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OWNERS ALL IN LINE

Coal Mine Operators Agree to the Advance.

COMPLICATED BY POWDER QUESTION

Possibility of Another Convention of Strikers to Settle the Matter— Mitchell Says Little.

SCRANTON, Pa., Oct. 18.—Representatives of nearly all the big coal companies of the region conferred here today, and made an agreement to advance wages already posted by attaching the following: "In further explanation of the above notice, this company desires to say that it is its intention to pay the advance in wages above noted until April 1, 1901, and thereafter until further notice."

The following statement was issued to the press: "The representatives of the larger companies, after their meeting today, stated in reply to inquiries that they had offered their men a 10 per cent advance, as indicated by the notices they had posted, and that this notice specifically stated that the reduction of powder from \$2.75 to \$1.50 would be considered in arriving at the wages of their contract miners. It was expected that the operators would be posted that the offer was to stand until April 1 and indefinitely thereafter, but, inasmuch as there seems to be some misunderstanding in this matter, they have agreed to add to their notice a statement to the effect that it is their intention to pay the advance in wages until April 1, 1901, and thereafter until further notice."

The conference was held in the office of the Temple Iron Company, and was attended by the following: General Superintendent E. P. Loomis, of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western; General Superintendent A. Lathrop, of the Lehigh Valley; General Superintendent M. H. Starrs, of the Scranton Coal Company (Ontario & Western); President William Connell, of the Connell Coal Company, who is chairman of the Independent Operators' Committee; General Manager W. A. May, of the Hillside Coal & Iron Company; General Superintendent J. W. Richards, of the Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company; General Superintendent Morris Williams, of the Susquehanna (Pennsylvania) Railroad; General Superintendent Sydney Williams, of the Pennsylvania Coal Company (Erie & Wyoming); General Superintendent J. L. Crawford, of the Temple Iron Company; General Superintendent Reese G. Brooks, of the Long-cliffe, Ladini & Greenwood Coal Company. National President Mitchell, District President D. D. Nichols, District Secretary J. T. Dempsey and National Organizer Fred Ditcher, of the United Mine-workers, have all been quoted as saying that the resolution of the Scranton convention contemplated a straight advance of 10 per cent for all parts of the region, and that the matter of having this increase made up in part by a decrease in the cost of powder in those upper regions where powder is sold for \$2.75 a bag was not agreed to. The powder question, they said, was a matter for the operators to present negotiations, with the understanding that it was to be made one of the grievances to be adjusted in the conference, which the operators have agreed to have with their men to "take up any grievances they may have."

President Mitchell, when informed by telephone of the operators' decision, stated that he would have to decline to discuss its probable effect in regard to a settlement until he had given the matter careful consideration. He would not say whether or not it would be possible to deal with the difficulty without calling another convention.

President Nichols, whose whole district is affected by the powder question, stated this evening that it looked to him as if another convention were necessary. "I do not know that the delegates will be satisfied with the advance of 10 per cent, straight increase and allowing the substitution of this clause about powder, which the operators are so insistent about," said he. "But without their consent, I do not see how the matter can be adjusted. To me it looks like a prolongation of the fight."

The Gibson Coal Company's drift, which supplies fuel for the city school, started up this morning fully manned, with the approval of the United Mine-workers. It is understood that the company shall mine only sufficient coal to fill its contract with the school district. The men are to receive a straight 10 per cent advance fifty cents are employed.

MATTER IS COMPLICATED.

Powder Question May Cause Delay in Reaching Settlement.

HAZLETON, Pa., Oct. 18.—As far as ending the coal miners' strike is concerned, not a move in that direction was made by the United Mine-workers' officials today. President Mitchell absolutely silent on all questions pertaining to the termination of the contest, and it is not believed that he will have anything to say on the subject until he can take part in the national executive board for the purpose of considering the question of issuing a formal declaration calling the strike off. When that will be depends, it is understood, entirely on the operators. The feeling is prevalent here tonight that the decision of the operators' meeting at Scranton today to insist that the reduction in the price of powder be taken into consideration in determining the net 10 per cent increase in wages, has complicated matters somewhat. Further delay in reaching an amicable adjustment of the trouble is now feared. The situation, otherwise, is precisely the same as that which obtained when the first notice of the coal companies was posted. Then, as now, the Reading Company was the first to post a notice of an advance in wages, and was quickly followed by other large companies and nearly all the smaller individual operators after which Mr. Mitchell issued the call for the Scranton convention.

