

STATUS OF STRIKE.

Conferences at Wilkesbarre and New York.

A FIGHT TO THE FINISH ASSURED.

Meanwhile Three More Collieries Are Opened, Making Nineteen in All, With a Daily Output of 20,000 Tons.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Sept. 17.—President Gompers of the American Federation of Labor and National President Mitchell and National Treasurer Wilson of the United Mine Workers, together with the district presidents of the same organization in the anthracite region, spent the best part of the day in conference here.

After the meeting none of those who participated was in a communicative mood. President Mitchell said it was the regular monthly meeting of the executive board of United Mine Workers and Mr. Gompers and Mr. Wilson, happening to be coming this way, stopped over.

Mr. Gompers was a little more talkative than the others. When asked what was the object of his visit to strike headquarters, he replied: "I simply came up here to look over the strike situation. I find everything in excellent shape. The strike is being ably conducted, and I learn that there is ample relief for all the strikers."

Mr. Gompers was asked whether the federation will be assessed to support the miners. He said in reply that the trades unions now comprising the federation are making voluntary contributions to help the miners and that if it is necessary to give additional aid it will be done. "But at present," he continued, "the miners are well able to take care of themselves."

Mr. Gompers said the annual convention of the federation would not be called at an earlier date than November to take action on the strike.

NO CONCESSIONS.

Conference of Leading Anthracite Coal Road Presidents.

NEW YORK, Sept. 17.—At a conference of the leading anthracite coal interests held at the Philadelphia and Reading company's offices President Baer of the Reading road, President Truesdale of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, President Fowler of the New York, Ontario and Western, President Walters of the Lehigh Valley, President Olyphant of the Delaware and Hudson, Irving Stearns of Coxe Bros. & Co. and John Markle of B. G. Markle & Co. were present.

The two last named represented the independent operating interests in the hard coal industry. The precise subjects of the conference could not be learned, but it was stated in advance of the meeting that no concessions would be granted and that recent events of a semipolitical character would not be seriously considered.

Following a meeting with J. P. Morgan, John Markle made this statement: "I do not think it necessary to repeat that all talk of concessions on the part of the operators is foolish and certainly without foundation. Our position now is the same as when Mitchell made his original propositions and no different than when the strike began."

"We said then that we would make no concessions, and we repeat it now. There is no reason why this should not be understood. The operators have shown that they mean it, and I repeat it only by way of emphasis."

"There is just one way to end the strike, by the men returning to work, and every day they remain away by giving ear to Mitchell's specious promises will only entail further loss and suffering to them. Conditions are improving daily. More men are returning to work and more coal is being mined."

Three More Collieries Started.

SCRANTON, Pa., Sept. 17.—The Delaware and Hudson company has started up three more collieries, the Coningham, at Wilkesbarre; the Plymouth No. 2 and the Olyphant. This company now has six collieries and three washeries in operation. The Ontario and Western company has resumed operations at the Pine Brook and West Ridge collieries in Scranton and the Johnson No. 1 and No. 2 in Piceburg, just north of the city line. This company now has three mines and three washeries going. Altogether the companies having headquarters here claim to be operating nineteen collieries and twenty-one washeries, with an estimated daily output of 20,000 tons.

Pennsylvania's New Capitol.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Sept. 16.—The state capitol commission has awarded the contract for the new capitol, for which an appropriation of \$4,000,000 was made by the last legislature, to George E. Payne & Co. of Philadelphia. The contract provides that the building shall be constructed of granite, that the dome shall be of the same material and that the structure shall be completed by Jan. 1, 1906.

Secretary Root Returns.

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—Secretary of War Edwin Root returned from his trip to Europe on the steamship Kronland. Mr. Root was unaccompanied by his wife and daughters, who remained on the other side, to return, Mr. Root said, early in October. The secretary left at once for Washington.

Six Thousand People Homeless.

