

MINERS' CONVENTION CALLED FOR MONDAY

District Executive Boards Unanimously Recommend Acceptance of the President's Plans.

WORK TO BE RESUMED BY THURSDAY NEXT

Many Points in the Arbitration Arrangement Are Yet to Be Explained, but the General Feeling Throughout the Coal Fields Is One of Intense Relief That the Tension Is at Last Relaxed—President Mitchell Issues a Statement Asking the Public to Be Patient While the Preliminaries to Resumption Are Being Arranged—All Appointees to the Strike Commission Likely to Accept.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Oct. 16.—The executive boards of the three anthracite districts of the United Mine Workers of America, in joint session today, unanimously decided to recommend to a delegate convention of striking miners the acceptance of the arbitration proposition submitted by the president of the United States, and it is reasonably certain that the advice will be followed and the great struggle brought to a close.

While the great "third party" is satisfied with the promise of an early coal supply, it cannot be truly said there is great rejoicing among the striking mine workers, at this time, over the result. They admit the near ending of the long idleness is extremely satisfactory to them and that they have won a great victory in the arbitration proposition, but they feel that the real relief will come in putting up such a stubborn struggle is still to come in the award of the arbitration commission.

Mitchell Issues a Bulletin. From the time the news was received late last night until about 10 o'clock this morning there was some doubt as to how the miners would receive the modified plan. President Mitchell was asked to make some expression on the proposition, but he steadily refused. He was pressed by the correspondents for a statement and finally at 10 o'clock he cleared up the situation by issuing the following bulletin:

Approaching the anxiety and impotence of the public and the importance of this official statement from this office, I issue this bulletin to say that I am unalterably opposed to the acceptance of any proposition which would result in a settlement proposed by the coal operators because it restricted the president of the United States in making selection of the men who were to determine the questions involved in the coal strike.

When this was read to the arriving district leaders and groups of miners who came to headquarters to learn the news, general satisfaction was expressed that Mr. Mitchell was willing to accept the modified plan, and from that time on there was no doubt that the strike would be brought to a speedy close.

It was not until 2 o'clock that the thirty-seven members of the three district boards were called into session, which lasted two hours and fifteen minutes. There was some opposition manifested in the meeting against certain features of the plan, but after a full discussion of the objectionable parts a unanimous vote was taken to recommend to the convention the acceptance of the proposition. As the conference was held behind closed doors and a bond of secrecy was placed on every man present, the specific objections were not officially announced. These are the same executive boards which on May 18 last ordered the strike to begin. Mr. Mitchell's opposition by the district boards was approved in the Hazleton convention a few days later. It is expected that some objections will be raised on the floor of the convention, but the officers of the union are confident the opposition will disappear when President Mitchell explains all the features of the modified proposition to the delegates.

Questions Raised. A question was raised today as to whether Commissioner of Labor might, who will be the recorder of the commission, shall have the right to vote with the six other members of the board. It is equally divided on any question in connection with a settlement.

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Mr. Mitchell when asked did not appear to be sure that he had not, and other officials of the union were also uncertain of Mr. Wright's status. The matter of the term of years that the agreement shall be in force was also a source of much inquiry. The union was strongly opposed to the operators fixing the term of years. One district president said this feature had been left to the discretion of the commission, as suggested in Mr. Mitchell's proposition, while other officials did not know anything about it. President Mitchell for some reason did not care to discuss any feature of the arbitration agreement while the matter was still in the hands of the miners.

Views of Operators ON COMMISSION

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. New York, Oct. 16.—Few of the representatives of the coal interests would discuss the present status of the coal situation today, beyond expressing their belief that the commission named last night has a tremendous task before it.

Washington, Oct. 16.—General John M. Wilson, United States army, retired, who was named by the president last night as one of the members of the strike commission, called upon Secretary of War Root tonight and announced his acceptance of the appointment.

It is a serious problem to solve, said President Olyphant, of the Delaware and Hudson railroad. "The question of wages the men are to receive; how the men are to be paid in different mines and in different veins in the same mine are some of the questions. These are problems that men have grown grey-headed trying to solve."

Discussing the possibility of getting coal into the market promptly after the mines resume, Mr. Olyphant said: "If the miners go to work at once, we will be able to get coal here right away. I don't know anything about their going to work, but when they do go, everything that can carry coal will be pressed into service."

It was a lively day around strike headquarters from early in the morning until after the announcement was made that a convention would be called, and a crowd was congregated at the office of the president of the union, which was extremely busy day. In the morning he had many callers who came to congratulate him, and in the afternoon he was engaged with the three district boards. Telegrams of congratulation from all parts of the United States were received by the miners during the day.

The coal companies, anticipating the ending of the strike next week, are busily engaged in preparing for resumption. Tens of thousands of coal cars are in the region ready for loading, and Mr. Mitchell spent an extremely busy day. In the morning he had many callers who came to congratulate him, and in the afternoon he was engaged with the three district boards. Telegrams of congratulation from all parts of the United States were received by the miners during the day.