Up to tonight, four companies in the Hazleton district have posted notices accepting the Scranton convention demands. They are the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, operating a half dozen collieries in this vicinity; Pardee & Co., two collieries; Van Winkle estate, two collieries; and A. Pardee & Co., one colliery.

Mr. Mitchell is extremely reticent. It is supposed he desires to hear reports from the district officers before making any public expressions as to the possibility of an early resumption of work. A meeting of United Mine-workers was held here today and arrangements were made for holding a labor demonstration in this city next Monday. The feature of the demonstration will be a parade, followed by a mass meeting, at which President Mitchell will be the principal speaker. The Mayor of this city, who refused to allow the strikers to parade two weeks ago, has granted permission for the demonstration next week.

What Jones Says of It.
CHICAGO, Oct. 18.—In regard to the

CLOSING HIS TOUR

Roosevelt Will Finish His General Campaign Tonight.

WHEN HE SPEAKS IN BALTIMORE

Busy Day Yesterday in Ohio and West Virginia—Senator Jones Answered.

PARKERSBURG, W. Va., Oct. 18.—Governor Roosevelt will finish his general campaign at Baltimore tomorrow night, after having traveled nearly 19,000 miles and making nearly 50 speeches. He will spend the final week of the campaign in New York State. The Boston visit has

HE MAY BE SOUTHERN PACIFIC PRESIDENT.
The prospect that Julius Kruttschnitt, general manager of the Southern Pacific Company, may be made president, to succeed the late Collis P. Huntington, has aroused much interest in railroad and financial circles. Mr. Kruttschnitt has been for five years in his present position, and has achieved a high reputation as an administrative officer. Mr. Kruttschnitt is 56 years old, and is a graduate of Washington and Lee University, Virginia. He entered the railway service in 1873, and held various positions, mostly in Southern railroads. From October 1, 1883, to July, 1889, he was assistant general manager of the Southern Railway, and from July 1, 1889, to October 1, 1893, he was general manager of the Atlantic system of the Southern Pacific Company, vice-president of the Galveston, Harrisburg & San Antonio Railway and the Texas & New Orleans Railroad, and president of the New York, Texas & Mexican Gulf, Western Texas & Pacific and Sabine & East Texas Railways. October, 1893, to date he has been fourth vice-president and general manager of all lines of the Southern Pacific Company.

been eliminated, and, if possible, Governor Roosevelt will spend next Sunday with his family at Albany. Today's work began at Canton, O., the home of McKinley. After a hard day's campaigning through Ohio and West Virginia, Governor Roosevelt reached Parkersburg tonight and addressed a large audience, paying special attention to Senator Jones' denial that the American Cotton Company is a trust. He produced a statement of the company, and argued that its own figures, prospectus and plan of procedure entitled it to the name of trust. He said that in floating its stock the American Cotton Company had boasted of its ability to control the price of cotton and entered the market with the expressed intention of cornering the crop and mastering the market. To this end, after the established methods of trusts, the American Cotton Company had, he said, bought out and gained control of three or four smaller factories having patents, which enabled them to make the round-lump bale of cotton. Governor Roosevelt accused the cotton-bale trust of first securing lower freight rates and securing foreign markets.

Governor Roosevelt made two speeches here tonight to vast audiences. In both speeches he dwelt mainly on two points—the material side of the campaign and the honor of the flag. He appealed to the voters as American citizens rather than as Republicans, and lauded the help received from Democrats in this campaign. He contrasted Jefferson, who made the democracy of the ballot the touchstone of liberty, with Goebelism in Kentucky.

Tomorrow, Governor Roosevelt will go to Huntington, Charleston and Hinton, this state, making several speeches en route. From this state he will proceed direct to Baltimore.

At Akron.
AKRON, O., Oct. 18.—Governor Roosevelt's train left Cleveland at 3 A. M. and reached this place soon after 4, and was held on a siding. Before 6 o'clock a crowd began to gather, and at 7 a band came along the side of the Governor's car, giving him a serenade. When the Governor appeared upon the platform of his car he was given a rousing chorus of cheers and was introduced while so many trains were passing that for a few minutes he could not begin his speech. He appealed to the voters of Akron on the grounds of prosperity and patriotism. The noise frequently interrupted him, and the Governor said: "This speech will read like a serial story."

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SURE FOR M'KINLEY

Size of Majority is the Only Question in Michigan.

