FAILS TO END COAL STRIKE

Conference at White House Comes to Naught After Much Talk.

OPERATORS REMAIN OBDURATE AS EVER

Refuse to Listen to Any Proposition that Contemplates Arbitration and Issue Statements to Public.

(Continued from First Page.)

conference ended. The operators came down stairs and held a brief consultation and then left in their carriages for their train, where they met a number of newspaper men to whom they furnished copies of the statements they had made to the president.

Presidents Are Obdurate.

Stipulating that they should not be quoted they talked quite freely of the conference. Several of them declared that interference of the president has resulted in retarding rather than forwarding the settlement. They asserted that no progress had been made and said they would return to continue the contest. They declared that the situation was most serious as to coal supply, but said that the coal would be furnished to the public and that if given protection they could get men to mine coal to at least 70 per cent of their capacity. They declared there would be no compromise and that the strike would continue until the miners succumb. They asserted their determination to make no concessions further than the offers already made.

During the evening President Mitchell of the Mine Workers' union dictated a formal statement concerning the proceedings of the conference and its results, in which he announced that the strike would continue as a result of the failure of the conference.

Official Account of Day.

At the temporary White House the statement was given out concerning today's coal conference:

The conference opened at 11 o'clock. The operators and representatives of the miners were presented to the president.

The president at the outset expressed his hearty thanks for their attendance and stated that owing to his peculiar relations to the situation, he felt that he should make to them a very careful statement of his position and of his intentions in asking them to meet.

President's Statement.

The president's statement follows:

I wish to call your attention to the fact that there are three parties affected by the situation in the anthracite trade: The operators, the miners and the general public. I speak for neither the operators nor the miners, but for the general public.

The questions at issue which lead to the situation affect immediately the parties concerned--the operators and the miners; but the situation itself vitally affects the public. As long as there seemed to be a reasonable hope that these matters could be adjusted between the operator and labor I did not seem proper for me to intervene in any way.

I disclaim any right or duty to intervene in this way upon legal grounds or upon any official relation that I bear to the situation, but the urgency and the terrible nature of the catastrophe impending over a large portion of our people in the shape of a winter fuel famine impel me, after much anxious thought, to believe that my duty requires me to use whatever influence I personally can to bring to an end a situation which has become intolerable.

I wish to emphasize the character of the situation and say that its gravity is such that I am constrained urgently to insist that each one of you realize the heavy burden of responsibility upon him. We are upon the threshold of winter with an already existing coal famine, the future terrors of which we can hardly yet appreciate. The evil possibilities are so far-reaching, so appalling that it seems to me that you are not only justified in sinking, but required to sink, for the time being, any tenacity as to your respective claims in the question at issue between you.

In my judgment the situation imperatively requires that you meet upon the common plane of the public. With all the earnestness that there is in me, I request that there be an immediate resumption in the coal mines in some way that will, without a day's unnecessary delay, meet the crying needs of the people.

I do not invite a discussion of your respective claims and positions. I appeal to you, patriotism, to the spirit that sinks personal considerations and makes individual sacrifices for the general good.

Offers to Arbitrate.

Upon the completion of the president's remarks, President Mitchell made a statement as follows:

"Mr. President: I am much impressed with what you say; I am much impressed with the gravity of the situation. We feel that we are not responsible for this terrible state of affairs. We are willing to meet the gentlemen representing the coal operators to try to adjust our differences among ourselves. If we cannot adjust them that way, Mr. President, we are willing that you shall name a tribunal who shall determine the issues that have resulted in the strike, and if the gentlemen representing the operators will accept the award or decision of such a tribunal the miners will willingly accept it even if it is against their claims."

The President: "Before considering what ought to be done, I think it only justice to both of you—both sides—and desirable from my standpoint, that you should have time to consider what I have stated as to the reasons for my getting you together and I shall trespass so far on your good nature as to ask that this interview cease now and that you come back at 3 o'clock. I should like you to think over what I have stated, not to decide now, but give it careful thought and return at 3 o'clock.

The conference then adjourned until 3 o'clock.

Afternoon Proceedings.

Upon reassembling, Mr. Baer spoke as follows: "Mr. President, do we understand you correctly, that we will be expected to answer the proposition submitted by Mr. Mitchell this morning?"

The President: "It will be a pleasure to me to hear any answer you are willing to make."

Mr. Baer: "I have prepared an answer."

The statements to the president were made in the following order: President Baer of the Reading railroad, President Mitchell of the Mine Workers, President Thomas of the Erie railroad, Mr. Markle, an independent operator; President Truesdale of the Lackawanna railroad, Mr. Wilcox, vice president and general manager of the Delaware & Hudson railroad and Mr. Fowler of the New York, Ontario & Western railroad.

