

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION INVESTIGATES

Inquiry into the Recent Combination Between Railroads in Anthracite Region.

MR. CHILDS ON THE RACK

Questions Put to Show That Railroads Own and Operate Coal Mines and in Other Cases Buy the Coal and Transport the Coal to Tidewater, Instead of Acting as Common Carriers—Editor Seward States That for Thirty Years Past It Has Been Impossible for Independent Operators to Enter into Successful Competition with the Large Railroad Companies.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Feb. 18.—The sub-committee on transportation of the industrial commission met here today. The following were present: Ex-Congressman Thomas W. Phillips of Pennsylvania; Charles W. Harris, of North Carolina; Joan L. Kennedy, of New Jersey; Eugene Conner, editor of the Grand Rapids Herald; Mr. Phillips presided. The other members are Senator Mallory, of Florida, and Congressman William Lorimer.

The purpose of the sessions to be held in this city is to make inquiry into the recent combination between railroads entering the anthracite coal region of Pennsylvania. The first witness today was James E. Childs, general manager of the New York, Ontario and Western railroad. Questions were put to Mr. Childs, to show that the railroads own and operate coal mines and in other cases buy the coal they carry to tidewater, instead of acting simply as carriers. Mr. Childs said that along his lines about twenty per cent. of the coal shipped were independent operators. After some questions as to the increase in the price of anthracite coal and the cause of the rise, the witness was asked: "Is it true that the prices of anthracite coal are settled by agreement between the operators and the railroads?" "There is no such agreement," said the witness. "Is it not true that the anthracite companies are trying to get a controlling interest in the bituminous region?" "I do not know."

The witness was then questioned about the recent consolidation of railroads entering the anthracite region of Pennsylvania. "Can you state any of the causes leading up to the purchase of the Pennsylvania Coal company by the Erie railroad?" "I cannot." "What chance would an individual operator on your lines have in the production of anthracite coal?" "I think he would have a fair chance." "Do you know whether there is any effort on foot to secure control of your road by any other company?" "Not that I know of."

"Have the Vanderbilt or Rockefeller interests any representation on your board of directors?" "I am not sure," answered Mr. Childs. "Mr. Dewey is one of the directors of our road. We occupy the same terminal as one of the directors of the Vanderbilt road—the West Shore."

Seward's Evidence. Frederick E. Seward, editor of the Coal Trade Journal, said the annual consumption of anthracite coal in the city was about ten million tons. The bulk of this was furnished by the Erie, Pennsylvania and Reading companies. The witness said that for the last thirty years it has been practically impossible for the independent operators to enter into successful competition with the large railroad coal companies. The witness said that in the soft coal regions the sway of the railroads was even more complete than in the anthracite regions. The witness further said that there could scarcely be any talk of competition between anthracite and bituminous coal, their two was so different.

In response to questions, Mr. Seward said that although prices were altogether uniform, he did not know of any "coal trust" in this city. "Is it not true that there is a combination between the railroads running into the anthracite region?" was asked. "It is a fact that a good many of the directors of some of the railroads are members of the board of directors of other yards also, as well as of the coal companies," the witness replied. "Will you designate some of those roads? Is it not a fact that the Lehigh, Erie, Reading and the Central Railroad of New Jersey are more closely connected than the others?" "Yes, that is substantially right. Their interests are known to be practically identical."

He admitted agreements between the coal companies limited production several times during the last thirty years. He was asked if the Pennsylvania company had ever been a party to such an agreement, and said no. "Why?" "Because the Pennsylvania Coal company was a free lance."

"A free lance against what?" "Well, against the others."

"Oh, then, there is a combine?" "Well, there have been agreements to keep down production at different times. I don't know of any such agreement at present, however."

Mr. Kennedy, of the sub-committee, then subjected the witness to a line of

THE CRISIS IN CHINA

War Department is Officially Notified of Waldersee's Proposed Expedition.

