

TWO CENTS.

SCRANTON, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 20, 1902.

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STRIKE SENTIMENT IS GROWING

It is Thought That a Declaration Will Be Made by Tomorrow.

THE STATEMENT OF PRESIDENT MITCHELL

The Delegates Express Opposition to Continuing Work Under the Present Rate of Wages—Letters of Operators Seem to Have Caused Much Bitter Feeling Among the Men—Some Objections Made to a Request for Admission of Firemen to the Convention—A Scale Committee Appointed.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Shamokin, Pa., March 19.—The miners' convention today began the consideration of the important matters which will decide whether the notices posted by the operators at the various collieries, announcing a continuance of existing conditions, shall be accepted or rejected. The committee on rules and order of business met at 8:30 o'clock, a half-hour previous to the assembling of the convention, and completed the details of their work. The delegates this morning displayed much interest in the expected presentation by President Mitchell of the letters from the presidents of the operating companies, declining a conference with officials of the United Mine Workers of America. These letters constitute one of the most important subjects to be considered by the convention, but the delegates, having nothing but a general knowledge of their contents, declined to discuss their probable action concerning the communications. President Mitchell today reiterated his denial that the visit of Secretary Ralph M. Easley, of the Civic Federation, concerned the situation in the anthracite coal region. When asked if he would make any further effort to see J. Pierpont Morgan, Mr. Mitchell said he had made no arrangements looking to that end.

Want Coal Weighed. The sentiment of the delegates was for the first time officially expressed during the morning session of the convention. President Mitchell, of District No. 1, speaking on the question of a wage committee, said: "The men of our district want their coal weighed, and they want it weighed so badly that they are willing to fight for it if necessary."

This assertion elicited vigorous applause, which was accompanied by a declaration that most of the delegates have come to the convention with instructions to insist on concessions by the operators.

A Polish delegate suggested that as many of the delegates could understand but little English, interpreters be appointed to report the proceedings to their colleagues. A motion to this effect was carried, and the vice-presidents of the three districts were appointed to serve. They are Paul Pusk, Mount Carmel, District No. 9; Adam Ryscavage, Plymouth, District No. 1; and Andrew Matti, Drifton, District No. 7.

The credentials committee made their final report, which shows the total number of delegates present to be 611, with 926 votes. District No. 1 was 221 delegates and 445 votes; District No. 7, 101 delegates and 151 votes; District No. 9, 218 delegates and 320 votes.

Objection to Firemen. A request for admission to the convention from delegates of the Firemen's union met with some opposition, but a motion admitting them was finally carried. A motion was made referring the firemen's committee, and President Nichols, of District No. 1, arose to make an explanation. He said he had informed the secretary of the Firemen's union that he believed the mine workers would admit a committee of the former organization for the purpose of listening to a statement by them.

"We had trouble with the Brecken men they were on strike," said Mr. Nichols, "and our men were discharged for refusing to take their places. We expect all mine firemen and engineers to join us, and we already have on our membership rolls a majority of their number. Why not let us meet them face to face? Then we can tell them they are not entitled to our consideration unless they join our union."

The motion to prohibit the admittance of the firemen was then withdrawn and a substitute admitting them carried. The convention decided to appoint a scale committee of twenty-one members, seven from each district, and a committee on resolutions, consisting of three members from each district. The vice-presidents of the districts were authorized to select the members of the committee. President Nichols asked whether the scale committee would draw up a uniform wage rate, or

whether several scales would be presented for each district. "Conditions are different in each district," said Mr. Nichols, "and it would be difficult to arrange a uniform rate. Some regions desire pay by the yard and others want to be paid by weight. In our district we want the coal weighed, and we want it so badly we are willing to fight for it if necessary. The first adjournment met with unanimous approval."

Delegate Quigley, of Centralia, District No. 9, made a plea for unity. He asserted that with separate scales the union would be divided, which condition might prove disastrous to the men. President Mitchell explained that the members of the committee representing each district would meet separately, after which their scales would be considered jointly and presented to the convention as a uniform scale approved by the committee of twenty-one. This was satisfactory to the delegates.

