Scranton Tribune.

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LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS

Bill to Provide for Ward Representation in Dunmore Is Passed in the House.

OTHER BILLS PASSED

A Measure Prohibiting the Employment of Women Under 21 Years old Without the Consent of Their Parents for Theatrical Performances or Singing Exhibitions—Providing for Salaries for District Attorneys—A Measure of Importance to Corporations.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 16.—A bill was introduced in the house today by Mr. Beacom, of Westmoreland, repealing sections seven and eight of the Act of May 15, 1850, creating a sinking fund, requiring stock brokers, bill brokers, exchange brokers, mercantile brokers and real estate brokers to pay an annual fee of three per cent. on their business.

Mr. Fox, of Chester, introduced a bill requiring all shippers of milk from other states into Pennsylvania to accompany such shipments with a veterinarian's certificate from such state that the cows from which the milk has been drawn had been tested by the tuberculin test and found to be in a good healthy condition.

These bills were also read in place:

Mr. McWhinney, of Allegheny, prohibiting coal mining companies from conducting company stores.

Mr. Manning, of Cumberland, repealing the act of April 4, 1885, which repealed the first section of the force law of 1700.

The order of business in the house today was local and special bills on third reading. The following passed:

Providing for ward representation in the town council of the borough of Dunmore, providing for the appointment and election of members of council from each ward and the manner of filling vacancies.

Regulating the procedure and practice in applications to registers of wills for grants of letters of administration on estates of intestate decedents requiring petitions to registers.

Validating official acts done and performed by burgesses holding office under irregular elections and appointments.

Making taxes assessed upon real estate a first lien and to provide for the collection of such taxes and a remedy for false returns.

Prohibiting the employment of women under 21 years old without the consent of their parents or guardians for theatrical or athletic performances, singing exhibitions or for playing upon musical instruments.

Authorizing borough councils to contract with new incorporated water company authorized to do business within such municipality for a supply of water for the protection and other municipal purposes.

Providing that the district attorneys in all counties whose population does not exceed 150,000 shall be paid a salary in lieu of fees and that fees upon indictments shall remain as heretofore for the benefit of the county.

Governing the manufacture of "boiled" or "process" butter and requiring it to be labelled.

The bill amending the semi-monthly pay law, to recognize the right to contract for the payment of wages at any time other than semi-monthly, was defeated. The bill was subsequently reconsidered and postponed for the present.

The bill creating an additional law judge in Luzerne county was postponed for the present by the author, Mr. Hartman, of Luzerne.

The bill repealing the Act of April 16, 1870, declaring Trout Run, Lycoming county, a public highway, was ruled off the calendar on an objection raised by Mr. Castner, of Lycoming, that it had not been advertised thirty days before its introduction.

To qualify a libellant in an action for divorce to a competent witness to all matters material in the issue where there has been personal service of the subpoena, as well as in all cases pending where there have been two returns of subpoenas of non est inventus by the sheriff and due notice to the respondent by publication, as required by law and the rules of the respective courts.

Repealing the first section of the Act of May 19, 1893, relating to judicial sales and the preservation of the lien on mortgages.

The Night Session.

The order of business in the house at the night session was house bills on second reading. The bill making manufacturing corporations joint stock associations, limited partnership and limited liability a separate and distinct class for the purpose of taxation and imposing a uniform tax of two mills upon such class, was amended so as to except brewing and distilling companies, natural and artificial gas companies, electric light and power companies and companies enjoying the right to eminent domain, which shall pay a tax of five mills.

Mr. Cooper, of Delaware, said the purpose of the bill was to reduce the taxes of the bituminous coal interest from five to two mills and to put a two mill tax upon manufacturing corporations which now pay no state tax.

This will increase the state revenues over $1,000,000 annually, which will come from a class that is unable to bear it.

Mr. Beacom, of Westmoreland, by whom the bill was introduced, said its object was to equalize state taxation and to relieve in part the mining industries of Western Pennsylvania. Another object was to prevent confusion in taxation for state purposes and make it easy to tax the property of corporations holding real estate.

Mr. Paul, of Philadelphia, moved to amend the bill so that it shall not apply to manufacturing corporations. A motion to postpone consideration for the present of the amendment and the bill prevailed.