CALCUTTA, Sept. 16.—Twenty-five villages have been swept away and 6,000 persons have been rendered homeless by floods due to the overflowing of rivers in the southern part of the presidency of Bengal. Relief camps for the sufferers have been started.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Notable Events of the Week Briefly and tersely told.

Many English pig iron furnaces are running full time to meet American orders.

The Dutch states general was opened at The Hague by Queen Wilhelmina.

Adjutant General Alexander C. Olyphant of New Jersey has died of paralysis.

Cholera on the transport Sherman caused the death of a sailor. Other enlisted men are afflicted.

United States Senator Thomas H. Bard was reported to be dangerously ill with pneumonia at Los Angeles, Cal.

From 300 to 1,000 Catholic converts are said to have been murdered by Boxers in the Chinese province of Szechuen.

Tuesday, Sept. 16.

Married women have been barred as teachers in public schools at Salt Lake City.

Nine vessels of the French cod fleet foundered in the North sea, and fifty fishermen were drowned.

A band of marauding Yaquis were attacked by Mexican farmers near Tomatal and six of them killed.

Three large steel turret steamships from Glasgow, Scotland, passed up the St. Lawrence river to engage in the grain and ore trade on the lakes.

A treasury warrant for \$39,800 was forwarded to Mrs. Ida S. McKinley, widow of the late president, for salary which would have been due him on July 1, 1902.

Monday, Sept. 15.

Secretary Shaw decided to release \$4,000,000 of United States treasury holdings to relieve the stringency in currency.

The damage to the warship Brooklyn during the recent maneuvers is estimated at \$42,500. She will be laid up for three months.

An English mail train 205 miles from Madras dashed over a bridge which had been undermined by floods. Fifty passengers were drowned.

Unusually cold weather was reported in Kentucky, west Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas, and frosts occurred at several points in the south.

President Diaz has laid the cornerstone of the new general postoffice building. The building is in the new business center of the City of Mexico.

Saturday, Sept. 13.

Charles B. Andrews, former chief justice of Connecticut, died at Litchfield.

A jury at the Old Bailey (London) court acquitted the Prince of Braganza of a criminal charge.

A three-month-old baby, alive and healthy, was found in an ash can by a New York policeman.

Frank Holmes of Birmingham tried to swim the English channel, but abandoned the attempt after being in the water two hours.

Two hundred men and women were thrown out of work by the burning of the Eastlake Woolen company's largest mill at Bridgeport, Conn.

Friday, Sept. 12.

The B. H. Gladding company of Providence, R. I., dry goods, failed; liabilities, \$470,000.

Experts estimated the damage done to the Kent (England) hop growers by a storm of rain and hail at fully \$500,000.

The battleship Wisconsin and the cruiser Cincinnati were ordered to look after American interests on the isthmus of Panama.

Marconi says he has solved the problem of sending wireless messages more than 1,500 miles and predicts that such communication will soon be established between Europe and America.

The Boer generals Botha, De Wet and Delarey, accompanied by Messrs. Wolmarans, Wessels and Reltz, arrived in Amsterdam from The Hague and were given a hearty welcome.

Thursday, Sept. 11.

The cash vault of the Bank of France was robbed of \$44,000 in gold.

A number of cases having strong symptoms of yellow fever have been reported at Paxes Bordel, in Spain.

President Roosevelt has disapproved the findings of the court martial that tried Captain James A. Ryan at Manila.

The viceroys of the Kwangtung and Kwangsi provinces of China have been driven from office by hostility of the palace eunuchs.

Major William D. Wilkins, a well known accountant of Pittsburgh, was shot and almost instantly killed while trying to wrest a revolver from his wife.

Martial Law Repealed.

CAPE TOWN, Sept. 17.—Sir John Gordon Sprigg, prime minister of Cape Colony, has announced before the house of assembly and in the government Gazette the repeal of the martial law and the proclamation of the peace preservation act, which enables the government to control the possession, importation and registration of all arms and ammunition.

