

MITCHELL STILL IN THE WITNESS BOX

(Concluded from Page 3.)

him, but you are generally in accord? A. I believe Mr. Roberts to be a supporter of the union movement. Q. Dr. Roberts says in a publication called "The Anthracite Coal Industry" on page 15 as I am assured: "employees under monopolistic control, share in the increased profits of operators, and for this reason working men often do not object to a monopoly. If the miners' union—That is your organization—"and the coal syndicate—these last any, but if these is my friend Mr. Wolverson will take care of it and I am not in it (laughter)—"If the miners' union and the coal syndicate can agree in their common interest as against the public"—there is where you strike me, you see—"there is no reason why these cannot be a long season of industrial prosperity in the anthracite coal fields. Self interest"—There we come again to the question of Cain—"should unite both capital and labor in the anthracite coal fields, and it can be done, if practical reasons on both sides shall control." Do you adhere to that sentiment?

A. That is not an expression of my views, by any means. Q. Do you favor a union of the miners you represent, your organization and the coal operators in common interest as against the public? I do not favor it as against the public. Q. Well, will you, assuming that neither our freight rates pay dividends to the owners of the property nor our coal companies pay any dividends to the owners of the property, and as it is impossible to subtract something from nothing, will you point out why Mr. Roberts is not acting right in declaring that the union you ask will be against the public? A. I should not care to point out at all anything about that statement of Mr. Roberts. We expect Dr. Roberts to testify in the case, and I have no doubt that he will be abundantly able to substantiate his own statements.

Engineers and Pump Runners.

Referring to the calling out of the steam men, engineers and pump runners, Mr. MacVeagh proceeded to show that it was done to put the operators to the alternative of deciding in twelve days whether they would grant the miners' demands or suffer the destruction of their property with its consequence of indefinite idleness and a coal famine.

Q. Undoubtedly; but you still do not get the point. You are a good enough American—as good as any American—to know that an American accepts a contract kindly. He does not like the limit drawn on him either in games (laughter) or in life, and the moment you draw a limit of twelve days and annex to the conclusion of your demand a specific length of time, under a threat that their property will be destroyed, you are doing something totally different from calling out the mine workers—a totally different class of action; because, as I say, you are then striking not only at the two classes whom Mr. Roberts thinks ought to join, the mine owners and the mine workers, but you are striking at that third class which you two ought to join to exploit—the public. A. Well, Mr. MacVeagh, I quite agree that no one likes to be dictated to, but when men are advised to go to the employers and request them to permit them to work an eight-hour day, when they try to arbitrate differences, when they offer to defer to an investigation—all without success—then the time comes for dictation.

Q. Very well, then, if that twelve days was given for the purpose, and allowing other men to come in and preserve the property by taking the hands of the men who went on strike, that is reasonable; that I can perfectly understand, but then you call that man who goes in to help preserve our property a "scab" and you subject him and his family to a life which is hellish again to characterize, but which is intolerable, because he comes in to protect our property from destruction, when our property is to furnish the public with coal, and to furnish you men with employment, and I would be glad to have any further explanation you can give, or if you do not care to give any, why we will pass that and go on.

At this juncture Mr. MacVeagh entered upon the long-drawn-out story of the "reign of terror" consequent upon the strike. From the printed summary of seventy-three pages he read of one after another of the violent acts perpetrated during the strike, and showed when he could they were traceable to union strikers.

The Schneider Case.

Q. Did you have your attention called to the case of John and Rhoda Schneider—Schneider being a foreman at Dorrance colliery, who had been threatened, Mrs. Schneider endeavoring to see you and failed. Did you hear of her endeavor? A. I never heard of it. Q. She saw instead Mr. John Fallon, one of our members, to protect her home. You know Mr. John Fallon? A. Yes, sir. Q. Did you hear that that night it was set on fire and burned down with its contents? A. I saw it in the papers; yes, sir.

Q. You spoke about men relying on the local authorities. Was there any report made to you of a newspaper man taking notes at Dorrance during a riot, at the



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Warnke washery? He was warned by a borough constable standing on the steps of the borough jail to put up his notebook and that if he did not "I will tell these Polish countrymen of mine in my language and they will break your head?" A. I never heard of such an instance. Q. Or of any such conduct by an officer of the peace? A. I never heard of it.

