



EVENTS OF THE DAY

GATHERED FROM ALL PARTS OF THE TWO HEMISPHERES.

Comprehensive Review of the Important Happenings of the Past Week, Presented in Condensed Form, Most Likely to Prove Interesting to Our Many Readers.

An incendiary fire at Klamathon, Cal., caused a loss of \$500,000.

An American has been placed in command of the Colombian gunboat Bogota.

A lake steamer bound for Buffalo foundered during a heavy storm. Ten of the crew are missing.

President Roosevelt is very anxious about the reply of the miners to the proposition of the operators.

It is probable that Roosevelt will recommend a permanent tariff congress in his next message to congress.

London is much alarmed at what they fear is a move on the part of J. P. Morgan to secure control of the London docks.

At a meeting of the stockholders of the Commercial cable company, Clarence Mackay was elected as president to fill the vacancy caused by the death of his father.

Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, is very much opposed to the plan of the coal operators and thinks it should be turned down by the miners.

A Toledo, Ohio, steel plant has closed down for want of coal.

A French aeronaut and his companion were dashed to death while experimenting with an airship at Paris.

Belgium miners have gone on strike, claiming the trouble in the United States has raised the price of coal and they should get some benefit.

Sir Michael Herbert, the new British ambassador to the United States, has been received by President Roosevelt and has entered upon his duties.

Ex-Queen Liliuokalani has left Honolulu on her way to visit the United States. It is believed that she intends to press her claims to the crown lands.

Dr. William Riddick Whitehead, one of the most distinguished physicians and surgeons in the West, died of heart disease at his home in Denver. He was 70 years of age.

Seventeen persons are under arrest at Indianapolis for robbing graves. It is believed the remains of at least 100 people have been stolen. The grand jury is inquiring into the matter.

Mrs. Nation has resumed active operations in Oklahoma.

King Edward has returned to England in better health than for years.

A strike of mailhandlers and baggage-men at the union depot in St. Louis has caused considerable delay of the mails.

The walls of a hotel at Jackson, Mich., collapsed while 13 men were at work on the roof, but none were even seriously injured.

The strike of French coalminers is assuming a seriousness equalled only by that in this country. Numerous clashes between troops and strikers are reported.

Ex-Secretary of State Olney, in an address, scored the coal operators. He says that for years they have defied the laws of Pennsylvania, which forbid common carriers to engage in mining.

A report will soon be issued by the bureau of forestry showing the amount of timber destroyed by forest fires in the Northwest. By this means it is hoped to secure more protective legislation.

The crown prince of Siam has arrived in New York.

The G. A. R. will hold its next encampment at San Francisco.

Foreign coal will be admitted free of duty while the miners' trouble continues.

President Roosevelt has so far recovered that he is able to go about on crutches.

A Homestead, Pa., inventor, while temporarily insane, murdered his mother, one brother and two sisters.

The coal operators have demanded of Roosevelt that he begin action against the miners' union under the anti-trust law.

Strikers at Geneva clashed with the troops and the hospitals are filled with wounded men from both sides. Many arrests have been made.

To meet need of officers for the navy a special midshipmen's examination will be held in November. Each senator and representative has been asked to name one principal and five alternates.

There is enough coal on hand in the various public institutions of New York to run for two months.

French coal miners have voted a general strike. It is estimated that there are 162,000 miners in France, 60,000 of whom belong to the union.

The transport Sherman has arrived at San Francisco from Manila. She has been sent to quarantine, as there were several cases of cholera on board.

Jessie Morrison, who has been twice convicted of murder in Kansas, and who is fighting for a new trial, is out on \$10,000 bonds.

ALL DEPENDS ON MITCHELL.

