

ACQUITTALS CHARGES

William Geiger Testifies Before Coroner McDowell That William J. McCabe Was

KILLED BY LACK OF ATTENTION

He Says That Patients in the Hospital at the Riverside Penitentiary Are Starving.

THE WARDEN DEFIED BY A PRISONER

A Verdict Rendered Entertaining the Official From

"You can't choke me, I'll tell 'em all I know, Warden Wright," was the startling and emphatic statement made by a convict...

Coroner McDowell was notified yesterday afternoon that William J. McCabe had died in the penitentiary shortly after 1 o'clock...

In accordance with a State law, which provides that all deaths in penal or corrective institutions shall be investigated by the coroner...

Mr. Geiger says that the local company, in a good many instances, receives double rent for an instrument in an office where several people do business together...

Started the Penitentiary at Midnight. A number of penitentiary officers were first examined as to the cause of McCabe's death...

McCabe was sent to the hospital department on October 2, suffering apparently from rheumatism. He was treated for that disease until December 5, when, at his own request, he was returned to his cell...

John Easley, Captain of the Night Watch, rushed to the cell and found McCabe engaged in locking the few articles of furniture allowed to each prisoner...

McCabe refused to explain his conduct, but contented himself by demanding that he be placed in the dungeon. Word was sent to Warden Wright, who arose from his bed and went to McCabe's cell in the hope of quieting the prisoner...

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CHEAPER TELEPHONE SERVICE

A. J. Guise, of Philadelphia, Agitating the Passage of a Measure Controlling the Local Companies—Much Discrimination Exists in Rates.

BRIGHTER PROSPECTS

Now in Sight for the Affairs of the Westinghouse Interests.

PHILADELPHIA COMPANY MEETING

Resolution to Apply the Last Quarter's Earnings on the Debts.

REMOVAL OF AN EXECUTION PROVE FALSE

Affairs of the Westinghouse companies assumed a more cheerful shape yesterday, and no more suits were entered, the creditors evidently preferring to await the return of Mr. Westinghouse before making any move that would precipitate a crisis in his business interests.

On the street and in financial circles everywhere, the matter is still a difficult topic of conversation and as much interest is manifested in the condition of affairs as ever, there seemed yesterday to be an easier feeling, and it is now believed that, though the business may not survive under its present management, a change can be made, if necessary, without pinching or even hurting the creditors.

No one doubts that with the proper management the business would rapidly develop into a good paying concern. Even now, with its extravagant features eliminated, the company is thought to be in better condition than before this trouble was forced on it by the premature explosion of the damaging reports. While all the creditors were aware of the state of affairs they had no fear so long as it was kept quiet. When the whole matter was thrown open it made it look very serious, but through the united action of the local creditors a calamity has so far been averted and they hope to help the companies out, at the same time guarding themselves against loss.

Why the Trust Money Was Returned. An account of the severe criticism made against the Advisory Committee for returning the trust money to the local creditors of that committee came out yesterday and today by their took case action. They declare that Mr. Westinghouse and other members of the company were given two weeks' notice of the action to be taken. Mr. Walker, Chairman of the Advisory Committee, declares that he believes that under proper management the business could easily be put on a paying basis. Other members of the committee expressed the same opinion.

Secretary Uppergaff, of the Philadelphia Company, said yesterday that he was sure Mr. Westinghouse did not expect such a result, and was not prepared for it. He understood that the committee was to hold off until they saw how successful the Eastern mission might be. So far Mr. Westinghouse has not advised his associates what action he will take, and as a consequence they are as much in the dark as the public, except that it is understood that he has been quite successful in his efforts to secure Eastern capital.

The return of Mr. Westinghouse to-day, combined with the meeting of the creditors at the Eastern express last afternoon, promises some interesting developments, and the outcome is looked forward to with interest by all friends of the company and others connected with it. The Advisory Committee has been at work preparing to meet the meeting to-day and it will doubtless make some recommendations. It is the idea of the committee to do as much as possible toward helping the company out of the difficulties and, if possible, keep the vast interests intact to be counted among Pittsburgh's assets.

The Philadelphia Company's Statement. At the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Philadelphia Company, yesterday, as a matter of course, everybody was excluded but the members of the board. That there was any real business done is evident from the fact that but little more than half an hour was consumed in the meeting. The chief business was the adoption of the following resolution, which was done without discussion:

Resolved, That the regular quarterly dividend be omitted, and that the treasurer be directed to pay out of the earnings and expenses for the past quarter, and to expend a profit more than sufficient to pay the interest on the bonds of the Board of Directors, and to apply the money to the payment and decrease of the company's liabilities.

The statement of Treasurer John Caldwell showing the earnings and expenses in detail will be found in another column of this Dispatch this morning. The gross earnings for the three months ending December 31, were \$753,516.20; the total expenses were \$448,978.68, making the net earnings \$304,537.52.

At the close of the meeting each member of the board as he appeared was interrogated as to the action taken, but all refused to say anything, and the secretary, Mr. Uppergaff, was obliged to say nothing, but gave out the above statement. Secretary Uppergaff declared that the company had already been already seen by the only business transacted. The bylaws were adopted on the 9th, and the statement that they were to have been adopted today was simply an error. I expect Mr. Westinghouse will return to Pittsburgh to-day, but no meeting of this company is expected to be held on that account, as all the business has been transacted and everything is in good condition.