OFFICIAL CALL FOR MINERS' CONVENTION

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press. Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Oct. 16.—The following is the official call for the delegate convention of the anthracite districts of the United Mine Workers of America, to be held here next Monday:

EARLY WITHDRAWAL OF THE MILITIA PROBABLE

Harrisburg, Oct. 16.—Governor Stone probably will withdraw the troops in the mining regions as soon as the strike is declared officially by President Mitchell, and the miners indicate their willingness to go to work. The governor left Harrisburg today, and will not return here before night. Adjutant General Stewart is the only officer of the National Guard on duty at headquarters, and he declines to discuss the strike situation or the probable time or manner in which the troops will be withdrawn.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS.

Two Scrantonians Honored in the Election of State Officers. Franklin, Pa., Oct. 16.—At the convention of the State Sabbath School association today interesting addresses were made by Hugh Corke, superintendent of the organization; Rev. George B. Stultz, of New York; Rev. L. W. Haines, of Philadelphia; and Rev. E. Howard, of Philadelphia.

STRIKE COMMISSIONERS ARE LIKELY TO ACCEPT

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London, Oct. 16.—Parliament was reopened today without any of the usual formalities. Owing to the highly controversial character of the educational bill and the unbending determination of both sides, the session promises to be the occasion of the most serious party struggle witnessed in the house since the late Liberal government retired from office. Seven hundred and fifty amendments to the education bill await consideration, of which number 588 have been proposed by the Liberals.

The sitting opened with a turbulent debate. Premier Balfour moved that the remainder of the session be entirely devoted to government business, which, he explained, would consist mainly of the discussion of the education and London water bills, while the Indian budget, the Uganda railroad, sugar bounties and the supply vote would be left to the usual friends of the opposition. The Transvaal, he added, would also require attention.

The Fun Begins. James Bryce, leading the Liberals in the absence of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, since the late Liberal government retired from office, seven hundred and fifty amendments to the education bill await consideration, of which number 588 have been proposed by the Liberals.

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Rival Wings of the Sadly Demoralized Union Party of Philadelphia Both Lopped Off in an Interesting Opinion by Judge Simonton, Who Intimates That the Union Party Lacks Sufficient Vertebrae for a Successful Career in the Strenuous Life of Pennsylvania Politics. Other Ballot Decisions.

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The certificates of the state nominees of the Pattison and Pennypacker factions of the Union party were declared invalid by the Dauphin county court, in an opinion filed by Judge Simonton today.

Judge Simonton devotes nine pages of the opinion to the facts in the case, and declares that "one objection to the validity of the action of each convention, which in opinion is fatal to both the rival certificates, is that two or more of the seats in both conventions were contested, making it practically impossible that a legal convention could be organized."

Continuing, he says: "If only those whose seats were not contested were to take part in the preliminary organization, it even could be so small that they could not express the will of the party. The recent, and hence imperfect organization of the Union party made it possible for this great number of contests to exist as well as practically impossible for the conventions to determine their merits, even if contents of their certificates were considered by the court to do so, if it were now to attempt it."

Shy on Organization. Discussing the organization of the Union party, Judge Simonton says: "It may well be doubted whether on the basis of its platform found in the rules formulated by the state committee as well as in those formulated by the Philadelphia city committee, it even could have been crystallized into a well organized party. This platform declares that the Union party does not aim to sever citizens from their affiliations with the great parties that are divided upon questions of national politics. Its members seem to have attempted to form an organization which should be entitled to a right of a party's nominations by nomination certificates and yet be made up of those who might still be affiliated with either the Democratic or Republican party."

It is, perhaps, not surprising that this attempt failed, and that the centrifugal force of attachment to one or other of the great parties consumed the centripetal attraction of the principles declared in their platform, and that in consequence the body was broken into divergent factions, the great majority of which, as the representative of the Union party, the Pattison faction took out nomination papers for its state nominees, but those were rejected by Secretary of the Commonwealth Grist on the ground that they did not contain the requisite number of signatures. This leaves both parties without a column for its state tickets on the official ballot.

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THE MOLINEUX TRIAL.

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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER.

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WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Oct. 16.—Forecast for Friday and Saturday: Eastern Pennsylvania: Fair Friday and Saturday; light variable winds.

WORLD'S COAL PRODUCTION.

United States Produced 33.96 Per Cent. of Total Output in 1901.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—The United States Geological survey estimates the world's production of coal in 1901 at \$66,165,540 short tons. The three great coal producing countries of the world are the United States, Great Britain and Germany. Austria-Hungary comes fourth, France is fifth, Belgium sixth and Russia seventh. The last country, notwithstanding its vast area, produces only about 6 percent, as much coal as the United States. Prior to 1899, Great Britain led among the world's coal producers, but during 1899, 1900 and 1901 the United States made such remarkable increases in coal production, due principally to the unprecedented activity in the iron and steel and in other metal trades, that it now stands far in the lead of all competitors, with a production in 1901 exceeding that of Great Britain by 4,795,928 short tons, or 19 percent. Up to the close of 1900 the coal production of Great Britain and her colonies, if taken together, still exceeded that of the United States, the excess in 1900 being 3,368,825 short tons. The United States produced 33.96 per cent. of the total output of the coal mines of this country last year, exceeding by about 26,000,000 short tons the entire output of Great Britain and her dependencies, including India and the Transvaal.

