

300 MEN ON STRIKE

THE BOERS ARE CHECKED

Every Employee of the Scranton Street Railway.

WANT BETTER PAY AND FEWER HOURS

Company Says It Is Not in a Position to Grant Increase—Negotiations Under Way for Speedy Settlement.

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 26.—Every one of the 300 car and barn employees of the Scranton Street Railway Company obeyed the strike order, which went into effect at 12 o'clock this morning, and as a consequence only two cars were run. The two were manned by Superintendent Patterson and dispatchers, foremen and clerks. No attempt was made to molest them, and, although rain fell most part of the day, the two cars had a passenger.

The tied-up region extends from Scranton to Forest City, a distance of 65 miles, and includes 65 miles of track, on which are run ordinarily 80 cars. The men of the Wyoming Valley Traction Company, operating all lines south of Pittston as far as Scranton, threaten to go on a strike. Both companies tied up there would be a total cessation of street traffic on a busy stretch of nearly 80 miles north, including the big cities of Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, Pittston and Carbondale.

The strikers met tonight and organized committees to man the different railroad stations. They are to look for men who it is rumored have been recruited in Philadelphia to take their places. They will distribute leaflets to strangers, notifying them of the strike, and asking them not to ride the cars. An appeal to the local public has been issued, asking that the cars be not patronized.

The men demand 20 cents an hour for old employees and 15 to 17 1/2 for new men. They also demand a 10 per cent day. The company, in its answer to the grievance committee, says it is in a position to afford only an increase of 5 per cent at the present time. President Clark arrived tonight and stated that the road would be operated with new cars if the old men cannot be secured.

What the Company Offers.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Dec. 26.—The employees of the Wilkes-Barre & Wyoming Valley Electric Railway Company, and officials of the company met in conference today to talk over certain matters which the men submitted to the company. The employees demanded 20 cents an hour for every man worked and shorter hours. President Higginbotham wanted to be fair to the men, but their demands were too sweeping, and the company could not afford to grant them. As a compromise President Higginbotham offered the men 16 cents an hour, but no reduction in the hours. The conductors and firemen refused to accept this offer.

Indian Outbreak Feared.

Seattle, Dec. 26.—Advices have been received from Sitka, Alaska, stating that that town is in a condition of suppressed excitement, fearing an outbreak of Indians. The United States troops stationed there are under arms, and the marshal and deputies are taking every precaution to protect the town in case of trouble. The aspect of affairs is very serious at Sitka, as the Indians are by far the strongest numerically. There are 55 marines commanded by Captain Pendleton at Sitka.

Sympathetic Strike.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Dec. 26.—Two hundred and fifty girls employed at the Wyoming Valley lace mills, in this town, have notified the management that they will not report for work tomorrow. They go out in sympathy with the weavers of the mill, who have been on a strike for nine months. The girls are to report for work tomorrow, but the total suspension of plant.

Struck and Killed by Cars.

St. Paul, Dec. 26.—Charles M. Miller, assistant engineer on the Montana Division of the Great Northern railway, was struck and killed by an electric car in this city. Miller's headquarters are at Williston, N. D., and he was on his way to relatives in this city. N. Miller, for many years chief engineer of the Great Northern system, is a brother of the deceased.

Strike Declared Off.

Muncie, Ind., Dec. 26.—The strike of the snappers in the Trust window glass plants in Muncie, which threatened to close all the Western plants, was called off tonight. The workmen met and decided not to return to work until they received the same pay as before. The management then offered a plan which was accepted by the men.

Attorney-General Griggs has conceded his argument in the Porto Rico

Murder Case Decision Reversed. Judge Elliot reversed his decision on the motion for a new trial of Manuel Gates, charged with murdering William Beecher. The counsel for the defendant introduced new evidence in the affidavit of S. S. Hunt, to the effect that he had cried of distress coming from launch before, of which Beeson was captain, at a point on the river below where Gates is supposed to have attacked Beeson.

CHINA WILL ACCEPT

Envoys Believe She Will Concede Powers' Demands.

RINGLEADERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED

Princes Tuan and Chung Taken Into Custody in the Interior—Yu Hsien Ordered to Return to Sinan Fu to Be Executed.

London, Dec. 26.—The war office has received the following dispatch from Lord Kitchener, dated Pretoria, Dec. 24: "As far as it is possible for me to form an opinion from reports of officers on the spot, I think the Boer movement into Cape Colony has been checked. Of the two forces that entered the colony, the Eastern is still north of the Zoutpansburg range, while the one that entered west appears to have been turned in the direction of Blitstown and Priska. Our troops are getting around both bodies, and a special column is also being organized which will be dispatched immediately when we know where its services are most wanted. The Boers have not received much assistance in Cape Colony as far as my information goes. We have armed some of the colonists, who are assisting our forces. Railway and telegraph communication has been much interrupted by the very bad weather.