BRYAN COMMANDS NO CONFIDENCE

Great Prosperity of State and Nation Has Caused Many Farmers to Become Republicans.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—(Staff correspondence.)—In 1896 McKinley carried Michigan by 34,120 majority over Bryan. This year he will undoubtedly increase that majority to an appreciable extent. There is no question whatever as to how the state will go; it is merely a question of majority. Four years ago the Republicans were opposed by the united forces of the Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans. The last-named party has since ceased to exist, the vast majority of its members returning to the Republican party, leaving but few followers of Bryan. Not all of the Populists will again support the State instance. Many will cast their votes for their own candidates, which will act to reduce the Bryan vote considerably.

Both parties in the state are short in a financial way, but the Republicans have organization and enthusiasm, while the Democrats lack confidence, organization or any appreciable interest in the outcome. They are entering the fight with the knowledge that they will face an overwhelming defeat, and are the more disheartened on that account.

Probably the greatest number of changes from Bryanism to Republicanism is observed among the farmers. This class of voters has been particularly influenced by the general prosperous conditions that have prevailed, and have come to realize the hollowness of the contentions of Bryan and the falsity of his predictions.

In a word, lack of confidence in the Democratic candidate is what has caused a great change in sentiment among the people of Michigan.

But while the Democrats realize the futility of trying to carry the state, they are trying, by assuming rural dissatisfaction, to carry several of the Congressional districts. What funds they have are being turned into these campaigns, but at least accounts the chances favor the Republicans in each instance. The state now has a solid Republican delegation in Congress, and will in all probability retain it for at least two years more.

In Michigan the Legislature elected this Fall will choose a successor to Senator McMillan. Governor Pingree is interested in the result, and may cause some little strife. However, the Legislature is sure to be Republican, even if by a smaller majority than two years ago.

ARBITRATION BOARD.

Levi F. Morton May Be the Third American Representative.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.—There is some talk here tonight of ex-Vice-President Levi F. Morton as the third representative of the United States on The Hague International Board. Morton saw the President today, but at the White House neither confirmation nor denial was obtainable. The board, however, is sure to be Republican, even if by a smaller majority than two years ago.

Spain's Representatives.

MADRID, Oct. 18.—The Duke of Teana, Marquis de Villaverde, Senor B. Oller, Director-General of the Civil Register, and Senor Torro Campas have been appointed members on the part of Spain to The Hague International Arbitration board.

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT NEWS.

Political.

Roosevelt will finish his campaign tour in Baltimore tomorrow night.
Bryan meetings in New York State were not enthusiastic. Page 2.
Hanna concluded his South Dakota tour. Page 2.

China.

China proposes that peace negotiations be started at once. Page 3.
Minister Conger sends the Chinese proposals. Page 3.

Federal Government.

General Sternberg reports on the health of the Army. Page 6.
The new emergency ration will be tested by the War Department. Page 6.
Major Rublin reports on Hawaiian Army affairs. Page 6.

Sport.

St. Thomas Lipton tells of his plans. Page 3.
Brooklyn won the baseball championship. Page 3.

Foreign.

The German Emperor accepts Hohenzollern's resignation. Page 1.
King Oscar is better. Page 1.
London students broke up a Dowle meeting. Page 2.

Domestic.

The coal mine-owners have all agreed to the advance in wages. Page 1.
A verdict is expected in the Tootsey case today. Page 1.

Pacific Coast.

The political situation in Idaho is very favorable to the Republicans. Page 4.
Gold dredging on Snake River is proving profitable. Page 4.
Salmon canneries along Oregon Coast are doing well. Page 4.

New town of Teller, Alaska, bids fair to eclipse Nome. Page 4.
State land sales indicate prosperity of Oregon farmers. Page 4.
Mrs. Davy Crockett is being tried in Pendleton for the murder of her husband. Page 4.

Commercial and Marine.

Portland still gaining prestige as a wheat-shipping port. Page 10.
Bark Finmore arrives out after a fast passage. Page 10.
June ship chartered at 40 on Puget Sound. Page 10.
Eastern wheat markets nearly a cent lower. Page 11.
Steamer chartered for wheat at San Francisco. Page 10.

Local.

James L. Warren, accused of killing Mate William Kirk, convicted of murder in the second degree. Page 8.
Judge Cleland decides the vehicle license ordinance void. Page 8.
John Montague will probably be pulled down today as a candidate for the Legislature. Page 8.

The Pacific Coast Steamship Company returns from the Portland field. Page 11.

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McKinley Will Visit California.

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 18.—The Ohio Society of California has received information of a definite nature to the effect that President McKinley will visit this city next April to witness the launching of the battle-ship Ohio, which is now nearing completion at the Union Iron Works, in this city. The society is already working on plans for the reception of the President and the distinguished guests who will accompany him on his visit to this city.