

KEYSTONE HAPPENINGS.

News of Interest From All Parts of the State.

A BIG COAL CONSOLIDATION.

The Elk Hill Company Will Now Operate Eleven Collieries—Killed Wife and Self—Fifteen Hundred Miners on Strike.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 18.—All the collieries which have been recently secured as feeders to the Ontario and Western Railroad company's coal department have been consolidated into one company under the title of one of the consolidated companies, the Elk Hill Coal and Iron company.

Seven companies are by this consolidation merged into the Elk Hill company. These companies, with their location and price, are given below: Johnson Coal company, Dickson City, \$2,100,000; Mt. Pleasant Coal company, Scranton, \$665,000; New York-Scranton Coal company, Peckville, \$485,000; West Ridge Coal company, Scranton, \$410,000; Blue Ridge Coal company, Peckville, \$118,500; Forest Mining company, Archbald, \$600,000; Raymond Coal company, Archbald, \$400,000. Total, \$4,778,500.

The Johnson and New and Scranton companies each have two collieries. The others have one apiece. The Elk Hill company itself operated two collieries. This makes 11 collieries that will now be operated by the Elk Hill. They have a capacity of 2,000,000 tons annually.

Killed Wife and Self.

Bedford, Pa., Dec. 19.—Arthur Spear Metzgar, a stained glass manufacturer of Newark, N. J., shot and almost instantly killed his reputed wife, Elsie Dinsmore Metzgar, in the woman's hotel room at Hopewell, Bedford county, early yesterday morning, and then shot himself, dying in a few minutes. The woman was leading lady with the Frank Davidson "Farmer Hopkins" company, which was showing in Hopewell. No reason is known for the tragedy, as the couple had no trouble that any members of the company knew of, other than that on Monday Metzgar tried to persuade the woman to quit the stage and go home with him, but this she refused to do. Documents found in the woman's trunk show that she was married to Metzgar, although a telegram received at Hopewell states that Metzgar's real wife is now at Newark, N. J.

Fifteen Hundred Miners on Strike.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Dec. 18.—The strained relations which have existed for some time past between the Kings-ton Coal company and its 1,500 employees culminated yesterday in a strike. The firemen and pump runners were allowed to remain at work. The principal grievances of the men are the enforcement of the two weeks pay law; the privilege of having their own check weigh boss and not more than six inches of topping on any car. The discharge of Mine Foreman Thomas R. Morgan is demanded. T. D. Nichols, district president of the United Mine Workers, says the strike was not ordered until all other efforts to bring a settlement had failed.

A Descendant of President Adams.

Lock Haven, Pa., Dec. 19.—Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Waggoner died here yesterday of paralysis, aged 70 years. She was the great-granddaughter of President John Adams and great-granddaughter of John Quincy Adams. Her grandfather was killed in the war of 1812. Her father served in the Mexican war, her husband was killed in the civil war, her son served through the civil war and her grandson, Lieut. Gardner, was killed recently in the Philippines.

Fatally Stabbed in Election Quarrel.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 17.—Patrick McNulty, aged 35, was stabbed twice in the body and possibly fatally injured by 68-year-old William Murray during a saloon fight in the "Notch" late Saturday night. Murray is in jail. The men quarreled over the primaries which were held to select a successor to J. I. Greer, one of the resigned bribery councilmen.

Shamokin Coal Strike Ends.

Shamokin, Pa., Dec. 19.—The strike at Natalie colliery has ended, 1,200 employes returning to work. The Shamokin Coal company agreed to grant the 10 per cent increase, reinstates several discharged men and gives non-union men two days in which to settle differences with union men.

PENNSYLVANIA NEWS CONDENSED.

A \$15,000 Young Men's Christian association building will be erected at Shamokin.

Struck by an engine at Elizabethtown, C. T. Long, of New Hope, had two ribs broken.

Bloomburg's population, as announced by the census bureau, is 6,170, and Clearfield's is 5,081.

Accidentally shot while coon hunting, Augustus Ohi, of Limeport, will lose the sight of one eye.

One man was killed and 12 injured by an engine colliding with a cabin car at Kittanning Point.

Thieves took clothing worth several hundred dollars from the store of Moyer & George, at Perkasie.

Falling from the roof of a burning building at West Pittston John Van Luvan, a fireman, was seriously injured.

Governor Stone issued upon Governor Roosevelt a requisition for A. B. Corson, wanted at Towanda for murder.

