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LIVE NEWS OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORLD
GRAND OFFICERS OF RAILROAD MEN SUMMONED.

A Snag of Some Kind Was Struck During the Conference Yesterday Between Superintendent Russell and the Committee Representing the Railway Men—Scarcity of Miners and the Cause—Two Resignations—Odds and Ends of News of a Varied Character.

The conference between committees representing the conductors and trainmen of the Lackawanna road and Superintendent Russell came to an end yesterday afternoon.

Just what caused the termination of the conference has not been announced, but it is surmised that a snag of some kind was struck, for after the committees withdrew from the conference dispatches were sent to E. E. Clark, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, grand chief of the Order of Railway Conductors, and P. H. Morrissy, of Peoria, Ill., grand master of the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, who will arrive in the city tomorrow. In the afternoon they will meet with the committees and matters pertaining to the conference will be considered. On the result of the meeting between the grand officers and the committees will depend the time when the conference with the Lackawanna officials will be resumed. While the committees were very reticent as to the nature of the disagreement that arose in the conference, their manner would indicate that they do not anticipate any serious consequences.

Scarcity of Miners.

In the year 1899 we see the culmination of the evil practices that have been in vogue for the past quarter of a century, at least. It has been a custom at almost every mine in the country whenever business became slack to discharge the single men first, and this seemed to be the proper thing to do, as the young man unburdened with a family was in a better position to hustle than the man of many responsibilities, but it has resulted disastrously at last, and has become the same result as would happen to a farmer who disposes of all the young stock, depending on the fact that the old stock was good when he started in. The young men have naturally drifted into other employments in the lines of mining where the work was more regular. The old miners have worn out and their places are empty today. The American miner is an almost unknown quantity, and will soon be a thing of the past. The operator must now depend upon imported labor, the supply of which is limited and the work very inferior, or resort to machinery, which is very expensive, both to purchase and keep in repair. All this happens to come at a time which can ill afford to be hampered in this way, and a serious demand for coal far beyond the expectation of everybody.

It has been expected that powers other than steam would offset the loss in the ranks of the miners, but this has not occurred, the consumption of coal has shown an increase of 200,000 tons, and the coal producers are at their wits' end to know how to meet the situation—Black Diamond.

Railroads of the Country.

According to figures compiled by the Interstate Commerce commission, in this country last year, an increase of 240 over the preceding year. Of these, 9,956 were classed as passenger locomotives, 20,827 as freight locomotives, and 5,234 as switching locomotives, the remainder being unclassified. The total number of cars of all classes reported in the service of the railroads was 1,326,174, being an increase of 28,694. Of this large number 33,995 were used in passenger service, 1,288,826 in the freight service and 43,753 in the service of the railroads themselves. There were used in the United States last year 28 locomotives and 718 cars per hundred miles of line. The number of passengers carried for each passenger locomotive was 50,228, while an average of 42,614 tons of freight was hauled by each locomotive. The number of persons employed by the railroads in this country last year was 874,565, which is equivalent to 474 employees per hundred mile of line. As compared with the number of employees for the previous year, there was an increase of 51,082. The amount of railway capital outstanding on June 30, 1898, not including current liabilities in the term, was \$10,818,554,631. This amount assigned to a mileage basis represents a capital of \$60,342 per mile of line. It is stated that the aggregate number of passengers carried on all the railroads in the United States for the year ended June 30, 1898, was 501,066,687. The gross earnings of the railroads of the United States for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1898, were \$1,247,325,621, being greater by \$125,235,848 than for the previous year.

Two Resignations Handed In.
James Runyon, who for the past twenty-five years has been foreman of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western paints shops in this city, resigned his position yesterday.

W. D. Tunyon, his son, who was chief clerk at the car repair accountants' office, also tendered his resignation to the company yesterday.

Tonnage Stations Created.
The Lackawanna Railroad company has created stations in this city near its freight house at the "Notch," Taylor and May Aves., to be known as tonnage stations. The men in charge will be required to keep a record of the tonnage of every train. Every car

will have a way bill showing its tonnage and other details. A copy of the way bills will be turned into Chief Clerk Sproul, of the tonnage department, under Superintendent of Transportation Daily and another copy will accompany the cars to its destination.

This and That.

There is no settlement yet in the Susquehanna Coal company strike. The men remain quiet.

R. P. Adams has been appointed superintendent of telegraph for the Central Railroad of New Jersey with headquarters at Jersey City. Mr. Adams is a western man, who has for some years been employed on the New York Central.

The employees of the Andrews & Hitchcock blast furnace at Sharon, Pa., were notified Tuesday of an advance in wages of 10 per cent, taking effect tomorrow. This is the third voluntary advance within five months. One hundred and fifty men are affected.