The next business in order was the report of the special committee, consisting of President Mitchell and the district presidents, appointed at Indianapolis to seek a conference with the operators. President Mitchell announced that the letters had been received from the operators, and he deemed it advisable for the convention to consider them in executive session. His suggestion was adopted, and the convention went into executive session.

Mr. Mitchell's Statement. During the executive session, the convention appointed the committee on scale and on resolutions, and heard the report of the special committee appointed to seek a conference with the operators. After adjournment this evening, President Mitchell, speaking for the press committee, made this statement: "The committee selected by the Hazleton convention last August to go to New York and see the highest authorities of the coal companies and intercede with the companies to have the necessary steps taken for the examination of working cards and arrange for a joint conference reported the refusal of E. B. Thomas, chairman of directors of the Erie railroad, to receive the committee and the consequent failure of their efforts to make the same committee selected by the Indianapolis convention to invite the operators to confer on the question of a wage scale for the year beginning April 1, 1902, reported the result of interviews with the railroad presidents and presented letters from the railroad companies in reply to the invitations. The letters, while couched in different language, are all of the same purport—a positive refusal to confer with the representatives of their employees upon the wages to be paid and the conditions of employment which should obtain."

"It is needless to say the delegates expressed deep disappointment and the opposition to continuing work under the present low wages and unsafe conditions was unanimous and emphatic. President Mitchell addressed the convention and he stated that he advised caution and prudence in arriving at any decision as to further action. He reviewed the efforts made by the officers of the union to maintain peace and harmony in the coal regions by the adoption of humane measures and the best methods of adjusting wage differences. He spoke also of the failure of the operators to respond to the employees' overtures."

"What the final outcome will be at this time, is purely problematical," was the concluding sentence of the press committee's statement.

The indications here tonight point strongly to a strike declaration, and it is said by some of the men that the declaration may come as early as Friday of this week. The operators' letters seem to have caused much bitter feeling among the men.

The Committees. The members of the scale committee are:

District No. 1 (Wyoming)—John Fallon, of Wilkes-Barre; Thomas Llewellyn Aycock; Anthony Schlosser, Duryea; Stephen Reep; Giphart; Thomas McMichael; Jessup; Jacob Bittner, Edinburgville; Stanley Soubalsky, Pittsburgh.

No. 7 (Lehigh)—William H. Dettrey, Nuremberg; B. Perry, Hazleton; J. H. Snyder, Northampton; Samuel Boye, Coaldale; D. Fallon, Hazleton; P. Ray, Jeddio; James Rayner, Coaldale.

No. 9 (Schuylkill)—Patrick Holihan, Branchdale; Terrence Glinley, Girardville; Joseph Holins, Mahanoy City; Thomas J. Richards, Minersville; William Tiley, Shamokin; Edward Harris, Lykens; and C. G. Palmer, Shamondah.

The resolutions committee is made up as follows: District No. 1—William Owens, Nanticoke; John McGloone, Dunmore; Louis N. Hammeberg, Wilkes-Barre.

No. 7—John McElhenny, Coaldale; Charles Gallagher, Freeland; Bernard Duffy, Meadmo.

No. 9—Thomas Quigley, Centralia; David J. Davis, Pottsville, and Martin Nash, Glen Carbon.

BURGLARS LOOT THE WOODLAND POSTOFFICE.

Quartette of Robbers Secure Quite an Amount of Cash at Clearfield.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Clearfield, Pa., March 19.—Burglars last night blew open the safe in the Woodland postoffice, securing about \$10 worth of stamps, \$100 of government money and about \$50 in cash belonging to the postmaster. They then crossed the street to the general merchandise store of D. Ross & Co., where they secured a large amount of cash and some merchandise.

