

GENERAL NEWS OF INDUSTRIES February Statement of the Reading System Shows Favorable Results.

OLD DEFICIT IS SCALED DOWN While the Road is Not Making Any Money These Democratic Days, It is at the Same Time Happy at a Fact That It is Losing Less Than Formerly—The Figures for Last Month Presented in Detail—Other Readable Topics of Industrial Interest.

The February statement of the Reading Railroad and Coal and Iron companies was issued yesterday afternoon. The gross receipts of the railroad company were \$1,270,617, gross expenses, \$805,944, leaving a profit from operating of \$464,673, net profit from other sources, \$100,000, and operating profit make the profit for the month \$564,673. The total charges for the month aggregate \$937,944, thus leaving a deficit for the month of \$373,271.

The soft coal carrying roads have decided upon a reduction in freight rates to take effect April 3, when the new circular rates of the soft coal operators becomes effective. The rate to Philadelphia, Newport News and Baltimore will be reduced from \$1.40 to \$1.30. To South Amboy the reduction will be 20 cents per ton and to Jersey City and New York harbor 15 cents per ton.

The amalgamated association conference committee and the Mahoning Valley manufacturers reached an agreement at midnight after ten hours' session. A \$4 tariff rate was agreed upon, class 7, the same as the rate in the Philadelphia, Newport News and Baltimore. In all other mills not averaging fifteen tons return a week the freight shall be paid by the company in the shipping and handling department on board \$1.50; class 2, \$1.75; class 3, \$2.00. The soft coal will be subject to six days' notice. President Garland and Secretary Kilgallon both think the agreement will be satisfactory.

The following directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad company were elected Tuesday, these being no opposition: George D. Roberts, Alex. M. Cox, Alex. Bidwell, N. Parker Shortridge, Henry D. Welan, William L. Ekins, H. H. Honston, A. J. Cassal, C. A. Grison, B. B. Comings, Amos R. Little, W. H. Barnes and George Wood. Seven hundred and eighty-eight shares were voted.

Sixty coal workers employed by the Frick Coal company, at Lehigh, were discharged Tuesday, the men claiming on account of their activity in perfecting the organization. This the company officials deny. It is said that other operators will join in the movement and that hundreds of men will be dismissed at once. The miners have posted their seals and threaten to strike Monday unless their demands are granted.

These judgments were entered in the Dauphin county court Tuesday in state tax cases, Lehigh Valley Railroad company, tax on loans for 1893 favor of commonwealth, for \$63,195.77; Warren Savings bank, of Warren, in favor of defendant.

The Philadelphia Times thinks that as the representative center of the individual operator the Fifth antitrust district has no parallel in the state. There are eighteen great interests within a radius of eighteen miles of Hazleton, the natural supply point of the district, and the district is a mine inspector just made public shows a total production of coal of 6,239,099 tons with total shipments at 5,591,633. But three corporations figure in the list of operators, indicating the paucity of distribution of available land.

In an elongated the Philadelphia Press quotes the law governing the appointment of mine inspectors, and approves the refusal of Governor Pattison, upon recommendation of Deputy Attorney General Stranahan, to appoint John M. H. M. mine inspector of the Eight antitrust district. "It is not," the Press says, "a question of individuals, but it is one of very decided concern as bearing upon the efficiency of mine inspection and the safety of human life. There are eight of these mine inspectors provided for the antitrust region, whose salaries and expenses are paid by the state. If all of them had attended to their duties with that efficiency which it is right to expect of them it is very certain some of the accidents in the mines during the past two or three years involving the loss of life would not have occurred. It is more efficiently and not less that is required. If that cannot be had by the present method of appointment—although that method appears to have been well devised—then it will be necessary to create some other. The man who perils his life in a coal mine is entitled to all the security and appliances for safety it is possible to give him. Governor Pattison is therefore right in refusing to appoint a man who in his examination fell below the legal standard. The fact that the board of examiners, headed by the law, recommended him, does not offer any excuse for the appointment under the circumstances. Let them find and recommend someone who meets the requirements of the law at least."

perior, Wis., has been let to the Dodge Coal Storage company, of Chicago. It will be of iron and steel and will be one of the most complete docks at the head of the lake having a capacity of 150,000 tons. For the first time in ten years the Lyons Valley coal mines are not in operation. Work has been suspended owing to lack of orders, but it is believed they will start up again about April 1. About 1,200 men at Lyons and Williamson are thrown out of work.

The Cleveland Milling Mill company's booth mill, at Newburg, which has been idle since last December on account of a lack of orders, started up with a full force of 100 men on orders which it will take six months to turn out.

The new Erie and West Virginia, erected at Denver, Col., at a cost of \$25,000, have been begun operation with a force of 200 men in addition to those employed in the old mill.

The Theobald iron works are working full time on two pieces of elevated railway in New York and they are business now than they have been before in a year.

The best sive in the world for Cuts Bruises, Swells, Ulcers, Salt Rheum, Fever Sores, Fetter, Chapped Hands, Chilblains, Burns, Scalds, and all other eruptions, is Buckle's Arnica Salve. It is guaranteed to give perfect satisfaction or money refunded. Price 25 cents per box. For sale by Matthews Bros.

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We have decided that now is an appropriate time for another Great Sale of Cotton Goods. Special endeavors will be made in our Domestic Department to make this sale a memorable one and a money-saving one for our friends. The special prices will hold good for ONE WEEK ONLY.

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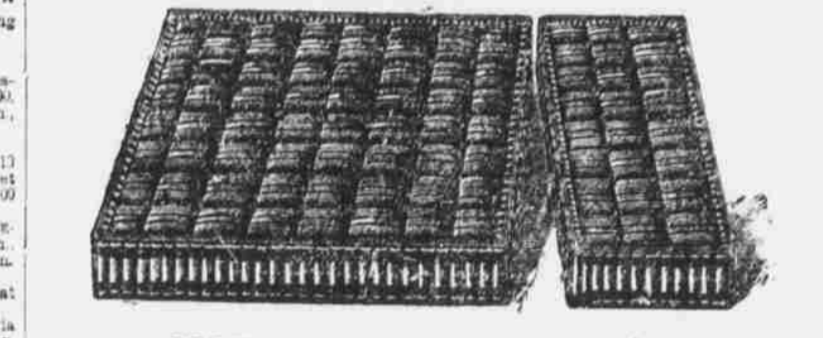
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FRIDAY, MARCH 30. The Crust of Society. Zeffie Tilbury.

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