At a Pittston mine William J. Moffat's foot became entangled in a rope attached to some cars and his leg was torn off.

During the hunting season just closed about 200 wild turkeys, nearly 1,000 quail and about 100 deer were killed in Centre county.

Friends of Stanislaus Barsochewick, who was arrested at Plymouth, charged with a murder in Russia, will oppose his extradition.

Samuel Dawa lay three hours in the cold at Sumner Hill, Cambria county, with his skull fractured by a train. He died later.

John and Boyd Shone, two boys of Cato, Centre county, while hunting on Saturday, shot and killed three bears and a huge wildcat.

Otto Borchers, an amateur detective, who shot and killed Frederick Ziegler, whom he was arresting, was acquitted of murder at Lebanon.

At Altoona the police authorities have discovered that there are still spurious coins being put in circulation there, presumably by a gang of Cambria county counterfeiters.

A WEEK'S NEWS CONDENSED

Thursday, Dec. 13.

In a prize fight at Chicago Terry McGovern knocked out Joe Gans in two minutes.

The American Federation of Labor refused to adopt resolutions favoring political action.

An amendment to the Nicaragua canal bill which passed the senate permits this government to protect the canal with troops if necessary. British objections are pouring in.

Hon. Joseph H. Manley, of Maine, declined the post of internal revenue commissioner, and it was accepted by John W. Yerkes, late Republican candidate for governor of Kentucky.

Friday, Dec. 14.

A receiver has been appointed at Indianapolis for the Order of Chosen Friends, a life benefit society.

At Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Peter Austin was convicted of manslaughter for killing Brower 14 years ago.

Max Apt and Morris Apt, trading as Apt Brothers, of Philadelphia, failed with liabilities of \$113,020.13 and \$100 assets.

Six masked men held off citizens of Shanesville, O., and escaped on a handcar with a bag of specie from a private bank.

Grinnell Burt, of Warwick, N. Y., has been re-elected president of the Lehigh and Hudson River railroad after 41 years' service in that capacity. He is 75 years old.

Saturday, Dec. 15.

The bill reducing war revenues \$40,000,000 passed the national house today.

C. L. Alvord, New York's \$690,000 bank embezzler, will be placed on trial Dec. 26.

Maj. A. C. Reinhold, postmaster of Lancaster, Pa., committed suicide by illuminating gas at his law office.

Edward Oswald, who murdered his wife and child in Camden, N. J., was sentenced to 50 years'imprisonment.

Oswald Ottendorfer, proprietor of the New York Staats Zeitung, died in that city today.

Rosco C. Hoffman, a messenger for the Adams Express company at Cleveland, was arrested on the charge of stealing diamonds valued at \$2,800.

Sunday, Dec. 17.

A bill introduced by Senator Hoar makes death the penalty for train robbery.

Prince Gustavus Adolphus, eldest son of the crown prince of Sweden and Norway, is ill with diphtheria at Christiania.

The Boers have released 321 Britons captured at the battle of Magaliesberg, in which the British were overwhelmingly defeated.

Dr. Henry Fellows, former dean of the Hahnemann medical college in Chicago, and 30 years a professor in the institution, is dead, aged 64.

The British secretary of state for war, Mr. William St. John Brodrick, has appointed a committee to deal with the question of war office reforms.

Last night two of three negroes who murdered and robbed Hollie Simons, a white barber, were taken from jail and lynched by a mob at Rockport, Ind. Tonight another negro was lynched at Booneville for the same crime.

Tuesday, Dec. 18.

The loss of life by the wreck of the German training ship Gneisenau in the harbor of Malaga, Spain, is placed at 125.

No duties will be collected on Christmas gifts sent to soldiers and government employes in Cuba and the Philippines.

The Indian appropriation bill, completed by the house committee on Indian affairs, carries something over \$9,000,000.

Nellie Moffet, 15 years old, is under arrest in New York for cashing five checks, amounting to \$340, which she cleverly forged.

A bill passed the house to retire Congressman Boutelle, of Maine, who is stricken with brain trouble, as a captain in the navy.

In the Porto Rico house of delegates Mr. Descartes introduced a bill granting unrestricted suffrage to women on the same terms as men.

Ex-Premier Sagasta, of Spain, opposes the marriage of the Princess of Asturias, heiress presumptive to the throne, to Prince Charles, a Neapolitan Bourbon.