There is no bank in Woodland, which is a small town located on the New York Central railroad, about six miles from here, and Ross & Co. had the receipts for several days in their store when the robbers gained an entrance. Shortly after midnight, as Edward Clem was passing the postoffice he saw a gang of men working about the building. Before he could give the alarm he was seized, bound and gagged and carried into the postoffice. After the men had taken all the money and stamps out of the postoffice they crossed to Ross & Co.'s store, where they forced an entrance and completed their work for the night. Clem was unable to extricate himself, and he found tied hand and foot when the postmaster reached his office this morning. He was unable to give an accurate description of the robbers, but said there were at least four of them.

RUSSO-FRENCH DECLARATION.

Pleased to Note the Sentiment of the Anglo-Japanese Treaty.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. St. Petersburg, March 19.—The Official Messenger tomorrow will print the text of a Russo-French conjoint declaration, sent March 16, to the Austrian, Belgian, British, American, Spanish, German, Italian, Dutch, Chinese and Japanese governments. The declaration is as follows: "The allied Russo-French governments are wholly pleased to discern that the Anglo-Japanese convention supports the essential principles which, according to the reiterated statement of France and Russia, constituted and still constitutes the foundation of their policy. Both governments believe that the support of these principles is also a guarantee of their interests in the Far East. They are compelled, however, not to lose from view the possibly injurious action of other powers, or a repetition of disorders in China, possibly impairing Chinese integrity and free development, to the detriment of their reciprocal interests. They therefore reserve to themselves the right to take measures to defend these interests."

The prefatory remarks say that Russia desires the maintenance of the status quo and the attainment of complete tranquility in the Far East.

PHILADELPHIA CONFERENCE.

The One Hundred and Fifteenth Annual Session in Lancaster.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Lancaster, Pa., March 19.—The one hundred and fifteenth annual session of the Philadelphia Methodist conference began in Lancaster this morning, with an attendance of nearly 350 ministers and a large number of lay delegates. Daniel Stape, a nonagenarian of Columbia, delivered an address of welcome on behalf of the church, instead of General William Patton, who had been selected for that part, because he had been an active and prominent worker in the church for sixty years, and who was prevented from being present on account of sickness. William E. Given welcomed the conference on behalf of the people of the borough. The conference's last meeting in Columbia was in 1891, and the annual meeting was held in 1892, when Bishop Harris presided. The full ministerial membership at that time was 250, and every member was present. Of that number only sixty-four are now in active work in the conference.

NATIONAL GUARD ORDERS.

Division Encampment to Be Held July 12 to 19—Location to Be Announced.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Harrisburg, March 19.—General orders were issued today from the headquarters of the National Guard of Pennsylvania, announcing that the next division encampment will be held from July 12 to 19, the location to be announced in future orders. The orders also announce that an issue of duck trousers and canvas leggings will be made to each enlisted man in the Guard.

The dates and tours of duty of the naval force will be announced in future orders.

BOSTON STRIKE ENDED.

Traffic in Normal Condition About the Docks of the Hub.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Boston, March 19.—With less than 300 men idle of the 20,000 who participated in the sympathetic strike here last week traffic in the various trades affected by the trouble have resumed normal conditions. Prominent business men, labor representatives and the members of the state board of arbitration are still in touch with each other, endeavoring to secure the reinstatement of the men now idle.

The only difficult matter is the question of finding places for the old men and the strike is considered as practically settled.

APPOINTMENT FOR JAMES GARFIELD.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, March 19.—James R. Garfield, of the late president, will be given the appointment of civil service commissioner to succeed William A. Robinson if he will accept. The president at one time favorably considered the appointment, but he was informed that the latter would not accept the appointment.

NEGRO MURDER LYNCHED.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Satelez, March 19.—John Woodard, the negro murderer of Leonard Calvert, a white planter at Union Point, Concordia parish, La., was lynched today; he was shot by a mob of about 200 men, and his body was hung from a tree. He was 25 years of age.

