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FREELAND, PA., OCTOBER 6, 1902.



## Sure Cure for Coal Strikes.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

Governor Stone could end this strike and settle the disorder now obtaining with a word if it were sincerely spoken. He could do it without firing a shot or without resort to military force. Let him simply say that every resource of the state will be used from this day forth in compelling local taxing authorities to assess coal lands at their full cash value whether used or unused. Let him say that lawless combination between the coal operators and the coal roads must cease. And then let him begin resolutely to carry out the work involved.

The coal trust is strong in its ability to prevent labor and capital from engaging in coal production on their own account when they are dissatisfied with the terms offered by the trust. The latter can prevent labor and capital from so engaging in coal production only through the monopoly it maintains in the ownership of coal lands. And this monopoly is rendered possible only through the failure or refusal of taxing authorities to tax idle coal lands according to the law at their actual market value.

In this connection the testimony of Charles M. Schwab before the industrial commission is interesting and instructive. He swore that the United States Steel Corporation owned practically all the available coking coal lands in the Connellsville field. He said holdings aggregated 60,000 acres and that the land was worth \$60,000 per acre, or \$3,600,000,000. However, the land is assessed for taxation at a valuation averaging perhaps less than \$500 per acre.

What would happen to the United States Steel Corporation if President Schwab's testimony as to the value of those coal lands were taken by the taxing authorities as the basis for assessing them? Suppose these 60,000 acres were listed at a value of \$60,000 an acre and taxed on that basis. What do you imagine the United States Steel Corporation would do? What could it do? These lands are now possibly assessed at \$500 per acre, or at a total valuation of \$30,000,000. The tax at 15 mills therefore aggregates \$450,000. But suppose they were assessed at the value sworn to by President Schwab—\$3,600,000,000. On that basis the tax at 15 mills would reach the stupendous figure of \$54,000,000—or nearly three times as much as the total annual revenue of the state of Pennsylvania from all sources.

If these coking coal lands be worth \$60,000 per acre—and Mr. Schwab swears that is their actual value—then the anthracite coal lands must surely be worth that much or more. But even if they are worth only half as much, their actual value is stupendously greater than their assessed value. In many instances it is said they are assessed as agricultural land. In no case are they assessed even approximately at their true value.

And so the coal trust can afford to hold them out of use. It can and does prevent labor and capital from utilizing these opportunities save upon the trust's own monopoly terms; and so complete is its grip upon the situation that it can reduce the nation to a state of abject dependence upon its caprices and compel the state to do its bidding in a labor war incited by the trust itself through its scandalous and worse than brutal aggressions.

It is scarcely to be hoped that Governor Stone will give any heed to this phase of the question. He is a creature of the monopoly forces of this state and can act only as those forces direct. But there is yet a court of public opinion to which appeal lies. It is perhaps too late to deal with the present situation. It is not too late, however, to take this appeal. And the place to make it is at the polls.

# PATTISON'S GREAT LABOR RECORD

Fifty Acts That Were Approved By Former Governor.

## HIS SERVICES TO HUMANITY

Mining Law Revision—The Odious "Company Store" Abolished.  
Protection to Workmen's Wages—Anti-Conspiracy Law.

## WISE PROVISIONS FOR SAFETY

Building and Factory Inspection—Fire Escapes—The Anti-Pinkerton Law—Arbitration—"Labor Day."

## THE RIGHTS OF LABOR UPHELD

Everything is grist to the Republican machine. In every campaign credit is falsely claimed where it is not justly due, and the attempt is made to influence the minds of voters regardless of facts. For weeks past agents and speakers of the Quay organization have been endeavoring to make capital with the coal miners and other workmen, seeking to make it appear that their best friends are the legislative servants of the boss. The fact is the great reforms in legislation so long demanded, particularly by the workers in the coal mines, were brought about during the two terms of Governor Pattison, who, in annual and special messages, and in every way open to him as the executive of the state, urged the enactment of legislation which should recognize and maintain the rights and promote the best interests of labor.

### Revision of Mining Laws.

At the session of 1883 a special commission was created to revise the mining and ventilation laws in the anthracite coal regions; also, an act was passed, approved June 1, to protect miners in the bituminous region, providing for just arrangements in connection with the measurement and weighing of coal; and June 13, an act was approved amending and revising the general bituminous mining law, creating additional inspectors and providing means for securing the health and safety of miners. At the session of 1885 there was still further revision of the bituminous laws, approved June 30. On the same date, Governor Pattison affixed his signature to an act providing for the health and safety of anthracite miners, this law being the result of the work of the commission appointed by him two years previously. It provided for seven inspectors, examining boards, and stringent regulations for the ventilation and protection of workers at all times.