The following is the text of the several statements:

President Baer's Statement.

Statement of Mr. George F. Baer of the Reading railroad:

To the President of the United States: We understand your anxiety, as forcibly expressed in the statement you read to us this morning, to bring about "an immediate resumption of operations in the coal mines in some such way as will without a day's unnecessary delay meet the crying needs of the people." We infer that you desired us to consider the offer of Mr. Mitchell, verbally made this morning, expressing and speaking for the United Mine Workers, to go back to work, if you would appoint a commission to determine the questions at issue. You distinctly say that you "do not invite a discussion of your respective claims and positions," but we assume that a statement of what is going on in the coal regions will not be irrelevant. We represent the owners of coal mines in Pennsylvania. There are from 15,000 to 20,000 men at work mining and preparing coal. They are abused, assaulted, injured and maltreated by the United Mine Workers. They can only work under the protection of armed guards. Thousands of other workmen are deterred from working by the intimidation, violence and crimes inaugurated by the United Mine Workers, over whom John Mitchell, whom you invited to meet you, is chief. I need not picture the crimes daily committed by the members of this organization.

No Tranquility There.

The "domestic tranquillity" which the constitution declares is the chief object of government does not exist in the coal region. There is a terrible reign of lawlessness and crime there. Only the lives and property of the secret oath-bound order, which declared that locals should have full power to suspend operations at collieries until the nonunion men joined their order, are safe. Every effort is made to prevent the mining of coal, and when mined, Mitchell's men dynamite bridges and tracks, mob trainmen and by all manner of means try to prevent its coming to relieve the public.

The constitution of Pennsylvania guarantees protection to life and property. In no part of our country does it declare the right of acquiring, possessing and defending property to be "inalienable." When riot and anarchy become too great to be appeased by the civil power, the governor of Pennsylvania is bound to call out the state troops to suppress it. He must fearlessly use the whole power of the state to protect life and property and to establish peace—not an armed truce, but the peace of the law which protects every man at work and going to and from work. He has sent troops to the coal regions. Gradually the power of the law is asserting itself. Unless encouraged by false hopes, order will soon be restored, and then we can mine coal to meet the public wants.

Calls for Regular Troops.

If the power of Pennsylvania is insufficient to establish the reign of law, the constitution of the United States requires the president, when requested by the legislature and the governor, to "suppress domestic violence." You see, there is a lawful way to secure coal for the public. The duty of the hour is not to waste time negotiating with the leaders of this anarchy and insolent defiance of law, but to do as was done in the war of the rebellion—restore the majesty of law, the only guardian of a free people, and to re-establish order and peace at any cost.

The government is a contemptible failure if it can only protect the lives and property and secure the comfort of the people by compromising with the violators of law and the instigators of violence and crime. Just now it is of more importance to teach ignorant men dwelling among us, misled and used as tools by citizens of other states, that at whatever cost and inconvenience to the public, Pennsylvania will use the whole power of government to protect not only the man who wants to work, but his wife and children, while he is at work, and to punish every man who by instigation or by overt acts attempts to deprive any man of his liberty to work.

Declines Mitchell's Offer.

Under these conditions we decline to accept Mr. Mitchell's considerate offer to let our men go to work on terms he names. He has no right to come from Illinois to dictate terms on the acceptance of which anarchy and crime shall cease in Pennsylvania. He must stop his people from killing, maiming and abusing Pennsylvania citizens and from destroying property. He must stop it because it is unlawful, and not because of any bargain with us.

We will add to our offer to "continue the wages existing at the time of strike and to take up at each colliery and adjust any grievance." This further condition: If the employers and employes at any particular colliery cannot reach a satisfactory adjustment of alleged grievances it shall be referred to the judges of the court of common pleas of the district in which the colliery is situated for final determination.

GEORGE F. BAER,
President Philadelphia & Reading Coal and Iron Company, Wilkesbarre Coal and Iron Company and Temple Iron Company.

President Mitchell's Statement.

Following is the text of the statement made to the president by John Mitchell, the official representative of the miners' union:

Mr. President: At the conference this morning we, the accredited representatives of the anthracite coal miners, were much impressed with the views you expressed at the dangers to the welfare of our country from a prolongation of the coal strike that you so clearly pointed out. Conscious of the responsibility resting upon us, conscious of our duty to society, conscious of our obligations to the 150,000 mine workers whom we have the honor to represent, we have, after most careful consideration and with the hope of relieving the situation and averting the sufferings and hardship which would inevitably follow in the wake of a coal famine, decided to propose a resumption of coal mining upon the lines hereinafter suggested:

Before doing so, Mr. President, we desire to say that we are not prompted to suggest this course because of any doubts of the justice of our claims. In deferring to your wishes we are prompted by no fear on our part of our ability to continue the contest to a successful issue, thanks to the generous assistance rendered us by our fellow workers in this and other lands, thanks to a justice-loving American public, whose sympathies are always on the side of right, we are able to continue the struggle indefinitely.