"Dewet is in the neighborhood of Senekal. General French, in conjunction with General Clements, attacked a force under Beyers south of Magalies Berg. The Boers broke away in a southerly direction towards Potchefstroom, and were followed by French's force. Yesterday evening about 5 o'clock Clements' force was engaged south of Oliphant's Nek, but I do not yet know the result."

A later dispatch from Lord Kitchener dated at Pretoria, says: "The western column of Boers occupied Britstown and cut the railway south of De Aar Junction. The enemy is being followed up. General French has been in contact for two days with the commandos of Beyers and Delarey, south of the Magalies Berg. He is pursuing them. The enemy have lost considerably, and Commandant Kreuz and others have been captured. General Colville engaged two separate commandos December 21 near Vladfontein, with slight losses, the enemy retiring."

FILIPINOS AND AUTONOMY.

Recently Organized Party Has Been Formally Launched.

Manila, Dec. 26.—The recently organized autonomy party was launched today at a meeting attended by virtually all the local Filipino leaders in Manila. The declaration of principles was read and after some discussion adopted by a vote of 123, less than half a dozen declining to vote. All signed an endorsement of the platform, including Senator Paterno, one of the most influential of the former insurgent leaders, whose real attitude toward American authority has been much questioned.

The principal discussion was with reference to the organization of the government of the party. A council of 26 members was elected together with an executive committee, including Senator Arellano, chief justice of the supreme court; Frank H. Bourne, Senator Amrosio Flores, a former insurgent; General Senator Florentino Torres, attorney-general of the Philippines; Senator Jose Near, prosecuting attorney; and Senator Tomas Del Rosario. The smallest number of votes received by any candidate was 80.

Japanese Minister Resigns.

Yokohama, Dec. 26.—Ihoshi Toru, minister of communication, and formerly Japanese minister to the United States, has resigned his portfolio in consequence of the persistent allegations of his implication in financial scandals. He will be succeeded by Mr. Hara, ex-minister to Korea. It is possible that the stability of the Ito cabinet will be affected.

Large Deal in Coal Lands.

Fairmount, W. Va., Dec. 26.—The largest coal deal ever made in Harrison county will be consummated in a few days. The territory comprises 12,000 acres, or 19 square miles, lying around Salem. The purchasers are: James E. Bron, of Uniontown, and Alfred J. Cochran, of Dawson, who will pay \$842,000 for the entire tract.

Killed in a Trainwreck.

Texarkana, Ark., Dec. 26.—The Texas & Pacific passenger train of the Laredo & Fort Worth was partially wrecked 10 miles west of here today. The engine struck a cow, jumped the track and turned over. One of the firemen, Ed Catterson, was killed. Engineer Cubitty was badly scalded. No one else was seriously hurt.

Roumania Declined Russian Loans.

London, Dec. 26.—"Russia offered Roumania a loan on 16,000,000," says the Vienna correspondent of the Daily Express, "to assist her in the financial crisis; but the offer was declined, because there were conditions attached undermining Roumanian independence."

Railroad Will Be Extended.

It has been learned from reliable sources that the Nevada-California railway will be extended from Terno, Cal., to Lakeview, Oregon, in the near future.

A Schooner Bottom Up.

Empire City, Or., Dec. 26.—The schooner Gem, which arrived here from San Francisco this evening, after a hard struggle with the wind and waves, sighted a vessel bottom up about 80 miles west of Cape Arago. The vessel was painted white, and had a clean bottom. The schooner Ivy, which also arrived today, reports seeing considerable lumber afloat December 21, but did not sight the schooner bottom up.

MARINE DISASTERS.

The List is Growing on the Washington Coast—Wheat Ship Carl the Latest.

Port Townsend, Wash., Dec. 27.—Each tug boat arriving from Cape Flattery brings fresh news of marine disasters along the coast, and when the full returns are in the damage by the recent succession of gales will be the largest in the history of shipping along the Pacific Coast.

