

BEFORE COAL COURT

Twenty-two Witnesses Testify in Philadelphia.

MITCHELL AS CROSS EXAMINER.

Men Who Remained at Work During the Strike Tell of Sufferings and Persecution—Scranton Sheriff on the Stand.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 7.—Twenty-two men, all but one of whom were employed in and about the coal mines, appeared before the anthracite coal strike commission at its first session in this city and recited the oft told tales of persecution they and others underwent during the late coal strike because they chose to work rather than join the strikers.

The sheriff in direct examination said among other things that he issued a proclamation shortly after the strike was inaugurated calling upon all persons in the county to keep the peace; that it was difficult to get men to act as deputy sheriffs; that in most cases where there was trouble it was usually over when he or his men arrived; that he attempted to keep the peace in all localities and that the disturbances became so numerous and serious that he had to call on the governor for troops.

In answer to the questions of the mine workers' leader the Lackawanna county sheriff said he had employed about forty or fifty deputy sheriffs and admitted that they were paid by the coal companies. Led by Mr. Mitchell, he said he could not say that a general state of lawlessness existed in the county, but in answer to another query said there was a reign of terror in existence in some localities.

Among other things he said that as a rule crowds dispersed when he ordered them so to do and that striking mine workers whom he knew obeyed his orders the same as other persons. He also admitted that the second contingent of troops sent into his county was ordered there without his request.

This appeared to satisfy President Mitchell, and General Wilson took the witness in hand and asked him why the county did not pay the deputy sheriffs. The sheriff replied that the companies had made the request for protection and counsel for the witness explained that it was the law of Pennsylvania that the company asking for protection should pay for it.

The government's monthly debt statement showed a decrease for the month of \$10,932,902. General Francis V. Greene assumed command of the New York police force. Several important changes were made. H. M. Pope, the crack rifle shot of Springfield, Mass., broke the 50 and 100 shot world's records on the standard American target 200 yards offhand.

THE PLAGUE IN MEXICO.

Disease Afflicting Masatlan Grows More Virulent.

MAZATLAN, Mexico, Jan. 2.—There is no longer the slightest doubt that the disease now afflicting this city is genuine Asiatic plague, for microscopic investigation proves that bacillus pest bacilli are in the blood of those afflicted with the disease.

The plague has grown virulent within the last forty-eight hours, and the alarm, which had begun in some measure to abate, has returned with increased strength. The people are fleeing from the city at the rate of 300 per day, and some 5,000 persons have gone already.

It is a remarkable fact that more than 50 per cent of the persons attacked are women.

Steel Trust's Earnings.

NEW YORK, Jan. 7.—The quarterly meeting of the directors of the United States Steel corporation was held at the offices, 71 Broadway, and the regular dividends on common and preferred stocks were declared. The earnings for the last quarter of 1902 were said to be \$31,339,813 as against \$29,759,912 for the corresponding quarter in 1901.

Corbett to Meet Jeffries.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 7.—James J. Jeffries, champion heavyweight of the world, and James J. Corbett, ex-champion, are practically matched to meet in another battle for the title. The Hayes Valley Athletic club of San Francisco has offered a purse of \$20,000 to bring the two men together, and Corbett has stated that he would accept the offer. It now only remains for Jeffries to signify his willingness—something which under the conditions he can hardly refuse to do.

CONDENSED DISPATCHES.

Notable Events of the Week Briefly and tersely told.

Four were killed and several hurt in a Chicago hotel fire. Estate of Charles L. Fair has been valued by California appraisers at \$3,340,187. Great Northern railroad succeeded in raising blockade in Washington caused by floods.

Troops of the sultan of Morocco were reported to have been again defeated by those of the pretender. Christmas decorations in Chapel Royal, St. James' palace, London, took fire and caused alarm. Slight damage was done.

In his annual message Gov. Stone of Pennsylvania, in view of anthracite strike, recommended a compulsory arbitration law.