Miners Willing to Arbitrate.

Confident of our ability to demonstrate to any impartial tribunal the equity of our demand for higher wages and improved environment, we propose that the issues culminating in this strike shall be referred to you and a tribunal of your own selection and agree to accept your award upon all or any of the questions involved. If you will accept this responsibility and the representatives of the coal operators will signify their willingness to have your decision incorporated in agreement for not less than one year, nor more than five years, as may be mutually determined between themselves and the anthracite coal mine workers, and will pay the scale of wages which you and the tribunal appointed by you shall award, we will immediately call a convention and recommend the immediate resumption of work, with the understanding that the wages to be paid to go into effect from the date work is resumed. Very respectfully yours,

JOHN MITCHELL,
President United Mine Workers of America.

JOHN FAHEY,
THOMAS DUFFY,
D. D. NICHOLS,
District Presidents United Mine Workers of America.

President Thomas' Statement.

Statement of Mr. Thomas, president of the Erie railway:

No one can more fully realize the gravity of the situation or the grave responsibilities resting upon them than men who for months have been seeking to protect their property under their charge, as well as the lives of loyal employes, from the attacks of misguided men incited by people foreign to the state and to the industry we are seeking to defend. We are doing all in our power, and with increasing success, to mine coal. Mr. Mitchell and his lieutenants are doing all in their power to prevent it. We ask that such efforts cease or, failing, that the state of Pennsylvania, and if she is unable, the powers of the United States shall be exerted to afford full protection to employes, not only while at work, but to and from their homes, as well as to their families, and that the reign of terror, riots, intimidation and murder, which for months has prevailed in the anthracite region, shall cease. A record of twenty killed, over forty injured, and with constant and increasing destruction of dwellings, works, machinery and railroads, by mob violence, with no proper enforcement of the law or order by the proper officials, is not the time to act on Mr. Mitchell's suggestion of this morning to arbitrate with men not in our employ. There are over 17,000 loyal employes at work in and around the anthracite mines, and since this conference has been called open threats are current in that region that such men will neither be permitted to work or live in that country. We are contending for the right of the American citizen to work without regard to creed, nationality or association. To seek to prevent this is a crime, and we cannot by implication sanction such a course. We ask the enforcement of law and order in the state, that we be permitted to deal with our employes free from foreign interference, convinced that under such conditions we can fully perform our whole duty to the public, our owners and to our employes. I fully concur in the suggestion of Mr. Baer, which can be pursued in case of failure to agree with our employes, but in many years of such dealing it has never yet been requisite to call in assistance to fairly and satisfactorily deal with our own men.

John Markel's Statement.

Statement of Mr. John Markle, the independent coal mine operator:

I have listened with deep interest to the remarks that you made before us a few minutes after 11 o'clock this morning, and do thoroughly appreciate the seriousness of the situation in the anthracite coal field of Pennsylvania. As you disclaim any right or duty to intervene in your official capacity, I feel at liberty to say that you "do not invite a discussion of your respective claims and positions," but we assume that a statement of what is going on in the coal regions will not be irrelevant. We represent the owners of coal mines in Pennsylvania. There are from 15,000 to 20,000 men at work mining and preparing coal. They are abused, assaulted, injured and maltreated by the United Mine Workers. They can only work under the protection of armed guards. Thousands of other workmen are deterred from working by the intimidation, violence and crimes inaugurated by the United Mine Workers, over whom John Mitchell, whom you invited to meet you, is chief. I need not picture the crimes daily committed by the members of this organization.

No Tranquility There.

The "domestic tranquillity" which the constitution declares is the chief object of government does not exist in the coal region. There is a terrible reign of lawlessness and crime there. Only the lives and property of the secret oath-bound order, which declared that locals should have full power to suspend operations at collieries until the nonunion men joined their order, are safe. Every effort is made to prevent the mining of coal, and when mined, Mitchell's men dynamite bridges and tracks, mob trainmen and by all manner of means try to prevent its coming to relieve the public.

The constitution of Pennsylvania guarantees protection to life and property. In no part of our country does it declare the right of acquiring, possessing and defending property to be "inalienable." When riot and anarchy become too great to be appeased by the civil power, the governor of Pennsylvania is bound to call out the state troops to suppress it. He must fearlessly use the whole power of the state to protect life and property and to establish peace—not an armed truce, but the peace of the law which protects every man at work and going to and from work. He has sent troops to the coal regions. Gradually the power of the law is asserting itself. Unless encouraged by false hopes, order will soon be restored, and then we can mine coal to meet the public wants.