Miners do not favor Proposition of Coal Operators—Unfair, They Say.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Oct. 16.—From a thorough canvass of the situation as it exists tonight there is every indication that the new arbitration plan proposed by the presidents of the coal companies for ending the miners' strike will not be accepted in its present form. There is a division of opinion among the strikers, but there is no doubt that a majority feel that the offer to have the president of the United States select an arbitration commission along the lines suggested by the operators is not fair, and that it unduly limits the board. The miners, it is safe to say, will abide by the advice of their national president, in whose judgment they have the utmost confidence.

President Mitchell declines to say how he personally looks upon the proposition, but tonight he gave to the press the following statement: "I fully appreciate with what anxiety the people of our country are awaiting the end of the coal strike. The coal operators have not addressed the miners' union, or its officers, in making their public statement. It is therefore impossible for me to state the attitude of the miners at this time. I am now, as I have always been, deeply solicitous of the interests of the public and the welfare of the mine workers who have been on strike for the past five months. A formal statement defining of position and intentions will be issued just as soon as we are in possession of the full meaning of the proposition of the operators."

The rank and file of the miners view the new proposition in different lights. Those who are opposed to accepting the new offer look upon the operators' latest move as a counter proposition to Mr. Mitchell's offer to arbitrate made in the temporary White House at Washington. They compare the two offers and pick out what they all agree to be many flaws.

A great many of the strikers think the proposition should be accepted, and that the miners should trust to President Roosevelt to do the best he can under the conditions laid down by the coal-rod president.

There is still a third view held by miners, and that is to refuse to accept the plan proposed and make a counter proposition, embodying some of the suggestions contained in the operators' offer. One proposition suggested is that the operators, the miners and the president each select a number of men to act as a board. This was mentioned by President Mitchell, but he would make no comment on it.

HOT BATTLE WITH ROBBERS.

Aged Men Killed Two Assaults, but were Badly Injured Themselves.

Cleveland, O., Oct. 16.—In a farmhouse two miles from the village of Rochester, in Loraine county, a terrible battle was fought tonight between aged brothers named Meach and six desperate robbers. As a result of the battle two of the robbers were shot to death, one probably fatally wounded, and two of the Meach brothers were badly beaten.

There are three of the Meach brothers, Loren, aged nearly 80 years; John, about 70, and Jarvis, aged 65. The old men are said to be rich. While John was in the barn, he was surrounded by three robbers and bound. Going to the house they knocked Jarvis Meach into insensibility. John Meach worked himself loose from the bonds, however, and seizing a shotgun, cautiously stole upon the three burglars who were working at the safe. He shot two of them to death and fatally wounded the third man. The three companions of the men, who were watching the house, realizing their danger, immediately got away. The robbers secured no money.

The wounded robber refused to make any statement as to identity.

WILSON GOES TO GREECE.

Spokane Man Transferred from Chile at a Loss of \$3,500 in Salary.

Washington, Oct. 16.—Henry L. Wilson, of Spokane, minister to Chile, has secured a European mission, but at a great sacrifice of salary. He gets a similar post in Greece at \$6,500 a year, while his present position pays \$10,000. This could not have been brought about had not the minister to Greece kindly consented to retire, in order to make places for several people.

Minister Francis was not particular about serving longer in Greece, and was willing to get out of the way in order to promote John B. Jackson, now first secretary of the embassy at Berlin. The pressure of Wilson's friends to get him a place in Europe, and the inducement to Jackson to secure the Chilean mission, which is worth \$3,500 more than that of Greece, brought about the change. Again, the Chilean mission has always been considered more important than Greece, and Wilson's change, although brought about by great pressure, is not considered a promotion.

Strong Box Stolen.

Victoria, B. C., Oct. 16.—Information has been received here that a box containing bank notes of the value of \$50,000 gold has been stolen from the strong room of the China and Manila steamer Zafiro, on her last voyage from Hong Kong to Manila. The consignment was signed for by one of the ship's officers, and prior to the vessel's arrival at Manila the strong room was opened only once, and that was to admit a consignment of opium.

NEWS OF OREGON

ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS OF THE STATE.

