

DU PONT MAKE REPLY TO COAL OPERATORS

"Inaccurate and False Impression" Created by Latter's Statements to U. S.

ANALYZE THEIR PROFITS

Commercial Side of Business Subordinated to War Work, Rushed for Emergency

An inaccurate and false impression is conveyed in the statements of the coal operators to the Federal Government in their appeal for action to bring down the price of commercial powder used in the mines, according to officials of the du Pont Powder Company.

In their appeal to Dr. Harry A. Garfield, the national fuel administrator, at Washington, the operators' associations pointed out that the Atlas, du Pont and Hercules Powder Companies showed profits of \$25,000,000 in 1916 over 1915, an increase in the country-wide cost of powder that from \$1.50 per keg in 1916 to \$1.80 at present, with an added advance of twenty cents announced on September 17.

Unless the price is brought down, operators declared in their appeal, a decreased coal production would result, and possibly dangerous labor troubles at the mines. Tables were cited to bear out their contentions.

OFFICIAL STATEMENT
In an official statement from the du Pont Company it is declared that the increased profits are due to the great expansion of the war business and that there are no facts to justify the assumption that the profits of the company were made from sales of blasting powder.

The statement follows:
"These statements link up all profits of this company with the increase in the cost of commercial powder per keg, conveying an inaccurate and false impression. Much of this company's profits during the years mentioned was due to the great expansion in the war business. There are no facts to justify the assumption that all of the profits of this company are derived from the sales of blasting powder to the mines."

"The annual report of the company for the last year discloses in full the great military sales and the great increase in successful that business was. It also states in regard to the commercial end of the business the following:

"The commercial part of the explosives industry, temporarily relegated to second place by the military demands, has continued to prosper even though somewhat handicapped by higher prices made necessary by the increased cost of raw materials and labor."

"On examination of the annual report of the du Pont Powder Company for the years 1914 and 1916, the following is revealed with respect to their business: The gross sales in 1914 were \$25,179,947 and in 1916 were \$18,844,648; the net profits in 1914 were \$5,685,123, while in 1916 they were \$2,107,692. The percentage of the gross represented by the net profits for 1914 was 22.2 per cent and for 1916 it was 25.8 per cent."

COMPARES PROFITS

"It will be observed that the enormous increase in net profits is due to the still larger increase in gross sales, due to the large military operations of the country. It may be of interest to note that the net profits on mining powder in 1914 represented about 10 per cent of the company's business, whereas in 1916 these mining profits represented less than 1 per cent of the total profits."

"It is quite true that the profit on blasting powder sold to the miners by the coal operators has always been recognized as part of their legitimate earnings, and the changed conditions have deprived the operators of this income which they are entitled to recoup through their sale of coal until their contract with the miners permits of an adjustment of powder prices."

THREE NEGROES HANGED, PROTESTING INNOCENCE

Convicted Murderers Put to Death Separately at New Castle County Workhouse

ALL COOL ON SCAFFOLD

WILMINGTON, Del., Sept. 28.

Declaring their innocence to the last, three Sussex County negroes, Adam Argus, Webster Purnell and William Prettyman, convicted of murder, were hanged at the New Castle County workhouse just before noon today. They were accused of killing Harry Parker, also a negro, in a cabin at Lewes last August. All three were cool on the scaffold.

The men were hanged separately and were selected for death according to apparent nerve force, the weakest being taken to the scaffold first. Purnell led. He mounted the steps to the platform without a tremor. Asked if he had anything to say, he replied:

"I don't know anything about the death of Parker, but God can take care of my soul."

The drop fell at 10:55. Twelve minutes later he was pronounced dead. Purnell's body had been taken down. Prettyman was led out. He was actually smiling.

"I'm innocent," he said from the scaffold. "All I can say is that God will take care of me." The drop fell at 10:59 and he was pronounced dead in fourteen minutes.

Argus was last. He sang on the way to the scaffold and chatted lightly with his guards.