Calls for Regular Troops.

If the power of Pennsylvania is insufficient to establish the reign of law, the constitution of the United States requires the president, when requested by the legislature and the governor, to "suppress domestic violence." You see, there is a lawful way to secure coal for the public. The duty of the hour is not to waste time negotiating with the leaders of this anarchy and insolent defiance of law, but to do as was done in the war of the rebellion—restore the majesty of law, the only guardian of a free people, and to re-establish order and peace at any cost.

The government is a contemptible failure if it can only protect the lives and property and secure the comfort of the people by compromising with the violators of law and the instigators of violence and crime. Just now it is of more importance to teach ignorant men dwelling among us, misled and used as tools by citizens of other states, that at whatever cost and inconvenience to the public, Pennsylvania will use the whole power of government to protect not only the man who wants to work, but his wife and children, while he is at work, and to punish every man who by instigation or by overt acts attempts to deprive any man of his liberty to work.

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Under these conditions we decline to accept Mr. Mitchell's considerate offer to let our men go to work on terms he names. He has no right to come from Illinois to dictate terms on the acceptance of which anarchy and crime shall cease in Pennsylvania. He must stop his people from killing, maiming and abusing Pennsylvania citizens and from destroying property. He must stop it because it is unlawful, and not because of any bargain with us.

We will add to our offer to "continue the wages existing at the time of strike and to take up at each colliery and adjust any grievance." This further condition: If the employers and employes at any particular colliery cannot reach a satisfactory adjustment of alleged grievances it shall be referred to the judges of the court of common pleas of the district in which the colliery is situated for final determination.

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Before doing so, Mr. President, we desire to say that we are not prompted to suggest this course because of any doubts of the justice of our claims. In deferring to your wishes we are prompted by no fear on our part of our ability to continue the contest to a successful issue, thanks to the generous assistance rendered us by our fellow workers in this and other lands, thanks to a justice-loving American public, whose sympathies are always on the side of right, we are able to continue the struggle indefinitely.

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JOHN MITCHELL,
President United Mine Workers of America.

JOHN FAHEY,
THOMAS DUFFY,
D. D. NICHOLS,
District Presidents United Mine Workers of America.

President Truesdale's Statement.

The statement of Mr. W. H. Truesdale, president of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad company:

Mr. President: Representing the interests of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad company, its board of managers and its stockholders, it behoves me to say that, realizing fully the gravity of the situation as stated by you and appreciating the burden of responsibility which this situation imposes upon us, we feel that our duty at this time, having in mind all existing conditions, is so plain and straightforward that we cannot possibly mistake it. As citizens of this country, as trustees of vast and important interests committed to our care by the thousands and tens of thousands of security holders, whose savings or legacies are invested in these properties; as men who have committed to them the interests of thousands of as loyal, truthful and faithful citizens and employes as ever marched to victory in support of right and freedom under the flag of this or any other country, but who with their families are today outcasts, hunted, hounded and driven almost to despair and desperation, simply because they seek to exercise their plain, simple right and duty of working at their chosen vocation, or as in many cases of protecting and saving from destruction by fire, flood or dynamite the properties of other citizens, their employers, who are only endeavoring lawfully and peacefully to maintain possession of, protect and operate their properties. This duty is so unmistakably plain that "he who runs may read."

Must Have the Troops.

It is first and foremost our duty and we take this occasion to state it and press it upon your consideration, and through you upon that of the authorities of the state of Pennsylvania, to insist upon it that the existing conditions of anarchy and lawlessness, of riot and rapine, a condition which has been growing with more or less violence throughout the anthracite regions during the last four months, be immediately and permanently suppressed. That to this end we ask that the entire authority and power of the state of Pennsylvania, civil and military, and, if need be, that of the United States government as well, be exercised forthwith.

Second. We ask that the civil branch of the United States government, taking cognizance and following the decisions of its courts rendered in decisions of cases under similar conditions, at once institute proceedings against the illegal organization known as the United Mine Workers' association, its well known officers, agents and members, to enjoin and restrain permanently it and them from continuing this organization and requiring them to desist immediately from conspiring, conniving, aiding or abetting the outlawry and intolerable conditions in the anthracite regions, for which they, and they alone, are responsible. We are advised by our counsel that such civil action will lie on the part of the United States government, as it is well known that the United States statutes are daily being openly and grossly violated, that previous decisions of the courts fully justify such action being taken at this time and that such remedy can be given effectively and immediately for the existing trouble.