Commercial and Financial Review of the Past Week—Brief Reviews of the Growth and Development of Various Industries Throughout Our Commonwealth—Latest Market Report.

The assessor's roll of Lincoln county shows an increase of \$136,854 over that of last year.

The First National bank of Baker City has been designated a United States depository.

The fruit fair at Hood River last week was in every respect the most successful ever held.

A Liberty, Marion county, hop grower was offered 24 cents for his hops last Saturday, which he refused.

The forest rangers in Southern Oregon have been called in from fighting fires, there being no further need of them.

The rush for timber claims in Lake and Klamath counties continues. Many of the locators are coming from Eastern states.

William Darkis, a Southern Oregon pioneer, was found dead at his home near Walds last week. He came to this state in the early '50s.

The Astoria Fir Lumber Company, of Astoria, has filed articles of incorporation with a capital of \$100,000. The company will install a sawmill plant at once.

The hop market at Independence is practically stationary. There seems to be a decided opinion among the growers that the price will advance in a few weeks.

A rich strike has been reported in the I. X. L. mine, in the Greenhorn district. The owners are confident that they have the making of a good paying mine.

Mining by electricity will be put to a thorough test by the Bailey-Elkhorn company, in Eastern Oregon. All machinery will be run by electric power. If it should prove profitable, it is probable that quite a number of other companies will put in plants, as fuel is one of the greatest items of expense in operating mines in that section of the state.

Prairie City suffered another severe fire which destroyed \$2,000 worth of property.

The Loewenberg-Going company had its convict labor account for August, amounting to \$1,251.50.

Douglas county prune growers are beginning to ship the 1902 crop. The yield is 75 per cent of the average, while the quality is first class.

H. E. Brooks, a veteran newspaper man and editor from Amarillo, Texas, has bought into the Roseburg Plaindealer with W. C. Connor. They will improve the mechanical equipment of the paper and a Sunday morning edition will be added.

The crop of Italian prunes in Lane county is much lighter than for many years. The petite and silver prunes were not affected much by the bad weather, however, and are showing a good crop.

Hon. A. R. Burbank, an honored and respected citizen of Lafayette, died in that city October 7. Deceased was born in 1817, and came to the Pacific Coast in 1849, but returned again to the East. In 1853 he came to Oregon and has since resided here.

Two women tramps passed through Nevada, Mo., a few days ago, riding on the iron rods under a box car.

David Ancherd, who died in Helena, Montana, has left his immense estate to the Masonic fraternity to establish a Masonic home.

PORTLAND MARKETS.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 63½¢; blue-stem 64½¢; valley, 65½¢.

Barley—Feed, \$20.00 per ton; brewing, \$21.00.

Flour—Best grade, 3.00@3.50; grab-hand, \$2.85@3.20.

Millstuffs—Bran, \$18.50 per ton; middlings, \$23.50; shorts, \$19.50; chop, \$17.

Oats—No. 1 white, \$1.02½; gray, 85¢@91¢ per cental.

Hay—Timothy, \$10@11; clover, \$7.50; cheat, \$8 per ton.

Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$3.50@4.25; per pound, 10¢; hens, \$4@4.75 per dozen; per pound, 11¢; springs, \$2.50 @3 per dozen; fryers, \$3.35; broilers, \$2.25; ducks, \$4.50@5 per dozen; turkeys, young, 10¢@12¢; geese, \$6@6.50 per dozen.

Cheese—Full cream, twins, 13¢@13½¢; Young America, 13¢@14¢; factory prices, 1¢@1¼¢ less.

Butter—Fancy creamery, 25¢@27½¢ per pound; extras, 27½¢; dairy, 17¢@20¢; store, 12¢@15¢.

Eggs—2½¢@27½¢ per dozen.

Potatoes—Best Burbanks, 65¢@70¢ per sack; ordinary, 50¢@55¢ per cental; growers' prices; Mercad sweets, \$1.75@2 per cental.

