

THE COAL STRIKE IS NOT SETTLED

Yesterday's Rumors Upon the Subject Appear to Have Had No Foundation of Fact.

NOTHING DEFINITE WAS ACCOMPLISHED

The Presidents of the Coal Roads and Representatives of the Individual Operators in Consultation at the Office of Senator Platt—President Mitchell Has an Interview with Officials of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railway Company—The Anthracite Strike Not Talked About—None of the Participants of the Conference Have Anything to Offer That Will Throw Any Light on the Situation—No Developments in the Valley.

New York, Oct. 9.—Replete at its opening with promise of a solution of the long-drawn-out struggle between the United Mine Workers of America and the operators of the anthracite properties in Pennsylvania, this day has closed without apparent appreciable progress toward an agreement upon the issues in controversy. Most noteworthy of the day's events was a conference at the office of Senator Thomas C. Platt, at which there were present, among others, the two senators from Pennsylvania and the governor of New York, and nearly all the heads of the big corporations controlling the anthracite fields. In the afternoon, this conference had a contrary effect to that which had been hoped for, and the operators departed declaring adherence to the policy they have followed from the first of resisting the demands of the miners' union to the bitter end. There were no conferences during the day, in which President Mitchell and people of more or less consequence in the industrial world participated, but these, so far as information obtainable goes, were as barren of results as the principal meeting.

In brief, there has been no change in the situation today, so far as it might have been affected by the gathering in New York of labor leaders, mine operators and public men. After what may be described as an inside and authoritative source, it may be announced that the conference at the office of Senator Platt was absolutely without result, the operators refusing to consider the political aspect of the situation, and maintaining their position that the question was one between employer and employee as to the management of the properties concerned.

According to the authority above indicated, Senator Quay and Governor Odell expressed the opinion that should the strike continue for another fortnight or longer, the effect would be to possess the public mind with the one subject of shortage of fuel, that political duties would be neglected and the voters remain away from the polls on election day, with the natural result that the majority party in Pennsylvania and New York would be the greater sufferer. Senator Penrose expressed his concurrence in the representations of the mine operators, and Senator Platt and Mr. Lauterbach spoke in a similar strain. These latter advised something in the nature of an armistice, under an implied promise to the miners that their union would be recognized by the operators.

Operators Still Firm. On their part the operators declared that the question at issue was entirely apart from party politics, and they refused to be influenced by representations as to the effect of the struggle might have upon the fortunes of one party or the other.

One of the political conferences next suggested that to protect the struggle with the miners would be to open the ways for the advocates of anti-corporation legislation at Harrisburg and Albany to move for the introduction of measures calculated to impair the value of railroad and coal properties, and that it was even possible that in the stress of public opinion, laws might be enacted that would impair for years the value of the properties the operators represented. It was said by another speaker that a bill of this antagonistic character had already been framed and was ready for submission to the Pennsylvania legislature.

The possibility of harassing the litigation both in Pennsylvania and New York was also dwelt upon, and the fear expressed that in some instances the state of public mind might influence the determination of such suits.

These representations failed to move the operators, who, according to the gentleman already quoted, declared that party politics should not be injected into the situation. The operators further expressed their confidence in the integrity of the courts and said they had no fear of the success of any attack that might be made through the state legislatures upon the property interests concerned.

that he declines to place in the attitude of a party controversy.

The Day's References. The story of the really centers about the meeting at the afternoon at Senator Platt's office. Present at the meeting were Governor Odell, Senators Quay and Penrose of Pennsylvania; Senator Platt, President Olyphant, of the Delaware and Hudson; President Fowler, of the Ontario and Western; President Truesdale, of the Lackawanna; Chairman Thomas, of the Erie; Markle, representing the independent operators; David Wilcox, vice president and general counsel of the Delaware and Hudson; David Lamar and Edward Lauterbach. At the conclusion of the meeting none present would say what had taken place, or whether any solution to the strike trouble had been reached.

