

DO FIGURES LIE?

Miners Say Those of Coal Operators Do.

WAGE TABLES ATTACKED

Earnings of Four Men Made to Appear as One.

THE COMMISSION SPEAKS OUT

Faith in Operators' Figures May Be Shaken—Operators and Nonunion Men Open Their Case—Dispute About Who Pays Lawyers.

The liveliest session yet held by the coal strike commission was that of yesterday, when the miners closed their case and the operators opened theirs. The miners called the men whose earnings had been given by the operators as exceeding \$1000 a year, and the men testified that they had to pay three laborers out of this sum. Then came a discussion in which Chairman Gray said the commission's faith in the operators' wage tables would be shaken unless they could show there were no such cases.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 17.—The anthracite coal operators opened their side of the controversy with the miners today before the strike commission, and the attorneys who are on record before the commission as representing the nonunion men began calling witnesses. The sessions today were probably the liveliest yet held by the commission. At the morning session the miners' lawyers challenged the fairness of certain wage statements handed to the commission by the Pennsylvania Coal Company, and in the afternoon Lawyer Darrow had a spirited discussion with Chairman Gray as to whether or not the miners had a right to know who is paying the lawyers representing the nonunion men before the commission.

Four Men's Wages in One. The alleged unfairness of the wage statements came to the notice of the commission as a result of its inquiry into the child labor question. Several little girls testified on Monday that they worked all night in a silk mill in order to help their fathers, who were employed in the mines and received poor pay. Yesterday Everett Warren, who represents the Erie Company, which controls the Pennsylvania Coal Company, in whose mine some of the fathers worked, handed to the commission a memorandum showing that one father last year received \$1060 for himself and laborers. At the opening of the session today the miners placed the two parents on the stand, and they swore that the earnings mentioned were divided among four to six men. This testimony surprised the commissioners, and Judge Gray asked if the figures on the memorandum were taken from the wage statement already filed by the company with the commission, and Mr. Warren replied in the affirmative.

Chairman Gray then requested counsel for the company to indicate in the statement whether the figures given are for one, two or more men.

"We don't say it shakes our faith in the statement," he said. "Unless you can show, however, that there are none of these cases such as are suggested by this testimony, it will very materially shake our faith in it."

Manager Tries to Explain. The company, through its general manager, W. A. May, was permitted to make a statement. He said: "The Pennsylvania Coal Company has two systems, one where four men work in a place, known as a four-handed place, and another in which there are only two men and known as a two-handed place. There may be places where only one man works, and there may be places where there are four men working, but that fact is not known to the company itself. The company does not keep a record of the individuals in a contract, or the number. It only keeps the name of the men

in whose name the place is run. It can be possible that there are more men in a place than there are any cognizance of, but that is entirely outside its province." The company, he said, does not pay the laborers. It only pays the man in whose name the place appears.

Case for Operators. "All the anthracite coal in the United States is found in a few counties in Pennsylvania. The conditions of mining are so different fields, and even in the same mine, that it is not practicable to adopt any uniform method of mining for the whole region. The respondents will show that it is the acknowledged purpose of the United Mineworkers of America to organize all coal mine employees and thus form a monopoly of the labor needed for the fuel supply demanded by the comfort and prosperity of the American people."

"After the strike settlement of 1900 union men refused to work with nonunion men, and there were over 100 strikes in one year in various parts of the anthracite region. The United Mineworkers of America acceded to the United Mineworkers' order a strike May 12, 1902, though a large part of the miners were opposed to it. Men were prevented by violence from entering the strikers' places, mines were filled with water and, had it not been for the operators' strenuous efforts to keep pumps going, few miners would have been able to get work after resumption. Had the union succeeded in stopping the pumps, little or no coal could have been furnished the public in the winter of 1902-03. The respondents concede the right of the laborer, but they insist that he be subjected to any control of a bituminous coal organization, composed of boys as well as men, would end in the ruin of the anthracite coal business in Pennsylvania."

"It has been conceded during the progress of this hearing that the basis or foundation of the appointment of the commission and its powers rests upon the letter to the public signed by the presidents of the coal companies, dated October 13, 1902, and the acceptance of the terms of this letter by the convention of the striking miners, and that the powers of this commission are confined to the questions affecting the rates of wages paid and the reduction of the hours of labor, and in no way involved the question of recognition of the union, or any agreement with that organization, as proposed in the statements of claims filed by the complainants.

"The respondents will show that after the letter to the public there was a concerted effort upon the part of the miners to restrict the output, evidently to prevent the producers from accumulating a stock of coal to meet emergency conditions, such as floods and strikes, and that the miners and laborers do not now work eight hours, and in the majority of cases of miners, less than six."

Mr. Darrow called attention to the statement that recognition of the union is not an issue before the commission, and said, if the commission sustained that claim, then the operators should have no right to present witnesses to show that the violence committed during the strike was instigated by the union.