THE HUNTINGTON ESTATE.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, March 19.—The Tribune will say tomorrow: The Collis P. Huntington estate, now being inventoried by the state's transfer tax appraiser, acting with the executors, Charles M. Tved and Isaac E. Gaits, will amount to about \$25,000,000 or \$29,000,000. The transfer tax will approximate \$600,000.

FAIR WILL OASE DECIDED.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. San Francisco, March 19.—The Senate of this state, in a decision handed down, declares the trust clause in the will of the late Senator James G. Fair invalid and the property will at once be distributed among the children as the deceased senator. It is estimated that the estate is worth upward of twenty million dollars.

DEMOCRATIC SYMPATHY FOR BOERS

The Sentiments Expressed at a Caucus of Representatives Last Evening.

RESOLUTIONS FRAMED AND ADOPTED

Two Sets Are Presented—Those Introduced by Mr. Randall Are Approved. While the Sentiments of Mr. Sulzer Are Rejected—The Resolutions Will Be Introduced in the House and Backed by Democratic Eloquence.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, March 19.—The Democratic members of the house, at a caucus held tonight, unanimously adopted resolutions declaring that congress should express the sympathy of the American people for the struggling Boer republic, and pledged themselves to use their utmost endeavor to "force" the committee to report resolutions expressive of such sympathy, if only that congress might have an opportunity to act.

Representative Hay, of Virginia, presided at the caucus. The attendance was large. There was no division of sentiment as to the course to be taken, the question presented being simply one of choice between two resolutions, one offered by Mr. Randall, of Texas, and the other by Mr. Sulzer, of New York. The Sulzer resolution was as follows:

Resolved, By the Democratic members of the house of representatives of the United States of America in caucus assembled: That we sympathize with the Boers in their heroic struggle to maintain their liberty and independence and protest in the name of humanity and civilization against the continuation of a war which outrages the feelings of all liberty loving people and that we shall use our best efforts to have the congress of the United States by the passage of a resolution of arbitration for the settlement of international disputes, request the president to urge upon the government of his majesty the wisdom of adopting this policy for the purpose of stopping the awful atrocities now going on in South Africa and that the government of the United States should maintain a strict neutrality between the contending forces.

Resolved, By the Democratic members of the house of representatives of the United States of America, in caucus assembled, that the congress of the United States, should, by resolution express the sympathy of the American people for the Boer republic and the Orange Free State in their heroic struggle to maintain their liberty and independence.

Resolved, That the congress should, in the spirit of amity and friendship, appeal to the British government, from the interest of humanity to accept overtures for peace, cease hostilities and endeavor to bring about a just and honorable settlement of the existing differences to the end that peace may be established.

Resolved, That the United States should fairly and honorably maintain a position of strict neutrality in this contest between nations friendly to us, and see to it that the neutrality laws are vigorously and impartially enforced.

Resolved, That the Democratic and representative of the people will use our utmost endeavors to force the committee now constituted by the Republican party, having in their charge resolutions which could not support the measure as it stands, because it would conceive of an assault made on the president as a person and not as an official of the government. The assaulant, in that event, ought to be punished precisely as if he had assaulted any other citizen.

The house today made fair progress with the river and harbor bill. After the close of general debate, 47 of the 116 pages of the bill were disposed of. No amendments were adopted. The general debate today was featureless.

BOER ENVOYS DEPART.

They Believe That a Favorable Settlement Has Been Reached.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, March 19.—Messrs. Wolmarans and Visser, Boer envoys, will sail for France tomorrow morning on the steamship La Gasconne. Mr. Wolmarans said tonight, in the course of an interview:

"Since we have been in this country it has been said that our alliance with the Irish has hurt our cause. We have the eyes of our return, we must deny that statement, and declare that the alliance has been profitable to us, both on the battlefield and by the fight which is being waged for us by the Irish members in the English house of parliament. First, we have to thank the Dutch, next the Irish, and then the Germans. We know also that the people of the United States are with us heart and soul, and we believe that a few words of sympathy from the United States senate and house of representatives would go a great way in helping us with the nations of the old world."