The conference followed one held in the forenoon in Senator Platt's office at which were present Senators Quay and Penrose, Governor Odell, Edward Lauterbach and Senator Platt. The conference was a check and countercheck of the views of the independent operators. Governor Odell afterward had luncheon at the Lawyers' club with Senators Quay and Penrose.

Following luncheon the three, with Senator Penrose's secretary, returned to Senator Platt's office. They returned by means of the collar and the church street entrance, threading their way through a mass of boxes and bales of merchandise. At 3 o'clock they were joined by the operators of the coal mines, and the most important conference of the day was held. Mr. Lauterbach was present, and for the first time he made a trip to J. P. Morgan's office. He did not see Mr. Morgan.

Appearances Hopeful. He then went back to the conference room. Mr. Lauterbach replied to questions by saying that appearances looked very hopeful for a speedy settlement of the strike. He said he had seen President John Mitchell Wednesday night and that he seemed disposed to act with a spirit of fairness. The conference ended about 4:30 o'clock. President Fowler was the first to leave, the other operators following him. The coal road presidents referred all inquiries to the senators and Governor Odell. "I've nothing to say," there is nothing to say," said Mr. Odell's answer to a question. Senator Quay likewise had nothing to say. Senator Platt was the last to leave his office.

"I don't think I can say anything," he said. "I am too tired. There will be further meetings tomorrow. That is all I can say at present."

Vice-President Wilcox, of the Delaware and Hudson, like others, refused to talk. A visit to the operators after the conference brought no information. Although President Mitchell had apparently no part in the conference between the senators and the operators, his actions were anxiously awaited. Early in the day he was joined at the Ashland house by ex-Senate Senator Moses W. Solomon, of Chicago. The Chicagoan had so far refused to discuss his mission, saying he was merely a "messenger." During the morning Mr. Mitchell had a long conference with his three district presidents. Afterward District President Nichols had this to say:

"Unless the demands of the strikers are granted in full, I do not see how President Mitchell can settle the strike without calling a convention. If only a part of the demands are granted, that would render it necessary to call a convention and that would take two weeks at least."

Conference at Ashland House. Late in the afternoon President Mitchell and the district presidents had another conference at the Ashland house. Mr. Nichols said that his associates had not considered any formal or informal proposition from the operators. He said that the strike might possibly be settled by Monday, but intimated that it was improbable.

Oscar S. Strauss, a member of the conciliation committee of the National Civic Federation, called on President Mitchell late in the afternoon. On leaving Mr. Strauss said:

"President Mitchell would to see me, but the object of my visit I cannot make public."

General B. E. Tracy, a B. Board member and D. H. Bacon, president of the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railway company, called on President Mitchell in the evening.

MAIN STRENGTH CONVENTION

Some Astounding Testimony at the Hearing on the Lackawanna Objections.

FAKE CONTESTS WERE VERY NUMEROUS

Men Who Had No Opposition at the Primaries Found Themselves Contested in the Convention Without Having Been Previously Notified. Other Legally Elected Delegates Were Not Even Able to Get in the Convention Hall—Hearing Will Probably Last Until Late Saturday.

Harrisburg, Oct. 9.—Twenty-three of the four hundred witnesses in the Democratic nomination contest from Lackawanna were heard today in a session lasting from 9:30 a. m. until 9:30 p. m., with two hours of recess for meals. No agreement could be reached by the attorneys which would reduce the list of witnesses and as far as is now known they will all have to remain over tomorrow and some of them over Saturday.

The Flynn side is still engaged in showing the irregularity of the Fahey convention. One witness after another told of being forcibly denied admittance to the hall until the Faheyites had the convention machinery in working order; of the usurpation of the convention officers by a hold bid of buccaneering; of the alleged methods pursued in excluding the delegates from participating in the proceedings; of the surreptitious meeting of the credentials committee and the ensuing unanimous election of delegates by fake contests; of the refusal of the chairman to recognize any delegate other than those of the machine, who had been previously selected to make the cut and dried motions, and, finally, of the Faheyites' refusal to let the mob-ruled hall, and assembling in another place to conduct an orderly convention.