H. P. Cooper, of Pottsville, has received from the Lehigh Portland Cement company, of Ormrod, the contract to furnish the steel for the latter's new mill. Mr. Cooper represents the Passaic Rolling Mill company, of Paterson, N. J. About 450 tons of steel will be required.

The work at the Weatherly shops of the Lehigh Valley prior to the concentration of the shops from Hazleton and Delano, is progressing very rapidly, and when completed it will make one of the best shops that the coal region has ever enjoyed. It will contain all the modern improvements and will be light and airy. The shops will be ready for occupancy about Sept. 15.

POOR BOARD MEETING.

Howard P. Davies Chosen Book-keeper at Hillside Home to Succeed John F. Williams. Officers Report.

The poor board met in regular session at the city hall yesterday. Mr. Lausant, who was only absent a few days, was absent on account of illness. The meeting was devoid of any interesting features. Director Paine, of the home committee, informed the board that his committee had selected Howard P. Davies, of 713 South Main avenue, as bookkeeper, to succeed John F. Williams, who resigned a few weeks ago. On motion of Mr. Fuller, Mr. Davies was elected to the position. His salary will be \$40 per month and board. The appointee is 20 years of age and is a brother to John J. Davies, the well known druggist of West Scranton. He is a graduate of the Scranton High school, and the Scranton Business college.

The number of cases seeking relief was not as large as usual. Dr. Halpert, of Linden street, appeared in the interest of a Miss Lavenstein, of Linden street. She is 19 years of age and is in the final stages of consumption. If she remains in this part of the country, she will die within a year. Dr. Halpert informed the board. He asked that the board use its influence with the railroad companies to secure a reduced rate for two to Denver, Col., for which the young woman's friends will pay. The best the members could do was to give transportation to Buffalo.

James Duffy, of Theodore street, North Scranton, asked that his son, a young man 18 years of age, be sent to the Hillside home for medical treatment in his class. The board, through a physician of that district, stated the fellow needed medical attention badly. The board instructed Dr. Bessey to treat him.

George Herrman, of West Scranton, asked to have his poor tax stricken from his class. The board, through John Cokely, an old man, who said he was brought here by his grand-children from Pittsburg, asked for aid. The case was referred to Mr. Fuller.

Mrs. Anna Hean, of 1811 Stone avenue, requested to have her two feeble-minded boys sent to the Hillside Home, and her two baby boys sent to an orphan asylum. Her wishes will be carried out.

Mrs. James Greaghan of North Scranton, appeared with her 14-year-old son who is also feeble minded, and asked that he be sent to an institution for his class. The board will make an effort to have him placed in the Elwyn Home, near Philadelphia.

The report of Superintendent Reemer, of the Hillside Home, showed that on July 21, the home contained 42 inmates, while today there are three less than that number. During August three sane and three insane males were admitted. Six insane and five sane males, one sane and two insane females died. Three sane and two insane patients were discharged. One birth, a male, was born to the large family on the hill.

THEATRICAL.

"The Purple Lady."

Sydney Rosenfeld's farce, "The Purple Lady," was the attraction with which the Lyceum was last night opened for the season. It is a good warm weather farce for the audience, but the poor actors must have suffered during the whirlwind scenes when action was pulled upon action. Even a warm weather farce cannot well exist without whirlwind scenes and action galore.

"The Purple Lady" is an artist's model, who turns up unexpectedly on the eve of the artist's marriage to a very proper young woman, who knows nothing about the past of her fiancée. In his efforts to keep the identity of "The Purple Lady" a secret from his father-in-law and mother-in-law to be, Eric Rogers brings about a fine series of misunderstandings and complications. The principal roles were Frank Prof. Archibald Gilworthy, a character modelled on the lines of "The Private Secretary." If there is nothing especially new or original about the farce, it can be said for it that it is entertaining and is presented by a company of very good actors. Those who sustained the principal roles were Frank B. Hatch, James Carew, C. H. Robertson, Teresa Maxwell, Olive Porter, Laura Nelson Hall, C. H. Robertson, Edith Ives and Henry Stackbridge,

The farce was preceded by the one-act drama, "The Reckoning."

Popular Prices Next Week.