James Torrey, of the Delaware & Hudson, made the point that the union alleged it was not responsible for the violence, and it would be unfair for the commission to deny the right of the operators to combat that testimony.

Case for Nonunion Men. The matter went no further, and Ira H. Burns, one of the attorneys for the independent operators, presented the opening statements of the individual companies. He said in part: "The questions at issue are not between the operators as a body and the workmen as another body, but are between the respective companies and their own employees. We claim that, according to the terms of submission, any question as to wages shall be settled by an examination of the complaints and contracts at each separate colliery, and that the only issues involved are those between the operator of each mine and the men actually in his employ."

"Again, we think the commission, before taking any action looking to an increase of wages, should carefully consider upon whom such increase must fall. Of course, any increase in the cost of product ultimately rests upon the consumer."

sumers. As we understand it, also, one of the chief duties of the commission in this case is to ascertain the value of labor in and about the mines. It is purely a business proposition. It is the value of the labor and not the necessities of the laborer that we are trying to ascertain. The laborer is worthy of his hire, but the hire is fixed according to what he does, not what he needs.

"As to the length of a working day: This is a matter in which the individual operators are particularly interested as a rule, their workings are deep veins. They necessarily have great expense for pumping and lifting the coal. The business itself necessarily entails large fixed charges. It may be well said that the difference between an eight-hour and a 10-hour day, to the operator, might mean the difference between profit and loss. The varying conditions of work at the respective mines make it impossible to lay down a hard-and-fast rule that will do all justice.

"If any award is made by this commission in favor of the United Mineworkers we claim that as a condition precedent there should be some substantial assurance on the part of such United Mineworkers that they will in the future refrain from any way interfering with persons who wish to work in or about the mines but who do not belong to the union."

Who Pays the Lawyers? It was arranged that the attorneys representing the nonunion men should first call their witnesses, and five witnesses were produced, who testified that strikers had killed one man and had more or less seriously injured two other men who worked during the suspension. The first witness was Mrs. James Weston, the wife of the murdered man, and the second was her son-in-law, Mr. Darrow asked the son-in-law who was paying for the lawyers who were representing the nonunion men, and then ensued the liveliest tilt that has occurred in the sessions of the commission. Counsel for the witnesses objected, and Mr. Darrow insisted that he and the commission had a right to know who were back of the nonunion men, but Chairman Gray differed with him. The chairman said it made no difference if the operators were paying for the lawyers. He added that it matters nothing in a court of justice where a man is tried for murder who pays for the prosecution, so long as justice is done.

Mr. Darrow insisted that he had a right to know, because this was a peculiar case, and ex-Congressman Brummel, also for the miners, claimed that the nonunion men had virtually formed a union because they had asked the commission to recognize them in the award and protect them from losing their places, and that they also asked for an increase in pay. The colony was very quiet for some time, and finally Chairman Gray consulted his colleagues, and, as a result, quietly answered that the commission thought it immaterial who was back of the nonunion men.

At 5 o'clock the commission adjourned until tomorrow.

BAER IS TOO HONEST. Mitchell's Explanation of Prolonged Coal Strike.

BUFFALO, Dec. 17.—John Mitchell, president of the United Mineworkers of America, stopped off in Buffalo tonight for an hour on his way to Scranton. Mr. Mitchell was given an ovation in the dining-room of the hotel. One of the guests in the crowd surrounding Mr. Mitchell put the question: "What do you believe is the cause of the prolongation of the trouble between the miners and operators?"

"Principally the sincerity of some of the captains of industry," he said. "I believe that Mr. Baer and some of the coal barons are sincere, and mean everything they say, but they have the wrong ideas and principles, and it is next to impossible, such as floods and strikes, and facts. Baer, in my opinion, is an honest man, and lives according to his principles. The strike, I believe, is now in a fair way toward a settlement."

TELEPHONE GIRLS WIN. Six Months' Struggle in Des Moines Ends in Company's Surrender.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—A special issue of the Tribune from Des Moines, Ia., says the strike of the telephone operators of Des Moines, which had been in progress about six months, was settled last night by representatives of the company and the Trades and Labor Assembly. The telephone girls are to be paid wages 15 per cent in excess of the union scale, and all of the girls who struck are to be taken back to work. The company further agrees not to in any way discriminate against the strikers. The injunction suit to restrain the representative of union labor from boycotting the company is to be dismissed.

Strikers Restrained From Picketing. NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Justice Dickey, of the Supreme Court of Kings County, today granted a permanent injunction against Richard M. Corbin and others, restraining them from interfering with the employees and conduct of the business of Edwin C. Burt & Co., shoe manufacturers. In July last there was a strike at the Burt factory, and the firm discharged the strikers and employed other workmen, who were annoyed and interfered with by the pickets from the strikers.