GEN. CHAFFEE'S ORDERS

The Americans Must Refrain from Taking Part in the Waldersee Expedition—Efforts May Be Made to Dissuade the German Commander from Entering Upon the Expedition.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 18.—The United States government is facing a serious crisis in China, owing to the announcement of the purpose of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee to begin another offensive campaign. General Chaffee has been invited to join in the expedition, which is to be mobilized on a larger scale than anything attempted in China since the original march to Peking. The general so informed the war department today, and the officials of the state department have been advised of the situation.

This German movement is viewed with absolute dismay here, for it is feared that it requires an immediate decision by the United States government upon its whole line of policy toward the Chinese question. General Chaffee will be told that he is not to participate in this campaign. He has been keeping the American forces in Peking ever since the city was pacified, simply as a legation guard, and the German general has been accused of the United States government purposely depriving the American contingent in China of its offensive military character, and withdrew it from the control of Count von Waldersee in order to hasten peace negotiations and prevent, so far as it could, the continuance of military movements against the Chinese, which were at once unnecessary and harmful to their effect upon the peace movement.

Policy Unchanged. So our government, not having changed its policy, cannot do otherwise than cause General Chaffee to refrain from any participation in hostile military movements, so long as the present peaceful conditions continue, but another very serious point under consideration is not whether Chaffee shall join the German movement, but whether it is not the duty of our government to exercise all proper efforts to dissuade the German government from undertaking this campaign. The Chinese government, unfortunately, is delaying the peace negotiations in the matter of capital punishment of the leaders implicated in the boxer movement.

Mr. Mitchell's Good Work. "Did I understand you as saying that the railroad operators were very much gratified at the shut down caused by Mr. Mitchell?" "I think they are gratified at the results." "But was there not a perfect understanding of this matter between them and Mr. Mitchell at the time of the strike?" "On the contrary there was a great deal of ill feeling at the time. Not only the railroads but the miners were handicapped by the work of Mr. Mitchell. He did what the presidents of railroads and coal fields have never succeeded in doing, he shut down on production until the price was considerably advanced. As a result of the strike, the witness said, the miners received more pay and had more steady employment. The witness admitted that agreements had been entered into by coal companies to stop production for a time in order to enforce the law, but said that the agreements seldom had been strictly lived up to by the contracting parties. The hearing was then adjourned until tomorrow morning.

QUESTION OF LAW AND OF FACTS

Secretary Gage Discusses His Recent Order Imposing Duty on Russian Sugar.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 18.—In speaking today of his recent order imposing a countervailing duty on Russian sugar, Secretary Gage said: "It is not a question of what the manufacturers desire or think ought to be. It is not a question of what the sugar refiners or our best sugar raisers desire or think ought to be. It is a question purely of law and of fact. The secretary of the treasury is sworn to enforce the law, not to make law. The late decision as to the liability of Russian sugars to pay a countervailing duty is based on the department's apprehension of the law and of the facts. The board of general appraisers is a body constituted by congress especially to hear and judicially determine disputed questions of law and of fact growing out of the administration of the customs laws. Our own citizens take their grievances there, the importers of Russian sugar may take their grievances there. The way is open for the prompt hearing and determination of their appeal if made. It lies with them to consent by silence or to seek a judicial review through the avenue that our laws provide."

River and Harbor Bill. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 18.—The senate committee on commerce today concluded the consideration of the river and harbor bill. Several amendments heretofore adopted have been considered and various house provisions are being read until the total appropriations have been reduced below that made by the house. The Nicaragua canal amendment was voted down today. The bill will be reported to the senate tomorrow.

Disastrous Boiler Explosion. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Tamuqua, Pa., Feb. 8.—A boiler exploded at Greenwood colliery today demolishing the structure and fatally injuring Thomas Miller, foreman. Driver Charles Neuman was blown twenty feet but was unscathed. Sixty men, employing 200 men and logs resumed operations today after four years' idleness, during which time a \$53,000 boiler was erected.