Big Money For Hereford Bull.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Sept. 17.—At the stockyards here Clean Graves, the owner of the Bunker Hill farm, sold the Hereford bull Crusader for \$10,000. Edward F. Hawkins of Earl Park, Ind., was the purchaser.

British Debt Increased.

LONDON, Sept. 17.—A return of the national debt shows that the gross liabilities March 31 were \$3,842,216,030, an increase of \$313,597,540, due to the South African war.

Cold Wave Caused Damage.

SARATOGA, N. Y., Sept. 16.—The cold wave has badly damaged the northern New York corn and buckwheat crops. The aggregate losses will be heavy.

HENDERSON IS OUT.

Speaker Withdraws From Congressional Contest.

AT VARIANCE WITH HIS PARTY.

Third Iowa District's Candidate Retains His Belief in Protection and Does Not Think Reduction to Curb Trusts the Proper Thing.

DUBUQUE, Ia., Sept. 17.—Speaker Henderson has announced his withdrawal from the congressional fight after a conference of several hours' duration with Chairman Glasser of the congressional committee and friends. Mr. Henderson has been contemplating this action for two weeks, but had intimated nothing of it to his friends until Monday. At the conference his friends implored him not to take the action, but to no avail. He said he had made up his mind and no argument could cause him to change his decision. When asked for his reasons for his withdrawal, Speaker Henderson said: "My letter to Chairman Albrook is the whole thing in a nutshell. You cannot kill the trusts by applying free trade without killing our own industries. The foreign trusts are fighting



SPEAKER D. B. HENDERSON.

the American trusts, and I don't believe that for the purpose of controlling American trusts we should make a market for foreign trusts, thereby crushing out the industries of this country. After my conference last Saturday at Waterloo and hearing the views of the chairman of my district I concluded that my views on the tariff question were at variance with those of many of my party, and I did not desire to appear in a false position."

Speaker Henderson gave out an address last evening which states his views on the tariff and trust questions, and because these views, in his opinion, are not in accord with the state platform and with the opinions of prominent members of his party he declines to accept the nomination. The address is to the Republican voters of the Third Iowa district. He says, being a Republican, he is a protectionist, and if he ever entertained a doubt as to the wisdom of a protective policy a hasty comparison between the present and the past would blot out such doubt. He then speaks with satisfaction of the tariff planks of the last two national platforms.

Went 11,000 Miles to Wed.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., Sept. 13.—A cable from Kimberley, South Africa, announced the wedding there of Miss Nellie Pruner, who had traveled 11,000 miles to become a bride. Miss Pruner was engaged to Alexander Brigham, a civil engineer for the Beers Diamond Mining company, who found when the Boer war ended that he could not come to this country and that he would have to postpone his wedding unless Miss Pruner could go to him. She traveled the 11,000 miles alone.

Morgan Buys Steamers.

LONDON, Sept. 16.—A dispatch received by a news agency from Liverpool says J. Pierpont Morgan has purchased from J. R. Ellerman, chairman of the Leyland line of steamers, five vessels engaged in trade between Antwerp and Montreal. It is understood, the dispatch says, that the vessels acquired by Mr. Morgan will be managed by the Leyland line.

Sight Restored After Six Years.

TRENTON, N. J., Sept. 15.—After being sightless for six years Mrs. Julia Marowski of 12 Turpin street recovered the power of vision Saturday and for a few moments gazed upon the faces of her husband and six children. The children had outgrown her memory. The youngest she had never seen. The little one was born after she had been stricken blind.

Peary Homeward Bound.

NEW YORK, Sept. 16.—Herbert L. Bridgman, secretary of the Peary Arctic club, has received a dispatch from Lieutenant R. E. Peary, the arctic explorer, dated Chateau Bay, Labrador. Lieutenant Peary says in the dispatch that he is on his way home on the relief ship Windward and that all on board are well.

Freezing Weather.

