

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 of 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.

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 legion guard, and the German general is charged with the duty of maintaining the American contingent in China of its offensive military character, and withdrew it from the control of Count von Waldersee.

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 should 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.

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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 between the railroad men and Mr. Mitchell at the time of the strike?"

ST. LOUIS EXPOSITION PASSED IN HOUSE

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

DAUGHTERS OF THE REVOLUTION

Tenth Continental Congress Meets in Washington.

MRS. NATION STILL IN JAIL

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

DISTURBANCE IN SPAIN

NEW YORK POOL ROOMS ARE RAIDED

ANTI-VICE COMMITTEE OF TAMMANY SECURES EVIDENCE AGAINST FIVE PLACES

COLORED MAN LYNCHED

FIRE AT SUGAR NOTCH

THE INTERIOR EXPEDITION

EMPEROR WILLIAM RETURNS

SULLIVAN GIVEN THE DECISION

DIED AT 103 YEARS OF AGE

WEATHER FORECAST

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