Hops—New crop, 21¢@23¢ per pound. Wool—Valley, 12½¢@15¢; Eastern Oregon, 8¢@14¢; mohair, 26¢@28¢.

Beef—Cows, 3¢@3½¢ per pound; steers, 4¢; dressed, 6¢@7¢.

Veal—7¢@8½¢.

Mutton—Gross, 8¢ per pound; dressed, 6¢.

Lamb—Gross, 3½¢ per pound; dressed, 6½¢.

Hogs—Gross, 6½¢@7¢ per pound; dressed, 7¢@7½¢.

SLOW ON WARSHIPS.

Behind Contract Time in Construction—This Permits Improvements.

Washington, Oct. 15.—"Progress upon new vessels under construction during the past year has not been satisfactory," says Rear Admiral Bowles, chief of the naval bureau of construction, in his annual report to the secretary of the navy. All the larger vessels, he says, have been delayed by the nondelivery of structural steel, while the vessels building at San Francisco were set back by the 10 months' strike, and the holdout of the workmen at Seattle prevented any actual progress on the structure of the hull of the battleship Nebraska building there. The delay in the deliveries of armor for the battleships Maine, Missouri, and Ohio and the monitors Arkansas, Florida, Nevada and Wyoming has retarded the completion of these vessels, concurrently with other causes. The inability of shipbuilders to obtain a sufficient force of skilled workers also has been in many cases an important factor in the slow progress.

The battleship Ohio is shown to have been 29 months behind her contract on the first of July. The battleship Missouri is over 20 months behind. The majority of the battleships and cruisers are over 10 months behind, and some of the torpedo craft are more than 40 months behind the date of completion stipulated in their contracts.

However, Admiral Bowles says that the extensive delays on the torpedo boats are being terminated by the newly modified conditions for their delivery.

The contractors' delay in beginning construction of the Virginia, Pennsylvania and St. Louis, the chief contractor points out, gave his bureau an opportunity to make a careful revision of the general plans of those vessels which, he says, will result in a considerable improvement in their military value and in their habitability. The plans for the turrets of the Virginia class were developed in more detail. An entire rearrangement of the scheme for the storage of ammunition was made and particular attention was given to an efficient scheme for coaling. The ships added to the navy during the past year, the battleship Illinois and the torpedo craft Decatur, Perry, Preble, Biddle, Thornton and Wilkes.

Substantial and encouraging progress is reported in the standardization of ship fittings, a scheme to secure uniformity in the innumerable types of ship's parts, which has long been fostered by the construction department.

MUTINY ON A SHIP.

Murderous Plan to Secure \$15,000 and Wreck the Vessel.

New York, Oct. 15.—The little steamer Dos Hermanos was sent out on a cruise among some of the southern islands by a trading firm a few days before the transport Sherman left Manila, says a dispatch from San Francisco.

The steamer reached Virac and anchored in the harbor there. Officers and the few passengers on board were at dinner in the cabin when about 30 of the crew, led by the boatwain, rushed the gangway armed with knives, hatchets and clubs, and demanded the money that was on the vessel. The two officers were caught unarmed. The two women passengers fled to their rooms. The captain and men passengers gave the mutineers battle.

The Dos Hermanos was anchored close to the shore and not far away from the constabulary barracks. The noise of the fight was heard at the barracks and officers put out to the vessel. They succeeded in boarding after a desperate struggle with the mutineers, several of whom were shot and killed. The others, numbering 24, were arrested, charged with mutiny and piracy.

It is supposed the plan of the mutineers was to kill all the officers, run away with the steamer, take the \$15,000 which was aboard and then wreck the ship and declare all were lost except themselves.

LOOKING FOR A PASS.

Great Central Engineers in the Umpqua Mountains.

