

STEEL TRUST MADE GAINS

SEVERAL MILLS CLOSED BY THE STRIKE WERE STARTED UP.

Strikers Deny That Any Progress Has Been Made—Shaffer Says the Fight is Hardly Begun.

PITTSBURG, Aug. 19.—The United States Steel Corporation made a series of gains today in the restoration of properties crippled by the strike of the Amalgamated Association and its sympathizers.

The steel mills at Monaca after a long period of inactivity, were partly put in motion by strikers' agents. Two more mills in the Fairless plant were also started up, and another large mill at the Clark property was operated for the first time.

There was some disorder in the streets of Monaca during the day, but the local police never lost control of the demonstrative crowds, and there was no serious trouble. The reopening of the Monaca mill is believed to be the first of a series of aggressive moves on the part of the steel corporation. Preparations are known to be in progress for reopening the Star mill in this city, and for increasing the force at the Lindsay and McCutcheon mills. It is believed to be only a matter of time before the strongholds of the strikers, like Newcastle, McKeesport, Wheeling, Belleisle and Mingo Junction will be invaded.

The strikers deny that any real progress has been made at either Monaca or Fairless, and say they are not to be frightened by the burning of a lot of coal in the operation of machinery.

They say skilled men have been taken outside of their ranks, and they are not losing any of their forces, despite assertions to the contrary. The managers of the Fairless plant are said to have secured two new crews made up of old employees who have come back to work. At the Clark mill, where the 10-inch mill was started for the first time today, and where every man has a small eight-inch mill is now being operated, it is said more skilled men are offering their services than can be accommodated. Fifty men were taken on there today, bringing the total force up to 400. It was said there were 200 men at work in the Fairless mills, and that 50 of them were skilled.

Greatest Fight for Mastery.

The greatest fight in this district is for mastery at the Duquesne mills of the Carnegie Company. Both sides are endeavoring to extend its organization and strength among the workers, and the steel company to block any plan to get the men out. Neither side has any real strength, yet it is impossible to get any line on the ultimate result. The assertions made privately on either side are conflicting. The strikers' organizers assert that they have secured a strong position in the property, and when the word is given it will be shut down. The managers of the mill admit that the strikers have some friends in the mill, but they assert absolute confidence in their ability to keep the entire plant in operation. Coal and iron police continually guard the property, admitting no except employees, and they in turn are watched by secret pickets of the strikers.

Assistant Secretary M. F. Tighe returned from the West today with President Shaffer. He was accompanied by a representative reception by his associates, and returns a stronger figure in the organization than when he departed. Discussing his report, President Shaffer said:

Shaffer is Well Satisfied.

"All that Mr. Tighe told me was in the papers last week, and there is nothing new in this. The Chicago mill men who remained at work are now no longer members of the organization. They are not entitled to a trial and will have none. They are at liberty to work as they wish, but if they go out they will do so on their own responsibility. We will do nothing about the matter from this time on. The whole, the strike is going on very well. We are getting on every day, and will continue to do so. The fight is hardly begun yet. There will be plenty of trouble for the trust before long. We will keep on in this way. There has been no effort on any one's part toward peace, and there will be none on our part again. As to the situation in Duquesne, all I can say is that there has been no strike there. The Chicago mill men said last week that when we were ready that mill would be attended to. If there had been any plan to do anything at Duquesne, the newspapers have spoiled it. We could have had a strike there. The Amalgamated official was serious or not in this last statement.

Mr. Tighe himself reviewed his trip to the West, and discussing the Chicago men, said:

"What the South Chicago men are going to do I do not know. The Building Trades Council of Chicago the other day adopted resolutions condemning the action of the South Chicago workers. The Chicago men are wild with unionism. The South Chicago men are being branded in private and in the papers as scabs. All this time we have an effort to make. We believe the men will come back and go on strike. It is true their charters have been revoked, but if they should go on a strike they do not doubt that they would be taken back into the organization. For, an old hymn says that 'while the lamp holds out to burn, the vilest sinner may return.'"

It is reported that a portion of the Second Brigade of the National Guard of this state, now in camp at Somerset, will be kept under arms and at the camp for some time, in order to be ready to answer an emergency call for strike duty. No confirmation of the statement was obtained from the officers of the guard unit at the state officials. It is not credited here. A number of anonymous letters, evidently the work of some labor crank, have been written to officers of the guard.

Join the Strikers.

The men of the Pennsylvania works of the National Tube Company in this city joined the strikers tonight, and it is expected that the force in the Frankstown plant will follow them tomorrow. About 600 men left the Pennsylvania works, and it is almost certain that all of the remaining 600 will join in the movement and completely tie up the property. There are about 600 men in the Frankstown property, and the total number of men added to the army of strikers by the movement is about 1500. When the strikers filed out of the Pennsylvania works, they made no explanation to the officials, but to the newspaper men who met them outside, they said they had quit rather than work nonunion-made steel. It was later learned that the National Tube Company had announced an advance in wages, and it was believed it would hold the men.