Q. Did you hear of the case of Mike Gannon, a borough constable at Grassy Island who, when the troops were fired on at night, a search light was turned on immediately, and a man seen running away with his gun in hand, and when he was caught it was discovered that he was the constable? A. I never heard of it.

An editorial on the passing of the "scab" printed in the Hazleton Trade Unionists, was here introduced. It was in the best style of a man who wanted to be elegantly mean and couldn't, and provoked much laughter. Judge Gray remarked: "The man who wrote that must have put a wet towel on his head when he got through."

Q. Because certain things have followed from the strike in this district, bringing with you your organization, that I ask you to consider, not whether you think the yoke of your organization ought to be put upon our necks, but whether these disinterested gentlemen are at liberty to put it there against our protest. You came into these fields and you were killed at this strike on the 8th of May. On the first of July, Luigi Vanassa at the Durvay colliery, was killed. On the third of July Drummond Clinger was killed at Brookside. On the 20th of July Joseph Beddall was killed at Shenandoah. On the third of August John R. Lineheart was killed at Mahanoy Plain. On the fourth of August William Pursell was killed at Phoenix Park, Pottsville. On the 6th of August, Daniel Sweeney was killed at Nanticoke. On the 18th of August, Patrick Sharp was killed at Lansford. On the 25th of August C. M. Brush was killed at the People's Coal company. On the 31st of September Stefano Castellani was killed at Mathey. On the 22nd of September, James Winston was killed at Grassy Island. On the 28th of September, Joseph Gillis was killed at Nanticoke. On the 30th of September, John Mullin was killed at Smithville. On October 7, Anthony Colson was killed at Shenandoah. On the 9th of October, William Durham was killed at Shenandoah, a total of fourteen murders in this region between the inauguration of the strike and the appointment of this commission.

Who Killed Them?

A. You might tell the commission who killed them.

(Mr. Darrow handed a memorandum to witness.)

By Mr. MacVeagh: Q. How do you explain the coincidences between the inauguration of your strike and the killing of more men than were killed in the battle of Santiago? A. Quite a large number of those you say were killed by the coal and iron men, and police. Q. I wanted Mr. Darrow to give you that list. Will you kindly name those who were killed by the coal and iron men, Mr. Darrow has tabulated it for you? A. Well, I observe in your second one here a man killed by accident. I do not want the union to be held responsible for men who are killed by accident. Q. Not unless it was an accident which resulted from the union. A. Joseph Beddall was killed at Shenandoah. There are two names under that name in progress, I believe, a saloon keeper and a butcher for killing him, and one miner. Daniel Sweeney was killed by men who were on strike and who have confessed that they killed him. Patrick Sharp was murdered by the coal and iron police, no question about it, no one else charged with it. I do not know this John Conroy, I presume he was a non-union man. I do not know the circumstances in connection with him. Patrick Sharp—a deputy accidentally discharged a rifle and shot and killed Paul Hanlock, a non-union man. Our union is certainly not responsible for that. John Winston, a non-union man, climbed to death at Olyphant by mob; several foreigners arrested. From what I know of this, I understand there is very little evidence to show who committed this crime. Whoever it is should be punished as they ought to be, but I understand that the authorities have no reason to believe that it was done by strikers. I may be in error about it. Joseph Gillis was shot by James Sweeney on the street. Joseph Gillis was a man on strike. He walked along the road holding his little girl by the hand, and a non-union worker crept up behind them and shot him dead. James Mullin was found in the railroad track. He was a mine foreman. It is generally accepted that he was killed by accident by the train. At least I understand no miner has been arrested for his death. The country detectives arrested a man at Plymouth. I understand that there were some men who went into a saloon and got into a quarrel there. From what I have been able to find out about there is no connection between it and the strike itself.

The Fourteen Deaths.