Body of Dead Man Found. BOISE, Idaho, Dec. 17.—The body of a man believed to be either Earl or Andrew Bittle, of Cedar Rapids, Ia., was found today near Mountain Home, Idaho. The man is supposed to have been dead several months. In his pocket was a railway ticket from Cedar Rapids to Portland, Or., and a purse containing \$150. The purse bears the name of Andrew Bittle.

Habitual constipation cured and the bowels strengthened by the regular use of Carter's Little Liver Pills in small doses. Don't forget this.

SEVEN YEARS OF SUFFERING

A Chronic Case of Catarrh of the Head and Lungs Permanently Cured by Peruna in Spite of the Unfavorable Climate.



Hon. David Harbison, Town Trustee, New Albany Township, New Albany, Ind., writes:

Gentlemen: "I would be an ungrateful man, indeed, did I not thankfully acknowledge what Peruna has done for me. "Many people living in this part of Indiana are afflicted with catarrh of the head and lungs. I suffered with it for seven years and thought nothing would help me but to move out of this climate, but fortunately one of my friends called my attention to Peruna and I at once sent for a bottle, as I was anxious to know what it would do for me. "It certainly acted like a charm, every dose helped me and in five weeks I was cured and have not had a trace of catarrh since, for which you can be sure that I am very grateful."—David Harbison.

A STRAIGHT COURSE

Pointed out to Those Who Have Catarrh in Any Form. You have chronic catarrh, have you? You have had it some time? And you don't find a cure? Well, there are thousands more like you in this country. If you are liable to catarrh it will begin to make itself felt now. If you really want to get cured this is the way to do it. Get a bottle of Peruna and take a table-spoonful between each meal and at bedtime. When you have continued this for 30 days sit down and write a letter to Dr. Hartman, Columbus, O. Tell him exactly your symptoms; how long you have had catarrh; what effect the medicine has had on you. He will answer your letter promptly telling you what to do further. He will make no charge. And if you will continue to write to the doctor you are sure to get cured. Some cases take longer than others.

FOR CHECKERBOARD BILL

HOUSE LAND COMMITTEE ADOPTS REPORT. It Allows Exchange of Arid Land Sections by Which Railroads Can Acquire Solid Tracts.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 17.—The House public lands committee today favorably reported a bill providing that at any time within five years, wherever and to the extent that the lands within the place limits of any railroad land grant are arid or semi-arid in character, and for that reason cannot be utilized in tracts of a single section, the Secretary of the Interior may, in his discretion and with the approval of the President, exchange public lands which are vacant, unappropriated and are semi-arid, not mineral, not timber and not required for reservoir sites or other public uses, for private lands of like character and value as the alternate sections granted to the railroad company, so far as may be necessary to assemble such public and private lands according to ownership in more compact bodies, and of such area as will permit them to be advantageously used.

This measure, known as the checkerboard bill, is intended to allow land-grant railroads, or their assignees, to concentrate their lands in large areas instead of being required to hold only alternate sections. It further proposes that all such exchanges shall be confined to lands within the place limits of the railroad land grant, and the public lands so exchanged must be of such relative contiguity to the private lands surrendered to the Government that the area of taxable lands in any state or territory or county will not be diminished. All lands surrendered to the Government under this act will become a part of the public domain.

Representative Jones, of Washington, and two Democrats voted against the bill and will probably file a minority report. The opposition is based largely on the fact that the bill would allow private interests to gain absolute control of large areas of land, which they would fence, and this is not believed to be good policy. Mr. Jones believes his constituents are opposed to the bill, but he desires further information before he will vote against it. In the House there is little chance, however, that the bill can go through this session.

MISS HERMANN MARRIED. Land Commissioner's Daughter Becomes Mrs. Howard P. Gately. OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, Dec. 17.—The marriage of Miss Maybelle Hermann, daughter of Land Commissioner Hermann, to Mr. Howard Prescott Gately, a young attorney of the National capital, took place this evening at the Church of the Ascension, in this city. Miss Hermann wore an elegant gown of white lace over white silk, with sweeping train and veil, and carried a

ALL DISEASES \$5.00 A MONTH

A VERY IMPORTANT FEATURE THAT SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED.

The Copeland Medical Institute Does Not Confine Its Practice to Catarrhal Affections, but Treats All Chronic Diseases at a Uniform Rate of \$5 a Month, Medicines Included.

The Copeland physicians are in daily receipt of letters from all points inquiring as to the application of their system of treatment to chronic maladies other than those of a catarrhal nature. For the information of those inquiring and the public generally, it is again stated that the provision made by the Copeland Medical Institute is for the treatment and cure of all persons suffering from any form of chronic disease or infirmity whatever at the uniform fee of \$5—including all medicines and appliances—for one month's continuous and watchful treatment. The same measure of skill, the same degree of care, the same intelligent exercise of professional energy and effort, and the same certainty of cure, are afforded to sufferers from other chronic maladies as to those suffering from catarrhal troubles of any nature.

