

# PLUMMER AGAINST LABOR

## Miners' Legislative Committee Convicts Him of Duplicity.

### He Deliberately Blocked Legislation Favorable to Workingmen, Repeatedly Violated His Pledges, and His Friends Boisterously Applauded the Epithet, "The Miners Be Damned."

The official report of the legislative committee of the United Mine Workers for the Second District of this state covering the session of the legislature of 1905, would make exceedingly interesting as well as peculiarly appropriate campaign literature at this time. At a convention for the district held in Altoona in 1904 certain legislation of interest and advantage to miners was outlined and endorsed. A committee consisting of Edward Fisher, James Hamilton and George B. Parks was named by the convention to present the proposed legislation and urge its favorable consideration. The report in question is the official account of their labors, experiences and operations in Harrisburg.

The proposed legislation consisted of three measures, the hope of the passage of which has long been cherished by the miners not only of that district but in all parts of the state. They were respectively an employers' liability bill, a bill providing for the examination of mine superintendents, foremen and miners, and a bill for the appointment of a commission to revise the mining laws generally. The miners had been promised all these measures and the committee of the Second District entered upon their duties serenely confident of success. They knew exactly what they wanted, precisely how to convey their thoughts to others and had the industry and persistence necessary to achieve results.

**Failure of Fond Expectations.**  
But the gentlemen of the committee soon realized that their fond expectations were destined to be disappointed. The machine managers sitting in the seclusion of the Boas mansion were serving the corporations rather than the people and promptly issued orders for the defeat of all the bills. They were not to be executed in a brutal manner, it is true. On the contrary, the greatest delicacy was to be exercised in the operation and the influential gentlemen of the committee were to be "jollied" along in the most soothing manner. The committee worked night and day and argued incessantly while the legislators listened attentively and professed the deepest interest in the subject. But the interest was not in the passage of the measures. It was in the defeat of them without betraying the purpose in advance of the event. In other words the scheme was to kill the proposed legislation while professing sympathy for the policies expressed in the measures. It was to fool all the miners all the time.

Two of the bills, that for the examination of mine superintendents and foremen and that for the revision of the mining laws carried appropriations and having been referred to the committee of which J. Lee Plummer was chairman, that gentleman received most of their attention. He was profuse in assurances of friendliness but never reported any progress with the work. Finally the reasons of failure in this respect were revealed in an accidental way. Representative Smith, of Indiana county, had been urgent for the bills at various times and at a meeting of the committee impertinently with unusual fervor whereupon Chairman Plummer rebuked him sharply and threatened his legislative interests. This so incensed Smith that he left the room.

**Report of the Committee.**  
The official report of the miners' committee is signed by Messrs. Fisher and Hamilton and is voluminous and explicit. In part it says:

"March 28.—Up to this date none of our bills had been reported from the several committees, but ever since we submitted them to their care we have used every effort and every possible means we could think of in urging their consideration in order that they might be presented before the house. The liability bill had another hearing today. National Secretary Treasurer Wilson spoke in behalf of the bill and showed the necessity for the passage of such a bill. The house having an afternoon session all further hearing on the bill was postponed until 8 P. M. The committee reconvened at 8 P. M. when the opposition to the liability bill was again given a hearing.

"When the hearing was finished the committee went into executive session. Many of the committee were not present when the vote was taken to have the bill sent to the house. The motion to present was lost by two votes. The bill was then referred to a sub-committee for the purpose of considering it and referring it to the committee again on Thursday.

"March 29.—Boulton informed your committee that McWhinney had waived a hearing on the other three bills, claiming that the commission bill would cover all. The commission bill is still in the hands of the appropriations committee.