Tuesday, Jan. 6. Mrs. Mary Morgan, 105 years old, died in Dubuque, Ia.

One was killed and ten injured in a burning lodging house in Denver. Prince Pao Lun, the emperor's nephew, has been appointed Chinese delegate to the St. Louis fair.

Deputy sheriffs surrounded Indianola, Miss., the town where the postoffice was closed because of the boycott of the colored postmistress.

J. H. Williams, a stable boy, and twenty-three horses have been burned to death at Dallas, Tex., in the plant of Hughes Bros.' Extract company.

One hundred thousand fishermen and women in Finistere, France, engaged in the sardine industry are out of work, lacking food and suffering dire hardships.

Monday, Jan. 5. The disturbances in the interior of China were reported to be spreading. Senatorial elections in thirty-five departments in France resulted in gains for the ministerial party.

Four miners were fatally hurt and many others badly burned and cut by an explosion in a coal mine at Auburn, Ill.

Five masked men robbed the First National bank of Abingdon, Ill., of \$1,800 after having bound and gagged the watchman.

Thirteen children in and around Norfolk, Va., have died and seven others have been injured by the premature explosion of toy pistols.

Great Britain and Germany decided to enforce the blockade of Venezuelan ports precisely as though there were no negotiations for arbitration.

Saturday, Jan. 3. English bankers cleared \$50,143,710, 000 in 1902, breaking the record. The Pressed Steel Car company announced a profit sharing plan to its employees.

Brown, Shipley & Co., American bankers in London, have been robbed of \$75,000 by an employee. Three were killed and a dozen injured by explosion of dynamite in Oak Hill colliery, near Minersville, Pa.

Sharp fighting was reported between Bulgarians and Turkish troops at Village Drenovo. Both sides suffered severely.

Edgern R. Hogle, general superintendent of the United States Express company, died on surgeons' operating table at Cleveland.

Friday, Jan. 2. Lord Curzon proclaimed Edward VII. emperor of India at the great durbar in Delhi.

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Thursday, Jan. 1. The courthouse at Marshall, Clarke county, Ill., was burned. The loss is \$50,000. Columbia won the eleventh college chess tournament with Yale, Harvard and Princeton.

Andrew Carnegie gave New Orleans a New Year's gift of \$250,000 for library purposes. The carriage and wagon workers at Amesbury, Mass., struck for a nine hour day and 12 per cent advance in wages.

HEAR HOAR AND VEST

Senators Listen to Two Notable Speeches.

TRUSTS AND PROTECTION ATTACKED

Senior Member From Massachusetts Argues For His Antitrust Bill. Missouriian Favors Free Coal. House Passes Staff Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 7.—The day in the senate was eventful because of a notable speech by Senator Hoar on his bill regulating trusts and an attack by Senator Vest on protected industries through the operation of the Dingley law. Senator Hoar's utterances were listened to with marked attention.

He said that nearly all thoughtful men in this country are agreed that some legislation, state or national, ought to be had for the regulation and control of what are called trusts and of large masses of capital accumulated by corporations or artificial persons holding property and conducting business without individual liability. There was, he said, a general feeling of insecurity and alarm about the matter, and we were dealing with a real peril and not with a fancied or imaginary danger.

Senator Vest used as a text for his remarks his resolution introduced Monday instructing the committee on finance to prepare and report a bill removing the duty on coal. Feeble in the extreme and supporting himself on his desk, he called attention to the condition of distress which had arisen as a result of the shortage in the coal supply.

There was breathless silence in the chamber as he spoke, and every senator on the floor turned in his direction in order to catch his words. He said that the question was no longer a partisan one, but one of humanity, and that we are not on the verge of a crisis, but actually in it. He charged the Republican senators with being silent and dumb to the state of affairs, having only in mind the party cry, "Stand pat."