"I am before you," he exclaimed, "an innocent man, but I will suffer this for the Father in heaven's name. Home you'll learn the truth some day, that's all."

He looked up to the sky and the black cap was placed over his head and the drop lever pulled. The drop fell at 11:05, and the man was dead fourteen minutes later.

The only persons present were the jury of twelve, the county and city physicians and newspaper representatives. Purnell was thirty-six, Prettyman, twenty-nine and Argus thirty-four years of age.

The murder of Parker was one of the most shocking in the criminal annals of the State. It occurred in a cabin at Lewes, where all of the men concerned and some women, it is said, had been having a frolic. Some of them got into a quarrel, and some one hit Parker over the head and probably killed him with the blow, but to make sure of his death he was smothered with a blanket and several days later the body was thrown into the bay. The finding of the body gave a clue to the murder.

The negroes were convicted last February in Georgetown. On April 4 they were sentenced to be hanged. On Friday, July 27, Governor Townsend granted a reprieve just before the hour set for the execution, on the representation of newly discovered evidence.

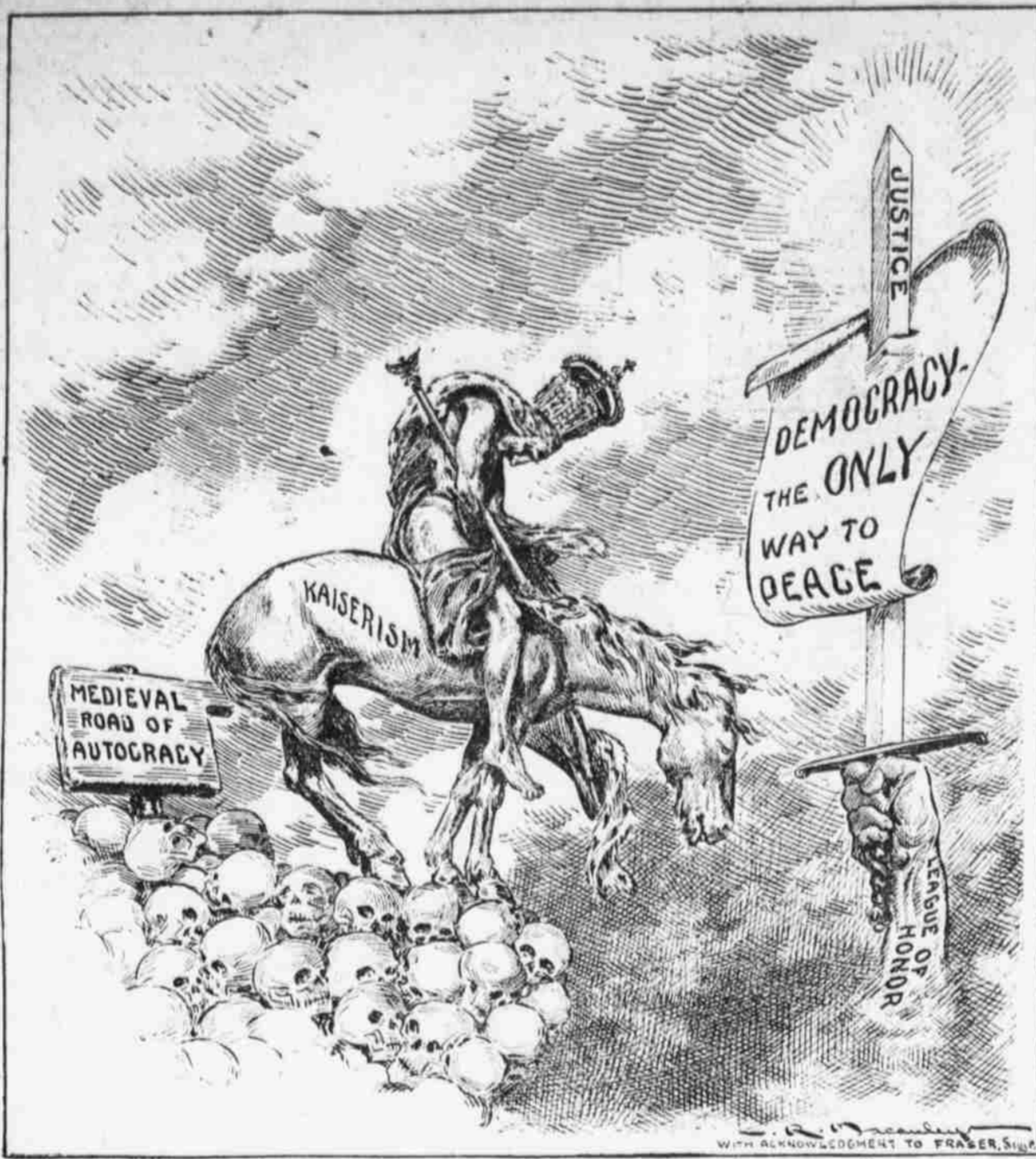
This evidence was presented to the Board of Pardons this month, but the board did not consider it sufficient to warrant action.