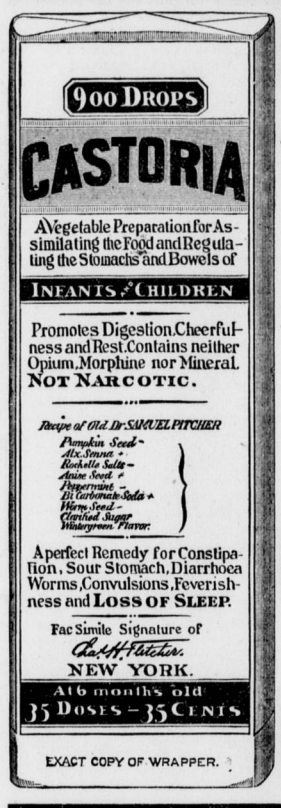
At the session of 1891, Governor Pattison approved, June 2, a supplemental act affecting the anthracite miners. At the same session, May 2, he approved an act protecting the wages of miners, laborers and farm workers. At the session of 1893 the bituminous laws were again revised and approved, May 15. On June 9, 1891, Governor Pattison signed the act providing for the abolition of company stores. In every way possible the present Democratic candidate for governor showed his sympathy with wise and just efforts to promote the best interests of coal miners and all classes of workmen.

### Measures of Vital Interest.

In addition to the above mentioned acts, at the session of 1883, Governor Pattison approved measures of special interest to the workingmen of the state, as follows:  
Act of April 26, authorizing the creation and providing for the regulation of voluntary tribunals to adjust disputes between employers and employed in the manufacturing and coal trades, the first step taken in this commonwealth toward arbitration.  
Act of May 17, relieving commercial men, "drummers," from paying local license fees.  
Act of May 17, preventing the exemption of property on judgment obtained on wages for manual labor.  
Act of May 23, providing free evening schools for children compelled to work during the day.  
Act of May 22, exempting mutual loan and building associations from taxation for state purposes.

### Wise and Just Laws.

Act of May 24, protecting dairymen and the public from the sale of imitation butter and cheese, unbranded.  
Act of May 25, providing for the care of injured miners and their transfer to their homes.  
Act of May 25, regulating intelligence and employment offices, providing for the protection of persons seeking work.  
Act of June 1, amending the fire escape law, with severe penalties.  
Act of June 13, amending the lottery law, protecting the public against swindling schemes.  
Act of June 5, amending the insurance laws, exempting fraternal societies from the payment of fees.  
Act of June 30, providing for payment to miners for all clean coal mined.



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Act of June 13, abolishing the contract system in prisons and reformatories.

Act of June 13, securing the wages of workpeople.

Act of June 20, branding all convict-made goods.

Act of June 20, providing for the disposal of property of benevolent associations.

### Protecting Workmen's Lives.

At the session of 1885, Governor Pattison approved, June 3, thorough revision of the fire escape law, providing severe penalties for neglect to carry out the law in letter and in spirit. He also approved joint resolution No. 5, requesting Pennsylvania senators and representatives in congress to use their influence for the passage of the measure known as "The Foreign Contract Labor Bill."

At the session of 1891 Governor Pattison approved the act of May 20, providing an eight-hour day for state employes in public institutions.

### Payment of Wages—Anti-Conspiracy Law.

Act of May 20, amending the act of 1887, providing for the semi-monthly payment of wages and making refusal to comply with the law a misdemeanor, with \$200 fine.

Act of May 23, authorizing corporations to pay accidental and sick benefits.

Act of May 26, making the crime of railroad wrecking a capital offense.

Act of June 8, enabling soldiers and sailors of the war for the Union to recover bounties for re-enlistment.

Act of June 9, enabling all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors to peddle without a license.

Act of June 16, to protect workpeople on strike from prosecution for conspiracy.

### "Labor Day"—An Arbitration Law.

At the session of 1893, Governor Pattison approved the following:  
Act of April 6, regulating the organization of secret and beneficial societies and orders, and protecting the rights of members therein.

Act of May 11, to protect the life and limbs of workmen employed in the construction of buildings.