BAER OFFERS FULL TIME

Reading President's Reply to Letter of Rev. Father Nagel.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Wilkes-Barre, Oct. 9.—Rev. Father P. C. Nagel, pastor of St. Nicholas German Catholic church of this city, wrote to President George F. Baer, of the Philadelphia and Reading company, on Tuesday, asking that he (Mr. Baer) do something for his (Father Nagel's) people—something that would end the strike. This morning Father Nagel received the following reply:

"I am glad to hear that you are so interested in the strike. I am perfectly willing to promise the men full time and steady work, except when work is prevented by unavoidable causes. I am quite sure the conditions are such that I can keep this promise."

Philadelphia, Oct. 9.—The letter written by President Baer, of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad company, to the Rev. P. C. Nagel, of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in reply to one from the clergyman, having been published, Mr. Baer was requested to permit the publication of Father Nagel's communication, to which the president of the Reading railroad's letter was a reply.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Sept. 9, 1902. Dear Sir: Add to your fair propositions to the strikers the granting of full time, steady work, except by unavoidable accidents, and this promise will have a greater influence on the miners returning to work than all the soldiers, or anything else. My miners do not complain about wages, but about being too many days. If you can make this offer to them, the strike will be settled without delay. Most respectfully, G. F. Baer, President.

AMMUNITION FOR THE 13TH.

An Order for 10,000 Rounds Received—General Miller's Tour of Inspection.

Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 9.—Major General Miller returned to Harrisburg from Washington tonight and is again on duty at division headquarters. He is expected to meet Governor Stone tomorrow for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the strike situation. The general expects to make a tour of troops in the strike territory, starting next Monday, with members of his staff.

The President Improving. Washington, Oct. 9.—President Roosevelt felt so much better as a result of the drive he took yesterday that he went out again for an hour about noon today. He was accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt and they drove through Rock Creek park.

THE GRAND ARMY

DOWN TO BUSINESS

SOLDIER SHOT.

An Attempt to Assassinate a Guardsman at Shamokin.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Shamokin, Pa., Oct. 9.—Theodore Vioz, first sergeant of Company B, Tenth regiment, was standing in the kitchen mess room today when a bullet from a revolver pierced the tent and lodged in his right shoulder. Comrades of the wounded soldier rushed from the tent and saw four men, one holding a revolver, rush from the top of a culm bank close by and disappear in the mountain. A number of soldiers gave chase, but the men escaped. Vioz would be not of a fatal nature.

DYNAMITE OUTRAGE

Cattle Train Wrecked on the Lehigh Valley Cut Off—Many Animals Killed.

Pittston, October 9.—Dynamite was placed on the Lehigh Valley cut-off tracks, about a mile and a half south of Jenkins Junction, last night, and the result was an explosion that had disastrous, but not fatal results. Seven cattle cars, loaded with live stock, were demolished, the engine damaged, about one hundred cattle killed or maimed, and over one hundred escaped to the woods. Fireman William Shiner, of Pittston, was thrown over an embankment with the tender of the engine, but was unhurt. Charles Mahler, of West Pittston, a brakeman, was thrown from the train and slightly injured. This is the second dynamite outrage that has taken place on the Lehigh Valley tracks in this vicinity within a week.

Another extra cattle train, made up of thirty-nine loaded cattle cars and four freight cars, left Coxton Yard last night about eight o'clock. It was drawn by engine L211, one of the largest on the road, in charge of Engineer Aaron Hooper, of March Chunk, and Conductor Edward Comoy, of Wilkes-Barre. A big pusher engine assisted in taking the heavy train up the mountain.