Mr. Maloney, of Venango, called up postponed bill to authorize cities and boroughs to provide a supply of water for the use of the public, either by the erection and operation of water works or by contracts with persons or corporations authorized to supply water within the limits of such cities and boroughs, or by both methods and substituted for it senate bill, which then passed second reading.

Several other bills passed second reading, after which the house adjourned until tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock.

The joint resolution to amend the constitution, introduced by Mr. Hall, of Allegheny, passed second reading tonight in the house.

This amendment strikes out the word "fifty" in the section governing senatorial apportionment, thus permitting the formation of as many senatorial districts as the population of the state, under the constitutional ratio, makes necessary.

PALM RESOLUTION IS DEFEATED

Bills Passed in the Senate—Mr. Vaughan Introduces Measure in Interest of the Lackawanna Hospital.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, April 16.—Lieutenant Governor Gobin tonight in the senate signed the Philadelphia revision of taxes bills.

The Palm resolution, which passed the house last week, and which provides for the appointment of a commission to investigate the effect of capital punishment in the various states, was defeated by the senate.

These bills were passed finally:

House bill preventing the adulteration of and deception in the sale of linseed or flax seed oil.

House bill amending an act relating to free kindergartens so that such schools established by agencies other than the commonwealth can be assisted out of the public school funds.

House bill amending section 15 of an act providing for the support of the poor, so that all moneys in the hands of poor overseers or uncollected taxes can be paid into the hands of proper borough officials.

House bill regulating the sale of concentrated commercial feeding stuffs, and prohibiting their adulteration.

House bill amending an act relative to costs in suits before minor police courts, providing that when the defendant shall give good and sufficient bail absolute for the payment for debt, interest and costs on the affirmance of the judgment, the defendant shall be required to pay only the costs of the appeal and the payment for return to the plaintiff of the costs paid by him shall await the final determination of the suit.

Providing for the submission to the people at the November election a proposed constitutional amendment which will permit the use of voting machines at elections providing the proposed amendment passes both houses of this legislature.

House bill amending an act relating to the regulations of public schools so that a teacher's certificate shall not be given to persons who habitually use opium or any other narcotics.

These bills were introduced:

By Mr. Vaughan, of Lackawanna—Appropriating $80,000 to the Lackawanna hospital at Scranton.

By Mr. Fox, of Dauphin—Providing a pension of twenty dollars per month for Harry R. Silk, of Harrisburg, late a member of the Eighth regiment, National Guards of Pennsylvania, who lost a leg through an injury received while in camp at Hazleton during the labor troubles of 1897.

By Mr. Stiles, of Lehigh—Amending an act permitting one street railway company to use the lines of another company. The bill is similar to the one introduced by Mr. Mayne, of Lehigh, in the house last Friday.

After the senate had cleared the calendar of bills on first and second reading, adjournment was taken until 10 a. m. tomorrow.

DEMOCRATIC CAUCUS.

The Subject of Ballot Reform Is Discussed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, April 16.—The Democratic members of the house and senate held a caucus tonight on the subject of ballot reform. There was a free exchange of opinion on the question, but no final action was taken. It was decided, however, that the Democrats stand a unit for the best ballot law that can be had.

A committee was appointed, consisting of Senators Cochran, of Lycoming; Heinle, of Center; Representatives Dixon, of Elk; Ikeler, of Columbia, and Fuerth, of Wayne, to confer with National Committeeman Guffey tomorrow at 11 a. m. for the purpose of definitely deciding what sort of a ballot bill the Democrats should support. This committee will report back to the caucus. Colonel Guffey was at the caucus and took part in the discussion.

Senator Cochran presided at the meeting.

SHIRT WAIST POSTMAN.

General Smith Signs an Order for the Comfort of Letter Carriers.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, April 16.—The following order, drafted by Superintendent Machen, of the free delivery service, with a view to relieving letter carriers throughout the country of wearing heavy uniform coats and vests during the summer, was signed today by Postmaster General Smith:

Ordered, that section 651 of the amended postal laws and regulations in relation to the free delivery service be and the same hereby is amended, by adding the following:

"Shirt waist. During the heated term postmasters may permit letter carriers to wear a neat shirt waist or loose fitting blouse, instead of coat and vest, the same to be made of light gray chambray gingham, light gray cheviot or other light gray washable material; to be worn with turn down collar, club tie and a neat belt; all to be uniform at each office."