No Faith in Union Men.

We feel it our duty, Mr. President, to at this time urge that the protection of the laws of the United States be forthwith given our property and our employes, as suggested above. Can it be expected that those who are now daily flagrant violators of the law, state and national, who have no respect for person, property, order or good morals, will be subject by the decision of any commission or body of men which has no power or authority to compel compliance therewith. We know they will not be.

Third. Then, Mr. President, there is a great, a pressing duty imposed upon us at this time to the thousands of true loyal citizens of Pennsylvania, who have been lawfully pursuing their various vocations or professions under great difficulties and who with great sacrifice have been abused, vilified, boycotted and in many cases almost ruined because they had the manhood to raise their voices against the illegal acts and violences of this illegal organization and its officers and agents. No step can be taken by us, Mr. President, which can possibly result in placing these good citizens of Pennsylvania at the further mercy of this illegal organization, its officers and members. Think of it, Mr. President! Physicians have been boycotted because they saw fit to minister to the dying child of some poor worker, because he was exercising his God-given right to labor for his family and to provide for the wants of his dying child. Members of the clergy have been treated likewise for performing the offices of the dead to the member of a nonunion worker. The conditions there are simply indescribable and it is hard to believe that they can possibly exist to the extent that they have anywhere in this free country.

Save Future Citizens.

Fourth. Another duty, Mr. President, and we regard it as the most supreme. One-sixth of the membership of this illegal organization is composed of young men and boys between the ages of 14 and 20, the future citizens and lawmakers of the great state of Pennsylvania. These young men and boys during the last few years have had their young, immature minds poisoned with the most dangerous, anarchistic, distorted wicked views and errors concerning the rights of citizenship and property that any one can possibly conceive of; all through the teachings and practice of the officers, organizers and apostles of the United Mine Workers' association. Mr. President, no adjustment of this matter can be thought of which by any reason can result in further strengthening and fixing in the minds of this youthful element in the anthracite coal fields the belief that the teaching of this organization and its officers, with their acts and doings in support thereof, constitute the ethics and objects of American citizenship frequently referred to during the last week in proclamations issued in behalf of this illegal organization. The consequences that may result to the coming generation in the anthracite coal regions as the result of existing conditions there are fraught with the gravest dangers to the stability and perpetuity of this country and its institutions.

Fifth and finally, Mr. President, as a plain citizen of these United States looking at the whole question broadly and with reference to its possible effect on our future welfare and prosperity, I think it my bounden duty to resist and combat with every power and faculty, but physical and mental, the avowed and evident object and purpose of this United Mine Workers' association as exemplified in the anthracite district of Pennsylvania today, and as taught and defended by its officers and other opponents of well known and so-called purposes and principles.

Friend of Organized Labor.

Mr. President, I am no enemy of organized labor when so organized as to promote the real interests of the laboring man and when in accomplishing this lawful and legitimate methods are pursued. I do, however, oppose the United Mine Workers' association because many of its avowed purposes are absolutely at variance with the spirit of our laws and institutions, because its officers and members are not content to be governed by the several laws and like administration of the several other citizens of these United States. As witness, see the conditions today in Pennsylvania, with the Mine Workers' association in full control of the large body of its members, violating every principle of our government and our laws pertaining to the rights of persons and property.

The same condition exists today in Tennessee or Alabama where the members of this organization have but recently gone on a strike. This same condition existed in Kentucky for about two years, where this organization was in control and where its members practiced the same unlawful methods as are being followed in Pennsylvania today. Mr. President, we firmly believe that any adjustment of this matter as has been suggested here today will only result in perpetuating conditions that are utterly abhorrent to any good citizen and most intolerable and damaging to the interests which I represent. We cannot, therefore, concur therein.

Attorney Wilcox's Statement.

Statement of Mr. David Wilcox, vice president and general counsel of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad company:

The United Mine Workers of America is an association composed of a large number of miners and laborers engaged throughout the country in mining anthracite and bituminous coal and employed by the owners of the mines. It has divided the whole country into various districts, each of which is represented by a so-called president and embraces local unions, and it seeks to compel everyone engaged in the industry to join the organization. The affairs of the association are managed by an executive committee having its headquarters at Indianapolis and by conventions called from time to time representing the entire organization. The object and practice of the association are so far as possible to regulate the supply of labor engaged in the occupation of coal mining throughout the country and the terms of employment thereof. It thus consists of one central organization which restrains and controls the production of fuel everywhere throughout the country and monopolizes the labor engaged therein. These are its purposes and results: Its ultimate object is to control the entire fuel supply of the country. At this hearing it is represented by one person while six persons represent but a part of the production of anthracite coal. It is, therefore, the most extensive combination and monopoly which the country has ever known. It habitually enforces its orders and directions by whatever means may be most effectual, including strikes, boycotts, picketing, besetting and the like, not confined to its own members alone, but in which are compelled to join as far as possible all other persons similarly employed. Its violent methods have already received the condemnation of the circuit court of the United States (Reinecke County against Wood, 113 Fed. Rep. 478; United States against Weber, 114 Fed. Rep. 900; United States against Haggerty, 116 Fed Rep. 510).