This was the second triple execution in the history of the State. The other was in 1888, when three negroes were hanged in the old jail yard at New Castle, following conviction for the heinous assault upon a white woman.

Gas and Drug Kill Women

Mrs. HOLLIE N. J. Sept. 28.—From reports of looking into the case of Mrs. Mary E. ...

"THE END OF THE TRAIL"



AWAKENED CITY ACTS TO CRUSH "GOVERNMENT BY GUNMEN" HERE

Continued from Page One

clean city administration that was forced into being by the thugs' reign of terror that resulted in bloodshed and death in the Fifth Ward on primary election day were elated and encouraged today as the pledge cards poured in and as scores of citizens, many of whom had never before been seriously interested in politics, telephoned that they were heart and soul in the new movement and ready to give of their money and their time to make it a success and to make good the word of former Mayor Blankenburg at the Academy meeting that the day of Philadelphia's redemption was at hand.

Never before in the history of the city has there been such spontaneous, earnest and whole-hearted response, according to the leaders. Never before have so many representatives of the best elements in all stations of city life, rallied to the support of a movement for civic betterment. If a campaign begun so auspiciously can fall, then there is no hope for Philadelphia, they say—but it cannot fall.

THOROUGH ORGANIZATION
Plans to effect organization are rapidly being formed in every ward and every division in the city—organization to realize the resolutions adopted amid wild cheers at the Academy after the former Mayor, introduced as "the war horse of reform," had declared that "we want no Hohenzollerns and no Junkers in City Hall" and that "the absurd shall never occupy the offices of the city's chief executive."

The resolutions call for the impeachment or ousting from office of every city official, from the Mayor down, who has been in any way responsible for the lawlessness, corruption and murder that have marked the Administration. They call for the removal of the police from politics for all time. They call for the election of men to office this autumn who are free from political faction alliances and who will have an eye single to the good of Philadelphia.

All over the city business men, professional men, working men, clerks, students—men with ideals and patriotic love of their city—are rallying to its support.

Throughout the city today men who attended the meetings, either that in the Academy or those outside held for the "overflow," declared there was no misunderstanding the temper of the city displayed when the people went out to listen to real leaders point the way to victory for clean government.

"We are all here protesting," shouted former Mayor Blankenburg, "but what is the Union League? Where is the Chamber of Commerce? Where are all the other organized bodies, business men's associations, who do not have their consciences direct, and it is certain that these conditions have stirred the individual members deeply as good citizens."

"But do you not think," the Colonel was asked, "that with the good name of Philadelphia so besmirched the League could well depart from its present and take an active part in the campaign for civic righteousness?"