There was an incident strike at the Keystone Rolling Mills, which is an independent property, today. The men objected to furnishing material to the United States Steel Corporation, and the Amalgamated Association asked them to resume work. This action is taken to mean that all contracts made by independent mills before the strike began will be respected.

McKeesport today organized a senate of labor. It consists of three delegates from each union, and is to have charge of the strike.

Nonunion Worker Assaulted.

A nonunion worker employed in the Wellsville plant was seriously beaten by a party of strikers early this morning and forced to promise that he would not return to work.

Two meetings of the Southwestern Union of North America were held

IOWA IS READY TO SAIL

SHE WILL PROBABLY LEAVE FOR PANAMA TODAY.

Columbian Minister Assures Secretary Hay That Traffic is Entirely Unobstructed.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 19.—The battleship Iowa has taken on coal and ammunition and is expected to sail on direct for Panama. The Ranger is now en route to the same port, but on account of her slowness, she will not reach Panama until after the Iowa arrives there. These vessels will protect American interests on the western side of the Isthmus.

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Wives of Boers Confident of Victory.

LONDON, Aug. 19.—A dispatch to the Standard from Pretoria says that Boer women who have just been taken to the concentration camps, their husbands being on commando, declare loudly that in spite of all that has occurred lately, the Boers are going to win. They say that the only real danger to the Boers is Europe assure the fighting leaders that the Continental powers will shortly intervene. So sure are the men of this that they are holding thanksgiving services. The wives of men still in the field are continually insulting the wives of those who have surrendered. Consequently some of the burghers who had surrendered, desiring to be on the winning side, have escaped and returned to their commando.

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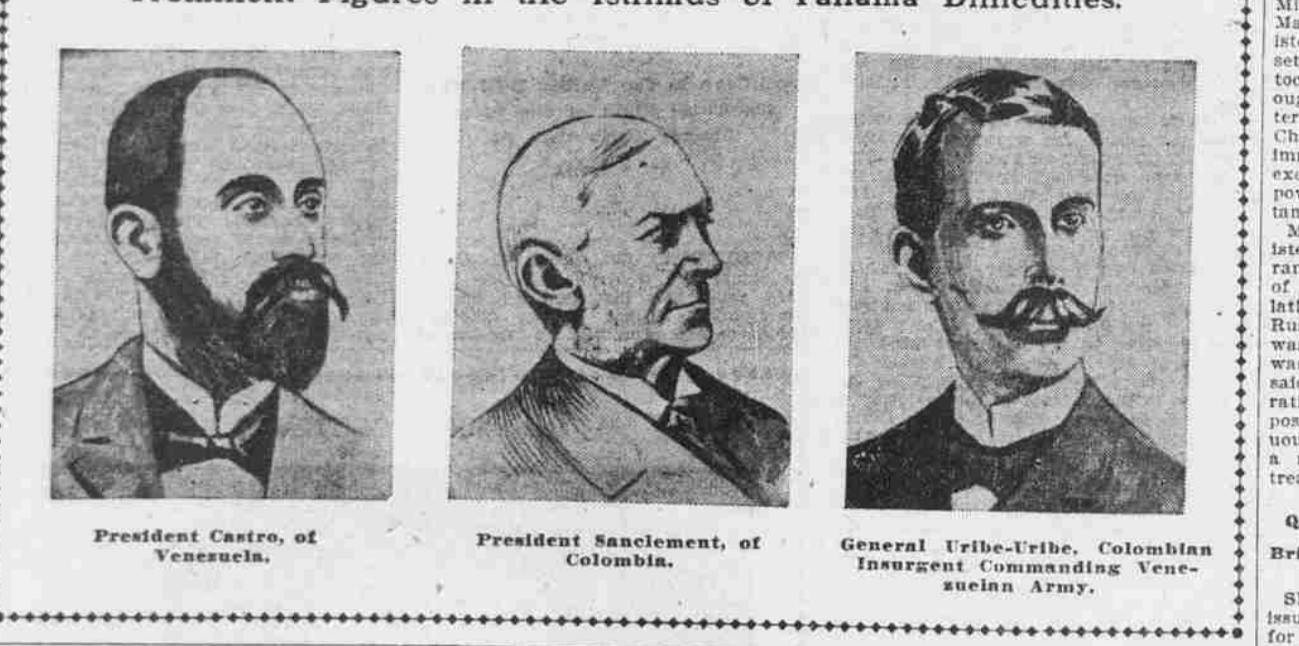
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Prominent Figures in the Isthmus of Panama Difficulties.



President Castro, of Venezuela. President Sanclemente, of Colombia. General Uribe-Urbe, Colombian Insurgent Commanding Venezuelan Army.

ship Iowa, now at San Francisco, would probably sail for Panama tomorrow morning.

SILVA CONFERRED WITH HAY.