Morgan Buys the Gainsborough.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, April 16.—Mr. J. P. Morgan, the Associated Press is authoritatively informed, has bought the Gainsborough picture recently recovered in Chicago, though the price is not yet finally determined upon.

Connie Mack Signed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Philadelphia, April 16.—Manager Connie Mack, of the Philadelphia American league club, today signed Carr, who played first base for the Toronto Eastern league club last season.

THE FAREWELL TO PEKIN

General Chaffee's Birthday Dinner a Notable Gathering of Military Men.

THE MINISTERS PRESENT

Field Marshal Waldersee and All the Generals with Their Staffs Among the Guests—The Affair a Formal Farewell by the Americans to Pekin—German and French Troops Will Force Liu-Huilu to Retive from Pao Ting Fu.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pekin, April 16.—General Chaffee's birthday dinner yesterday was also a sort of formal farewell by the Americans to Pekin. There was a notable gathering. Field Marshal Von Waldersee and all the generals, with their staffs, were present, as well as the ministers and their first secretaries. In all there were fifty guests. The field marshal made a speech in English, in the course of which he said it was an occasion of congratulation and sorrow—the first on the occasion of General Chaffee's birthday and the second owing to the Americans' departure. Every foreigner in China bade Godspeed to General Chaffee and the brave men under him, for none had made themselves more generally popular. For General Chaffee personally he felt admiration and esteem, and all present must feel the same.

Senor Cologan, the Spanish minister to China, made similar remarks in behalf of the diplomatic corps.

At a meeting of the ministers this morning the situation generally and Field Marshal Von Waldersee's report were considered, but nothing definite was decided upon.

The Chinese court has replied to the recommendations of Japan on the subject that it is impossible for the emperor to return to Pekin until the country's guests leave.

An Expedition Against Liu.

London, April 16.—A dispatch to the Reuter Telegraph company from Pekin, dated April 16, says that General Von Gyle, in command of 5,000 Germans and three thousand French troops, heading an expedition to attack Liu-Huilu (Liu-Kuan-Ting), is within 120 miles of Pao-Ting-Fu. Liu's position is inside the territory defined by Field Marshal Von Waldersee as the sphere of operations for the allies. Liu has ten thousand men and has refused to retire, saying that if the allies wished him to retire they had better come out and compel him to do so.

BODY IN THE RIVER.

It Is Thought George D. Harder Committed Suicide.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Newburgh, N. Y., April 16.—The body of George D. Harder, proprietor of the Empire Agricultural works at Cobleskill, was found floating in the Hudson this afternoon below Cornwall. Mr. Harder and his wife had been at Dr. Strong's sanitarium at Saratoga Springs for several weeks, where the former was recuperating. On Feb. 18 he left the sanitarium to go to Cobleskill to vote. On the night of Feb. 19 he boarded the ferry to come to Newburgh and disappeared. His overcoat and umbrella were found in the cabin of the boat.

It is supposed that while temporarily deranged he jumped overboard.

MR. LOOMIS SILENT.

He Does Not Care to Discuss Venezuelan Matters.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 16.—Hon. F. B. Loomis, United States minister to Venezuela, was a passenger on the steamer Caracas, which arrived tonight from San Juan. Mr. Loomis refused to say anything regarding Venezuelan matters, except that President Castro seemed to be firmly seated when he left Venezuela.

When asked if he intended to return to Venezuela, he said that he did not know, as he had not given the matter a thought.

LUNATIC AT LARGE.

John Record's Neighbors Are Prepared for Any Emergency.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

St. Joseph, Mo., April 16.—John Record escaped from the state insane asylum here today by breaking the iron bars from the window of his cell. Record had killed a farmer near Wallace, who had testified against him in court. He has been anxious to get out of the asylum for three years to kill other neighbors for giving testimony against him. The neighbors were warned of Record's escape today and all are heavily armed.

Senator Grady Ill.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Albany, April 16.—State Senator Thomas F. Grady, leader of the minority in the legislature, was removed from this city today to a sanitarium at Clifton Springs. He is in a state of physical collapse from extreme nervousness.

BASE BALL.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

At Philadelphia — Philadelphia (American league), 13; Georgetown college, 6. Philadelphia (National league), 13; North Philadelphia, 0.