Roseburg, Or., Oct. 15.—Engineers George Lyman Moody and A. A. Lindsey are making a reconnaissance of the North Umpqua route over the Cascade mountains, east of here, for the proposed Great Central railroad between Salt Lake and Coos bay. Engineer Jarrett and a party of surveyors are now working this way from Myrtle Point. Work was begun today laying off and platting the depot grounds here on the Bushy tract, adjoining the city limits. An office building is to be erected thereon for the use of the railroad company as soon as the material already ordered arrives. Definite location of the railway line eastward will begin when Engineers Moody and Lindsey return.

The Great Central townsite company, composed mainly of local capitalists, has been incorporated here with a capital of \$50,000. They are platting a tract of several hundred acres adjoining the city limits and the Great Central depot grounds.

Storm Killed a Man.

Quincy, Ill., Oct. 15.—A tornado which struck this city and passed in a northeasterly direction destroyed a number of houses and barns and did great damage to crops. Wires are down and details are meager. At Camp Point, one man was killed and in the outskirts of Quincy another was fatally injured. The smokestacks of the electric light power house were blown down, and the city is now in darkness.

MEXICO MUST PAY

UNITED STATES WINS THE FAMOUS PIOUS FUND CASE.

Such is the Decision of The Hague Court of Arbitration—Award for \$1,420,682 Mexican Money, and the Decision was Unanimous—Action was in Behalf of Archbishop of San Francisco.

The Hague, Oct. 16.—The arbitration court in the pious fund case has condemned Mexico to pay the United States \$1,420,682 in Mexican currency. The decision of the court was unanimous. The tribunal finds:

First—That the claim of the United States on behalf of the archbishop of San Francisco is governed by the principal of res judica, in virtue of the arbitration decision pronounced by Sir Edward Thornton, November 11, 1875, and amended by Sir Edward Thornton October 24, 1876.

Second—That in conformity with this decision, the government of the United States of Mexico should pay the government of the United States \$1,420,682 in money of the legal currency of Mexico within the period fixed by article 10 of the protocol of Washington. This sum will cover the total payment of annuities due from and unpaid by the government of the Mexican republic, namely, the annual payment of \$43,050 in Mexican currency from February 2, 1869, to February 2, 1902.

Third—That the government of the United States of Mexico shall pay to the government of the United States February 2, 1903, and every following year on the same date, forever, an annual payment of \$43,050 of money of the legal currency of Mexico.

The decision of the tribunal was read by Secretary General Ruijsseenaers, in the presence of the members of the special diplomatic corps, their wives, and representatives of the litigants. Dr. Matsen, president of the court, who declared that a revision of the sentence was possible only in event of new facts coming to light, thanked the representatives of the United States and of Mexico for their assistance in enlightening the arbitrators. He added that, while no single judge was infallible, the unanimity of the arbitrators who had examined the whole question at issue was a guarantee that no mistake had been made. President Matsen concluded with expressing the best wishes for the health of Queen Wilhelmina and the prosperity of her people, who had welcomed the members of the court so cordially.

Mr. Raleton, of Washington, one of the lawyers in the case, and Senor Parejo, in behalf of Mexico, thanked the court for the care it had taken in the case. Senor Parejo said that he was sure that as soon as his government learned of the court's award it would accept it. He must, however, reserve for his government the right to avail itself of the provisions of the protocol.

ALASKA POSTAL CONTRACTS.

Government Arranges for Two Different Routes—Other Changes.

Washington, Oct. 16.—The postoffice department has made two contracts with the Alaska steamship company for carrying the mails from Seattle to Skagway by different routes. Both contracts cover the year beginning October 15. Under the one the company will send the mails every five days by the steamers Dolphin and Humboldt from March 1 and November 30, and every 12 days from December 1 to February 28. This route sails from Seattle, touching Juneau, Ketchikan and Douglas on the way to Skagway. The other contract provides for the sending of the mails four times a month by the steamers Farallon and Dirigo, by way of Metlakatla, Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Snettisham, Juneau and Douglas, and at any other points where the steamer may touch.