HOOSICK FALLS, N. Y., Sept. 17.—There has been a fall in the temperature here, the mercury reaching the freezing point. This followed a severe frost on Monday night, and corn and other field products suffered heavily.

Restoration of Manchuria.

LONDON, Sept. 17.—A dispatch to a news agency from Peking says the restoration to the Chinese of the southern province of Manchuria and the Newchwang railroad will occur Oct. 8.

A SCENE OF DEVASTATION.

Devastation by Forest Fires Worse Than at First Reported.

VANCOUVER, Wash., Sept. 16.—Reports of loss of property from forest fires continue to come in on every hand, but no reliable estimate of the extent of the damage can be obtained. A report from the Dale settlement east of Bell's mountain is to the effect that nearly every settler in that section has been driven from home and his property consumed by the great wall of fire that swept through there.

A Washington report says that the loss of property in that section is worse than was at first thought. The entire surrounding country, including the Skamaka, Last Chance, Latton and the Bird mines, is a smoking ruin, and many people are homeless. Latton's sawmill at Bear prairie was destroyed, and two other mills back of Fern prairie are also in ashes.

Mayor Eastham of Vancouver has issued a call for a mass meeting of citizens today to devise ways and means to succor the suffering inhabitants of the burned districts of Clark county.

A special from Kalama, where great loss of life from forest fires were reported Saturday and Sunday, says: "News from the fire on Lewis river confirms the report of Saturday night and adds to the losses. The fallen timber has blocked the only road leading up the river, so that the work of the rescuers is slow. A party of ten persons with a team was known to be camping in the timbers. The charred remains of the horses and the wagon were found, but no trace of the people can be discovered."

One Hundred Families Burned Out.

ELMA, Wash., Sept. 16.—Fully 100 families have been burned out in this vicinity. The total loss is estimated at \$200,000.

DEATH OF JUSTICE GRAY.

Appointed to Supreme Court Bench by President Arthur.

LYNN, Mass., Sept. 16.—Justice Horace Gray, who retired from the United States supreme bench recently, is dead at his residence in Nahant of paralysis. He had been in poor health for some time. Since his retirement he had been staying at his summer home.

Judge Gray was born in Boston March 24, 1828, and was graduated from Harvard college in the class of 1843 and from the law school in 1849. He was admitted to the bar in 1851. He was reporter of the supreme judicial court of Massachusetts from 1854 until 1861. He was appointed associate justice of that court in 1864 and chief justice in 1873. President Arthur commissioned him as associate justice of the supreme court of the United States Dec. 19, 1881.

In 1880 Justice Gray married Jennette, daughter of the late Associate Justice Stanley Matthews, who survives him.

Miraculous Cure of Cancer.

LONDON, Sept. 13.—The Daily Chronicle says that a Mrs. Notterman has returned to her home in London from a pilgrimage to Lourdes, France. Where, to all appearances, she was miraculously cured of an internal cancerous tumor. Mrs. Notterman was unavailingly treated for cancer before going to France by experts in the London hospitals. On entering the waters at Lourdes she experienced a fainting sensation, accompanied by pain. In a few minutes this passed away and with it the swelling of the tumor. Both at Lourdes and since her return to London Mrs. Notterman has been examined by doctors who pronounce her absolutely cured. She attributes her cure to the agency of the blessed Virgin. Her case created a great sensation among the English pilgrims.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Closing Stock Quotations.