The German ship Carl, wheat laden from Tacoma, Dec. 5, for Enrope, was towed to Port Angeles this morning by the tug Boyden in a waterlogged condition. After passing out of the Straits of Fuca, the Carl encountered a gale which continued several days, and was so roughly handled by the elements that the stanchions of the bulwarks were pulled out, and as the great waves swept her decks the water poured in so rapidly that the pumps could not keep her clear. The cargo of wheat became saturated, and so rapidly did she settle down that it became necessary to jettison a portion of the cargo. The vessel headed for Cape Flattery, and was picked up and towed to Port Angeles, from where she will be taken to the Esquimalt, B. C., dry dock. The three-masted schooner Reporter, which sailed from Gray's Harbor for Honolulu Dec. 5, was towed in here this evening with her deck load gone and waterlogged. The first day out from Gray's Harbor the Reporter sprung a leak, and at the same time a heavy fog set in, preventing her from returning to port. Men were placed at the pumps, and the gale increased, causing the leak to increase, which necessitated the deck load being thrown overboard. When 20 miles north of Cape Flattery she was flying signals of distress, and a steamer, thought to be the Centennial, remained by the schooner overnight, but the gale increased to such an extent that the steamer had all she could do to look out for herself, and left her. The captain of the Reporter then headed his vessel for the Straits of Fuca and succeeded in reaching here with all pumps working. The captain has sailed the coast since 1875, and says the six storms he experienced since leaving Gray's Harbor Dec. 5 were the severest he ever witnessed during the past 25 years.

APPEAL OF ARMENIANS.

The Revolutionary Committee Addresses President McKinley.

Boston, Dec. 27.—At the convention of the representatives of the Armenian revolution, the following resolution was adopted and telegraphed to President McKinley: "The committee of the Armenian Revolutionary Federation of this country, in their annual convention assembled in Boston, unanimously congratulate you upon your re-election to the presidency of the United States, and invite your excellency's kind attention to the deplorable condition in which our people in Armenia are perishing and will soon be exterminated if a powerful hand does not come to the rescue of such a nation which has been the champion of civilization for centuries in Asia Minor.

"In the present complicated situation of European diplomacy, the United States is the only nation that has been unselfish and neutral in Oriental affairs, and yet a friend for suffering races; the only nation that can terrorize the great assassin and his blood-thirsty fanatics to save the remainder of their victims from imminent bloodshed.

"Our fathers and brothers gave their lives for the sake of our country, and we are all ready to fall in their places, but in this utmost struggle we have not the right to expect assistance from this great republic, which founded its existence upon revolution, and which has the inheritance of liberty from Washington and Lincoln!

"Please accept our sincere wishes and assurance of our highest regard."

FOR THREE ARMORIES.

Desired That Washington So Honor Spokane, Seattle and Tacoma.

Seattle, Dec. 27.—A committee of officers of the National Guard of the state of Washington has completed a revision of the state military code, which is to be presented to the legislature next month for formal acceptance. This code makes the guard conform in all respects to similar organizations in the regular service. The strength of the guard is to be considerably increased, and examinations for commissions made much more rigid.

Special appropriations to build three armories, at Spokane, Tacoma and Seattle, will be asked for. It is also hoped to secure a small appropriation for installing a battery and modernizing some equipments said to be out of date.

Released From Prison.

Montreal, Dec. 27.—James Baxter, formerly of Chicago, and lately of New York, who was sentenced here some time ago to five years in the penitentiary for his connection with the Bank Ville Marie frauds, has been released on "conditional pardon" from St. Vincent de Paul penitentiary. His wife and friends have been working incessantly for his pardon on account of ill-health, ever since his conviction. He is suffering from dropsy and his condition is serious.

Peru Buys a War Vessel.

New York, Dec. 27.—A dispatch to the Herald, from Lima, Peru, says: It is reported that Senator Cervajal, government commissioner, has purchased a war vessel in France. The British cruiser Amphion has arrived there.

Large Shipment of Peach Trees.

A shipment of 100,000 young peach trees from Georgia nurseries, bound for Cape Colony and Natal, South Africa, has been made.

BOERS ARE CHECKED

But Kitchener Cannot Drive Them From Cape Colony.

EFFECT OF KITCHENER'S PROCLAMATION

Westward Movement of the Dutch From the Vryburg District—Dewet in South-eastern Orange River Colony.

London, Dec. 26.—The latest dispatches from South Africa show that Lord Kitchener has succeeded in holding the Boers in check. He has not yet been successful in expelling them from Cape Colony, while different commandos continue to display astonishing activity over an immensely wide field.

It is questionable whether his proclamation will have much effect until General Dewet is captured. The Boers are likely to regard it as a sign of weakness and to have a wholesome dread of vengeance if they surrender. The proclamation is approved by the party at home that favors conciliatory terms to the Boers as a step in the right direction.