**Plummer Suggests a Corrupt Bargain.**  
"March 30.—Your committee received the information from Representative Boulton and Smith that Plummer, the chairman of the appropriations committee, WOULD GET THE COMMISSION BILL OUT FOR THEM IF THEY AND CERTAIN OTHER MEMBERS FROM THE COUNTY DISTRICTS WOULD GET IN LINE AND VOTE FOR CERTAIN MEAS-

#### URES THE RING WAS DESIROUS OF PASSING.

"This Representative Smith, of Indiana and Boulton, of Clearfield had refused to do up to this time. Smith, of Indiana, accompanied your committee just before the house convened this afternoon to see Plummer, and endeavor to get the bill out of committee. At first we could get no satisfaction. Finally Brother Hamilton informed Plummer that he understood that he, Plummer, was aspiring for the nomination, and that if he was successful in securing the nomination and intended to run for state treasurer at the next election, that his attitude in connection with our bills would not entitle him to expect any support from the miners of District No. 2 or the workers throughout the state. Plummer then promised to give the bill his careful attention at the earliest opportunity.

**Plummer's Attitude Toward Labor Interests.**  
The report continues: "In harmony with the statement made at the commencement of our report, we desire to present a more detailed statement in connection with the attitude of Plummer in the treatment of our bills. We stated that one of the reasons we had in view in presenting our report was that the friends of labor and its enemies, both open and concealed, should be unveiled for the future benefit of all concerned. Both to those who might be sent in the capacity of legislative committees to Harrisburg and to the voter who might inquire for the record of any candidate serving at present as representative, and who might again solicit their support in electing him to some elective office.

"Representative Plummer is aspiring for the office of state treasurer, one of the most important offices within the gift of the people of this Commonwealth. This office should only be filled by men of the most sterling worth and character. He must by all means be clean and honest, pure and open and above board, in all his dealings.

"As Mr. Plummer was the chairman of the appropriations committee, he was the principal member of this committee with whom your committee came in contact in looking after the measures submitted to the care of the appropriations committee. Whether Plummer voiced the sentiments of the majority of the committee, or the majority of the interviews with us or not, we are unable to say, or whether his expressions and attitude were individual and simply his own personal expressions.

"His expressions, according to your committee, were not considered as friendly to the legislation submitted by the miners. That he was not open and above board your committee thinks the statement already made in connection with his offer to representatives Smith and Boulton, offering them to give this bill submitted to his committee consideration if they would support one of the most rotten measures presented to the legislature, a measure so unfair that it had already been vetoed twice by the governor, who gave as one of his reasons for vetoing it that it was not necessary, and thus created a means for a useless expenditure of money.

**Will Continue to Serve the Machine.**  
"IT IS THE OPINION OF YOUR COMMITTEE THAT A MAN WHO WILL SCHEME AND WORK FOR THE CREATION OF USELESS OFFICES TO KEEP 'RING' CHIEFS IN LUXURY, THUS CAUSING THE EXPENDITURE OF LARGE SUMS OF THE PEOPLE'S MONEY USELESSLY AT ONE TIME, WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO WITH INCREASED OPPORTUNITIES.

"To substantiate our reasons for stating that we did not believe that his attitude to our bills would entitle him to fill the capacity of a representative of labor, he was a representative of the people and representing other interests in which the following summary review of our dealings with him while at Harrisburg, and a few citations from the conversations brought out during our interviews will prove:

"During one of our conversations after the commission bill had passed the house on second reading and had been referred to the committee on appropriations, the failure on the part of this committee in reporting any bills until on or about the 15th of March, your committee, as before stated, realizing the importance of getting the bill out at the earliest possible moment, sought to use every effort to accomplish this purpose. We were informed that our bill would be presented in the order in which it was received, that this was the rule.

**Plummer Discriminated Against Miners.**

"We did not wish to deviate from any established rule, even if it were possible for us to persuade the committee to do so. If this was their method of doing business and they followed it out unbiased, we considered their method fair; but FOR SOME REASON UNKNOWN TO US PLUMMER WOULD NOT LET THE COMMISSION BILL COME BEFORE THE COMMITTEE. We demanded an explanation from Plummer for his attitude in connection with refusing to allow this bill to come before his committee, and thus blocking it from coming before the house.