Fantastical Tale.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Lisbon, April 16.—In the best informed circles here it is declared that the story that the queen of Portugal will enter a convent is absolutely fantastical.

BREAKER BOYS STRIKE.

Prospect Mine Closed and 5,000 Miners Out of Work.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Wilkes-Barre, April 16.—The breaker boys employed at the Prospect mine of the Lehigh Valley Coal company went out on strike this morning because one of their number was discharged. The foreman discovered a hot pulley and called for an oiler. The latter did not respond at once and a jig tender was ordered to oil up and thereby prevent a fire. The jig tender refused, saying it was not part of his duties to do oiling. The foreman discharged the boy at once.

The other boys then struck out of sympathy. This necessitated the shutting down of the breaker and also the Oakwood, Midvale, Wyoming and Port Bowkley mines, the coal from which is sent through the Prospect breaker.

The boys had a committee wait on the general superintendent this evening, but that official upheld the foreman. He said the strike was entirely uncalled for. Petty grievances have caused quite a few strikes in this region the past two weeks, and it is estimated that there are nearly 5,000 miners idle in consequence.

PLUCKY GIRL WEAVER.

Non-Union Hand, Hooted at by Strikers at Paterson Displayed More Bravery Than Police.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 16.—When the silk ribbon factory of Frank & Dugan, at Paterson, N. J., in which a strike has been in progress for several weeks, was closed last evening, Mary J. MacMahon, a non-union worker employed in the mill, instead of going home, walked toward the center of the city. She was followed by a howling crowd of strikers, who hooted and jeered at the girl. Mary walked calmly on, paying no attention to the mob, until she came to a police station, where she presented herself to the sergeant in charge:

"Sergeant," she said, "I have been followed from the mill where I work by a crowd of strikers who have been threatening me. Now, I demand protection from the police as a taxpayer of this city."

The sergeant tried to induce her to leave the station house by a rear door and thus avoid the strikers, but she refused, saying, "I am no sneak."

The crowd did not venture near the station house, and when the girl left by way of the front door and started for home, she was unmolested.

ANOTHER COMPROMISE ON JERSEY CENTRAL.

The Trainmen and Telegraphers Will Confer with Officials at New York.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Wilkes-Barre, April 16.—The chairmen of the Brotherhood of Trainmen and Telegraphers of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, F. H. Ryner and John Milligan, respectively, were called to New York this evening to meet the officials of the company tomorrow.

Last week at a conference held in New York the grievances of the engineers, firemen and conductors were adjusted, but no action was taken on the grievances of the trainmen and telegraphers. This caused not a little dissatisfaction. It is now thought that the company stands ready to compromise with the brakemen and telegraphers and soon the harmonious relations which have existed between employer and employe on this road in the past will be resumed.

CAR FALLS EIGHTY FEET.

Two Men Killed Outright—Others Seriously Injured.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Buffalo, April 16.—A derrick car and a gondola toppled over a bridge over Eighteen Mile creek, eighteen miles from Buffalo, on the Nickel Plate railroad this afternoon. Six men went with them to the rocky bed, eighty feet below. Two were so badly injured that they died within half an hour. Four others were brought to the Emergency hospital in this city. At midnight the surgeons said it was doubtful if two of them would live until daybreak.

The dead men are: William Dohlgreen, 41 year; Nicholas Wagner, 38 years. Injured: Wesley Eddy, 34 years, may die; A. L. Cameron, 41 years, may die; Robert Jones, 35 years; John Brogan, 35 years.

Democrats to Elect Chairman.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Harrisburg, April 16.—The annual meeting of the Democratic state committee will be held in this city tomorrow for the election of a chairman to succeed John S. Rilling, of Erie, who declines a re-election. Representative William T. Creasy, of Columbia, is the only avowed candidate and the indications are he will be elected by acclamation. National Committeeman Guffey, of Pittsburg, and many other prominent state democrats are here to attend the meeting.

Vote Against Women.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 16.—The Newark conference of the Methodist Episcopal church concluded its sessions today. The conference went on record by a vote of 96 to 65 against women being admitted to the councils of the church in the general conference.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, April 16.—Cleared: Majestic, Liverpool; Westernland, Antwerp. Boulogne—Arrived: Rotterdam, New York, for Rotterdam. Plymouth—Sailed: Graf Waldersee (from Hamburg), New York.