Queen Victoria, it is said, has approved the proposal to institute a new order of knighthood to reward officers who have served in South Africa. The order will probably be called the Star of Africa.

A dispatch from Vryburg, dated December 20, says that Boers in considerable numbers were making a movement westward. They had 150 wagons. The dispatch suggests that they were trekking to Damara Land, although the Boers themselves denied any such intention.

Boers May Surrender.

Bloemfontein, Orange River Colony, Dec. 29.—There are renewed but unconfirmed rumors that General Dewet, President Steyn and General Hasbroek have had a conference and decided to offer to surrender, providing the colonial rebels are not punished, and the leaders, including themselves, are not deported.

Boer Attack Repulsed.

Cape Town, Dec. 29.—A small party of Boers attacked Burgersdorp, on December 26. They were repulsed after heavy fighting. The Boers are active, and skirmishes in several places have been reported.

Martial Law Proclaimed.

Cape Town, Dec. 29.—Martial Law has been proclaimed in the districts of Beaufort West and Carnarvon.

CLAIMS AGAINST HAWAII.

Chinese and Japanese Want Pay for Property Destroyed During Bubonic Plague.

Washington, Dec. 29.—It is expected that Governor Cole, of Hawaii, will make a recommendation to the Hawaiian legislature, which meets in February, for the settlement of the claims of Chinese and Japanese growing out of the destruction of their property at Honolulu at the time of the bubonic plague outbreak. It appears that the Chinese claims are less than was at first estimated, and that the total of the Chinese and Japanese claims are, approximately, \$1,800,000. The Chinese government has not been in a condition, of late, to exert pressure in behalf of the claims of its citizens, but the Japanese authorities have been actively looking out for the losses sustained by their countrymen, and now seem to be in a fair way of securing partial remuneration. Governor Dole suggested a short time ago that the matter be referred to the Hawaiian legislature, and this was approved by the officials here as the best means of adjusting the matter. There appears to be little doubt that the legislature will authorize a settlement.

Frozen to Death Near Dawson.

Oregon City, Dec. 29.—A Tacoma dispatch states that Harry Moffatt, of this place, was frozen to death something over two weeks ago near Dawson City. He had gone alone to Eureka creek for a hunt, and was caught in a snow storm and wandered aimlessly about for two days. He was found by a rescue party with his hands and feet badly frozen, but died before they could reach Dawson.

Excepting the dispatch, no news has been received here by J. W. Moffatt, brother of the reported dead man. Harry Moffatt left here on the first trip of the Elder for the Klondike country, where he had since been engaged in mining a short distance from Dawson. F. F. White, who left Dawson a few weeks ago, states that Moffatt occupied a cabin adjoining his own.

Turks Assaulted a British Charge.

Constantinople, Dec. 29.—Some Turkish soldiers have grossly assaulted and maltreated the British charge d'affaires, Mr. De Buseu, and other members of the British embassy in the vicinity of the powder magazine at Makrikein. Sharp demands for redress have been made to the Port.

Santa Fe Buys a Line.

Chicago, Dec. 29.—Announcement was made today of the acquisition by the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railroad Company of the Pecos Valley & Northeastern, which runs from Amarillo, Tex., where it connects with the Santa Fe system, to Pecos City, a distance of 87 miles. The price paid for the property could not be ascertained, but it is understood that the payment will be made in cash and general mortgage bonds.

New Organization Formed.

An organization for the employment of all idle labor is being formed in Boston under the title of the Workers' Co-operative association.

WIDESPREAD ACTIVITY.

Good Advices From Most Lines of Trade, but Failures Were More Numerous.

Bradstreet's says: Seasonable conditions rule in trade at present. Holiday trade activity is widespread, and comparisons with previous years are favorable at most markets, with the possible exception of some parts of the Northwest, where the spring wheat shortage and unseasonable weather have checked distribution. Notably cheerful reports come, too, from Western jobbers, who have been called on for reasserting orders, and who report collections good. Quietness in wholesale lines is usual at this period, but it is to be noted that specially good advices come from the iron and steel, hardware, groceries, fancy goods, toys and confectionery trades, while a distinctly cheerful tone is found in shoes, leather and lumber, although Eastern shipments of the first named are still considerably smaller than last year. Industrial lines are fairly well employed, and strikes are few and far between. Prices show few changes, most staples being steady, but it might be noted that most farm products are slightly higher than last week, and well above 1899.

