

## MINERS' LAST WORD

### Ultimatum Is Presented to the Scale Committee.

### OPERATORS WILL REJECT TERMS

Demand is for Restoration of Wage Scale of 1903—All Prepare for Big Strike.

Indianapolis, March 27.—The United Mineworkers of America, through John Mitchell, president of the organization; T. L. Lewis, vice president; and Herman G. Perry, of the Illinois miners, today presented to the coal operators in the executive session of the joint scale committee of the central competitive district their ultimatum on the dispute over the wage scale.

The demand of the miners, as stated in their ultimatum, is for a restoration of the wage scale of 1903, which is an increase of 5.55 per cent. Upon the receipt of the ultimatum, the operators secured an adjournment of the committee until tomorrow, when it is expected a definite answer will be given. It is anticipated that this reply will be a refusal, and the committee will report a disagreement to the joint conference of miners and operators. The fight in that case will be continued on the floor of the joint conference.

Tonight there is little prospect of an agreement. The feeling tonight is that the miners under no circumstances will allow one district to sign even the advance scale demanded unless it is paid in all the four states of the central competitive field.

Reports are coming to the miners' delegates from their local unions that the coal companies are taking preliminary steps to get on a strike basis. They are calling in the miners' account books, according to these reports, with a view to drawing credit from the company stores, pressing collections, and in some cases threatening eviction. Reports that the companies are building stockades are without foundation, but the mines are being put in the best possible condition for a shutdown. Even should an agreement be reached for all fields, the bituminous and most of the anthracite mines will close Saturday night, many of them to remain closed 60 days.

The local managers are letting their men know this, and in many cases telling them that a strike may well come as far as they are concerned.

### PUTER CAUGHT.

But the Oregon Land Fraud Artist Escapes Again.

Boston, March 27.—After having followed him for many thousands of miles, first down the Pacific coast from Portland, Or., to San Francisco, and then clear across the country to Boston, Secret Service Agent W. J. Burns tonight arrested Stephen A. D. Pater, who is wanted by the Federal authorities for his connection with the famous Oregon land fraud cases, only to have the man pull a gun and escape.

This dramatic ending to a chase which lasted for weeks, and during which Mr. Burns has shown no little detective ability in tracing his quarry from one place to another, occurred at the corner of Boylston street and Massachusetts avenue in this city, in front of the Fenway postal station, and at a time when the street was crowded with people and strings of cars were passing. Pater made his escape in truly Western fashion, drawing a revolver from some place of concealment and aiming it straight at Mr. Burns' head with repeated threats to kill, while scores of people looked on as though paralyzed and made no effort to help the officer or to call police aid. In this manner Pater backed slowly away from his unwelcome companion and, before many had realized just what it all meant, he had turned the corner of Massachusetts avenue and disappeared from view.

Burns followed, but the crowd closed in about him and, although he saw his man turn down Falmouth street, he dared not use his own gun.

### Hermann Trial April 16.

Washington, March 27.—Representative Binger Hermann will be placed on trial in the Supreme court for the District of Columbia on Monday, April 16. This order was made by Judge Gould today, on motion of District Attorney Baker. Mr. Baker first asked that the trial be set for April 9, but H. P. Gately, one of Hermann's attorneys, stated that A. S. Worthington, who will direct the defense, will be unable to appear in court on that date. One week later was then agreed to. The trial will be for destroying 35 letterpress books.

### Floods in Southern California.

San Francisco, March 27.—The storm which has prevailed over California during the past few days was phenomenal in character, but normal conditions are being restored. Rain continued to fall today throughout Southern California, and the streams in all parts of the state are rising, and the rapid melting of snows in the Sierras. Floods have occurred in several sections. Much damage has been done and more is expected.