LEHIGH VALLEY LINE OPEN.

The Road Restored to Normal Condition After Damage by Floods.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Bethlehem, Pa., March 19.—It was officially announced tonight that the Lehigh Valley railroad would open up on Monday next, not only the main line, but all of its branches from New York to Buffalo.

Announcement was made after Superintendent Wilbur had read reports of the progress of the work of restoring the road after its million dollar damage by the recent flood and orders were at once telegraphed to New York and Buffalo to get in readiness all passenger trains including the Black Diamond express to move on schedule time next Monday.

JEALOUS HUSBAND'S CRIME.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, March 19.—Henry Sze dot and killed his wife at her home at Stroudtown, New Jersey, last night. Jealousy is said to have prompted the deed. The couple had been married but six months. Sze has thus far escaped capture.

FREIGHT COLLIDES WITH WORK TRAIN.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Niles, O., March 19.—A west bound Pennsylvania freight train crashed into a work train this morning containing eight sleeping hobo's, injuring all of them. Two will die. The wreck immediately caught fire, destroying the caboose.

CROWNSHIELD A REAR ADMIRAL.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, March 19.—The senate, in a recent session, today confirmed the nomination of Captain A. S. Crownshield to be a rear admiral.

THE NEW JERSEY CENTRAL'S NEW GENERAL MANAGER.

W. G. Besler, of the Reading, Has Accepted the Position.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Philadelphia, March 19.—President Baer, of the Central Railroad company of New Jersey, today announced the appointment of W. G. Besler to be general manager of the company. Mr. Besler has been general superintendent of the Reading railway since September, 1900. He resigned this position to accept his new berth.

Mr. Besler was born at Galensburg, Illinois, in 1864. In 1881 he entered the service of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad as clerk, and after serving five years he left the railroad service to take a special course in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

He re-entered the Burlington's service in 1888 as night yardmaster, and served three years in that position and as trainmaster and chief dispatcher. Later he conducted and operated a branch line of the Burlington route, and was for six years the superintendent of the St. Louis division of that company. Mr. Besler served two years as president of the Central Association of Railroad Officers, and one term as president of the St. Louis Railway club. He is a member of the Northwestern association of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, also a member of the American Railway Engineering association.

DISCUSSING MEASURE TO PROTECT PRESIDENT

Some Senators Appear to Think Extra Precautions to Guard a Ruler Are Not Necessary.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, March 19.—During the entire session of the senate today, the bill providing for the protection of the president of the United States was under consideration.

Mr. Spooner, of Wisconsin, contended that the government had an absolute and inherent right to protect itself against assaults made on either the president or any of his officers. He maintained that an assault on the president was in the very nature of things an assault on the government, for there never was a time when the president was not in the exercise of the duties of his office. His argument was largely legal and constitutional, and the measure was forced out and entertaining and instructive.

Mr. Hoar, in charge of the measure, elucidated some arguments he had previously made, and Mr. Teller, of Colorado, and Mr. Bailey, of Texas, spoke briefly on the bill. The Texas senator said he could not support the measure as it stands, because it would conceive of an assault made on the president as a person and not as an official of the government. The assaulant, in that event, ought to be punished precisely as if he had assaulted any other citizen.

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TROUBLE AT HAYTI.

Many Citizens Charged with Conspiring Against the Government.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Port Au Prince, Hayti, March 19.—Many citizens charged with conspiring against the government were arrested and imprisoned today, and a number of others sought refuge in the various consulates. Among the citizens imprisoned were Judge Bourjolly, of the Supreme court, and General Dewitcheu, M. Senegre, a candidate for the presidency, was refused an asylum in the French legation.

The agitation is spreading in the republic. The minister of public works, M. C. Leconte, has left Port Au Prince for Janel, with a detachment of troops.