Wheat, including flour, shipments for the week aggregated 4,128,550 bushels, against 4,785,577 bushels last week. From July 1 to date this season wheat exports are 90,140,353 bushels. Business failures in the United States for the week number 260, as against 267 last week, 211 in this week a year ago, 212 in 1898 and 280 in 1897.

Canadian failures for the week numbered 28, against 18 last week and 29 in this week a year ago, 34 in 1898, and 80 in 1897.

PACIFIC COAST TRADE.

Seattle Market.

Onions, new yellow, 2@2 1/2 c.
Lettuce, hot house, \$1 per crate.
Potatoes, new, \$1.
Beets, per sack, 85c@91c.
Turnips, per sack, \$1.00.
Squash—1 1/2 c.
Carrots, per sack, 60c.
Parsnips, per sack, \$1.00@1.25.
Cucumbers—40@50c.
Cabbage, native and California, 2c per pound.
Butter—Creamery, 30c; dairy, 18@22c; ranch, 16c@18c pound.
Cheese—14c.
Eggs—Ranch, 40c.; Eastern 25c.
Poultry—12c; dressed, 14c; spring, 18@15c turkey, 13c.
Hay—Puget Sound timothy, \$14.00; choice Eastern Washington timothy, \$10.00.
Corn—Whole, \$23.00; cracked, \$25; feed meal, \$25.
Barley—Rolled or ground, per ton, \$20.
Flour—Patent, per barrel, \$3.30; blended straight, \$3.25; California, \$3.25; buckwheat flour, \$6.00; graham, per barrel, \$3.25; whole wheat flour, \$3.25; rye flour, \$3.80@4.00.
Millstuffs—Bran, per ton, \$14.00; shorts, per ton, \$14.00.
Feed—Chopped feed, \$19.00 per ton; middlings, per ton, \$20; oil cake meal, per ton, \$30.00.
Fresh Meats—Choice dressed beef steers, price 7 1/2 c.; cows, 7c; mutton 7 1/2 c.; pork, 7 1/2 c.; trimmed, 9c; veal, 9@12c.
Hams—Large, 13c; small, 13 1/2 c.; breakfast bacon, 12c; dry salt sides, 8 1/2 c.

Portland Market.

Wheat—Walla Walla, 54@54 1/2 c.; Valley, nominal; Bluestem, 57c per bushel.
Flour—Best grades, \$3.40; graham, \$2.60.
Oats—Choice white, 45c; choice gray, 43c per bushel.
Barley—Feed barley, \$15.50 brewing, \$16.50 per ton.
Millstuffs—Bran, \$15.50 ton; middlings, \$21; shorts, \$17; chop, \$16 per ton.
Hay—Timothy, \$12@12.50; clover, \$7@9.50; Oregon wild hay, \$6@7 per ton.
Butter—Fancy creamery, 50@55c; store, 32 1/2 c.
Eggs—30c per dozen.
Cheese—Oregon full cream, 13 1/2 c.; Young America, 14c; new cheese 10c per pound.
Poultry—Chickens, mixed, \$2.50@3.00 per dozen; hens, \$4.00; springs, \$2.00@3.50; geese, \$6.00@8.50 doz; ducks, \$4.00@6.00 per dozen; turkeys, live, 11c per pound.
Potatoes—50@60c per sack; sweets, 1 1/2 c per pound.
Vegetables—Beets, \$1; turnips, 75c; per sack; garlic, 7c per pound; cabbage, 1 1/2 c per pound; parsnips, 85c; onions, \$1.75; carrots, 75c.
Hops—New crop, 12@14c per pound.
Wool—Valley, 13@14c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@12c; mohair, 25c per pound.
Mutton—Gross, best sheep, wethers and ewes, 3 1/2 c; dressed mutton, 6 1/2 @ 7c per pound.
Hogs—Gross, choice heavy, \$6.75; light and feeders, \$5.00; dressed, \$5.00@6.25 per 100 pounds.
Beef—Gross, top steers, \$3.50@4.00; cows, \$3.00@3.50; dressed beef, 6@7c per pound.
Veal—Large, 6@6 1/2 c; small, 7@8c per pound.

San Francisco Market.

Wool—Spring—Nevada, 11@13c per pound; Eastern Oregon, 10@14c; Valley, 15@17c; Northern, 9@10c.
Hops—Crop, 1900, 13@15c.
Butter—Fancy creamery 26@26 1/2 c; do seconds, 25c; fancy dairy, 23@23c; do seconds, 21c per pound.
Eggs—Store, 30c; fancy ranch, 37c.
Millstuffs—Middlings, \$16.50 @ 19.50; bran, \$13.00@13.50.