He characterized the Dingley tariff act as a "sacred elephant," with which nothing was to be done. He sarcastically remarked that if the whole question was one of raising money for the next presidential campaign that was the end of the discussion.

At 4:30 the senate adjourned after a brief executive session. The house passed the bill for the creation of a general staff for the army by a vote of 153 to 52. By the terms of the bill it becomes the duty of the general staff to prepare plans for the national defense and for the mobilization of the army in time of war, to investigate and report on all questions affecting the efficiency of the service and to render professional aid to the secretary of war and to general officers and other superior commanders.

The general staff corps is to consist of one chief of staff and two general officers, all to be detailed by the president from officers of the army at large not below the grade of brigadier general; four colonels, six lieutenant colonels and twelve majors, twenty captains to be detailed from officers of the grade of captain or first lieutenant, who while so serving shall have the rank, pay and allowances of captains mounted.

A number of bills of a minor character were passed, the most important being one to increase the pension of soldiers totally deaf from \$30 to \$40 per month. Gave Birth to Quadruplets.

TOLEDO, O., Jan. 6.—Mrs. Stanislas Spighalski, a Polish woman at Air Line Junction, this city, gave birth to four children Saturday night and Sunday morning, two girls and two boys. The girls, weighing three and six pounds respectively, were named Helen and Dorothy. The boys, weighing five pounds each, were named Sam Jones and Theodore Roosevelt. Mrs. Spighalski has a boy 9 months and 16 days old. She gave birth six years ago to twins and three years ago to triplets. The mother is but twenty-two years of age.

The December Balance Sheet. WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—The monthly comparative statement of the government receipts and expenditures shows that for the month of December, 1902, the total receipts were \$47,151,299 and the expenditures \$36,533,744, leaving a surplus for the month of \$10,617,555. The receipts for the month are about \$100,000 in excess of those for December, 1901, and the expenditures \$785,000 less than for that month.

Year's Production of Precious Metals. WASHINGTON, Jan. 6.—George E. Roberts, the director of the mint, has just issued his preliminary estimate of the production of gold and silver in the United States during the calendar year 1902. The total production of gold was \$80,853,070, an increase for the year of \$2,186,370. The production of silver amounted to \$31,040,025, a net increase of \$3,352,084.

Killed by Good Luck. ROUBOIX, S. D., Jan. 7.—David Thompson, one of the best known prospectors in the Black Hills, over which country he had hunted gold for seventeen years, struck a ledge of great richness and after ten minutes of demonstrations of delight fell dead.

SAGASTA DIES IN MADRID.

Former Premier of Spain Yields to a Complication of Diseases.

MADRID, Jan. 6.—Former Premier Sagasta died at half past 6 o'clock last evening. The news of Senor Sagasta's death created a painful impression throughout Madrid. King Alfonso displayed profound regret when he heard of the former premier's death.

The cause of Sagasta's death was bronchitis complicated by gastric complaints and fever. Senor Sagasta was born in 1827. Of all Spanish statesmen of recent times Senor Praxexes Mateo Sagasta



SENOR SAGASTA. Will be known as the most diplomat and the least revengeful. By early training he was an engineer, by profession a journalist and politician and by a strange combination of circumstances a statesman, in which capacity he led Spain through one of the most hazardous periods of her career.

REPUBLICANS REVOLT.

Brackett, Brown and Eisberg Absent From Senatorial Caucus.

ALBANY, N. Y., Jan. 7.—With the exceptions of Senator Brackett of Saratoga, Senator Brown of Jefferson and Senator Eisberg of New York city all the Republican senators, numbering twenty-five, were present at the caucus of Republican senators held last night in the senate chamber. While the air was rife with rumors there was nothing on the surface to indicate any considerable friction. Senator G. A. Davis of Buffalo, who was chairman of the caucus, smilingly declared after the adjournment, "Why, I wasn't aware that there were any absentees from our caucus."