"HE PROMISED TO GIVE IT CONSIDERATION, INSTEAD OF CARRYING OUT THIS PROMISE HE PROCEEDED TO TURN THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE DOWN WHO WERE FAVORABLE TO THE BILL, EVEN ASKING REPRESENTATIVE SMITH OF GLEN CAMPBELL HIS REASONS FOR BEING SO MUCH INTERESTED IN THE BILL. To this Mr. Smith replied that he considered the coal miners needed protection; that it was a craft fraught with great danger, both to health and life of those engaged in this particular industry. The miners demanded this legislation, and in his opinion were in a position, should it become necessary, to take care of themselves and get their demands enforced in the future. The actions of Plummer were so biased that Mr. Smith left the committee room in disgust with Plummer's attitude. "MR. SMITH CLOSING THE DOOR WAS SUCCESSFULLY BOYSTERED LAUGHTER BY PLUMMER'S FRIENDS WHO JEERINGLY REMARKED: 'THE MINERS BE DAMNED.'"

"The using of this epithet by Plummer and his friends was reported to

Mr. Greenawald the following morning by one of the members of the committee who remained and was friendly to the miners.

"Next morning Smith went to Plummer and asked him his attitude of the previous evening was to be considered as an indication of the policy he intended to pursue in connection with the miners' bill. If he, Plummer, intended to stand by his actions of the previous evening, Mr. Smith threatened to report his action to your committee, coupled also with the threat, which seemed to be the only thing that could be used to get him to promise fairly, that if his attitude was reported to the committee it would do Plummer considerable injury. Plummer again promised Smith that he would stand by his actions of the following week, the house having adjourned for the present week.

**Plummer is Unfriendly to Labor.**  
"After the house reconvened and the bill was not reported by Plummer's committee, we came to the conclusion that it was a continuation of his old policy of evasion. We then determined to get after some of the republican politicians who were considered to be Plummer's superiors in the party. They also elicited a promise from him that he would take action on the bill immediately. He delayed until the time was too short to get it through the senate.

**PLUMMER'S WHOLE ATTITUDE IN CONNECTION WITH THIS BILL WAS ONE OF EVASION AND UNFULFILLED PROMISES.**

"Your committee would be charitable to all men, and in rendering this report it is not our desire to present any charge against any person or persons who did not concede to all our wants and requirements. Every man has a right to his individual opinion, and we would honor every man who renders an opinion on a matter individually. We would not judge and condemn any man as being unfavorable to us and the measures commended by us, simply because he did not coincide with us in all methods and measures; but in reporting to the officials and the executive board of this, the strongest representative organization of labor in Central Pennsylvania, we are expressing our unbiased opinion on Mr. Plummer's attitude toward the laborer by using his attitude to us and our bill as evidence. WE WOULD SAY TO OUR FELLOW-CRAFTSMEN IN DISTRICT NO. 2 WHOSE SERVANTS WE WERE DURING OUR ATTEMPT TO SECURE THE PASSAGE OF THE VARIOUS BILLS, THAT MR. PLUMMER IS NOT FOR US, AND THAT HE WHO IS NOT FOR US, ACCORDING TO THE EXPERIENCE OF YOUR COMMITTEE, IS AGAINST US.

**Plummer Against the Liability Bill Also.**

On April 3 the house again reconvened. When the time came for the presentation of resolutions, Representative Schofield presented the following resolution:

"Resolved, That house bill known as the general liability bill be taken out of the hands of the judiciary committee and come before the house as a committee of the whole."

"Both Scofield and Garner made lengthy and very able speeches in favor of the bill and the resolution. Garner named the judiciary committee the 'legislative graveyard.' It is needless to say, with the antagonism shown by those who were antagonistic toward the bill and the methods used by those who were representative of the entire people in the practice of their retarding policy, with the evidence submitted, that the bill was overwhelmingly defeated. The vote stood 14 for placing the bill on the house calendar and 111 against.