YEARS OF TORTURE FROM INDIGESTION AND STOMACH TROUBLE

Mr. L. Burstad, Onida, Wash., until recently residing at Astoria. "Before my treatment at the Copeland Institute I had not seen a well day in eight years. I had no strength or energy to do anything and suffered all the time. My stomach was in very bad shape. I had a fair appetite, but nothing I ate

Health and Hearing Restored

Mr. H. D. Rohde, Missoula, Mont., proprietor Nonpareil Fruit & Produce Co. I took a course of treatment at the Copeland Institute, for catarrh, which had almost ruined my health. My head, throat, stomach and ears were badly affected. My health and hearing have been fully restored by the Copeland treatment.

FOR 16 YEARS SHE SUFFERED WITH SICK HEADACHE.

Mrs. Mary Goschie, P. O. address Silverton, Or., was one of the great number of sufferers whose life is made a burden by sick headaches. She had doctor after doctor until she was greatly discouraged, but upon the urgent solicitation of friends she began treatment at the Copeland Institute. Mrs. Goschie is very warm in her praise of the Copeland physicians, and in a letter received expresses herself as follows: "Dear Doctors: I am feeling so well now that I do not think I will need more treatment. I feel better than I have in many years. I cannot tell you how thankful I am for all you have done for me. I will feel grateful to you as long as I live; for, after suffering for 16 years with these terrible headaches and the general weakness and misery they bring on, it seems almost too good to be true to be well once more. I am glad of the opportunity to make this statement, for I owe it to you, who have done so much for me, as well as those who suffer as I did, so they may know where to find relief. I was so weak that the lightest work wore me out completely. I also suffered terribly with piles. I had tried a great many remedies, but only got a little temporary relief, and did not have much faith in any treatment. I had read and heard so much about the Copeland treatment in these chronic troubles that I concluded to try it. It has made a new man of me. My stomach does not give me any trouble and my piles have been completely cured. I have gained about six pounds and feel better than I have in years. I can cheerfully and conscientiously recommend the Copeland treatment to all sufferers."

AVOID CURE-ALLS

In Catarrh, as in other maladies, avoid blind doctoring by patent cure-alls. Get individual treatment for your individual ailment at the Copeland Institute.

HOME TREATMENT

No one deprived of the benefits of the Copeland treatment because of living at a distance from the city. If you cannot come to the office, write for Home Treatment Symptom Blank and Book, and be cured at home.

CONSULTATION FREE. Dr. Copeland's Book Free to All.

The Copeland Medical Institute

The Dekum, Third and Washington W. H. COPELAND, M. D. J. H. MONTGOMERY, M. D. OFFICE HOURS—9 A. M. to 5 P. M. EVENINGS—Tuesdays and Fridays. SUNDAY—From 10 A. M. to 12 M.

Discharging Ear and Deafness

Miss Birdie Hattie, 304 1-2 East Morrison street, Portland: When I was six months old I had a gathering in my bunch of bride roses. She was escorted to the altar and given away by her father, Mrs. Thomas C. Noyes, of Washington, acting as matron of honor. The groom's best man and ushers were all Eastern gentlemen. The altar was tastefully draped with palms and the church thronged with relatives and friends. Among those present were Senator Mitchell, Representatives Tongue and Moody, Miss Tongue and a large part of the Oregon contingent in Washington. Following the wedding ceremony, a re-

Difficult Digestion

That is dyspepsia. It makes life miserable. Its sufferers eat not because they want to, but simply because they must. They know they are irritable and fretful; but they cannot be otherwise. They complain of a bad taste in the mouth, a tenderness at the pit of the stomach, an uneasy feeling of puffiness, headache, heartburn and what not. The effective remedy, proved by permanent cures of thousands of severe cases, is Hood's Sarsaparilla. HOOD'S PILLS are the best cathartic.

Holiday Offerings That Are Tempting

And at the same time useful and beautiful will be found in our immense and carefully selected stock. The large volume of trade that we enjoy is largely due to the fact that we have always kept faith with the public. We again repeat that this year we have the finest stock of its kind that has ever been shown in Portland, and our line of precious stones has never been equaled anywhere in the West. These gems are sold at correct prices. Before purchasing, it will be to your advantage to call on us, as you are certain of securing the best possible value for your money.

Goods Held for Responsible Parties. STORE OPEN EVENINGS. A. & C. FELDENHEIMER CORNER THIRD AND WASHINGTON STREETS. Diamond Merchants, Manufacturing Jewelers and Opticians. WE HAVE NO BRANCH STORES