Royal Residence in Ireland.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

London, April 16.—According to Onlooker (a society paper) a site of 145 acres has been acquired in Ireland for the erection of a royal residence. The plans for the building has been approved and the work will commence shortly.

Fatal Fall of a Cage.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Johannesburg, Transvaal colony, April 16.—A cage filled with natives fell down a deep shaft of the Geldenhuis mine. Twenty-six of the natives were killed.

RUSSIA AND JAPANESE

Are Now Engaged in Negotiations Over Manchuria and the Hermit Kingdom.

FRIENDLY CONFERENCES

Probability of Amicable Understanding—Mikado's Kingdom in No Conditon for War—Bankers, Merchants and Statesmen Endeavoring to Avert Money Panic.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, April 16.—It is reported that friendly negotiations are passing between Russia and Japan regarding their respective interests in Manchuria and Corea, which, it is hoped, will result in an amicable understanding as to the future influence to be exerted in the provinces by the two powers.

The idea that war might ensue because of the differences between these two nations is said to be entirely without foundation. Japan is in no condition to go to war. Her finances, it is said, are in such shape that it would be impossible for her to enter into a war with any power. The state department today made public a report on that subject from E. C. Bellows, United Staes consul general at Yokohama. Mr. Bellows said:

Condition of Japan.

"The financial condition of Japan is at present far from encouraging, and her bankers, statesmen and business men are exerting great effort to avert a panic. The situation, as analyzed by the shrewdest financiers and statesmen of the empire, shows that the Chinese indemnity paid at the close of the Japan-China war, together with large national loans, led to the exploiting of many public and private undertakings, which caused money to be unusually plentiful among the coolie, or laboring classes. That induced extravagant methods of living, and is assigned as a potent factor in the large increase of imports. The amount of indemnity paid by China proved insufficient for the enterprises projected, and many millions were diverted from the customary channels of trade to carry forward those undertakings. Foreign capital declines to enter the Japanese market, although tempted by flattering rates of interest. The government's recent effort to float a loan has not proved a success, while school and municipal bonds, based on safe security, are rendered undesirable to foreigners because of the faulty regulations and conditions attending their issue."

DANIEL KOHOE HANGED.

The First Execution in Crawford County in Eighty Years.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Meadville, Pa., April 16.—Frank Major, alias Daniel J. Kohoe, was hanged in the county jail yard at 2.06 o'clock this afternoon. Death resulted in six minutes from strangulation. The condemned man met his death unflinchingly and without making any statement on the scaffold.

Major's crime was the murder of Chief of Police Daniel McGrath, of Titusville, Pa., on November 11, 1899. He was a member of a gang that blew open the safe and robbed the Titusville railroad ticket office and later went to a house on East Spring street, where they intimidated and robbed the inmates. They were tracked to this place by Chief McGrath and Policeman Sheehy. The gang opened fire at once and Sheehy fell dangerously wounded. McGrath grappled with the man at the door and after he had received his own death wound, shot and killed one of the burglars. The other two escaped but Major was captured the next day. The dead burglar was never identified and a Philadelphia medical school got his body. Major, it is stated, comes of a good family, residing on Grant avenue, Brooklyn. The execution today was the first in Crawford county in over eighty years.

SMALL PAPER A FAILURE.

Chicago Evening Post Gives Up the Harmsworth Idea.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, April 16—The Chicago Evening Post, which recently changed hands and started on a new career of new journalism in tabloid form and general change in make-up, today reappeared in its former style, with apologies to the public for trying the experiment. The Post says of the matter:

"In going back to the old form we feel that an explanation and apology to our friends will be proper. We must frankly acknowledge that the experiment had not been satisfactory. The responsibility for this rests with mechanical limitations and conditions. It has been proved quite conclusively to us that before this form can be handled to advantage presses must be built especially for it."

Successor to Late C. L. Magee.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, April 16.—The result of the special election held today to elect a successor to the late C. L. Magee as senator from the Forty-third district, resulted in the election of W. A. Magee, jr., by a plurality of nearly 3 to 1. J. E. King, Democrat, and J. J. King, Independent Democrat, were his opponents. Mr. Magee will go to Harrisburg at once and qualify.