A Damaging Rumor Proves Groundless. A rumor coming from the Court House yesterday afternoon that executions amounting to \$10,000 had been issued against the Charities Gas Company, which is connected with the Westinghouse interests, caused a great deal of discussion. A DISPATCH man immediately proceeded to follow up the statement, but he was not compelled to go far as it was stopped short by Sheriff McCleary.

"I know nothing of it," said the official. "The only case against that company or any other gas company yesterday was brought by a woman. The only paper that was seen at the Sheriff's office was a summons to be issued on the Charities gas company. I don't know what the amount was, but it was on a suit in a right of way dispute. I had heard of other rumors and for that reason inquired into the matter, and found it unfounded."

The entire matter will be governed by the action of Mr. Westinghouse when he arrives in the city to-day. Nothing very definite can be learned of his success, but it seems to have been very good, and his associates here believe that he will be well prepared to lit the way of doubt and place the affairs of the company at rights.

LILLIAN SPENCER runs across Ohio, in Italy, and in THE DISPATCH to-morrow will tell some interesting stories about her.

J. G. B.'S BOY EMMONS. The Secretary's Son Visits Pittsburgh and Is Entertained by Squire Gribb.

Emmons Blaine, son of Hon. James G. Blaine, in company with W. F. Murray, a prominent coal operator of Cleveland, was in the city yesterday. During the day they went to Elizabeth, and there met Squire J. H. Graham and drove over the lands owned by Mr. Blaine in Forward township, adjoining Elizabeth. After returning, the party had lunch with Mr. Graham at his residence.

Last evening lunch was had at the Duquesne Club, after which Mr. Blaine will be limited for Chicago and Mr. Murray returned to Cleveland.

THE OIL SITUATION

Mr. Payne, of the Standard, Predicts a Decline in Production and a Slight Advance in Price—Average Daily Output Now Is 80,000 Barrels.

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It turns out now that there is a peculiar fight about to be made which will force the men in the six non-union factories in the East, who are yet without the pale of the order, to join the organization. This information was dropped by General Secretary Hays and Mr. Wright of the Executive Board of the Knights of Labor, during their conference with the firm of Ihmsen & Co., on the Southside, yesterday.

Details of the manner in which the issue is to be forced were not made known, but it is understood that Poughkeepsie, N. Y., is to be the seat of war, and that influence will be brought against the firm to have the factory organized. When asked for the facts in the case both Messrs. Hays and Wright refused to say anything.

Six Weeks Set as the Limit. I. N. Ross, of D. A. 3, who heard the conversation, said last evening: "I am not in a position to give the facts in the case, but I am satisfied that within a very short time—six weeks at the outside—all of the green bottle blowers will be in our organization."

Secretary John Gas, of L. A. 611, said after the adjournment of that organization last night, that there are six or seven non-union factories in the United States where the men have refused to be organized. They claim to have organizations of their own, and while he has had no positive information as to the truth of the matter, he assumed some shape by which the K. of L. officials expected to capture them.

Mr. Wright went to the Southside yesterday to negotiate with the firm of Ihmsen & Co.'s glasshouse. He was accompanied by Mr. Hays, I. N. Ross, George Dovey and J. L. Evans. The firm reported that the reason they had not been organized was because they had no right to deal with a local committee. In support of their statement they displayed a copy of the following agreement:

The Scale of Wages Now in Force. Scale of wages of L. A. 148, K. of L., for the first ending June 30, 1901.

We, the undersigned committee, representing the manufacturers on the one hand and L. A. 148, K. of L., on the other, have agreed to the following scale of wages for the first ending June 30, 1901:

First—No employe to be discharged, or to quit work without giving (7) days' notice, except for drunkenness or disorderly conduct.

Second—Master or foreman, before discharging any employe, shall give him a regular time, shall be paid their regular wages.

Third—Members of Local Assembly 148 to have first privilege of vacancies.

Fourth—In case the members are required to put in time, we ask 25 cents for each night, when two or more members do the work; but, when a single member does this amount to be paid, or 125 cents per night.

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Messrs. Hays and Wright informed the firm that the General Executive Board of the K. of L., of which L. A. 300 forms a part, had jurisdiction over that organization and could order a strike at any time despite the agreement, and if a strike were ordered the members of L. A. 300 would be bound to obey the order.

The matter was settled temporarily by the firm agreeing to call a meeting of their stockholders for the purpose of discussing the situation and arranging matters as they might be able to do. Mr. Wright will lay the matter before the Executive Board of Philadelphia in a few days, where he will be instructed to advise the board on the matter. The matter will be permanently settled when Mr. Wright returns on January 28.

MASTER PLUMBERS MEET. They Talked Over the Trade and How It Could Be Improved.

The Master Plumbers' Association, of Pittsburgh, held a secret meeting at the Anderson yesterday to discuss the condition of trade and how it can be improved. The supply men were invited to be present. Allen McFadden is President of the organization, but he did not attend yesterday's meeting. The association has about 100 members, but some of the leading men in the business do not belong to it.

The plumbers were very reticent. One of them claimed that nothing had been done. It was pointed out that the matter is a talk combination, nor have they a schedule of rates which all are required to maintain. Each one is at liberty to set what price he can for their work, and some of the men complained that there were too many men in the business in Pittsburgh. The relations of the manufacturers and plumbers are very harmonious.

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