One Hundred Men Laid Off. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Susquehanna, Pa., Feb. 18.—As a result of the contention between the Erie Railroad company and its striking boilermakers, one hundred men from the various departments have been laid off in the company's shops here. There has been contention also in other shops of the company.

Library for Galesburg. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Galesburg, Ill., Feb. 18.—Andrew Carnegie has written the Galesburg public library board that he will give \$50,000 for a new library building in this city providing the city appropriates \$5,000 a year to sustain it.

DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION.

Tenth Continental Congress Meets in Washington.

MRS. NATION STILL IN JAIL

The Famous "Joint" Smasher Refuses Freedom That Requires Bail.

SCENES AT HER TRIAL

The Agitator Becomes Restless at Court and Opens Windows in Defense of Orders—She Whispers to Defenders and Objects to Smoking in the Room—A Colored Lawyer Argues for the Prosecution—A Decision on Thursday.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Topeka, Kansas, Feb. 18.—Hearing was resumed in the city court this afternoon of the action brought against Mrs. Nation by the proprietors of the "Joint" at 476 Kansas avenue, wrecked ten days ago. The court room was jammed. Attorney Jamison defended the prosecution, while Attorney Dumont carried on the defense. Their tables were piled high with law books, while Dumont fortified himself with many Biblical quotations. The argument was commenced by the defense in speaking of the first case as a parallel to Mrs. Nation's smashing, counsel said: "We find by Matthew that Christ entered the temple and abolished that nuisance." He then took up the law in the case, citing a New Hampshire statute which says that the private party abating a nuisance does not have to do it in a manner best suited to the other party.

At this point, Mrs. Nation, left her seat and opened a window. The cold wind swept in and blew the papers about the court room. Judge McCabe ordered Marshal Rop to close the window and lower it from the top. Mrs. Nation rushed back and again raised the lower sash. She was compelled to remain in her seat when the window had been again closed, much to her chagrin.

Mrs. Nation became restless as the trial progressed. She paid little attention to the lawyers, but walked about the court room, whispering with the spectators and the members of the "home defenders."

Detecting the fumes of tobacco, she exclaimed: "Here come the smokes here; better stop it, for it smells bad."

When the defense concluded, after one and one-half hours, Assistant County Attorney Jamison, a colored lawyer, began his argument for the prosecution. He argued that Mrs. Nation was arrested under the law forbidding destruction of property, and that every one has a right to do as she did.

Judge McCabe, when the argument was closed, said: "The question is important and is entitled to a thorough consideration. I shall take such time as seems necessary to me, as we have no decision of our own supreme court. The court will announce a decision Thursday morning at 9 o'clock." Mrs. Nation's bond was fixed at \$2,000. She refused to give it and was taken to jail.

COLORED MAN LYNCHED.

Fred King Tracked by Bloodhounds and Hanged.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Dyersburg, Tenn., Feb. 18.—Fred King, colored, was lynched today for an assault, Saturday night, upon Eliza Arnold, daughter of a prominent physician. Bloodhounds trailed King from Dr. Arnold's home to King's room, where a hatchet covered with blood was found. Miss Arnold had been struck with a hatchet by her assailant and on this evidence King was arrested. A mob at once formed to lynch him, but Mr. Arnold prevailed upon them to wait for further identification.

They were restrained until this afternoon when they took King from jail, tried him before a jury selected from the crowd and sentenced him to be hanged. He then broke down and confessed, implicating another negro, Beebe. King was at once hanged and it is altogether likely Beebe will be similarly treated.

HONOLULU EDITOR CARRIES A GUN

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Honolulu, Feb. 12.—Edwin S. Gill, editor of the Republican, shot and seriously wounded Mortimer H. Stevens, a member of the staff of the Advertiser, in the office of the Republican on the evening of the 6th. The shooting followed a controversy about an article Gill had published concerning some young ladies stopping at the Hawaiian hotel.

Pittsburg Ball Club. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Pittsburg, Feb. 18.—Messrs. Kerr and Aulen, holders of the controlling interest in the Pittsburg Base Ball club, sold their stock today to a local syndicate, composed of Barney Dreyfus, president of the club, Harry Fulman, secretary, and W. Wesley Schoepf, general manager of the Consolidated Traction company.