Wednesday, Dec. 19.

The Agrarian party in Germany is seeking to increase the tariff on all grains imported 40 or 50 cents.

The new river and harbor bill of the house committee on rivers and harbors appropriates over \$75,000,000.

Five cases of what is believed to be bubonic plague have developed in Tucuman, in the Argentine Republic.

Lloyd Brattan, 15 years old, broke through the ice while skating near Middletown, Del., and was drowned.

Clair Armstrong, grand secretary of all Grand Masonic bodies of Alabama, died from heart trouble at Auburn, Ala. Armstrong was consul general at Rio de Janeiro during Cleveland's first administration.

GENERAL MARKETS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 18.—Flour slow; winter superfine, \$2.30@2.50; city mills, extra, \$2.00@2.20; Pennsylvania roller, clear, \$1.10@1.25. Rye four quiet and steady, \$1.20 per barrel for choice Pennsylvania. Wheat steady, spot, 42½@43½; new No. 2 yellow for local trade, 46. Oats firm; No. 2 white, clipped, 30½@31½; lower grades, 27@29. Hay quiet; choice timothy, \$17.50 for large bales. Beef quiet; beef hams, \$17.17.50. Pork steady; family, \$15.91.50; mess, \$12.91.50; short clear, \$14.67. Lard easy; western steamed, \$7.35. Live poultry quoted at 75¢ for hens, 50¢ for old roosters, \$2.50 for spring chickens, \$3.00 for spring ducks, \$3.00 for turkeys and \$2.00 for geese. Dressed poultry at 40¢ for choice western fowls, 45¢ for old roosters, 10¢ for choice and fancy nearby chickens, 11¢ for fancy Illinois dry picked chickens, 11¢ for choice to fancy nearby turkeys, \$2.00 for good to fancy western ducks and 70¢ for western geese. Butter barely steady; creamery, 17½¢; factory, 14½¢. Cheese creamery, 14½¢; imitation creamery, 14½¢. New York dairy, 16½¢. Fancy Pennsylvania prints jobbing at 28¢. Do. wholesale, 25¢. Cheese strong; large large fall made, 11½¢@11¼¢; small do., 11¼¢. Eggs easier; New York and Pennsylvania, 23¢. Do. western, regular packing, at mark, 21¢. Do. western, loss off, 21¢.

East Liberty, Pa., Dec. 18.—Cattle market steady; extra, \$3.00@4.50; prime, \$2.50@3.00; common, \$2.00@2.50. Hogs steady; prime heavies, medium and best Yorkers, \$1.50@1.75; pigs, \$1.00@1.25; common to fair Yorkers, \$1.00@1.25; roughs, \$1.00@1.25. Sheep slow; choice wethers, \$1.00@1.25; common, \$1.00@1.25; choice lambs, \$1.25@1.50; choice lambs, \$1.25@1.50; veal calves, \$1.50@1.75.

NEW ZEALAND DELEGATE

Vigorously Assails Gompers in the Conciliation Conference.

THE RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED.

They Oppose Compulsory Arbitration and Urge a Committee of Six Employers and Six Employees to Formulate a Plan For Industrial Peace.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—The conference on arbitration and conciliation, which passed into industrial history with its adjournment last night, was enlivened during the day by a debate between Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, and Hugh H. Lusk, ex-member of parliament, of New Zealand. The venerable New Zealander during the forenoon turned aside from his prepared address to express displeasure at a declaration made by Mr. Gompers in his address Monday night. The labor leader on the occasion mentioned asserted that he wanted to see labor organizations retain the privilege of striking when they pleased, why they pleased, or merely because they pleased.

"That is not liberty," cried Mr. Lusk. "It is license."

At this moment Mr. Gompers entered. The speaker proceeded: "Mr. Gompers wants conciliation, and he says you can never have any conciliation unless you are ready to cut one another's throats. Well, if that is the unfortunate condition of the people of America I am sorry for them. We are not so anxious to cut one another's throats where I came from. I wish Mr. Gompers had taken the trouble to find out what our compulsory arbitration law is before he told you about it, but as he has not, I am obliged to do it for him."

During the afternoon Mr. Gompers secured the stage and reiterated his assertions of the night previous.

"We do not," he declared, "clutch each other's throats unnecessarily, but I would rather have the right to clutch at a man's throat than to have my arms amputated. The compulsory labor law is equivalent to the amputation referred to. I want labor to have the strength of a giant, but to use that strength gently."

