of thousands of British subjects from all parts of the empire and the thousands of foreigners who were pouring into London eager to witness as much of this week's events as possible.

The announcement that King Edward, Queen Alexandra and the court would return to London from Windsor tomorrow at noon increased the universal anticipation for that day and increased to some extent the flood of extraordinary rumors concerning the king's physical condition, coupled with weird tales of plots to assassinate his majesty, have been dispelled by persons close to the king. King Edward's health was authoritatively declared to be good at Windsor castle today and this morning.

At the command of the king many thousands of persons were admitted to the east terrace of Windsor castle this afternoon for the Sunday band performances. The terrace was crowded. The king and queen listened to the music from the windows of their private apartment. King Edward's appearance does not justify the sensational rumors of his illness.

Thousands Crowded Streets.

The congested condition of the streets of London today were an omen of the conditions of travel through these streets the latter days of this week. The barriers across the streets which they thanked the coronation processions will pass and which have now been completed are proving an impediment to the ordinary traffic. Tomorrow it will be impossible to proceed faster than a snail's pace through the thoroughfares between Hyde park and the Maudslowi house. The omnibus companies have been ordered to run two and three times, and further increases in these rates are probable. The obtaining of a seat on an omnibus was today more a question of physical than financial ability. The crowds out today were singularly good-natured and accidents were few and of a minor character.

The police are distinguishing themselves even more than usual by their courtesy and alertness in the interests of pedestrians. Kensington gardens and groves about the Crystal and Alexandra palaces are filled with colored and native troops clad in scarlet, white, khaki and blue uniforms.

The throngs in the street at night did much to engage the eye. The fronts of innumerable buildings are hung with lighted decorations and the Venetian masts are covered with garlands and connected by strands of roses. The streets are filled with mile after mile of many colored lights and the various coronation floats and coronation processions are marked with arches representing Great Britain's colonies. American flags were in evidence at a great number of windows. Some hotels are flying both American and British flags from their staffs in honor of the many American visitors who are here.

Count von Walderssee, one of the German representatives to the coronation; the duke and duchess of Aosta, from Italy, and many other distinguished representatives of foreign royal personages arrived in London today.

Count von Walderssee and the German officers with him were entertained at dinner tonight by Field Marshal Lord Roberts.

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FUSIONISTS ARE APATHETIC

Experience Difficulty in Getting Men to Go as Delegates to Conventions.

DAVID CITY, Neb., June 22.—(Special.)—The fusionists of Butler county held their convention here yesterday. The democrats met in the district court room and the populists in the county supervisor's office. Not to exceed one-half of the township in the county were represented in either convention, the attendance at the populist convention was better than in the democratic. They had considerable difficulty in getting delegates to attend the state and congressional conventions. In the populist convention a resolution was introduced instructing for Stark for congress, this met with some opposition, but passed by a small majority. A large number of the leading democrats did not attend the convention.

BROKEN BOW, Neb., June 22.—(Special Telegram.)—The populist representative convention was held here last night in the courthouse. The populist convention was held here last night in the courthouse. The populist convention was held here last night in the courthouse.

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MEET DEATH IN A WRECK

Train on Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha Road Jumps Track, Killing Two.

BLUFFS MAN ONE OF UNFORTUNATES

Accident Said to Have Been Caused by Misplaced Switch—Injured Are Taken to St. Paul Hospital for Treatment.

ST. PAUL, Minn., June 22.—A passenger train on the Sioux City branch of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis & Omaha railroad, due to arrive in St. Paul at 7:25 a. m., jumped the track near Ashton, Ia., early today. Two trainmen were killed, five others seriously hurt and a number of passengers received minor injuries.

The dead: C. J. ROBINSON, Council Bluffs, Ia.; mail clerk. BARRETT, fireman; terribly scalded by escaping steam; died shortly after being taken from under engine.