Carnegie's Present to Knox. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Princeton, N. J., Feb. 18.—Professor John H. Fuddy, head of the department of politics in the university and formerly president of Knox college at Galesburg, Ill., has received a telegram from Andrew Carnegie stating that he has decided to give \$20,000 to Knox college to be used for a new library building.

The Envoys Want Blood. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Berlin, Feb. 18.—The foreign envoys have held a conference regarding the Chinese reply concerning the punishment of the guilty persons named by the powers. The reply was considered unsatisfactory and the envoys decided to insist upon a compliance with their original demands.

ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION PASSED IN HOUSE

Opposition Was Hopelessly in the Minority—Five Million Dollars Appropriated.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, Feb. 18.—The bill to authorize the holding of the international exposition in celebration of the centennial anniversary of the Louisiana purchase at St. Louis in 1903, and appropriating \$5,000,000 therefor, passed the house today after suspension of the rules by a vote of 191 to 41. The opposition was hopelessly in the minority, and the struggle over the bill was brief. The question of closing the exposition on Sunday was not mentioned during the debate. The bill to define the word "company" in the Sherman anti-trust law, to avoid the possibility of its being held applicable to labor organizations, was defeated by almost a two-thirds vote on account of two amendments which the judiciary committee placed upon the bill and which were opposed by the labor organization.

The sundry civil bill was under consideration late in the day, and Mr. Cannon, chairman of the appropriations committee, took occasion to make a detailed statement of the appropriations for the present congress. He was led to do this, he said, by many criticisms of the reckless extravagance of this congress.

The situation, he said, was quite bad enough without exaggerating it. He figured that the appropriations would total \$824,182,000, exclusive of the sinking fund requirement of \$53,000,000, against \$675,150,582 for the current year. In the course of his remarks he fired some hot shots at the minority for prating of economy and not helping uphold the hands of himself and others who they were trying to keep appropriations down.

Committee Appointed by Presbyterian Assembly Makes Report. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Pittsburg, Feb. 18.—The committee appointed by the last United Presbyterian general assembly to make a report to the present assembly on the subject of secret societies, has just completed its work.

For fifty years the United Presbyterian church has been trying to enforce its law against secret societies. In the country churches it has succeeded fairly well, but the city churches practically gave up long ago and now even various members who belong to the various secret orders. The committee does not believe in repealing the law, but it recommends caution and wisdom in its administration.

Killed His Wife. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. St. Louis, Feb. 18.—In a fit of jealous rage today Charles E. Reed, 3244 LaCrosse avenue, killed his wife and the mother of his child about the crime with great deliberation. He was fatally wounded his wife he met before a mitre and blew out his own brains.

Stock Membership Sold. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Feb. 18.—The membership of Daniel B. Hatch, of the New York stock exchange, has been sold for \$10,000, which equals the high record price. Mr. Hatch was one of the veteran members of the exchange, which he entered on January 1, 1850.

Count Secures a License. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Cincinnati, Feb. 18.—Count Adolphe Le Clapart today secured a license to marry Miss Clara E. Longworth, of this city. He gave his age as 27 and his occupation as an officer in the French army. Archbishop Ireland will officiate at the ceremony, which will take place tomorrow.

Vice President Returns. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Denver, Col., Feb. 18.—Vice President-elect Roosevelt, who has just returned from a five weeks' hunt, will leave Colorado Springs tomorrow evening for Denver. He is expected here at 8.45 and will start east a few hours later.

Large Bank Check. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Feb. 18.—J. P. Morgan & Co. today deposited in the First National bank a check for \$25,127,046.67. The check represented the recent transfer of the Central Railroad of New Jersey to Morgan interests.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather indications today. Fair, northwesterly winds.

General—Inquiry into Recent Railroad Combination. Crisis in China Becoming Serious. Mrs. Nation in Jail. Spanish Ministry Will Resign.