They reached a big curve south of Jenkins Junction, which is about two miles back of Yatesville, about 9 o'clock, and were travelling at the rate of thirty miles an hour when a terrific explosion occurred. The tank of the engine was thrown over a sixty-foot embankment and the fireman went with it, rolling out as the tank slid down the bank. The first four cars of the train, which were loaded with a fine stock of cattle, went over the embankment, but remained unscathed together. The end of the first car was blown off, and as the cars went down the bank the animals slid out the open end, twelve of them were killed and two injured. The second car was completely overturned and its contents of live stock thrown into a heap in one end, and most all were killed. Both the third and fourth cars were tipped over and the animals thrown out through the doors or piled in a mass in the car.

The sudden release of the air and the heavy work of the pusher engine telescoped the center of the train about one hundred yards from the engine, and three cars were wrecked at this point, two of them being smashed to kindling wood. Ten steers were killed at the second point, and the other escaped to the woods close by.

Traffic on the east-bound track was blocked all day, and the wrecking crews from Packerton and Coxton were on the scene. The loss will total up several thousand dollars. A force of men were employed today, securing the woods for the cattle that escaped, and by noon a herd of them had been rounded up. The concussion was easily felt in this city and vicinity, fairly shaking some houses. Detective O'Brien and assistants were on the ground all day, endeavoring to gain information as to the perpetrators of the deed.

The scene of the wreck was a gruesome one, with the dead animals strewn along the tracks or piled in heaps, many of them maimed and bleeding pitifully. About 6 o'clock this morning, a Pittston butcher was called to the scene and put an end to their sufferings.

JEALOUSY AND MURDER.

Miss Fisher Is Killed by William Dougherty, Who Commits Suicide.

Washington, Oct. 9.—Miss Alice Fisher, a young woman employed in the government printing office, was shot and instantly killed at noon today by William Dougherty, an employee of the same office. Dougherty, who had previously killed himself, jealousy was the motive.

The affair occurred at the home of a friend of the young woman. Miss Fisher had gone to the friend's house at the request of Dougherty, who wanted her to resume her friendly relations and cease accepting the attentions of another young man.

Pennsylvania Tunnel Franchise.

New York, Oct. 9.—The rapid transit commission today unanimously voted to grant the franchise to the Pennsylvania Railroad company to build the tunnel which the road asked for, and granted it to the company on its own terms.

Anthracite Coal Re-Bought.

Hamburg, Oct. 9.—American anthracite coal imported at Hamburg last winter is being re-bought for the United States.

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The Women's Relief Corps, the Daughters of Veterans and the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic also met in annual convention today. Thousands of veterans and their wives, not delegates to either of these organizations, attended army corps reunions in the big tents on the white lot, or spent the beautiful October day in sight-seeing. A feature of the late afternoon was the dedication of the corner stone of the proposed memorial bridge to connect Washington with the national cemetery at Arlington. Secretary Root was the orator of the occasion.

HONESDALE FAIR

Events of Yesterday. Far More Interesting Than Any Other Day.

Honesdale, Oct. 9.—Yesterday was by far more interesting at the Honesdale fair than the day previous, the first of the two racing days. The interest yesterday was in the free-for-all, which was captured by Levi Patterson, of Wilkes-Medium. Another of the notable events of the day was the race between Almonk, H. H. Pierce, Carbonade, Wilkes-Medium, Levi A. Patterson, Carbonade, Ethelbe, Silas McCullen and Frank Hubbard, Carbonade. The time was 2:25, 2:27, 2:26, 2:28. The purse was \$400.

The summary of the free-for-all was: Wilkes-Medium ..... 1 1 2 1 Almonk ..... 2 2 1 2 Ethelbe ..... 3 3 3 0

The 2:30 class was somewhat of a disappointment. There was great annoyance in the start off. Time after time the judges called the horses back, and it seemed as if it would never be a start. This caused the last heat to be postponed until this morning, on account of darkness.

The entries were: Billy M., S. B. Clark, Honesdale; Gold Rain, W. C. Norton, Alderkill; Lady McNeil, W. S. France, Clark's Green; Jim Doyle, H. C. Williams, Carbonade; French, Geo. Collins, Centre Village.

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