The business of the caucus was quickly transacted. Senator Davis of Erie was chairman and Senator Armstrong of Rochester secretary. Senator Malby nominated Senator Raines as the choice of the Republican senators for president pro tem. of the senate, eulogizing his ability and eloquence as a legislator and debater. Senator Marshall of Brooklyn seconded the nomination. The announcement of his selection was received with applause. Senator Raines then addressed the caucus, thanking the senators for the confidence they had in him in selecting him for president pro tem. He did not refer to the absentees. In fact there was no mention made of them at the caucus. These selections were then made:

For clerk of the senate, James S. Whipple of Salamanca; for sergeant-at-arms, Charles R. Hotelling of Albany; for assistant sergeant-at-arms, W. W. Adams of Hornellsville; for stenographer, A. B. Sackett of Canandaigua; for principal doorkeeper, J. E. Gorss of Tonawanda; for first assistant doorkeeper, Charles H. Bernard of Broome.

After the caucus Senator Brackett of Saratoga was asked why he had absented himself from the Republican senatorial caucus. "Because," replied Senator Brackett, "I have not revised my opinion of Senator Raines, who I believe is an unfit person for leader."

"Does the revolt of yourself, Senator Brown and Senator Eisberg against the leadership of Senator Raines apply also to the re-election of Senator Platt?" "I believe it does," replied Senator Brackett. "Does it mean that you will not vote for Senator Platt?"

"Yes, and I believe my conferees, Senator Brown and Senator Eisberg, will also vote against Senator Platt." Senators Brown and Eisberg refused to discuss the matter. Prior to the caucus the three senators conferred with Governor Odell, who subsequently said that he had endeavored to dissuade the senators from their purpose.

Many Farmers' Sons at Cornell. ITHACA, N. Y., Jan. 7.—Work in all of Cornell's departments has been resumed after the Christmas recess. The registration in the winter courses in agricultural and dairy husbandry, which comprises an eleven weeks' term for the benefit of farmers' sons of New York state, is the largest in the history of Cornell, 117 students being registered.

Buffalo Department Store Burned. BUFFALO, Jan. 7.—The entire stock of Knowles & Gardiner's department store was destroyed by fire last night, and the building, a five story brick, extending from 563 to 565 Main street through the block to Washington street, was badly damaged. The walls and steel framework of the structure are still intact. The loss is estimated at \$150,000.

Eight Lives Lost in Wreck. PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Jan. 7.—News has reached here of the wreck of the Norwegian bark Prince Albert off the coast of Washington on Jan. 2. Eight lives were lost and two saved.

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THE MARKETS. BLOOMSBURG MARKETS. CORRECTED WEEKLY. RETAIL PRICES. Butter, per pound..... 28. Egg, per dozen..... 30. Lard, per pound..... 15. Ham, per pound..... 14 to 16. Beef (quarter), per pound..... 6 to 8. Wheat, per bushel..... 1 00. Oats, do..... 40. Rye, do..... 60. Flour per bbl..... 4.09 to 4.40. Hay, per ton..... 15 00. Potatoes, (new), per bushel..... 75. Turnips, do..... 40. Tallow, per pound..... 06. Shoulder, do..... 12. Bacon, do..... 18. Vinegar, per qt..... 05. Dried apples, per pound..... 05. Cow hides, do..... 31. Steer do..... 05. Calf skin do..... 80. Sheep pelts..... 75. Shelled corn, per bushel..... 80. Corn meal, cwt..... 2 00. Bran, cwt..... 1 20. Chop, cwt..... 1 50. Middlings, cwt..... 1 40. Chickens, per pound, new..... 10. do do old..... 10. Turkeys do..... 15. Geese, do..... 10. Ducks, do..... 11. COAL. Number 6, delivered..... 3 50. do 4 and 5 delivered..... 4 45. do 6, at yard..... 3 10. do 4 and 5, at yard..... 4 25.