**Influential Outsiders Appealed To.**  
"On April 4 we interviewed Smith and Boulton and they interviewed Plummer and secured the promise from Plummer, as previously stated.

"April 5.—Still no report from the committee, but we were assured that it would be reported out that night before the house convened. Evening again came, with Plummer's promise unfulfilled.

"April 6.—Brother Hamilton went to Captain Delaney and asked him if he could not do something to get the bill out. Delaney stated that there was out of our chance left. He would see Durham.

"April 7.—Delaney reported that he had seen Durham and Durham had notified Plummer to discontinue his opposition to the bill. Plummer promised to do, stating, however, that it was impossible to report before Monday morning.

"Your committee, realizing that the season was too far advanced to conceive any possible hope of getting the bill through the senate and to continue staying in Harrisburg, when, in the estimation of your committee, the purpose of our mission could not be accomplished at this session, was only a needless expenditure of time and money, left for home."

#### Women as Well as Men Are Made Miserable by Kidney Trouble.

Kidney trouble preys upon the mind, discourages and lessens ambition; beauty, vigor and cheerfulness soon disappear when the kidneys are out of order or diseased.

Kidney trouble has become so prevalent that it is not uncommon for a child to be afflicted with weak kidneys. If the child urinates too often, if the urine scalds the flesh or if, when the child reaches an age when it should be able to control the passage, it is yet afflicted with bed-wetting, depend upon it, the cause of the difficulty is kidney trouble, and the first step should be towards the treatment of these important organs. This unpleasant trouble is due to a diseased condition of the kidneys and bladder and not to a habit as most people suppose.

Women as well as men are made miserable with kidney and bladder trouble, and both need the same great remedy. The mild and the immediate effect of Swamp-Root is soon realized. It is sold by druggists, in fifty-cent and one dollar sizes. You may have a sample bottle by mail free, also pamphlet telling all about it, including many of the thousands of testimonial letters received from sufferers cured. In writing Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton, N. Y., be sure and mention this paper.

Don't make any mistake, but remember the name, Swamp-Root. Dr. Kilmer's Swamp-Root, and the address, Binghamton, N. Y., on every bottle.

If wishes were horses people would still want automobiles.

Silence may be an indication of either strength or weakness.

Smith, the Photographer.  
W. W. Smith, the Photographer, will not be in Centre Hall this week, but Friday, October 20.

## PENNSYLVANIA R. R.

Philad. & Erie R. R. Division and Northern Central Ry.

Time Table in Effect May 28, 1905.

**TRAINS LEAVE MONTANDON, EASTWARD.**  
7.38 A. M.—Train 64. Week days for Sunbury, Harrisburg, arriving at Philadelphia, 11.45 a. m., New York 2.05 p. m., Baltimore 12.15 p. m., Washington 1.20 p. m. Parlor car and passenger coaches to Philadelphia.

9.22 A. M.—Train 50. Daily for Sunbury, Wilkesbarre, Scranton, Harrisburg and intermediate stations. Week days for Scranton, Harrisburg and Potomac, Philadelphia, New York, Baltimore, Washington. Through passenger coaches to Philadelphia.

1.28 P. M.—Train 12. Week days for Sunbury, Wilkesbarre, Scranton, Hazleton, Pottsville, Harrisburg and intermediate stations, arriving at Philadelphia at 6.23 p. m., New York 9.30 p. m., Baltimore 6.00 p. m., Washington at 7.15 p. m. Parlor car through to Philadelphia, and passenger coaches to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

4.45 P. M.—Train 82. Week days for Wilkesbarre, Scranton, Hazleton, Pottsville, and daily for Harrisburg and intermediate points, arriving at Philadelphia at 6.23 p. m., New York 9.30 p. m., Baltimore 6.00 p. m., Washington at 7.15 p. m. Parlor car through to Philadelphia, and passenger coaches to Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington.