Orders a Strike.

In accordance with these objects, last May the United Mine Workers ordered a strike in the anthracite coal region, which extended to all the workings therein. Since that time it has been, so far as possible, forcing all persons who are willing to work to cease doing so. Within a few days one or more miners who had returned to work, having been formerly connected with the Mine Workers' association, have been murdered by those acting in sympathy with the strike.

These facts show that the Mine Workers' association is not within the rules regarding ordinary local labor organizations. On the contrary, the association and all of its members constitute a combination or conspiracy, not only at common law, but also in restraint of trade and commerce among the several states, and also an attempt to monopolize the labor necessary in supplying coal found in one state to the market of other states, and thus to monopolize this part of the commerce among the several states. The action had by said United Mine Workers has greatly injured the interstate business originating in the anthracite coal fields. The courts have already many times held that such a combination is unlawful within the act of congress of July 2, 1890, passed for the purpose of preventing restraints of interstate commerce and known as the "Sherman act." (United States against Council, 54 Fed, Rep., 994; 157 Fed, Rep., 85; Thomas against Cincinnati County, 62 Fed. Rep., 802, 803; United States against Agler, 62 Fed. Rep., 824; United States against Elliott, 62 Fed. Rep., 803; 64 Fed. Rep., 27; Arthur against Oakes, 63 Fed. Rep., 310; In re Debs, 64 Fed. Rep., 724; Affd., 158; U. S., 564, 600; United States against Transmissouri Association, 166 United States, 290, 343, 356.)

Judge Jackson's Opinion.

In addition, the circuit court of the United States for the eastern district of Virginia, upon March 25 last, held that this identical United Mine Workers' association was illegal (United States against Weber, 114 Fed. Rep., 950). The case comes clearly within the Debs' case. That was an effort to organize a universal association of railroad employes throughout the whole country, for the purpose of controlling interstate commerce. The government instituted suit by injunction, and when the injunction was disobeyed, enforced the same by the use of the United States army. This quickly disposed of the matter, and the authority of the government was upheld by the courts (In re Debs, 64 Fed. Rep., 724, Affd., 158 U. S., 564, 600). The true course for the national government, therefore, is to proceed in accordance with the precedent in the Debs case. These considerations were called to the attention of the president and the attorney general last June.

The anthracite coal companies are making every effort to mine coal as rapidly as possible. They are obstructed by the failure of the state authorities to fully protect them in their efforts to operate, and by the failure of the national government to enforce the statute under which the Mine Workers' association has been already held to be illegal. As soon as action of that sort is effectively taken there can be no doubt that the supply of coal will be ample. The question at present is merely whether an unlawful association shall be permitted in this country by means which are illegal to decide who shall be allowed to work; what shall be his hours of work and what he shall be paid. This is contrary to the spirit and the letter of our laws. If they are enforced, such an effort will cease at once.

Wants More Protection.

While the United Mine Workers have been endeavoring ever since the strike began to secure the cancellation of contracts, the operators have been actively seeking to increase the same, and are now actually producing about 15 per cent of the normal output. This company now has about 1,000 men engaged in the business. The production has steadily increased and the rate of increase would have been more rapid but for the failure of the state and national governments to protect the life, liberty and property of those desiring to work for the operators, and to protect the operators from the onslaught of this illegal combination in restraint and monopoline the entire fuel supply of the country. If the functions of government in this regard were efficiently discharged, production would be rapid enough to supply all necessities. Grave as are the matters mentioned in the president's memorandum, the questions fundamentally involved are even more serious. They are whether freedom of life and property are to continue in this country, or are to exist merely in accordance with the will of combinations and conspiracies which are prohibited by the constitution and the statutes and the common law, and whether this company's faithful employes are to be delivered to the destruction which surely awaits them in case of the triumph of the Mine Workers' association. This company respectfully and earnestly urges upon the president the use of his lawful powers in the premises, which was made in the Debs case by one of his predecessors and which was sustained by all the courts. If the national government would now enforce the law with equal promptness, the strike would end next week.

Refuses to Arbitrate.