Columbian Minister Says Traffic is Entirely Unobstructed.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—The Colombian Minister, Dr. Silva, had a conference today with Secretary Hay. It was the first personal exchange between the Secretary and the representative of Colombia since the present disturbance started. Dr. Silva gave Mr. Hay information to the effect that traffic on the isthmus was entirely unobstructed, and also assured him of the ability of Colombia to keep the traffic open. The assurances given by Dr. Silva make clear certain features of the situation.

First, there is no interruption of traffic at the present time, Colombia giving of full assurance of this. The United States has had no advice from its representatives showing an actual stoppage of traffic within recent days.

Second, both Governments are agreed that the first responsibility for maintaining free traffic on the isthmus is on the United States. It is not called upon to act until Colombia finds herself unable to fulfill the primary responsibility.

Third, the United States undoubtedly will judge for itself when any occasion arises for exercising its authority on the Isthmus. It is not essential to await a request or notice from Colombia, although such a communication undoubtedly will receive the fullest consideration. The actual conditions as to whether traffic is open or closed will determine finally whether there is any occasion for the exercise of force by the United States.

Although the foregoing is not an official statement, yet it is believed to cover the main questions involved in the present situation. It discloses that the movement of our warships southward has been merely a precautionary measure, to look after American interests in the event of actual obstruction of traffic, and that the situation as it exists does not call for the exercise of any American authority on the Isthmus.

When seen after his visit to the State Department, Dr. Silva expressed himself as highly satisfied with assurance given him by Mr. Hay that the United States would take no action on the Isthmus unless a request came from the Colombian Government itself, or else the need of intervention became so apparent as to make a request unnecessary. The Minister stated that some time ago he formed his Government that the United States would not put into operation the treaty provision for keeping open traffic on the Isthmus unless Colombia itself herself unable to do so. He says in an interview with Mr. Hay strengthened his government of the entirely disinterested purposes of the United States in this respect not to act so long as traffic across the Isthmus remains unobstructed.

REBELS ARE MORE ACTIVE.

Governor of Cauca on the Situation in Colombia.

NEW YORK, Aug. 19.—The following dispatch from the Governor of the Department of Cauca, Republic of Colombia, is in answer to a message sent him by the Tribune several days ago asking for information regarding the situation in Colombia:

Colombia, Aug. 17.—Guerrillas display increasing activity with the hope of assistance from the invasions that threaten Colombia. Important victories obtained by the government at Anaponia and Jombalo.

"JAIME CORDOBA,

"Governor of the Department of Cauca." The news of the battles at Anaponia is of great importance, because it conveys the information that General Uribe-Urbe's followers have been within a day's horseback ride of Bogota, the national capital. Ex-President Sanclemente, who was deposed last July while visiting at Villera, an Andean village on the trail between the Magdalena River and Bogota, made his home in Anaponia. Sanclemente has been accustomed all his life to the warm climate of the lowlands, and he was unable to live in Bogota because of the high altitude. Anaponia is regarded by Colombians as a summer resort, and San Clemente spent the greater part of his time there, visiting the capital only at long intervals.

It is significant that some of the followers of the deposed president recently announced that they would join with the rebels, and attempt to overthrow the conservative government. If San Clemente was not restored to the presidency, the news of the battles at Anaponia is of great importance, because it conveys the information that General Uribe-Urbe's followers have been within a day's horseback ride of Bogota, the national capital. Ex-President Sanclemente, who was deposed last July while visiting at Villera, an Andean village on the trail between the Magdalena River and Bogota, made his home in Anaponia. Sanclemente has been accustomed all his life to the warm climate of the lowlands, and he was unable to live in Bogota because of the high altitude. Anaponia is regarded by Colombians as a summer resort, and San Clemente spent the greater part of his time there, visiting the capital only at long intervals.

More Significance is Attached to It Than the Facts Warrant.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 19.—Secretary Hay will leave for Canton in a day or so, probably tomorrow. It is said at the State Department that more significance is attached to the visit to the President than the facts warrant. Although it is quite evident that the visit will give an opportunity for going over the disturbed conditions in South America, the Chinese situation and other pending international questions, yet there is no reason to believe that the meeting has any special reference to any one of these topics, but is more with a view to affording opportunity for a general exchange between the President and the Secretary of State.

Large Cigar Plant Burned.

RICHMOND, Va., Aug. 19.—Fire today destroyed what is locally known as the J. Wright Company plant of the American Cigar Company, at the corner of Twenty-third and Carry streets. There were about 400,000 pounds of leaf tobacco in the building, owned by the American Cigar Company, and this, with the machinery, it is estimated, was worth \$150,000. The building, an immense five-story structure, covering 15,000 square feet, was owned by the Continent Tobacco Company. A conservative estimate of its value at the time of the fire is \$300,000. It was entirely destroyed. The total loss is about \$200,000.

A Mysterious Vessel.

COLON, Aug. 19.—A mysterious vessel showing two lights was observed by residents on the beach last night. It remained in view about half an hour and

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