

# NEWS OF THE LABOR WORLD

## DEMAND FOR ANTHRACITE CONTINUES BRISK.

Difficult for Operators to Get Coal to Points Where It Is Most Needed. Present State of the Iron Market. Manufacturing Concerns in General Report That the Foreign Trade Is Very Heavy—Rumored Changes in the Passenger Service of the Lehigh Valley.

This week's letter in the Engineering and Mining Journal, has the following to say about the anthracite coal trade:

"The demand for hard coal continues brisk; the operators find it difficult yet to get forward coal to the points where it is most wanted and prices are very firm. Consequently, the anthracite stories about losses of millions of dollars on account of the strike are tough yarns, if not worse. Consumers in all anthracite-bearing territory want coal. Throughout the west and northwest on inland routes and along the inland seaboard the present combination of large demand and good prices has not been equalled in years. Lake navigation is still open and the rising and transportation companies are trying their best to get coal forward, as navigation will close any day.

The movement of coal from Buffalo, retarding the latest of the season and the danger of storms, is heavy, but there are said to be many loaded cars standing on tracks there waiting for boats. The receipts of hard coal at Buffalo are still in the millions of tons below year's figures at this time. The high lake freight rates, 75c from Buffalo to Lake Michigan ports, will probably help reduce the movement of coal by water to the west. The demand for rail and lake are still far below demand. Chestnut is the size most wanted. In the east consumers at points east of Cape Cod are anxious, and these dealers at Boston who delayed placing orders are now after coal at most any price, so that spot coal commands a premium. Bad weather is interfering with coastwise transportation, and down east consumers will find coal high this winter.

There are already rumors of a great strike in the coal fields next April. It is not unlikely that the operators will then undertake to settle the wage question for some time. At present the mine employees, particularly the young men and breaker boys, do not seem to realize the part that national politics played in settling the recent strike and are inclined to stop work on very small provocation.

We continue to quote free-burning white ash L. O. B. New York harbor ports as follows: Hudson \$57; Erie \$43.50; St. Lawrence \$48.50; Pocahontas \$50.

At Pittsburg fully 1,500,000 bushels of coal were shipped during the week, a large part of which was destined for the New Orleans market.

## Condition of the Iron Market.

The iron trade was comparatively quiet last week, with an absence of the November excitement. More inquiry than sales is reported by brokers. Consumers are willing to buy, but erroneous opinions seem to exist as to the probable course of prices.

A large business is reported in structural steel, bars and merchant steel. Some orders for rails have been placed, though the railroads are holding back all except absolute necessities. Plans are in fair demand.

The railroads will make a reduction, probably of 40c a ton, in rates from Pittsburg to the seaboard. This is distinct from the reduction on export business.

Discussion of next year's prices on ore and fuel has already begun. Nothing definite has yet been decided as to ore prices, though furnacemen seem confident of a lower rate on Lake Superior ores. Some contracts for coke have been made at \$2 a ton, f. o. b. ovens, and that rate seems to be generally accepted as probable for the year.

## Big Foreign Trade.

From manufacturing concerns all over the country come nothing but the most glowing reports of the magnitude of the foreign trade carried. A few instances are given below.

German railway interests have contracted with the Richmond, Va., Locomotive works for twenty-four improved locomotives. The same concern has its employees working on twelve locomotives to be delivered in Finland in March or April. It is government work and the Finland authorities wanted thirty-six locomotives in all but the Virginians were unable to turn them out in the specified time.

The Schenectady, N. Y., Locomotive works are preparing ten freight locomotives for the Cape Government railways in South Africa.

The B. F. Sturtevant company, of Boston, has an especially heavy foreign trade and reports orders for engines, blowers and other apparatus, aggregating two hundred, for Japan, seventy-five for Russia, forty for Germany, thirty-two for Canada, and twenty-four for Sweden, and a number of smaller deals with Cuba, Mexico and South and Central America.

## Changes on the Lehigh Valley.

Many rumors are in the air, regarding contemplated and important changes in the passenger service on the Lehigh Valley Railroad. It is said that superintendent on the Wyoming division, C. L. Burke, has been offered the superintendency of the Mahanoy and Hazleton division, should Superintendent Keith decide to take charge of the New York and Pennsylvania division. It is generally understood that Superintendent Keith has decided to take the post.