The Wolford Sheridan company promises to open their week's engagement at the Academy of Music commencing Monday matinee with a bill that should attract general attention. "On the Mississippi," the most famous of all plays, will be presented in its entirety, which means that some of the most beautiful stage settings will be shown. All that skillful mechanics can do to make the production of this company complete has been done. It has required over three months of hard work to get the plays in good shape. The company includes Miss Mamie Sheridan Wolford, who is one of the most prominent leading ladies in repertoire, Miss Gertrude Hilliker, Miss Stella Blair, Frank E. Camp, Joseph Eggerton, Victor Harvey, J. R. Keller, Frank J. Hilliker, Fred C. Chauncey, Harry Bronson, Charles West, C. D. Wilson, etc. Polite vaudeville will be shown between the acts of every performance, also Prof. J. W. Hampton's dog, cat and monkey circus.

"A Trip to Chinatown."

Charles Hoyt, the popular American playwright, has been catering to the risible side of the fickle public for the past decade and during that time he has contributed many successes to the American stage. His great success is "A Trip to Chinatown" and this comedy was, and always will be, the most popular with theater-goers. It is by his constant keeping the interest at the extreme tension that one of the secrets of Hoyt's successes may be discovered. Monday, Sept. 4, matinee and evening, at the Lyceum the new "A Trip to Chinatown" will be presented, revised and polished up to date, presented by a cast of singers, dancers, comedians and burlesquers, the strongest ever seen in this comedy, headed by Harry Gifford.

"The Dairy Farm."

One of the important new productions of the season promises to be James H. Wallick's pastoral play, "The Dairy Farm." Manager Reis, who witnessed several rehearsals of the play, says: "The Dairy Farm" is rich in sentiment and laughter. The quiet sayings and mirth provoking doings of characters whose originals actually lived in the '50s are in the spirit of true humor. "The Dairy Farm" will receive its first production in this city

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at Lyceum theater on Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 6 and 7.

PRICEBURG.

Local branch, No. 196, of United Mine Workers of America, will meet on Monday morning at Foley's hall at 7:30 o'clock, to prepare for Labor day parade, in which they will take part. An invitation is extended to all mine workers to be on hand and participate in the same. The silk mill in this place will be idle on Monday.

BAD COMPLEXIONS RED ROUGH HANDS FALLING HAIR PREVENTED BY CUTICURA SOAP

The most effective skin purifying and beautifying soap in the world, as well as purest and sweetest for toilet, bath, and nursery. It strikes at the cause of bad complexions, red, rough hands, falling hair, and baby blemishes, viz, the clogged, irritated, inflamed, overworked, or sluggish pores.

SPECIAL SALE
This Week of Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry, Etc.

Now is the time to get a bargain at these prices. You cannot obtain them in the future. Call and see them.

- Fine Diamond Rings at \$5.99, worth \$10.50.
 - Solid Gold Band Rings at \$1.25, worth \$2.50.
 - Solid Gold Band Rings at \$1.00, worth \$2.25.
 - Gold Filled Cuff Buttons, 50c., worth \$1.25.
 - Cuff Buttons, previous prices \$1.00, now 50c.
 - Gent's Solid Silver Watch, Elgin movement, \$2.50.
 - Ladies' Sterling Silver Watches, worth \$5.50, now \$2.75.
 - Gent's Nickel Watches, S. W., price \$2.50, now \$1.25.
 - Rogers Bros' Spoons, warranted, 50c.
 - Rogers Bros' Butter Knives, Sugar Spoons, Pickle Forks, 5c., previous price 7c.
 - Ladies' Solid Gold Watch, Elgin movement, \$14.50.
 - Ladies' Gold Filled Watches at \$5.50, worth \$15.00.
- We also have about three hundred Ladies' Solid Silver Rings, worth 50c. and 75c., will close them at 30c. each. Special sale now going on at Davidow Bros. Attend as we are offering goods at one-fourth their original value. Extra Heavy Solid Silver Thumbtaps at 15c.

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- Boys' and Youths' Shoes at 98c and \$1.29.
- Misses' Shoes at 98c.
- Children's Shoes at 25c up.
- Little Gents' School Shoes at 59c to 98c.

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The Towel Sale Will Continue During This Week

Like many other surprises we spring a mid-summer Towel Sale that will set you to guessing for a reason why. We usually give a reason for a singular move of this kind. We have no reason that we care to tell now, only we have the towels. We have a lot of them and they are priced lower than you have ever known them before. Almost at the price of common crash you can get towels here, big, fleecy fellows for the bath, great wide huck or damask ones, big and roomy, a regular armful of linen, great, generous towels that will dry you right.

Here Are Two Great Lots:

- At 12½c each, or \$1.40 per dozen=500 dozen huck and Damask towels, of various grades and sizes, with hemmed or fringed ends.
- At 15c each, or \$1.70 per dozen=500 dozen huck-aback towels, hemmed or hem-stitched ends, in four different qualities and sizes.

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