Fatal Fall from a Scaffold.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

York, April 16.—Rev. George B. Reeser, pastor of the Emanuel Reformed church at Hanover, today fell from the scaffold of a new church which his congregation is building and died in half an hour. He fell a distance of forty or fifty feet and landed on a stone pile.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Weather Indications Today:

FAIR; WARMER.

1 General—Russia and Japan Negotiating. Reading's Former President on Anthracite. State Legislative Doings. Farewell to General Chaffee.
2 General—Carbondale Department.
3 General—The Buried Valley of Wyoming.
4 Editorial. Note and Comment.
5 Story—"In the Matter of Archie Gray."
6 Local—Work of the Lackawanna Presbytery. A Night with the Howlers.
7 Local—Estimates Committee Called Down by Councils. Lackawanna Switchmen Strike.
8 Local—West Scranton and Suburban.
9 General—Northeastern Pennsylvania. Financial and Commercial.
10 Local—Live News of the Industrial World. Court Proceedings.

CEBU STILL HAS A FEW TROUBLES

Insurrection Still Alive on the Island and Peaceable Natives Hope for Government Assistance.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Cebu, Island of Cebu, Philippine Islands, April 16.—Judge Taft, president of the Philippine commission, says that Mgr. Chapelle, the papal delegate to the Philippine Islands, told him the friars were not to return to the province and that only a sufficient number of them were now in Manila to act as instructors in the colleges. This disposes of the troublesome friar question.

Cebu is the first island to be visited by the commission upon which the insurrection is still active. It is unsafe to leave the city of Cebu without an unarmed force. The delegates from the towns in the island who are now here are anxious for the establishment of a provincial government, which they believe would assist in ending the insurrection in Cebu.

MASCARDO'S CHIEF HAS SURRENDERED.

It Is Expected That the General Himself Will Probably Yield in a Few Days.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Manila, April 16.—The chief of staff of the Insurgent General Mascardo has surrendered at the town of Marivales, in Bataan, province, Luzon. He said that Mascardo's band of followers, now greatly diminished, are in a bad way.

It is impossible for them to elude the Americans; they are unable to obtain food and want to surrender. It is expected that General Mascardo himself will surrender shortly.

STRIKE AT M'KEESPORT.

Close of the Second Day Forbodes a Stubborn Fight.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, April 16.—The close of the second day of the strike at the W. Dewees wood plant of the American Sheet Steel company, at McKeesport, shows a condition of affairs that forebodes a stubborn fight between the company and the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, involving the possible shut-down of every union plant in the country controlled by the company.

The fight is being made by the Amalgamated association for the recognition of unionism, and President Shaffer's announcement that all of the company's mills will be called out may receive sanction at the meeting of the advisory board, which has been called for tomorrow.

SUPERIOR COURT OPINIONS.

Judgment Is Reversed in the Lackawanna County Fee Case.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, April 16.—The Superior court met at 11 o'clock this morning and a number of opinions were handed down. Nearly all of the appeals heard were from the eastern counties of the state. The opinions were as follows:

Per Curiam—D. M. Epler vs. David M. Metzgar, appeal from the common pleas court of Dauphin county. Judgment affirmed.

Commonwealth vs. William Church and Frederick Burdick, appellant, from oyer and terminer of Susquehanna county. Judgment affirmed.

Lewis vs. County of Lackawanna. An appeal from the court of common pleas of Lackawanna county. The judgment is reversed.

Canal Bill Abandoned.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Albany, April 16.—The $20,000,000 canal improvement bill was officially abandoned tonight when after a two hours' conference with Governor Odell the canal adherents and Republican leaders conceded that the measure would be swamped if it came up for votes. It will therefore be allowed to die in the committee of the assembly.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Chicago, April 16.—Bishop J. J. Esker, after a protracted illness, died in this city today, aged 78 years. Bishop Esker was the senior bishop of the Evangelical church, having continuously occupied the Episcopal office since 1861. He served in the active ministry since 1845 and was the oldest minister in active service in his church. He was born in the province of Alsace in 1826, coming to America when 9 years old.

Chicago, April 16.—Phineas M. Blodgett, whose father was a member of Washington's army, died today in this city. He was born in Groton, N. Y., in 1809, and had voted for eighteen presidents. Interment will be in the east.