Q. So that of the fourteen deaths, your organization suffered three, one of whom was a non-union man, and the remainder the non-union men, who were not members of the union, suffered eleven deaths? A. Oh, well, you understand— Q. The members of the union? A. And many of the deaths were not through members of the union. Q. I understand that. A. They killed one another. Q. Yes, I am asking about eliminating the case of the man who was hanged, there were two members of the union? A. There may be more than that of this number. I might say that the names are not familiar to me, but I want to go through them. Q. And there are eleven non-union men. Now, I want you to explain how eleven non-union men came to be killed in this region during your strike? A. Well, I do not know in what way. John Thompson was killed by accident. Q. No, but taking the number of men that met with violent deaths, can you give us some idea? A. I do not know why they killed one another.

The reading of further items from the criminal calendar of the strike occupied the remainder of the afternoon. Assaults on non-unionists, hanging in effigy, burning of homes, dynamiting, shooting, clubbing, mobs attacking single men and inflicting ad libitum, were marshalled in detail, and by inference laid at the door of the miners' union.

"Don't you think," said Mr. MacVeagh, "that this was what you would call a forecast of hell?"

Mr. Mitchell admitted that if such conditions existed they would be intolerable, but denied that these things as told by Mr. MacVeagh were true.

Q. You do admit that if these outrages occurred they would have deterred on

men from returning to work? A. I said that I do not believe they would have returned to work under any circumstances. Q. No, but you now admit, what you did not say at this time, that if these acts occurred they may have deterred our men from going to work? A. They might have deterred some of your men from going to work. Q. Yes. Therefore, the reign of terror was an element in your success? A. I deny that there was this reign of terror. My information is that there was not. The reign of terror was very largely in the newspapers.

Dynamite a Weapon.

Q. Dynamite now appears for the first time as an efficient weapon. What, in your judgment, is the effect of the introduction of dynamite upon the minds of women and children? A. Our opinion is that it was introduced by the coal companies. Q. Yes, I have no doubt of it; but the coal companies used it against their own employees? A. We shall possibly introduce witnesses to tell you something about it.

Q. I have no doubt of it. I have heard enough testimony in my life to be surprised at nothing; but you will have to get your explanation by some process not yet known of why the owners of our properties would allow these very comfortable homes of which we saw photographs. Do you allege that? A. No, sir.

Q. You do allege that the operators endeavored to blow up the homes of men working in the mines? A. No, I do not. Q. You knew that dynamite was used against the non-union men? A. I saw it in the newspapers. Q. And did you hurry here to investigate it? A. I did not; I do not know that it was used here. Q. You did not know it was used against the non-union men? A. Where do you mean?

Q. I mean in this region. A. I had seen in the papers on various occasions where dynamite had been exploded at the bridges, and I think once or twice near houses; but I want to say that a miner knows how to use explosives too well to explode dynamite without killing people, if he wanted to injure them, and it is rather peculiar that in all the explosions of dynamite that took place no building was destroyed and no person seriously hurt. The miners, if they wanted to destroy by dynamite, would do it better than that.

Q. Do you not see that that gives your own cases away? A. No, I do not see how. Q. Because they did not want to kill, but they wanted to intimidate, without the danger of having their necks stretched on the gallows; they intimidated men, women and children—

Q. Can you give a single instance of your union discriminating against lawlessness? A. I have tried to tell you, you in plain language as I am capable of, that I have repeatedly tried, and will introduce my own address, and I will introduce them not to violate the laws, to be careful to observe the law. The cases as you read them I do not know, and I think it would be advisable without letting people do those things. Q. Of course orders are given, and you give yours in sincerity. An incident that adorns the dramatic literature of England is where the caretakers of two young princes are admonished in the most exalted language to take the greatest possible care of them, and yet they both die in the night and nobody suffers. That was the trouble.

STATEMENT OF THE NON-UNION WORKERS

The statement of the non-union men, represented by Attorneys Lenahan and O'Brien, was filed yesterday. It reads as follows:

The non-union mine workers we represent present to the said commission the following statement of their demands: First—For an increase of 20 per cent. upon the price paid during the year 1901, to employees performing contract and piece work.

Second—For a like increase of 20 per cent. upon the prices paid during the year 1901, to employees paid by the hour, day or week.