Following this, two speeches were sandwiched in, and then Mr. Lusk again secured the floor. He explained at length the workings of the arbitration court of New Zealand, generally, talking straight at the labor president.

"You'd cut my arms off in your country," said Mr. Gompers, speaking from his seat.

"If you were good we would not amputate your arms," replied the New Zealander, "but we might enlarge your head."

A lively exchange of questions and answers, which bewildered the audience, followed. Mr. Lusk explained that during the hearing of a dispute between employer and his unionized employes neither side could, under penalty, change the conditions which caused the appeal to the arbitration court. The hearing, during which neither side had the right to independent action, generally lasted about a month.

"I'd rather be at swords' points in America, an independent, than to surrender my right to strike for one minute," shouted Mr. Gompers. And with that he left the hall.

Aside from the skirmishes between these two men, and they took up considerable time, there were numerous speeches, all favoring voluntary arbitration. Even Mr. Lusk declared that America was not ready for compulsory arbitration.

At the evening session the committee on resolution submitted its report, which was adopted.

The resolutions "recognize the fact that compulsory arbitration—aside from all other objections urged against it—is not at this time a question of practical industrial reform, and that such systems as are now in vogue do not seem to fully meet the requirements of the different interests."

The resolutions further recommend that the presiding officer of the conference appoint a committee to serve for one year, to be composed of six representatives of the employer class and six of the employe class, to be selected as nearly as consistent from the different sections of the country, for the purpose of formulating some plan of action looking to the establishment of a general system of conciliation that will promote industrial peace. The committee is given power to appoint auxiliary committees.

Chairman MacVagh appointed as members of the committee for one year the same gentlemen who constituted the resolutions committee, as follows: A. C. Bartlett, vice president Hibbard, Spencer, Bartlett & Co., Chicago; Henry W. Hoyt, president National Founders' association; Herman Just, commissioner Illinois Coal Operators' association; G. Watson French, vice president Republic Iron and Steel company; E. D. Kenna, vice president Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway system; Chauncey H. Castle, president Stove Founders' National Defense association; Samuel Gompers, president American Federation of Labor; John Mitchell, president United Mine Workers; Martin Fox, president Iron Molders' union; Frank P. Sargent, grand master Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen; Henry White, general secretary United Garment Workers; James M. Lynch, president of the International Typographical union.

Bank Robbers Make a Good Haul.

Hope, Ind., Dec. 19.—The safe in the Citizens' bank here was blown open by robbers and looted of its contents early in the morning. The robbers escaped with their booty. It is not positively known the exact amount of money secured, but there was at least \$18,000 taken. Three or four men were connected with the robbery. A party of 20 men are scouring the country.

Striking Marine Engineers Win.

Pittsburg, Dec. 19.—The strike of the marine engineers, inaugurated four weeks ago, was compromised yesterday and officially declared off. The coal combine conceded the advance in wages demanded and agreed to take back all of the old employes, but refused to sign the scale presented by the union.

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Prunes are fine this season.

We have some good fruit at 5c. per lb., and finest goods at 10c. 12c. and 15c.

New Crop Florida Oranges 30c. 40c. and 50c. per dozen.

White Almeria Grapes, finest pink tinted stock.

Domestic Grapes in baskets.

Finest Cranberries.

Celery.

Table Raisins.

Nuts and Confectionery.

Finest Olives.

Table-Oil.

Pickles.

Ketchups.

Sauces.

Mushrooms.

Salmon.

Lobsters.

Sardines and New Mackerel.

MINCE MEAT--We are now making our genuine home made mince meat. All our friends who have used it know just what it is. The best that can be made and the price only 12 1-2 cents per pound.

We can name only a few of the leading items. Come and shop through our stock. You will find goods to supply all your wants.

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A Bulb Offer--Fresh Imported. Now is the time to Plant.

- 12 Kinds of Hyacinths best named for pots.....\$1.25
12 Kinds of Hyacinths for beds..... 75
25 Mixed Tulips, double and single..... 50
100 Crocus--All colors..... 50
10 Narcissus..... 25
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With every order of Five Dollars, we will send free one neat size Palm-Cut Flowers are a Specialty with us--Decorations for any occasion--Express prepaid on all orders of Two dollars or more.

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If Goods Are Not As Represented We Will Always Trade Back. Last week's rush made us increase our list of salesmen and all will be served with best accommodation.

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