Somerville, Mass., April 16.—Rev. Justin D. Fulton, D. D., a Baptist clergyman and formerly pastor of Tremont temple, died at his home today of paralysis, aged 73 years. His book, "Why Priests Should Wed," was interdicted by Anthony Comstock, and several passages were eliminated before it was allowed to go on sale. While preaching in Cape Breton against the Catholic church he was stoned and for a while chained to a lamp post. Dr. Fulton was born in Shaftsbury, N. Y., in 1828.

MR. HARRIS ON ANTHRACITE

Interesting Testimony Given Before the Industrial Commission by Reading's Ex-President.

GREAT COAL RESERVE

The Witness Believes That the Production of Anthracite Has Reached the Maximum in the Wyoming Region East of Pittston and in the Shamokin Region—The Great Anthracite Reserve Is in the Schuylkill Region—Reading Mines Good for Another Hundred Years.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washingon, April 16.—Mr. J. S. Harris, for eighty years and until the first of the present month president of Reading railroad, testified before the industrial commission today concerning the affairs of that company and also relative to the production and shipment of anthracite coal. He gave some of the details of the reorganization of the Reading in 1896, saying that its purpose had been largely to lessen the fixed charges, and that this had been accomplished for a time. Asked if the bankruptcy of the road had not been due to the fact that so much land had been bought in anticipation of further needs, Mr. Harris replied that to an extent this was true However, it was not a fact that the finances of the railroad and the Reading Coal and Iron company are in any way connected, the coal company taking care of its own interest payments. He expressed the opinion that the production of anthracite coal had reached practically its maximum. The present production is almost 50,000,000 tons annually, and Mr. Harris thought it would never exceed 60,000,000 tons. This limitation, he said, was due to the fact that many of the collieries are becoming well-nigh exhausted. He thought that the Wyoming region, east of Pittston, never again would produce so much coal yearly as it had produced, some of the mines there being well-nigh worked out. He was of the opinion that the Lehigh region also had passed its maximum. The Shamokin region never would do better than it had done.

Reading Has the Reserve.

There might be an increase, however, in the western part of the Wyoming section, but the great anthracite reserve is in the Schuylkill basis. He estimated that the Reading coal reserve is good for a hundred years or more. Mr. Harris also said in this connection that there could be no great increase in the price of anthracite, because of the competition of bituminous coal, though in the distant future he expected to see an increase in price, because of the inevitable advance in the cost of mining. Within the past thirty years there had been an advance of that cost of almost a dollar a ton.

Mr. Harris was questioned at length concerning the acquisition of the New Jersey Central railroad by the Reading. He said that transaction had been arranged and put into execution by the bankers who control the Reading. They had bought 145,000 shares of Jersey stock at $160 per share. The Jersey road and the Reading naturally constitute one system, he said, and they had exchanged business for thirty years. He knew of no steps on the part of the Reading management to absorb the Lehigh Valley.

"That is simply a newspaper guess," he said, "and I have no reason to suppose it true."

Yet, even if the Lehigh should be absorbed, the combination would by no means be monopolistic in the anthracite coal business, as there still would be many independent interests.

CONDUCTOR ENNIS KILLED.

Run Down by an Engine in the Washington, N. J., Yard.

Conductor John Ennis, of this city, one of the oldest employes of the Lackawanna railroad, was instantly killed at 2.30 o'clock yesterday afternoon while walking through the west end of the Washington, N. J., yard to get on his train.

Engine No. 130, running backwards, struck him and his body was ground under the wheels before any assistance could be rendered him. Ennis was one of the best known men on the road, and resided with his family at 120 Beech street.

The remains were brought to this city last night and prepared for burial. He is survived by his wife and seven children.

Glass Plants to Close May 1.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, April 16.—It was officially stated today that, despite reports to the contrary, all the window glass plants of the two combinations will close on May 1. A conference on the wage scale for the coming fire will be held within a week or ten days between representatives of the Window Glass Workers' association and the American Window Glass company.

Governor of Oklahoma.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, April 16.—The president has decided to appoint William M. Jenkins to be governor of Oklahoma territory to succeed the present Governor Barnes whose term will expire soon. Mr. Jenkins is the present secretary of the territory.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, April 16.—Forecast for Wednesday and Thursday: Eastern Pennsylvania—Fair, warmer Wednesday, Thursday, partly cloudy, probably rain in the afternoon; fresh northeast to east winds.