Money on call strong at 10 1/2 per cent. Prime mercantile paper, 6 1/2 to 7 per cent. Sterling exchange steady, with actual business in bankers' bills at 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 for demand and at 4 1/2 to 4 3/4 for 60 days. Posted rates, 4 1/2 to 4 3/4. Commercial bills, 4 1/2 to 4 3/4. Bar silver, 51 1/2. Mexican dollars, 40 1/2. Government bonds steady. State bonds inactive. Railroad bonds irregular. Closing prices: Atchafalpa, 107 1/2; Pacific Mail, 45 1/2; C. C. & St. L., 104 1/2; People's Gas, 107; Ches. & Ohio, 55 1/2; Reading, 23 1/2; Erie, 40 1/2; Rock Island, 35 1/2; Gen. Electric, 112; St. Paul, 119; Lead, 21 1/2; Sugar Refinery, 120 1/2; Louis. & Nash, 125 1/2; Texas Pacific, 52 1/2; Manhattan Consol, Union Pacific, 110 1/2; Missouri Pac., 121 1/2; Wash. pref., 53; N. Y. Central, 103 1/2; West. Union, 103 1/2; Ontario & West, 35 1/2.

New York Markets.

WHEAT—Firm and fairly steady; Minnesota patents, 2 1/2 to 2 3/4; winter straights, 2 1/2 to 2 3/4; winter extras, 2 1/2 to 2 3/4; winter patents, 2 1/2 to 2 3/4. WHEAT—Firm from the start, selling up on prospects for rain in the northwest. Foreign buying and light offerings; December, 75 1/2 to 76 1/4; May, 74 1/2 to 75 1/4. RYE—Steady; state, 50 1/2 to 51 1/4; New York, No. 2 western, 50c; l. o. b., about No. 2, 50 1/2 to 51 1/4. CORN—Opened easy under large Chicago receipts and favorable weather, but eventually turned strong with wheat; December, 60 1/2 to 61 1/4; January, 48 1/2 to 49 1/4. OATS—Quiet, but steady; track, white, state, 34 1/2 to 35 1/4; track, white, western, 34 1/2 to 35 1/4. PORK—Firm; mess, 23 1/2 to 24 1/4; family, 23 1/2 to 24 1/4. LARD—Quiet; prime western steam, 11c; BUTTER—Steady; state dairy, 19 1/2 to 20c; extra creamery, 20c. CHEESE—Firm; new, state, full cream, small, colored, fancy, 19 1/2 to 20c; small, white, 10 1/2 to 11c; large, colored, 19 1/2 to 20c; large, white, 19 1/2 to 20c. EGGS—Steady to firm; state and Pennsylvania, 24 1/2 to 25c; western, candied, 19 1/2 to 20c. SUGAR—Raw steady; fair refining, 3c; centrifugal, 36 test, 3 1/2 to 3 3/4; refined steady; crushed, 5 1/2 to 6c; powdered, 4 1/2 to 5c. TURPENTINE—Firm at 48 1/2 to 49c. MOLASSES—Firm; New Orleans, 20 1/2 to 21c. RICE—Firm; domestic, 4 1/2 to 5c; Japan, 4 1/2 to 5c. TALLOW—Dull; city, 5 1/2 to 5 3/4; country, 5 1/2 to 5 3/4. HAY—Steady; shipping, 5 1/2 to 5 3/4; good to choice, 9 1/2 to 10 1/4.

Live Stock Market.

CATTLE—Market steady; choice, 7 1/2 to 7 3/4; prime, 6 1/2 to 6 3/4; good, 5 1/2 to 6 1/4; local calves, 5 1/2 to 6 1/4. HOGS—Market slow; prime heavies, 35.00 to 36.00; mediums, 34.00 to 35.00; heavy Yorkers, 37.00 to 38.00; light Yorkers, 37.00 to 38.00; pigs, 37.00 to 38.00. SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market steady; best wethers, 4 1/2 to 5 1/4; culls and common, 3 1/2 to 4 1/4; choice lambs, 4 1/2 to 5 1/4.

SOFT COAL AS FUEL.

Valuable And Timely Emergency Hints For Housekeepers.

The furnaces and ranges designed for anthracite will burn any grade of bituminous coal which reaches this market, says the New York Times. If intended for that fuel they would have been made somewhat different as to their draught openings, fire pot linings, and smoke exits, but the difference is not so great that as an emergency fuel for two or three months or longer if necessary, the New York householder cannot do very well with soft coal as a domestic fuel in both cooking and heating. There are reasons, perhaps, why the coal dealers have not made this fact more generally known; but fact it is, and the prudent householder may find specific information on this point useful.