WILL RATIFY DANISH SALE.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Copenhagen, March 19.—The Landsting, the upper house, in committee of the whole and in plenary session, today voted in favor of ratifying the sale of the Danish West Indies to the United States. After this action there will be two readings, one of which is to be in open session. The first of these readings will take place before March 25. The opponents of the treaty are playing for delay, but the measure is now assured of a majority in favor of ratification.

PARDON BOARD HEARS HOWELS CASE.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Harrisburg, March 19.—The board of pardons heard argument today in the case of M. H. Howells, of Scranton, who is serving eighteen months in the Eastern penitentiary for counterfeiting the labels and wrappers and medicines sold by certain firms.

PENSIONS GRANTED.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Washington, March 19.—Pensions granted: Michael Kehoe, of Wilkes-Barre, \$30; Charlotte Boyd (widow), of Kingston, \$2; John E. Sauer, of Mauch Chunk, \$10; Catherine Wilson (widow), of Mauch Chunk, \$10; Bridget Galvin (widow), State Feb. 88.

GIRL'S STRIKE A FAILURE.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Middletown, N. Y., March 19.—Most of the 500 girl strikers who left the employ of the American Cigar company here yesterday returned to work today. The company made no concessions and refused to institute the leaders.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Belton, Pa., March 19.—Edward Green, husband of Holly Green, known as the richest woman in America, died at his home here today. He had been ill for a long time of a complication of diseases.

CECIL RHODES STRONGER.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Cape Town, March 19.—A bulletin issued at mid night says Cecil Rhodes had taken nourishment, and that he was slightly stronger and that at that time he was sleeping.

CHINESE REBELS AGAIN ACTIVE

TALK ON SECRET SOCIETIES.

Address Made on the Subject Before the Christian Convention.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Altoona, Pa., March 19.—The Christian convention, called to discuss secret societies, at today's session listened to an address on "Are Secret Societies Necessary for Insurance?" by Rev. R. Thiersch, of Johnstown. The following officers were elected:

President, Rev. J. C. McPeeters, of Philadelphia; vice-president, Prof. J. B. Brumbaugh, of Huntingdon; secretary, Rev. C. F. Kreider, of Clifton; treasurer, Edwin P. Selle, of Philadelphia. The resolutions adopted set forth that in these times of temporal prosperity there is a laxness on the part of professing Christians and an increase of lodges, clubs and associations unauthorized by God and calculated to blight the divinely ordained institution of church, family and state. The lodge is denounced as tending to belittle the church. Its use of religious rites and ceremonies at funerals and on other occasions is condemned. The secret lodge is charged with declining and degrading the family and with being an obstacle to justice in the courts. Finally it is affirmed that the lodge does not teach charity and is not needed for insurance.

The convention will meet in Chambersburg next year.

TURKEY REFUSES TO PAY.

Will Not Be Responsible for the Ransom Money for Miss Stone.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. London, March 19.—A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph company from Constantinople says the Turkish government has flatly refused the demand of the United States for the repayment of the sum of money (\$72,000) paid to the brigands as a ransom for Miss Ellen M. Stone and her companion, Madame Tsika.

HENRY HOME AGAIN.

The Emperor and Prince Are Given a Warm Welcome.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Kiel, Prussia, March 19.—The German battleship Kaiser Wilhelm II, having on board Emperor William and Admiral Prince Henry of Prussia, arrived here at 10 p. m.

His majesty and the prince were welcomed with the firing of salutes and cheers from the naval squadron in these waters.

Berlin, March 19.—Prince Henry landed at Kiel at dusk and joined Princess Henry and his sons.

That which took place between the royal brothers is, of course, not a matter concerning which those surrounding Emperor William and Prince Henry have been taken into the royal confidence. Further than to know that the brothers had a talk today, lasting several hours, and that Prince Henry told Emperor William his experiences from the beginning to the end of his trip.

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The Imperial Forces Suffer Crushing Defeat at the Hands of the Malcontents.

THE REBELLION IS CONSTANTLY GROWING

Generals Call for Reinforcements. Southern