Another rumor is to the effect that passenger crews, instead of running from Jersey City to Easton, and thence to Sayre, will henceforth run from Mauch Chunk to Sayre. The fact that the East Mauch Chunk engine house, which up to a few months ago was used as a store house, has been cleaned up and arranged for the housing of engines, may have caused the rumor.

## A New Local Union.

The wave of labor organization which accompanied the arrival of Organizer Fred Dilleher, of the United Mine Workers, into the city has now struck the female domestics of the city, and it is very likely that within a few weeks the household queens will have formed a local union.

For some time past there has been talk of a servant girls' and chambermaids' union, but no steps towards organization have ever been taken. Organizer Dilleher has received a communication, however, asking him to organize the domestics, and with the aid of one of the Labor Federation officers this will be done.

## The Next Convention.

The next convention of the American Federation of Labor will in all likelihood be held in this city. The general sentiment of the convention seems to

be in favor of Scranton, and George H. Gotcher, the local delegate, is working industriously to secure it.

Several telegrams of a very sanguine nature have been received from Mr. Gotcher, and Friday night Organizer Fred Dilleher, of the United Mine Workers' association, received a telegram which was of a very encouraging nature. It was from President John Mitchell of the mine workers, and stated that the convention was practically an assured thing for Scranton.

## Today's D. L. & W. Board.

Today's D. L. and W. board is as follows:

Sunday, Dec. 9.

WILD CATS, EAST.

6 p. m.—A. E. Ketchum.  
8 p. m.—H. Bennett.  
11 p. m.—H. T. Follis.

Monday, Dec. 10.

WILD CATS, EAST.

12:30 a. m.—H. Robert.  
2 a. m.—John Scarzo.  
4 a. m.—P. Gilligan.  
6 a. m.—R. Costner.  
8 a. m.—O. Randolph.  
10:30 a. m.—T. Nauman.  
1 p. m.—H. Blasing, J. Ennis' men.  
2 p. m.—R. Wallace.  
3:45 p. m.—O. Kearney.  
4:45 p. m.—J. Gerrity.

SUMMIT.

8:30 a. m.—west—J. Frontfeller.  
11 a. m.—west—H. Nichols.  
2 p. m.—west—J. Carrigan.  
5 p. m.—east—J. Modigan.  
7:30 p. m.—west—H. Gilligan.  
7 p. m.—west, from Ouyous, 2 engines—W. R. McLean.  
7 p. m.—east, from Nay Aug, 3 engines—E. E. Duffy.

PULLER.

10 a. m.—F. E. Seer.

PUSHERS.

8 a. m.—Houser.  
11:30 a. m.—Moran.  
9 p. m.—Murry.  
9 p. m.—A. H. Rowe.

WILD CATS, WEST.

7 a. m.—Mullen.  
8 a. m.—O. W. Fitzgerald.  
11 a. m.—G. Thomas, Rogers men.  
12 noon—H. Smith.  
1 p. m.—Kingsley.  
2 p. m.—E. G. Rogers.  
3 p. m.—J. Barler.  
4 p. m.—C. W. Dunn.  
5 p. m.—T. J. Thompson.  
5:30 p. m.—W. Kirby, A. G. Hammit's men.  
6 p. m.—J. Galagan.  
7 p. m.—Huggerty.  
7:30 p. m.—C. Bartholomew.  
8 p. m.—O. Case.

## Office-Seeking in China.

Wherein It Differs from the Style in Vogue Here.

W. E. Curtis in Chicago Record.

In China nothing changes. Every institution, every custom and every idea is based upon a foundation laid in the days of Noah and Abraham. Sovereigns reign and die, dynasties rise and fall, and even foreign powers invade the empire and assume the throne, but the institutions of the country remain immutable, absorbing rather than being absorbed by the foreign element that occasionally intrudes. The politics, the social customs, the laws, the habits, the forms of procedure all conform to the ideas expressed by the ancient sages, who were gifted with perfect wisdom.

The manner of examination of candidates for office today is similar to that at the beginning of the Christian era. The applicants report at the provincial capital and are graded into classes. Most of them already hold official positions, others are students who have spent years of preparation for the ordeal. On the appointed day each candidate passes into the hall of examinations, gives his name, the grade of office for which he is an aspirant, his residence, and other information which is all carefully recorded. He is then presented with a sealed envelope and conducted to a cell, where he remains without food or other refreshments until he has written a thesis upon the subject written upon a slip of paper in the envelope. As he comes out of the cell on completing his work he hands the manuscript to the man in charge and goes his own way. A few weeks later, after the manuscripts have all been examined and marked according to their merit, or, perhaps, as is often the case, by the use of money and other influence with the judges, the names of the successful are announced, and from that time remain upon a list of "expectants" who are eligible for appointment to offices of certain grades.