The representative of the United Mine Workers has now stated that its members are willing to return to work, and he has frequently said that he did not demand official recognition for the union, notwithstanding that the Shamokin convention of March last resolved that the employment of nonunion men should be a cause for striking. The condition of returning to work which he makes is that a commission be appointed by the president to investigate existing conditions, and that the Mine Workers and the operators agree to abide by its recommendations. The personnel of such a commission is uncertain; its action would be without authority of law or precedent, and it would be without knowledge of the varying conditions in the different collieries and regions. This company has no power to commit the welfare and existence of the property to such uncertainties. Moreover, as already pointed out, the Mine Workers is an illegal body and has no lawful control over its members. This is shown by the fact that after the settlement of 1900, local strikes were more numerous than ever, and that its representative is now constantly counseling against violence, while, nevertheless, outrages and murders are of constant occurrence. He must, therefore, be powerless or insincere, and any assurances as to the future would be without value.

Willing to Go to Court.

In order, however, that this company may be under no charge of unwillingness to endeavor in good faith to remedy any grievances which may exist upon the part of its employes at its several collieries it is willing that the same shall be ultimately passed upon by the judges of the court of common pleas of the state of Pennsylvania for the district where such collieries are situated. These are the local officers of the law having knowledge of the facts. It is willing, therefore, in case of a resumption of work to add to its notice already posted a provision to that effect, similar to that in Mr. Baer's statement. This would be as follows: "If the employer and the employes at any particular colliery cannot reach a satisfactory adjustment of any alleged grievance it shall be referred to the judges of the court of common pleas of the district in which the colliery is situated for final determination."

Flower is Brief.

Statement of Mr. Thomas R. Flower, president of the New York, Ontario & Western Railroad company:

To the President—I beg leave to state that I fully concur in the statements submitted at this time by the other gentlemen whom you have invited to be present at today's conference. I, however, ask leave to present my views more fully at a later day and hope to have in your hand early next week a statement presenting in some detail the serious situation and conditions prevailing throughout the anthracite coal regions at the present time.

The president then asked Mr. Mitchell if he had anything further to say.

Mitchell's Retort to Charges.

Mr. Mitchell—The charge made by the gentleman that twenty murderers have been committed in the anthracite coal region during the present strike is untrue. If they will name the men and show that they have committed the murders, I will resign my position. That is a fair proposition. Mr. President, that is a fair example of how our organization is maligned. The truth of the matter is there have been seven deaths, unfortunately. No one regrets them more than I do. One of them was committed by the coal and iron police, and no one else has been charged with them. God knows the miners do not escape being charged with everything done there. They speak about burnings. There was a reward offered for burnings. I can bring affidavits of 100 people that the lightning caused one burning that they charged to the United Mine Workers. Mr. President, I have admitted on more than one occasion that there has been some lawlessness, but I will say that a large portion of such lawlessness has been provoked by criminals who have been brought into the region to recruit the coal and iron police. I want to say, Mr. President, that I feel very keenly the attacks made upon me and my people, but I came here with the intention of doing nothing and saying nothing that would affect reconciliation.

No Hope for Arbitration.

The president then asked the presidents of the anthracite companies whether they would accept Mr. Mitchell's proposition. They answered, "No."

In response to a further question from the president they stated that they would have no dealings whatever with Mr. Mitchell looking toward a settlement of the question at issue and that they had no other proposition to make save what was contained in the statement of Mr. Baer, which was in effect that if any man chose to resume work and had a difficulty with his employer both should leave the settlement of the question to the judge of the court of common pleas of the district in which the mine was located.

At about 5 o'clock the conference was brought to a close, without agreement.

Maybury Presses His Plan.

DETROIT, Mich., Oct. 3.—As soon as Mayor Maybury learned this evening that President Roosevelt's conference with the operators and miners had not resulted in a settlement of the anthracite strike, he announced that citizens and common council committees would meet at noon tomorrow to take final action regarding all details for the reception of the 1,000 delegates who are expected here next Thursday to take part in the national conference to devise a way to secure a supply of hard coal. Upon receiving from Secretary Cortelyou tonight a brief message announcing the result of the conference in Washington Mr. Maybury wired the following reply:

"Many thanks for the courtesies extended. We all regret that the kindly intervention of the president was unsuccessful. The conference called to meet at Detroit Thursday, October 9, will surely assemble and we earnestly hope that out of these deliberations may come such results as will stay the calamity which now threatens the comfort, health and even lives of our citizens."

The key to health is in the kidneys and liver. Keep these organs active and you have health, strength and cheerful spirits. Prickly Ash Bitters is a stimulant for the kidneys, regulates the liver, stomach and bowels. A golden household remedy.