Local—Court Proceedings. Big Glass Industry for Mosaic. Editorial. Note and Comment.

Local—Board of Trade Favours a Paid Fire Department. The Tribune's Prize Literary Contest. Local—West Scranton and Suburban.

General—Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial. Local—Report of Mine Inspector Frymire. News of the World of Labor. Municipal Improvement Company Incorporated.

NEW YORK POOL ROOMS ARE RAIDED

Anti-Vice Committee of Tammany Secures Evidence Against Five Places.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Feb. 18.—As a result of the evidence submitted by the Tammany anti-vice committee of five, a well-planned raid on a pool room said to be kept by Ridge Leven, at 29 Day street, was made today.

The raid was prepared and led by District Attorney Philbin, assisted by Assistant District Attorneys O'Connell and Schurman. Six central office detectives went to the place first. Then District Attorney Philbin and his two assistants and Justice Jerome, of the court of special sessions, followed. Soon afterwards a squad of policemen was in the building.

Justice Jerome was taken along as a precautionary measure to prevent those in the room from being tipped off from a magistrate's court when a warrant was asked for. It was proposed that Justice Jerome should hold court in the building and every prisoner questioned. The detectives made the first ingress. They managed to reach the top of the first floor, when they were balked by a barricaded door. The door was battered down. Then an ascent was made to the second floor, where the pool room was located. This door was also broken down. The place was crowded and a wild scramble ensued. Leven, the reputed proprietor, tried to escape by a rear window, but was captured and placed under arrest. The chicks and patrons of the place lined up against the wall, and Justice Jerome held an improvised court, while District Attorney Philbin and Chairman Nixon, of the committee of five, stationed themselves to control the crowd and would not allow any one to enter.

Justice Jerome called the occupants of the room before him one at a time and questioned them closely as to their connection with the place. His object is to secure enough witnesses to be able to convict the proprietors. None of the thirty men secured had any excuses to offer. Some said they had never been in the place before, and others that they had come out of curiosity. All were held for further examination.

Most of them were caught and examined were summoned to appear tomorrow at the hearing against Ridge Leven, Percy Leven and George Suedeker, the alleged proprietors of the place. The others were released.

NATIONALISM SPREADS.

Dispatches from Many Cities of Kansas Indicate a Determination to Stop Liquor Traffic.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Topeka, Kansas, Feb. 18.—Dispatches from many cities of Kansas indicate a determination to stop the illegal sale of liquor. At Winfield, a printed warning has been circulated declaring that drinking at the Commercial club cease or "the den" will be demolished.

An ultimatum was issued by 1,000 persons, gathered at a mass meeting held in Wellington, giving the "jointists" until Friday to leave town with their property. Similar action was taken at Arkansas City, where the "jointists" have, however, been pretty well smashed.

At Herrington a mass meeting adopted resolutions warning the "jointists" to leave town by Tuesday afternoon. Hutchinson dealers were warned to cease business by Wednesday noon. Druggists there today decided to not handle liquor in the future, even under permit. Lawrence, Feb. 18.—The Women's Christian Temperance union mass meeting of last night, to open an active campaign against "joints," was followed today by a visit of a number of women to the police court where a lot of liquor secured in a raid last summer was given to women to smash. The women first went to the office of a Justice of the peace and broke a couple of bottles of whiskey and then destroyed the rest of the stuff in the street.

Sale Not Abandoned. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Copenhagen, Feb. 18.—The statements published in London to the effect that the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States had been abandoned are not well founded. On the contrary the negotiations are advancing with prospects of an agreement. The delay was caused by further consultations with the Rigsdag.

The Fight a Draw. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Memphis, Feb. 18.—Bobby Dobb, of Memphis, and Young Peter Jackson, of California, fought a ten-round draw at the Phoenix Athletic club tonight.

DISTURBANCE IN SPAIN

Reported That the Ministry Will Resign at the Cabinet Council on Friday.