8.10 P. M.—Train 6. Daily for Sunbury, Harrisburg, and all intermediate stations, arriving at Philadelphia at 4.25 a. m., New York at 7.15 a. m., Baltimore 2.30 a. m., Washington, 3.30 a. m. Pullman sleeping cars from Harrisburg to Philadelphia and New York. Philadelphia passengers can remain in sleepers undisturbed until 7.30 a. m.

**WESTWARD.**  
5.23 A. M.—Train 3. (Daily) For Erie, Canandaigua, Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara Falls and intermediate stations, with passenger coaches to Erie and Rochester. Week days for DuBois, Bellefonte and Pottsville. On Sundays only Pullman sleeper to Philadelphia.

10.00 A. M.—Train 31. (Daily) For Lock Haven and intermediate stations, and week days for Tyrone, Clearfield, Philipsburg, Pittsburg and the West, with through cars to Tyrone.

1.31 P. M.—Train 61. Week days for Emporium, Tyrone, Clearfield, Philipsburg, Pittsburg, Canandaigua, and intermediate stations, Erie, Scranton, Rochester, Buffalo and Niagara Falls, with through passenger coaches to Kane and Rochester, and Parlor car to Philadelphia.

5.29 P. M.—Train 1. Week days for Renovo, Elmira and intermediate stations.

10.07 P. M.—Train 67. Week days for Williamsport and intermediate stations, through Parlor Car and Passenger Coach for Philadelphia.

9.10 P. M.—Train 92. Sunday only, for Williamsport and intermediate stations.

#### LEWISBURG AND TYRONE RAILROAD.

WESTWARD. Week Days. EASTWARD.

PM	AM	PM	STATIONS.	PM	AM	PM
1:38	5:40	5:32	Montandon	8:05	9:15	4:45
1:55	6:20	5:40	Lewisburg	7:55	9:05	4:35
1:55	6:20	5:40	Bellefonte	6:26	8:56	4:27
2:00	6:42	5:52	Vicksburg	6:20	8:53	4:22
2:10	6:50	6:00	Mifflintown	6:10	8:45	4:14
2:25	7:02	6:02	Milton	8:35	6:02	4:02
2:32	7:09	6:09	Glen Iron	8:26	5:54	3:54
3:04	7:40	6:40	Paddy Mountain	8:00	5:30	3:25
3:15	7:50	6:50	Coleman	7:50	5:20	3:15
3:21	7:57	6:57	Zerby	7:43	5:06	3:06
3:31	8:05	7:05	Rising Springs	7:35	4:58	2:58
3:37	8:11	7:11	Penn Cave	8:28	4:51	2:51
3:44	8:18	7:18	Centre Hall	7:22	4:44	2:44
3:50	8:24	7:24	Grove	7:17	4:38	2:38
3:57	8:31	7:31	Linden Hall	7:10	4:31	2:31
4:01	8:35	7:35	Oak Hall	7:06	4:26	2:26
4:05	8:39	7:39	Lemont	7:02	4:22	2:22
4:09	8:43	7:43	Pale Summit	6:58	4:17	2:17
4:18	8:52	7:52	Pleasant Gap	6:45	4:08	2:08
4:21	8:55	7:55	Axemann	6:45	4:05	2:05
4:25	9:00	8:00	Bellefonte	6:40	4:00	2:00

Additional trains leave Lewisburg for Montandon at 5.20 a. m., 7.25 a. m., 9.45 a. m., 1.15, 5.25 and 7.50 p. m., returning leave Montandon for Lewisburg at 4.17, 8.17 a. m., 10.05 a. m., 4.50, 5.40 p. m., and 8.12 p. m.

On Sundays trains leave Montandon 9.23 and 10.01 a. m., and 4.05 p. m., returning leave Lewisburg 9.25 a. m., 10.05 a. m., and 4.45 p. m.