"It is not within the province of the League," replied Colonel Gribbel. "We are, as I said, organized for national purposes." Present T. Trigg, president, answered for the Chamber of Commerce, saying:

"I have my own personal ideas on this subject, but of course I am not authorized to speak for the Chamber of Commerce as an organization. As an organization we have always felt that our province was strictly business and industry and we have always avoided politics of any kind."

The present situation in Philadelphia is peculiar, it must be admitted, but I would not want to say that the chamber will take any action before the matter is discussed by the board of directors."

Charles N. Calwell, president of the Corn Exchange National Bank, who was desired by the reform elements as a candidate for city Treasurer, will not run, he told a representative of the Evening Ledger today at Atlantic City, where he is attending the American Bankers' Association Convention.

"I will not accept the nomination under any conditions," said Mr. Calwell. Mr. Calwell was told of former Mayor Blankenburg's questions, "Where is the Union League?" and "Where is the Chamber of Commerce?" and asked what he, a member of both organizations, had to say in answer. He refused to make any statement.

Mr. Blankenburg is to begin his speech

HEFLIN BACKS DOWN; INQUIRY IS DROPPED

Alabama Man Withdraws Slush Fund Charges Against Certain Congressmen

DECIDE AGAINST PROBE

Rules Committee of House Declares It Would Conflict With Justice Department's Investigation

WASHINGTON, Sept. 28.—The bitter controversy in the House over the charges of Representative Hefflin, of Alabama, came to a dramatic climax this afternoon, when Representative Norton, of North Dakota, who attacked the southern Congressman in a speech last Monday, walked over to the Democratic side where Hefflin was seated and spoke to him in an undertone. Hefflin immediately arose and struck at Norton, but didn't hit him. Norton struck back, and the two members clinched, rolling over on the floor, with Hefflin on the bottom.

The House was in an uproar immediately. Scores of members stepped forward to separate the two Congressmen.

The belligerents, still struggling, were pulled apart. Hefflin was taken to the Democratic cloakroom and Norton to the Republican cloakroom. Seconds were employed to cool off the two men. While Hefflin and Norton were regaining their tempers, the House again took up its routine business.

Previous to the encounter Chairman Poy, of the Rules Committee, had announced on the floor that Hefflin had withdrawn his charges against the integrity of certain Congressmen, made, Poy explained, in the heat of the debate. Poy also announced that the committee had decided not to hold an investigation.

"This proposed investigation," said Poy, "would pull the very props from under a similar investigation which the Department of Justice is now conducting. When that is finished the \$20,000 slush fund will not be a drop in the bucket."

Representative Campbell, Republican leader of the committee, added that certain persons already had sought to testify before a House committee in return for immunity. In the Department of Justice investigation, Representative Cooper, of Wisconsin, showed that Hefflin had made his original speech in the midst of the debate on potassium fertilizer. He asked if it were "this burning question" which had so aroused the "Alabama giant."

"If there is any man I detect," said Cooper, "it is the man who slanders another and then seeks to prevent an investigation of the truth of his statements."

Hefflin arose as if to reply, but was restrained by friends.

Representative Britten, who was mentioned yesterday by Hefflin as a disloyal demagogue, declared that if the committee had decided that a "reflection on a member's loyalty is not a reflection on his integrity."

Poy reported the committee did not want to interfere with an investigation into German propaganda which will "send some one to the penitentiary."

Poy concluded that when Hefflin had said certain members had acted suspiciously, he meant simply that the bills and resolutions which they had introduced did not meet Hefflin's views of patriotic conduct.

SERVICE MEN EXONERATED

Coroner's Jury Absolves Three From Complicity in Death

The Coroner's Jury today exonerated John M. Muldoon, Clarence Montello, United States marines, and Henry Armour, a sailor on the U. S. Indian, from complicity in the death of James Baskerville, a negro, thirty-one years old, of 2059 Tasker street, who died in St. Agnes' Hospital from injuries received from falling off a roof.

