

FOR-TOMORROW'S ISSUE UP TO 8 O'CLOCK P. M. For list of branch offices in the various districts see THIRD PAGE.

FORTY-FIFTH YEAR.

SOME HOPE OF PEACE

Held Out by Leading Knights of Labor, Who Talk on the Strike Situation.

A DECISION TO BE MADE

By Representatives of Various Organizations at Terre Haute.

THERE'S NOTHING TO ARBITRATE

Is Still the Cry of Mr. Webb, Who Is Determined to Fight It Out.

CHICAGO STOCK YARD MEN ALL QUIET

There is a growing belief among K. of L. leaders in New York that no general strike will be ordered. The Chicago stockyards railway employes struck yesterday, stopping business at the packing houses. At Albany a citizen was fired upon by a railroad and there was much excitement.

NEW YORK, August 22.—The interest of everybody directly concerned in the controversy between the New York Central Railroad Company and the Knights of Labor was considerably sharpened to-day by the second appearance in the breach of E. E. Donovan, of the members of the State Board of Arbitration and Mediation. The tidings of his first effort to settle the difficulty amicably, it was thought would prevent his reappearance as peace-maker, but it seems that a re-reading of the regulations governing the board and the appearance of General Master Workman Powderly, together with a number of threats against the railroad company which have been sent broadcast, made him consider it his duty to interfere again. He strode around between the Murray Hill Hotel, where he is stopping, and the St. Cloud Hotel, the headquarters of the Knights of Labor, with a copy of the rules of his board under his arm.

"The regulations make it clear," he said, "that the board's duty is to prevent a strike, if possible, as well as to settle one that is already begun. One strike is practically over, I understand, but it appears that another is imminent, and it is to prevent that that I am here."

Shortly after 11 o'clock Mr. Donovan called on Third Vice President Webb in his office in the Grand Central station and explained his mission. The interview was not a long one, but it must have been unsatisfactory to both gentlemen, for neither would say anything about it when it was over. "All that I can say," remarked Mr. Donovan, "is that the prospect for arbitration is mighty bad."

In order to get the views of both sides regarding the chances of his board for acting in the matter Mr. Donovan sent letters to both Mr. Webb and Mr. Powderly. The sentiment of both communications was the same.

THE SITUATION REVIEWED.

Two weeks ago to-night the wheels were stopped and the men went out. The men who then left their places, with confidence of reinstatement upon their own terms, are considering the situation to-night in their local assemblies, where they are joined in council by the members of the Executive Board. The leaders are also visiting other assemblies, not in any wise interested in the railroad strikes—fraternal visits from relaxation of the strain of the week.

Undoubtedly it is true that the rank and file of the men feel at present strong in the near presence of their leaders. They have been considering their immediate interests, and the men are pleased. They feel reinforced and more hopeful.

HOW THE LEADERS FEEL.

Whether the same is true of the leaders, who have assumed the responsibility and much of the care before pressing upon one district assembly, is a matter of grave doubt. The State Board of Arbitration has once more presented itself perfunctorily to aid a settlement. Mr. Powderly has hastened to accede, but the railroad has declined; and there is a chilly quietness about the declaration that suggests strong confidence on the part of the officials.

The leaders feel this. The situation to them is more than grave. There is a growing belief among persons who are following the course of events closely, that there will be no strike. Those whose business it is to keep posted, but who are not of either side of the controversy, believe there will be no further strike.

A GROWING CONVICTION.

They say they do not feel it wise to declare this belief to affect public opinion, but the conviction exists and grows. Of course, individuals who do not publicly proclaim such views are not called upon to state the grounds for such feeling. They hold the conviction, remain silent and wait. Meantime the day has been fruitful of more literature and no little talk.

It was rumored that possibly the next move would be the ordering out of all the mechanics along the line of the Central road. On this point Mr. Webb was questioned. "Anticipating," he said, "some ten days ago that by allowing the men employed in our various shops to remain I was furnishing knights ammunition."

At once ordered the shops to be closed, and directed that only enough help be retained to perform the actual necessary repairs that are required each day. At the present time we have fully 6,000 cars in course of construction at West Albany, and there 2,500 men have been laid off. If the mechanics are ordered to stop work by the Federation we are fully prepared to meet the emergency, and as the number of men that would be affected is comparatively small, their places would be rapidly filled."

Mr. Webb said that the Central has now 5,000 men under pay and ready to take the strikers' places, and that he has the names of as many more whom he can call on if wanted.

this afternoon sent the following letter to Vice President Webb:

DOVONAN TO WEBB.

NEW YORK, August 22.—DEAR SIR—I have come to the knowledge that another strike is seriously threatened on the lines of road of your company. I am instructed by the board to again communicate with you and advise you of the situation in the office of your company between you and representatives of your employes, with a view of devising some means, either by arbitration or another method as may be mutually agreed upon, whereby the threatened strike may be averted and abrupt interruption of travel and transportation of freight be prevented.

FLORENCE S. DOVONAN.

A similar letter was sent to Mr. Powderly. The following is Mr. Powderly's reply:

WILLING TO RESPOND.

DEAR SIR—I take pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your letter, in which the General Executive Board of the Knights of Labor is invited to a joint conference with the officials of the New York Central Railroad. Our board is willing to comply with your request, and holds itself in readiness to respond at a moment's notice.

DEAR SIR—I have received your letter of the 21st inst. regarding the service of the company, and with few exceptions have accepted your employment, but are engaged in holding meetings, conferring with the officials of the order, and seeking to prevent by peaceful means the rights of labor and other labor organizations, and seeking to prevent by peaceful means the rights of labor and other labor organizations, and seeking to prevent by peaceful means the rights of labor and other labor organizations.

NO EXISTING GRIEVANCE.

I am not aware of any difference or grievance existing between the company and its employes; and I must assume that the conference suggested by you will be held between the officials of the company and the officials of the Knights of Labor.

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