**W. W. ATTERBURY, J. R. WOOD,**  
General Manager, Pass. Traffic Mgr.  
GEO. W. BOYD, General Passenger Agt.

#### BELLEFONTE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

EASTWARD. Week Days. WESTWARD.

PM	AM	PM	STATIONS.	PM	AM	PM
6:30	12:50	8:50	Bellefonte	6:30	10:15	5:00
6:30	12:50	8:50	Coleville	6:30	10:15	5:00
6:07	12:27	8:27	Morris	6:30	10:23	5:17
6:01	12:25	8:25	Stevens	6:43	10:27	5:17
6:00	12:24	8:24	Wadsworth	6:43	10:27	5:17
5:55	12:28	8:28	Fillmore	6:50	10:34	5:26
5:50	12:24	8:24	Brady	6:55	10:40	5:32
5:45	12:25	8:25	Wadsworth	7:00	10:45	5:35
5:27	12:07	8:07	Krumline	7:12	10:57	5:50
5:20	12:00	8:00	State College	7:25	11:10	6:05
5:15	11:55	7:55	State College	7:30	11:15	6:10
4:25	11:40	7:40	Bloomersburg	7:41	11:21	6:15
4:20	11:35	7:35	Pine Grove Cro.	7:45	11:25	6:20

#### SWEATERS

V-Necked Sweaters—Merion Brand—Men's and Boys, all sizes. Colors: White, Blue, Drab, Fawn, and Red, Men's Turtle-necked Sweaters—for continuous out-door labor. Ladies' Fine White Woolen Blouses. Ladies' ready made Wrappers, woolen Flannels suitable for Dresses and Shirts.

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#### LOCALS.

George Glace is here from Lock Haven to do a bit of squirrel hunting. Linoleum, two yards wide, at 90 cents, \$1.00 and \$1.10 per yard—C. W. Swartz, Tusseyville.

Rev. W. A. Haas, pastor of the Selinsgrove German Reformed church for a period of thirty-four years, died at the age of sixty-five years.

Dr. Willis Purman, of Bloomsburg, who was taken ill while visiting relatives at Millheim, died at the home of W. R. Weiser, of congestion of the lungs, and valvular disease of the heart. The remains were taken to Bloomsburg for interment. His age was forty-nine years.

#### Argument Court.

Argument court convened Monday, and continued through Tuesday and Wednesday.

#### Colyer.

Miss Rae Smith, of Potters Mills, and Miss Bertha Smith, of Ohio, spent Sunday at the home of W. F. Rokey.

Misses Ada and Edna Wagner spent Sunday at Spring Mills with their uncles, John and Will Smith.

Rev. A. J. Horner will make sale of his household goods Thursday, and move to Oil City, where he will serve as pastor of the Free Methodists.

Ammon Bubb moved his household goods to Burnham, Wednesday, where he is employed.

#### Marriage Licenses.

Homer G. McKinley, Altoona. Florence L. Campbell, Milesburg.

Frank T. Wetzel, Millheim. Emma K. Pardoe, Bellefonte.

R. Bower Holter, Howard. Julia D. Steele, Bellefonte.

John C. McClenahan, Trotters, N. D. Hettie Landis, Potters Mills.

J. A. Vonada, Madisonburg. Mary E. Bressler, Madisonburg.

Michael L. Kelley, Snow Shoe. Alice C. Murray, Philadelphia.

Charles J. Giesey, New York. Edith M. Bair, Millheim.

#### Joint Council Meeting.

The Joint Council of the Penns Valley Lutheran pastorate will meet at Centre Hall on Saturday, Oct. 14th, 1.30 p. m. The Elders and Deacons of the five congregations are expected to be present.

**J. M. REARICK, Pastor.**

#### Married.

John A. McClenahan and Miss Hettie Landis were married on Sunday evening at the home of the bride, at Potters Mills. The ceremony was performed by Rev. J. M. Rearick.

The Bradford hunting party is making preparations to spend a week or more in the Seven Mountains during the deer season.



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