MOLINEUX AGAIN ON TRIAL.

Court Allows Special Verdict of 200 New Jurymen and Adjourns.

New York, Oct. 16.—The second trial of Roland B. Molineux, accused of the murder of Mrs. Catherine J. Adams, on December 28, 1898, was called today after many delays and adjournments in the criminal branch of the supreme court. Justice John S. Lambert, of Fredona, presided. Molineux was not in court when his counsel began their argument in objection to the motion made last week for a special jury panel. The courtroom was thronged. A formidable array of defense was at the table devoted to the defense.

General E. L. Molineux, father of the accused, was present. Justice Lambert granted the motion for a special jury panel of 200 names, and court adjourned until tomorrow.

To Rebuild Naval Station.

Washington, Oct. 16.—The navy department today cabled \$15,000 to Manila, P. I., to be sent from there to the Island of Guam for the rehabilitation of the naval station property which was damaged by the recent earthquake. The department received a cablegram today announcing the departure of the collier Justin from Cavite to Guam, and it is the understanding here that she carries the funds for the repair work.

PUBLIC FUNDS SOLICITED.

Wage Earners Asked to Contribute Their Earnings for One Hour Each Monday.

Washington, Oct. 14.—The American Federation of Labor, through its executive council, has issued an address to the public, appealing for financial and moral aid for the striking anthracite miners, and denouncing the attitude of the mine owners, on whom, the appeal says, must rest the responsibility for the hardships resulting from the coal famine. The address in part is as follows: "To the Public and Organized Labor:—The strike of the miners is now in its 23d week. That the strike occurred was entirely the fault of the presidents of the coal companies. That the strike has continued to this day is entirely due to the contempt which the presidents of the coal companies have for the people of our country, and the untold sufferings which all may endure. No offer to settle the strike could be fairer than that of the miners' representative at the conference with President Roosevelt. The operators' haughty arrogance, brutal, dominating spirit and blasphemous assumption of divine wealth, proprietorship, shook the universe, and aroused the indignation of all lovers of justice and fair dealing. "What more could the miners do and maintain their self respect and not forfeit the respect of their fellow men, than their willingness to submit all matters in dispute to a commission appointed by President Roosevelt, and when that was refused, to leave the entire controversy to J. P. Morgan, one of the men largely interested with the operators. There has never been a time, either before the strike or since its inauguration, that the miners have not been entirely willing to have the questions involved in the miners' claims investigated and adjusted by any disinterested person. "In behalf of the miners, in behalf of the cause of freedom, for justice and right, the undersigned, representing the organized wage earners of America, appeal to all people to contribute generously, promptly, and to continue the same until the termination of this contest. And to that end the following suggestions are made: "First—That in each city and town, business, professional and public men form relief committees to solicit financial and other contributions. "Second—That the hours between 10 and 11 o'clock of each Monday morning during the continuance of the strike, is designated as 'Miners' Hour,' and the wages earned during that hour by the working people of our country be appropriated to the miners. "Third—That the ministers of the gospel of all denominations make a special plea to their respective congregations each Sabbath morning in behalf of the miners, their wives and children, and that they constitute themselves into relief committees among their respective parishioners. "Fourth—That the daily, weekly and labor press solicit contributions from their readers; entertainments be arranged and contributions from unions and other organized bodies solicited. "Fellow citizens, fellow wage earners, come to the aid of the miners in their heroic contest, and administer a well merited rebuke for the arrogant, oppressive and unjustifiable attitude toward the miners of the operators, who would trample under foot and crush the hearts and spirits of the men whom they employ with equally callous indifference as they outrage dignity, the manhood and the interests of every man, woman and child in our land. "Send all contributions to W. B. Wilson, Secretary United Mineworkers of America, Stevens Building, Indianapolis, Indiana."