CAUSE OF THE TROUBLE

Coalition Cabinet May Be Formed. Lopez Dominguez or Robledo to Be Premier—Silveira Attributes the Troubles of His Country to the Late War with the United States.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Madrid, Feb. 18.—It is said that the ministry will resign at the meeting of the cabinet council on Friday next, and that on Saturday the resignation will be placed in the hands of the queen regent. It is reported that a coalition ministry will be formed under the presidency of either Marshal Lopez Dominguez or the Republican leader, Romero y Robledo.

All the disturbers who were arrested recently have been released. Senor Silveira said today that the present disorders in Spain were the outcome of the American war. Spain, he added, is financially ruined, and her currency has been depreciated. The Cuban debt is largely responsible for that. Party machinations may cause a ministerial crisis, but the effect of that will not be important.

The carnival fetes in the provinces have passed off without disorder. The Imparcial, on the authority of a minister, says Wednesday's cabinet council will abolish martial law in Madrid and re-establish constitutional guarantees. The council will meet again on Thursday and deliberate on current affairs. Finally, on Friday, General Azarraga, the premier, will submit to the queen regent the resignation of the cabinet and inform her that it will be advisable to convene the Cortes at an early date, in order to pass the budget. That procedure, the Imparcial adds, will facilitate the formation of a Silveira ministry, which will then be constituted.

Paris, Feb. 18.—Spanish advices received via Hendaye, near the frontier, say it is reported that fresh disorders have occurred at Valencia and Seville. The censorship is most rigid and all news is intercepted. Senor Silveira has left Madrid for his villa at Aranjuez. That, it is said, indicates that he has abandoned the project of forming a ministry. It is asserted in official circles that Senor Sagasta, the Liberal leader, has formed a cabinet which has been approved by the queen.

THE OLDEST CLERGYMAN. Rev. John Naille Celebrates the 100th Anniversary of His Birth. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Philadelphia, Feb. 18.—Rev. John Naille, of Trape, Pa., a small village a few miles from this city, today celebrated the 100th anniversary of his birth. He was born near Westminster, Ind., February 16, 1801, and is probably the oldest clergyman in the United States. Mr. Naille was ordained at the age of forty years. He has occupied Reformed church pulpits in various towns in this state and at Buffalo, Indiana. Despite his years, Mr. Naille enjoyed good health until recently, when he became partly paralyzed.

FIRE AT SUGAR NOTCH.

Thirty Thousand Dollars' Worth of Property Is Burned.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Wilkes-Barre, Feb. 18.—A destructive fire swept over the mining town of Sugar Notch, situated four miles south of here, late tonight. Twelve dwelling houses, mostly occupied by miners, were entirely destroyed. The fire fighting apparatus was inadequate, and at one time it looked as every house in the town would be burned. The fire was gotten under control at midnight. The loss is estimated at \$30,000.

THE INTERIOR EXPEDITION.

British Commanders Will Require Fresh Instructions.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. London, Feb. 18.—The under secretary of the state for foreign affairs, replying to a question in the house of commons today, said that so far as the government was aware no power was contemplating an expedition into the interior of China.

If so, the British commanders would require fresh instructions. Emperor William Returns. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Cronberg, Prussia, Feb. 18.—Emperor William and the empress arrived here today and spent an hour with the Domager Empress Frederike this afternoon. Her majesty's condition is unchanged. Their majesties afterwards returned to Hamburg.

Sullivan Given the Decision. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Louisville, Ky., Feb. 18.—"Spikie" Sullivan, of New York, was tonight given the decision over Tom Kearns, of Brooklyn, on points after twenty rounds of rough fighting before the Southern Athletic club.

Died at 103 Years of Age. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Susquehanna, Pa., Feb. 18.—August Schroeder, a native of Germany, died at Sherman today, aged 103 years. He had worked in coal mines nearly sixty years in this country and in Europe.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Feb. 18.—Forecast for east—no snow; Pennsylvania: Fair, Tuesday and probably Wednesday; continued, fresh and northerly winds, becoming brisk on the coast.