The injured: James Erskine, St. Paul, mail clerk; hurt about back and head; serious. F. E. Weston, St. Paul, mail clerk; badly scalded by escaping steam; serious. C. H. Hall, St. Paul, mail clerk; hurt about back and head; serious. U. S. Thompson, St. Paul, mail clerk; hurt about back and head; serious.

The engineer of the train, name not ascertained, was badly hurt, but will recover. The passengers injured were attended by surgeons who were brought to the scene of the wreck from the wrecking train, and all were able to continue their journey.

The cause of the wreck is said to have been a misplaced switch. The train was running at a high rate of speed and when it left the track the mail cars and smoker piled up on top of the engine. The sleeping cars also left the track, but did not pile up on top of the engine.

The injured mail clerks were brought to a St. Paul hospital, while some of the other hurt were taken to Minneapolis for treatment.

OPPOSED TO FOREIGN GOODS

Antagonism Has Sprung Up Throughout England Against All Outside Products.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—Mr. Frederic Emory, chief of the bureau of foreign commerce, today made public the following statement: "Commercial relations for 1901," showing the state of our trade relations with Great Britain.

Most notable, perhaps, of all prevailing trade conditions in England, says Consul C. McFarland of Nottingham, is the nervous antagonism against foreign goods which has sprung up among the British people. There has been a general prejudice against German goods, but the recent enormous growth of American trade in all branches has forced itself on the attention of British newspapers, manufacturers and the public.

These people are nothing if not loyal, and they inherit the belief that the British trademark is a guaranty of quality for which they have some reason. There is a disinclination to purchase American or German wares, unless by reason of novelty of design or economy the latter appeal is irresistible. The retailer, therefore, is chary in his offerings of foreign lines of goods, and without comment advertises as an American make or "American style." The Diamond Match company parades its goods under the old English name of Bryant & May; the American Tobacco trust calls itself the English Tobacco company and advertises its goods as made in England by British workmen; the proprietary medicines, which were first introduced as American discoveries, now blot from their advertisements everything except method which might identify them as importations from the United States.

The people also nominated H. F. Barnhart for county attorney and elected delegates to the state, congressional, senatorial and representative conventions. A. J. Norton, of Omaha, was nominated for county attorney, but Mr. Barnhart objected, as he said Norton was not a populist. On motion the name of Norton was stricken from the list. Both conventions were simply attended.

The convention of the people's independent party of Antelope county met here yesterday. After appointing delegates to the state, congressional and senatorial conventions the following nominations were made: For representative, J. H. Hatfield; for county attorney, E. D. Kilbourne; for sheriff, WEEPING WATER, Neb., June 22.—(Special.)—The people's independent party of Cass county met here yesterday and organized, with James Clark chairman and A. M. Russell secretary. The following delegates were elected to attend the populist state, congressional and senatorial conventions: H. G. Stephens of Plymouth, who would comprise all varieties of commodities, from street cars from Pittsburgh and Philadelphia apples and beef from Michigan and Chicago. Three American beef companies are located in Plymouth; the sale of our office furniture is constantly growing and American merchants are missing but few opportunities of advancing their sales in southern England. The constant notes, however, of the United States firms trusting too much to their head offices in London. American goods, he says, can always be best sold by Americans and an American traveler will secure twice as many orders as an Englishman in the same district. The simple fact that he is from the United States is a great recommendation. He has the head of a firm when a native of England would fail.

Consul James Boyle of Liverpool reports large increases in the imports of canned fruits from the United States. The packing of green fruit has improved notably to the general satisfaction of the trade in England. Since the process of "chilling" beef has been adopted there is practically no competition from other countries in this trade. Efforts have been made to send chilled beef from Argentina, but they have not been successful, this beef being frozen and not chilled. The constant notes, however, of the United States firms trusting too much to their head offices in London. American goods, he says, can always be best sold by Americans and an American traveler will secure twice as many orders as an Englishman in the same district. The simple fact that he is from the United States is a great recommendation. He has the head of a firm when a native of England would fail.

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