TO QUIT WORK ON MONDAY

Labor Trouble in the Alabama Mines to Cause a Suspension Next Week.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Oct. 3.—President Flynn of the United Mine Workers of America, district of Alabama, stated today that he had issued orders for all the miners of the Tennessee Coal, Iron & Railway company at the Blue Creek and Blocton mines to suspend work on Monday next.

About 1,600 men will be involved, which added to those already out in the Pratt mines division, will make the total number of strikers over 4,000. The strike grows out of the refusal of the company to withhold assessments made by the Miners' union for the anthracite strikers from the wages of those miners who object to paying it. President Flynn says all miners who refuse to pay the assessment will be expelled.

Tell This to Your Wife.

Electric Bitters cure female complaints, surely and safely; dispell headaches, backaches, nervousness or no pay. 50c. For sale by Kuhn & Co.

Seasonable Fashions.

4244 Seven Gored Skirt, 22 to 36 waist.

Women's seven gored skirt, 4244; to be made with or without the circular flounce—No skirt suits the stout figure more perfectly than the one cut in seven gores. The seams mean vertical lines that always tend to give a slender effect, and the many gores allow of shaping snugly and smoothly over the hips without the use of darts. This very excellent model has the advantage of giving a choice between the plain finish and a circular flounce at sides and back that gives grace and freedom yet does not detract from the apparent height as the front gore is left plain. As shown the material is fine black cheviot trimmed with bands of moire held by fancy buttons at the front, but all suiting, gown and skirt materials are appropriate.

The skirt is cut in seven gores of full length that are carefully shaped to be snug about the hips and to flare freely at the feet. The flounce extends from the front gore, where it is joined to its edges, and can be either seamed to the lower edges of the side and back gores (the material beneath being cut away on lines indicated in the pattern), or applied over the full length skirt as preferred. The fullness at the back is laid in flat inverted plaits.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 10¾ yards 21 inches wide, 7 yards 32 inches wide, 4¾ yards 44 inches wide or 4¼ yards 52 inches wide when flounce is used, and material cut away underneath 10¾ yards 21 inches, 6½ yards 32 inches, 4⅝ yards 44 inches or 3½ yards 52 inches wide when made plain.

The pattern 4244 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 and 36-inch waist measure.

For the accommodation of The Bee readers, these patterns, which usually retail at from 25 to 50 cents, will be furnished at a nominal price, 10 cents, which covers all expense. In order to get a pattern enclose 10 cents, give number and name of pattern wanted and bust measure.

ACCIDENTAL?

The jury returned a verdict of accidental death on the man who fell from the window ledge on which he had fallen asleep. But the death was really due to carelessness which made the accident possible. There are a great many lives suddenly terminated as a result of carelessness, although the medical certificate may read "heart failure." When a man takes chances with his stomach and neglects the warning symptoms of disease, he is carelessly inviting calamity.

Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. It enables the perfect digestion and assimilation of food, which makes strength. It stimulates the liver, cures biliousness, and removes bilious impurities from the blood.

"I had been troubled with a pain in lower part of my stomach for three years, so severe I thought it would kill me in time," writes Mr. Aaron Van Dam, of (Kensington) 2546 119th St., Chicago, Ill. "I could hardly work; it felt like a big weight hanging on me and got so bad that I had to take medicine. I used Stomach Bitters for a time, but it did no good so I wrote to Dr. R. V. Pierce for advice, which he gave me immediately. I followed his directions; used two bottles of his medicine and was cured. I had a torpid liver which was troubling me instead of cramps (as I thought), so Dr. Pierce told me. I have pleasure in living now; have gained in weight 15 pounds since then."

Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure constipation. They do not beget the pill habit.

The Illustrated Bee

ONLY THE BEST PICTURES that can be obtained of matters that are of interest to the people in The Bee's territory are used in The Illustrated Bee. Each week it is sent out, a bright example of what painstaking care can do in the way of preparing a genuine treat for the public. Each number contains new and timely illustrations of events of current history, made from photographs taken for this paper by its special artists. In the forthcoming number will be found:

Women Golfers of the West.

Photographs taken at the Country Club links during the Transmississippi championship tourney.

Nebraska's Contribution to Brazil.

Splendid picture of Hon. D. E. Thompson, just appointed minister to the great South American republic.

Dramatic Order Knights of Khorassan.

Short sketch of notable secret society, with pictures of leading members.

Queer Things Done in New Zealand

Special article on the features of that far off country, illustrated from photographs.

American Goods in Paris.

Frank G. Carpenter's weekly letter of travel, illustrated from photographs made in Paris.

Tea Gardens and Geisha Girls.

Special article describing one of the features of the Island Empire well known to travelers.

King Ak-Sar-Ben VIII. and Queen.

Splendid pictures of the newly crowned rulers of the Kingdom of Quivera.

In addition