To obtain a promotion, as well as an original appointment, the same examination is necessary. The topics furnished to candidates are limited almost exclusively to the ethics and philosophy of Confucius. Under the influence of Kang Yu Wei and other reformers in 1898 the emperor issued an edict adopting a new system and modernizing the method so as to make it more practical, but it was revoked by the emperor's death. Under the influence of twenty centuries ago still prevail. It is a cover for a great deal of favoritism, despotism and corruption. While theoretically the examinations are in secret, and the judges who pass upon the manuscripts are not supposed to know who wrote them, candidates who have a pull can get their names passed.

## Hints About the Teeth.

A Foreigner Who Criticizes Tendency to Gold Fillings in This Country.

From the New York Sun.

"The dentists of this country," said a foreigner, "may be the best in the world and their success in all other countries has indeed proved that, but it is nevertheless the fact that one New York woman in the mouth of the women here than could be found anywhere else in the world. It may be that dentistry is cheap and in the reach of everybody. Whatever the reason, this peculiarity is not a beauty of American women, and if the practice increases during the next ten years as it has during the past decade there will be still more to criticize in the looks of the women. I saw an actress the other evening whose mouth might have served for a dentist's sign, so carefully were her teeth built up with gold. She was not supposed, of course, to be anything beautiful and was a comedienne to be laughed at. Nevertheless she would have been very much more entertaining if the amount of gold had not been so very apparent. In Europe many of the dentists have used with women the new porcelain fillings, which are white, and in nearly every way exactly like the natural teeth. The great defect in them is their fragility. They are very likely, for instance, to break after one suddenly drinks cold water or drops out of the tooth as easily as if they had never been put there to stay. The effect while it lasts is, of course, very much more likely to increase the appearance of the mouth, but the system as a substitute of metal has not been a success.

"Every now and then one hears of some new invention to take the place of gold. So far they have all failed. Now a new formula has been discovered which is said to combine the visual merits of the porcelain with the enduring property of the gold. In that case many women will have cause to be grateful and so will men who are weary with the sight of women with gold in their mouths. A great many of them who stand in need of this kind of treatment get in such a condition through rubbing their teeth too much and too hard. I read the other day of a man old enough to know better who advised everybody to clean their teeth three minutes twice a day. He said that at least three minutes of hard rubbing was necessary, and as a shorter time could produce no good results, he advised everybody to do this first by the clock in order to get into the habit. A dentist told me that the strongest teeth if it were kept up. It is just as bad as the idea that some persons have that a stiff tooth brush is hard that it is almost painful is the best kind. As a matter of fact a tooth brush to be properly used should always be soaked for several minutes, at least ten and not more than fifteen, in a glass of water. Then it will not only do its work much better, but prove advantageous instead of injurious to the teeth."

# EMPHATIC TALK

## The Kind That Carries Conviction to Every Scranton Reader.

Conviction must follow such emphatic proof as is given here. The testimony of Scranton residents should satisfy the most skeptical. Here is a Scranton case. Read it and see if doubt can exist in the face of this evidence.

Mrs. M. Evans, of 1832 Washburn street, says: "I had backache for at least three years, not always real bad, but it grew gradually worse. I saw Don's Kidney Pills advertised and got them in Matthews Brothers' drug store. They began to help me within a week, and from that time I grew better rapidly until cured."

For sale by all dealers. Price, 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N. Y., sole agents for the United States. Remember the name, Don's, and take no substitute.

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are the true source of good, healthy appearance.  
Persons with half-starved nerves always look worried and "draggled-out." You cannot be happy without nerve in vigor; you cannot be natural without all the powers which nature meant you to have.

**Sex-ins Pills**  
produce a healthful glow which art cannot imitate. They invigorate every organ, put new force to the nerves, elasticity to the step and rosy color to face and form to lines of health and beauty.

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And largely shown in waist lengths of from 3 1/2 to 4 yards each, and fully five hundred different patterns to choose from.

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