UP TO THE MINERS

OPERATORS AGREE TO ARBITRATION OF THE LABOR TROUBLE.

Consent of Strikers Means Work at Once—Five Men to Inquire Into All the Conditions in the Mining District and Their Decision is to be Final—Great Victory for Roosevelt.

Washington, Oct. 15.—The coal mine operators have agreed to the appointment of a commission, to be appointed by the president of the United States, to whom shall be referred all questions at issue between the companies and their own employes, whether they belong to a union or not, and the decision of the commission shall be accepted by the operators. The commission is to consist of an army or navy engineer officer, an expert mining engineer not connected with the coal mining properties, one of the judges of the United States courts of the eastern district of Pennsylvania, a man of prominence as a sociologist, and a man who, by active participation in mining and selling coal, is familiar with the physical and commercial features of the business. The operators also make it a part of the proposition that the miners shall return to work as soon as the commission is constituted, and cease all interference with nonunion men. The commission is to name a date when its findings shall be effective, and to govern conditions of employment between the companies and their own employes for at least three years. The statement was read to the president as an act of courtesy before being given to the press.

The conditions which the operators attach to the proposition for arbitration are not such as can be refused, although they couch their statement in language which has characterized all their statements. In spite of the insolent manner in which they received the first overtures of the president they have been compelled to allow him to name a commission of arbitration. Even in suggesting the character of the men who will compose the commission, they are following suggestions coming from the president, as the character of the men described are the kind he would choose. As first believed by the president when he took the initiative, the men refusing overtures of peace have been compelled by an overwhelming public sentiment to reconsider. His judgment has been justified, and the result will cause great rejoicing among those threatened by a coal famine. The following is, in part, the statement of the operators:

"To the public: The managers of the different coal properties comprising the anthracite coal fields wish their position in the present strike to be understood, and therefore make the following statement of facts: "There are in the anthracite regions about 75 operating companies and firms and 147,000 miners and workmen, of which 30,000 are under age, comprising some 20 nationalities and dialects. Of these workmen, possibly one-half belong to the United Mineworkers' union, of which John Mitchell is president. That organization was originally formed in the bituminous coal region, and three-fourths of its members are miners of bituminous coal, and bituminous coal is sold in active competition with anthracite coal. The remaining workmen in the anthracite field either belong to no union whatever or do not belong to the Mineworkers' union. "The coal companies believe that the wages paid in the coal regions are fair and full, and all that the business in its normal condition has been able to stand if the capital invested is to have any reasonable return. The profits have been small, several of the companies have become bankrupt and have been reorganized several times. Several have never paid dividends, and the dividends of the others have been a small return for the capital invested. It is not, however, the purpose of this statement to discuss this question. "We are not nor never have been unwilling to submit all questions between them and their workmen to any fair tribunal for decision. We are not willing to enter into arbitration with the union of miners, a union composed of men in a rival and competitive interest, and they are not willing to make any arrangements which will not secure to the men now working, and all now or hereafter wishing to work, whether they belong to the Mineworkers' union or not, the right and opportunity to work in safety and without personal insult or bodily harm to themselves or to their families."

The proposition of the coal operators was a result of a visit of Secretary Root to New York, and his conference with Mr. Morgan. Mr. Morgan at that time expressed a keen interest in the situation and a desire to bring about an adjustment, if possible. Following this talk with Secretary Root, there was a conference in New York, at which the proposition of the coal operators was agreed to, and Mr. Morgan was delegated to bring it to the president, in the belief that such would be the courteous course, and the best way of promulgating the offer of settlement.

Hot Battle in Venezuela.

Willenstad, Oct. 15.—An important engagement began this morning near La Victoria between the forces commanded by President Castro, of Venezuela, numbering 4,100 men, with 15 guns, and the revolutionary forces commanded by Generals Matos, Mendoza, Ferialzo and Rivera with about 6,000 men and 22 guns. At