Soft coal in a range or cook stove will meet all the requirements of domestic use if ordinary intelligence is displayed in the management of the fire. The same is true of hot-air furnaces. With the low-pressure boilers used for steam heating some what more trouble may be expected, but this is largely a question of the type. Even in such devices soft coal can be burned without an amount of inconvenience comparable to that of an uncomfortably low house temperature. Probably the greatest difficulty will be that experienced in changing the habits of servants who have never known any fuel except anthracite. Care must also be taken in keeping oven temperature uniform. Soft coal ignites very quickly, dies down with equal facility, and needs constant watching and frequent replenishing to maintain even a measurably constant fire. In these respects it more resembles wood than anthracite, but it burns very nearly as well in an anthracite range as in one built for a market where only soft coal is used for a domestic fuel.

In an anthracite heating furnace soft coal needs to be treated very differently from anthracite, but the difference consists in the management of draughts and checks. In the feed door of every furnace there is a slide damper to admit air over the fire. When anthracite is used this is opened only if it is desired to deaden the fire and lower the temperature of the house. With soft coal it must be left open all the time. The great volume of gases involved from it in the cooking process, which is the first stage of its combustion, calls for more air than can be had through the body of the fuel, and unless this is supplied above the fire the greatest value of the fuel is lost up the chimney in unconsumed gases. Too much air for good combustion can be admitted over the fire, but this is not likely to be the case if the slide damper in the feed door of a furnace built for anthracite is left wide open all the time. The draught opening in the ash pit door, on the other hand, needs to be less widely and continuously open than for anthracite. With the same amount of bottom draught in the smoke pipe, with which hard coal, soft coal would simulate the combustion in a blast furnace and call for constant stoking. The householder must also remember that the check draught in the smoke pipe, which with anthracite is usually kept open in moderate weather,

er, cannot be opened much, if any, with soft coal, or the house will fill with smoke. The best way is to leave it closed altogether. With attention to these details, which reverse the customary practice with anthracite, a furnace may be run on bituminous coal so as to keep a house entirely comfortable.

It will be found difficult if not impossible, to keep either a range or furnace fire over night with soft coal unless one has a watchman on duty to look after it. As an offset to this, however, we have the ease with which a fresh fire of soft coal may be lighted and its almost instantaneous response in heat imparting efficiency. It kindles nearly as easily as shavings, and the coke of the previous fire does not have to be removed from the fire pot. All that is necessary is to shake down the fine ash and make the new fire upon what remains. With a little judgment, one having a small supply of anthracite available may run his furnace through the day and evening with soft coal, and by adding anthracite at night have a fire in the morning. But with no anthracite at all he can, with a little more trouble than he is accustomed to, keep his house comfortable with soft coal. Within the next thirty days these facts may be of great practical interest to the householder. Most of the rumors of strike settlement now in circulation have their origin in schemes of political advantage, and whatever the result, anthracite is likely to be costly and hard to get except in a small way for some months to come. It is very certain our people need not go hungry or cold, and equally certain they will not.

Potato Crop is Blighted.

Assistant John F. Stone, of the Cornell, N. Y., experiment station, reported on Friday that the farmers of New York state will lose one half of the potato crop as the result of blight. The blight is described as a fungus disease, and it is attributed to the constant wet weather.

If the plants had been sprayed with a solution of copper sulphate, the crop might have been saved, but now that the blight has fully taken hold there is no hope. The blight is said to be sweeping in a northerly and westerly direction, and is bound to do great damage.

THE MARKETS.

Table with columns for BLOOMSBURG MARKETS, CORRECTED WEEKLY, and RETAIL PRICES. Lists various commodities like Butter, Eggs, Lard, etc. with their respective prices.

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