Act of May 11, authorizing corporations to provide pensions for aged or disabled employes.

Act of May 1, creating "Labor Day," now the first Monday in September.

Act of May 10, prohibiting the payment of naturalization fees by political organizations.

Act of May 18, to establish boards of arbitration to settle labor troubles.

Act of May 24, prohibiting employment of boys under 14 to run elevators.

### The Anti-"Pinkerton Deputy" Law.

Act of May 29, regulating appointment of deputy marshals and prohibiting employment as such of men not citizens of Pennsylvania.

Act of May 27, providing for the erection of the Pennsylvania Soldiers' Orphans' Industrial School.

Act of May 31, creating Saturday half-holidays.

Act of June 8, regulating the employment and providing for the safety of women and children and inaugurating the factory inspection system.

Act of June 8, revising the building inspection laws of Philadelphia, providing greater safety for workmen, employes and the public.  
Act of June 6, authorizing special inspection of public schools and requiring that provision be made for all children of the district.  
Act of June 6, providing for relief of needy sick and injured.  
Act of June 6, providing for better

protection of the health and morals of school children.

Joint resolution of February 11, requesting senators and members of congress to vote against opening the World's Fair at Chicago on Sunday.

### Will Fight Them All the Time.

Ex-Governor Pattison had an enthusiastic reception at Bradford last week, the home of ex-Senator Lewis Emery, the Independent Republican leader, who urged his friends everywhere to vote for the Democratic candidate. In his speech Mr. Pattison, amid great applause, said:

"It has been asserted by the machine candidate that I ought not to be elected, because I would not be in harmony with the legislature. Well, I thank Heaven, that I would not be. If you expect me, if elected, to be in harmony with them, you are greatly mistaken. There is not a possibility for any man of integrity, who stands by the constitution and who is sworn to obey, to defend and to maintain the constitution—no man of any honest principle—to be in harmony with the machine's legislature. So you know exactly what to expect of me in the event of election."

### He Was Dead.

The English papers tell this story of an incident in a revision court:  
A certain person who figured on the register was objected to by one of the agents on the ground that he was dead. The revising barrister declined to accept the assurance, however, and demanded conclusive testimony on the point.

Thereupon the agent of the other side rose and gave corroborative evidence as to the decease of the gentleman in question.

"And pray, sir, how do you know the man's dead?" demanded the barrister.

"Well," was the reply, "I don't know. It's very difficult to prove."

"As I suspected," returned the irate barrister. "You don't know whether he's dead or not."

The barrister glanced triumphantly around the court. His expression gradually underwent a change as the witness coolly continued:

"I was saying, sir, that I don't know whether he is dead or not, but I do know this—he buried him about a month ago on suspicion."

### Donkeys in Mexico.

There are two classes of donkeys in Mexico—one with four feet and the other with two. Each is a kind of competitor of the other. Sometimes they are partners. They are both bearers of burdens and the subjects of brutality. Everywhere you see the donkey loaded down with sacks of ore, baskets of dirt, cans of milk, sacks of water, and you find his driver very often loaded in the same way. These combinations sometimes go two by two, and sometimes there will be a band of ten to fifty thus loaded, coming down the mountains with ore, charcoal or wood, corn or whatever may be needed in the villages or cities. It is indeed a medieval life in middle and southern Mexico.

### The Way of the Frontier.

The way of civilization in a new land passes comprehension. Its motto seems to be "Ruin first; there is time afterward to save." Civilization is a good deal like a wild, full blooded boy—it must first sow wild oats, waste its patrimony, disgrace its antecedents; then it is ready to begin the serious work of life. That has been the history of the range country—swift ruin for thirty or forty years, with a resulting wreck that it will require a century of hard work, perseverance and self control to save.—Ray Stannard Baker in Century.

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Time table in effect May 19, 1901.

Trains leave Drifton for Jeddo, Eckley, Hazle Brook, Stockton, Beaver Meadow Road, Ronn and Hazleton Junction at 6:00 a. m. daily except Sunday; and 7:07 a. m. daily, except Sunday; and 8:11 a. m. 3:44 p. m. Sunday.

Trains leave Hazleton Junction for Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Eckley, Jeddo and Drifton at 5:49 p. m. daily, except Sunday; and 10:10 a. m. 5:40 p. m. Sunday.

All trains connect at Hazleton Junction with electric cars for Hazleton, Jenneville, Audenried and other points on the Traction Company's line.

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