This request for increased wages, rather than decrease of hours of labor, is earnestly urged because such increase of wages will apply to the class of labor now receiving least pay at the mines, and being, therefore, the class which is especially in need of increased wages. Instead of desiring a reduction in the hours of employment, we insist upon a right to work as many hours as we choose, and as opportunity is afforded us to better our conditions and increase our earning capacity; and we insist that the operators shall not conduct their mines in such a way as to deprive us of work in certain chambers and places of labor, to the detriment of others who are willing to work. At the same time, we insist upon the right to work as long as much work as the opportunity in the particular mine affords or offers, even though it may result in less work being done by another employee, who through indisposition is not willing to work when the opportunity affords, or by reason of any contract with the mine workers' union restricting the number of men to be employed.

Third—We demand the adoption at each colliery of whatever methods may be necessary and practicable to secure for the miner a minimum rate of 60 cents per ton of 2,200 pounds upon all coal sold from said colliery, the differentials now existing at the various mines to be maintained.

Protest Against Agreement.

Fourth—We protest against the making of any agreement between the United Mine Workers of America and our employers determining what wages shall be paid to us, and that shall be subject to conditions of our employment or pretending to deal in any respect whatever with our rights or interests as mine workers.

Fifth—We earnestly protest against any agreement being made by our employers with the United Mine Workers of America, for the reason that any agreement, if made, will render it impossible for us to continue to earn our living by our labors in and about the mine in which we are now employed, or to which such agreement applies, and will subject us and our families to all manner of abuse, violence, outrage and probably murder.

Sixth—We insist that it shall be an indispensable condition of any dealing whatever with any members of the Mine Workers' Union of America in the anthracite coal fields that they shall be effectually required to protect all manner of annoyance to us and to our families and shall permit us to exercise our right to earn our living in any lawful manner we choose, and under any conditions which are mutually satisfactory to our employers and ourselves.

Seventh—We protest against any rule, letting or restricting the number of men to be furnished to a contractor, miner or laborer for the purpose of loading the same, whether such rule be made either by the operators, the United Mine Workers, or by mutual agreement of both of them, providing that the furnishing of the increased number of cars to any contractor, miner or laborer in any way restrict the number of cars to our furnished others, and we insist that a rule shall be adopted and strictly enforced compelling the mine owners or those having charge in the management and distribution of the mine cars to the miner, contractor and laborer not to favor any particular miner, contractor or laborer in such distribution to the detriment and exclusion of other contractors, miners and laborers.

Eighth—We believe it to be an inalienable and undoubted right to work when we can obtain it, and to receive as compensation for it the best price we can obtain. And we further believe that the laws of the land forbids us to practice from insult, outrage, violence, molestation or interference in the performance of our labors, and that we shall not be disturbed in the full and free exercise of these rights, we must respectfully urge that the assertion of them be made a part of the finding in this proceedings.

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for ourselves, our families and those dependent upon us, we have been most outrageously interfered with. Our homes have been assaulted and the lives of ourselves and those dear to us threatened. Our own way, and from work we have been stoned, clubbed, beaten, insulted, jeered at and the same course of outrageous treatment has attended us at our places of employment. In order that we might to some extent be protected at our work, our employers have been obliged to have guards constantly with us and in many instances it became necessary to escort us to and from work to our homes. The sheriff and his posse have been obliged to issue proclamation after proclamation to preserve the public peace, and it became necessary to increase their deputies and forces to a large number in and about all the collieries in the anthracite mine region, with a view to insuring public tranquility. By reason of the destruction of life and property and the gravity of the situation in and about the coal fields it became necessary for the government of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania to order state troops to the places of violence and disorder.

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held themselves in readiness to quell any disturbance, but their precautions proved unnecessary. The woman declared that the police were "uniformed animals," and that the people of the country were "all cowards." The audience was made up for the most part of Russian Jews and about one-third were women. There were no red flags displayed.

Justice Smith on the Bench. Philadelphia, Nov. 17.—Superior Court Justice Smith, who has been prevented from attending the sessions of the court on account of illness, occupied his seat on the bench today. Chief Justice Rice, of Wilkes-Barre, and Justice Mitchell, of Toiwa, are still absent because of sickness. No decision were announced today.

Goldman Speaks in Chicago. Chicago, Nov. 17.—Emma Goldman spoke before 400 anarchists at Clark and Erie streets last night. The police

Goldman Heard, Too—Crowd Sings "Marseillaise," but is Orderly. By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.