Baskerville, according to the testimony offered at the hearing, made insulting remarks to the marines and the sailor on a Twelfth street car about two weeks ago. When they resisted his remarks he cut them with a knife and made his escape. It was while trying to escape his pursuers that he fell from a roof at 1447 South Thirteenth street.

Governor Leaves Bretton Woods
BRETTON WOODS, N. H., Sept. 28.—Governor Embury, of Pennsylvania, left the Mount Washington Hotel by automobile in company with Mrs. Trumbach and F. W. Fochler, of Harrisburg.

Chilian Cabinet Resigns
SANTIAGO, Chile Sept. 28.—The Chilean Cabinet has resigned.

How About Bonding Smith?
The enjoyment of this was so great that the laughter broke out and the crowd, as it often did, cried for order, so anxious were all to hear every word.

"I like to know what Mr. Blankenburg, what premium a bonding company would demand to put Mr. Smith on his good behavior. I am sure his own company would not go to his aid. It is a mistake to regard public office as a family affair, as Mayor Smith does when he appoints relatives to office. But we could forget many things but for the fact that Ed Vane is really Mayor of Philadelphia today. The Mayor is Mayor of a faction and he permits that faction to rule him from morning to night—the Ash Street faction. Philadelphia is not nearly as clean as it was a year or so ago. And the last few months the fines for delinquencies in street cleaning have been less than before. He is said to be Director of the city's greater dirt."

Again Mr. Blankenburg leaned forward and with unutterable scorn said simply:

Shouts hailed the sally at the Organization "late." "Are we," asked the speaker, "going to elect this fifty-fifty ticket? What is it? Shoyer and Register of Willa Sheehan, who gets a princely salary and wants to collect the fees also."

"Then Mr. Blankenburg made what was considered a significant statement, in view of the fact that District Attorney Totan is also on the fifty-fifty ticket."

"I want," to say a word for my friend District Attorney Totan. He is doing his best to do his duty. He is trying to find out who hired the assassin. I didn't; you didn't. Who did? Tonight a mother weeps for her son. Her son, the policeman, is in his grave. And so, the Mayor of the city and the Director of Public Safety did not attend the funeral. There is a great demand for the resignation of Director Wilson. He is said to be Director of the Department of Public Safety. I say that he is Director of the Department of Public Danger. He is not fit to occupy the office that Director Berler held."

Here there were calls for the former Director, who sat on the front row of seats on the stage and smiled acknowledgment of the compliment.

"Instead," continued Mr. Blankenburg, "of the Director having a battle of ballots, he had a battle of bullets."

"Why didn't the police recognize the white ribbons? They could not possibly have made the mistake of supposing they were temperance men, fifty-fifty? Ed Vane is anxious to control two-thirds of Council. Councilmen are supposed to represent the people. That is a mistake. They are selected to represent Ed Vane."

Mr. Blankenburg's peroration, so intense was the sentiment conveyed, reached the heights of the dramatic. And he sat down to the singing of "My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

Father Daniel J. McElmroth, rector of St. Mary's Catholic Church, who for years has fought for better political conditions in the Fifth Ward, bitterly arraigned the Administration and the rule by murder for which it is responsible.

FRIDAY JINX GETS LLOYD, THOUGH IT'S NOT THE 13TH

Knocked From Motorcycle by One Auto, He Is Run Over by Another

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If today happened to be Friday the thirteenth, James N. Lloyd, of 2424 North Garnet street, could understand the jinx on his trail. He is in the Samaritan Hospital as the result of a double accident.

Lloyd was chugging along peacefully on his motorcycle up Broad street when at Lehigh avenue he was knocked about 100 feet to the street by a motorcar driven by Peter P. Riley, 457 North Twenty-seventh street. Before the unfortunate one had a chance to recover his self-possession he was nothing of his feet he was run over by another automobile, the driver of which put on high speed and whizzed away. Lloyd's leg was broken by the second car.

Riley was arrested, but was released on his own recognizance by Magistrate Carson.

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