The output of coal in 1901 the United States produced 33.96 per cent.; Great Britain and her dependencies, 30.86 per cent., and Germany, 19.42 per cent., or combined, 84.14 per cent. of the total production.

THE FATE OF CASTRO HANGS IN BALANCE

Fierce Battle at La Victoria Believed to Be the Decisive Struggle of Venezuelan Insurrection.

Caracas, Oct. 16.—The battle near La Victoria, Venezuela, between the army commanded by President Castro and the revolutionary forces, which began Monday morning, lasted until the afternoon of that day, and was resumed on Tuesday morning.

President Castro withdrew to La Victoria on Tuesday afternoon, where the battle was resumed again fiercely at 2 o'clock this morning. At that time the president had received reinforcements and had over 6,000 men engaged against the 7,000 men placed in line by the revolutionists. The artillery played a part never before seen in Venezuela. Short before 5 o'clock this afternoon the revolutionists appeared, having gained a slight advantage. The president's artillery, which numbered fifteen guns, had been reduced to four guns.

The La Victoria was crowded with wounded and there were no provisions in the town. The British cruiser Indefatigable has left La Guayra for the purpose of carrying provisions to Tucacas, twenty-five miles from Puerto Cabello, for the foreign residents there. Some of the foreigners are said to be dying of hunger as a result of the concentration measures adopted by the Venezuelan authorities. The Indefatigable, in order to accomplish her mission, will have to run the blockade of Tucacas.

The German cruiser Vinaha also has left La Guayra, and it is regarded as probable that she is bound for Tucacas. The French cruiser Suetet arrived at Carupano yesterday and entered a protest against the arbitrary arrest of a French citizen, who was released subsequently with an apology.

Fighting took place on Monday and Tuesday between the government forces and revolutionists at Carupano. The German cruiser Panther has forced the entrance of the Orinoco river and has reached Ciudad Bolivar, to protect German interests there.

United States Minister Bowen has announced that he will not ask for a guard of blue-jackets to protect the United States legation at Caracas, and all his colleagues will follow Mr. Bowen's example.

Washington, Oct. 16.—A cable message received at the state department this morning from United States Minister Bowen, at Caracas, dated last night, reads: "Battle Victoria continuing." It is believed here that Castro is making his last stand at this point, and that the outcome of the revolution will be determined by this engagement.

ENTHUSIASM FOR JUDGE PENNYPACKER.

Republican Candidate Gets a Tumultuous Reception in Westmoreland. Scottsdale, Pa., Oct. 16.—The Republican mass meeting here this afternoon was said by one of Judge Pennypacker's party to be the largest and most enthusiastic daylight meetings of their kind.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

New York, Oct. 16.—Cleared: South-west Atlantic, via Southampton, Sailed: La Lorraine, Havre; Fuenst Bismarck, Hamburg; Southampton-Arrived: Friendsland, New York; Cherbourg-Arrived: Blucher, New York via Plymouth for Hamburg (and proceeded); Queenstown-Sailed: Majestic, New York; Plymouth-Arrived: Auguste Victoria, New York via Cherbourg and Hamburg and proceeded; Rotterdam-Sailed: Rotterdam, New York via Cherbourg; La Champan, New York for Havre.

CHALLENGE ACCEPTED.

New York, Oct. 16.—The New York yacht club tonight sent a challenge to Sir Thomas Lipton accepting his challenge for the America's cup on the same conditions for which it was raced for the last time. The first race will be sailed Thursday, August 29, 1903. Races will then follow every other day (Sundays excepted), until one yacht has won three races.

SOUFRIERE AGAIN ACTIVE.

Kingston, Island of St. Vincent, Oct. 16.—There was a slight eruption of the Soufriere volcano between 8 and 10 o'clock last night and it increased to a full eruption at 1 o'clock this morning, lasting until 11:30 a. m. It was accompanied by a fall of cinder sand. Kingston was not damaged.

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LEHIGH VALLEY REPORT.

Philadelphia, Oct. 16.—The annual report of the Lehigh Valley Railroad company for the twelve months ending June 30, 1902, which was approved by the board of directors at a meeting yesterday, was today made public. The date of the close of the fiscal year having been changed from November 30 to June 30, the report covers a period of seven months.

The earnings from operations were \$12,045,000; net income, \$1,500,000; total earnings, \$13,545,000; net operating earnings, \$9,200,000; expenses, \$8,900,000; less added income from other sources, \$345,000, making net earnings, \$8,645,000, less \$2,500,000 interest payable and surplus earnings, net controlled companies, making the total income \$6,145,000; proportion of the fixed charges, \$2,475,000; deficit for seven months, \$2,125,000. The results of the operations of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company for the seven months show: Earnings, \$1,100,000; net income, \$100,000; expenses, \$1,000,000; net operating earnings, \$100,000; less added income from other sources, \$100,000, making net earnings, \$200,000.

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