### Wrangle in Ashes.

Tacoma, March 27.—A special to the Ledger says: Fort Wrangle, Alaska, was entirely destroyed by a fire that started in the barber shop of the Pioneer hotel late Saturday night. The entire town was wiped out, with the exception of a dock and one store belonging to Robert Reid. Thirty-eight houses, which composed the town's residence district, were burned to the ground. Wrangle has a population of 400 persons.

### Great Blaze at Newport.

Newport, R. I., March 27.—Fire early today destroyed the Fall River line steamer Plymouth as she lay at her dock here, the north pier of the freight shed and hoisting apparatus adjoining, and damaged the freight steamer City of Lowell. Loss about \$1,000,000.

## ADVERTISE NORTHWEST.

School Teachers Asked to Enter Competitive Story Contest.

To the teachers of America: To evidence its appreciation of the National Educational association's selection of the Pacific coast as the scene of its next annual convention at San Francisco, California, July 9th to 13th inclusive, and to encourage delegates to include Portland and Oregon in their itinerary, the Portland Commercial club offers FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS in prizes for articles on Portland, Oregon, and this section of the United States, as follows:

First prize, \$1,000; second prize, \$500; third prize, \$250; fourth prize, \$200; fifth prize, \$125; sixth prize, \$100; seventh prize, \$75; eighth prize, \$50; ninth prize, \$25; tenth prize, \$10; eleventh prize, \$5; twelfth prize, \$2.50; thirteenth prize, \$1.25; fourteenth prize, \$0.75; fifteenth prize, \$0.50. Prizes of \$50 each, \$500; ten prizes of \$25 each, \$250; twenty prizes of \$10 each, \$300; judges to be acceptable to the officers of the National Educational association, \$300; grand total, \$5,000. In order to be eligible for competition these articles must appear in a regular edition of some newspaper or other publication printed outside of the states of Oregon and Washington, said publication complete to be in the hands of the judges not later than October 1, 1906. These articles must be sealed and addressed to: Teachers' Contest, care Portland Commercial club, Portland, Oregon.

They will be opened by the judges. Prizes will be awarded strictly on the merits of the articles. Contestants can treat any phase of the subject that appeals to them—natural resources, scenery, irrigation, agriculture and horticulture, history, educational and religious advantages, climatic or social conditions, etc.—or in a more comprehensive vein. The judges will be absolutely untrammelled in making their decisions.

This offer is made, not so much with a view of having the country "boomed" in a common acceptance of that term, as to have the teachers of the country become more familiar with this portion of the United States and give expression to their views in such articles as will be acceptable to papers throughout the entire Union.

### CANNOT EXPEL SMOOT.

Two-Thirds Majority of Senate is Required, and is Impossible.

Washington, March 23.—It seems certain, in the light of recent developments, that the campaign against Senator Reed Smoot, of Utah, will fail. Mr. Smoot's enemies have been hoping to oust him by a majority vote of the senate, but senators who have given attention to his case find that the constitution stipulates that no senator shall be deprived of his seat except by a two-thirds vote of the senate.

The anti-Smoother senators have been taking the position that the protests were filed against Mr. Smoot before he took his seat, and, inasmuch as he was seated under protest, the majority vote can be applied, since it takes only a majority to exclude a senator-elect. But this view is not generally concurred in by senators. Mr. Smoot was seated, and, having been permitted to take his seat, the only way to get him out is to expel him, and this requires a two-thirds vote.

It seems absolutely certain that two-thirds of the senate is not in favor of unseating the Mormon senator, probably not a majority, and for this reason it is believed the much discussed case will fall flat.

### Iowa May Oust Standard.

Des Moines, March 23.—The house, by a vote of 48 to 12, today passed the anti-discrimination bill, which is intended to oust the Standard Oil from Iowa or compel a revision of its business methods. The bill prohibits discriminating rates for oil and is patterned after the Missouri law. It provides a fine of \$5,000 and imprisonment for violation. Representative Cummings, the author, in presenting the bill, asserted that the Standard Oil company had made a price of 4 cents a gallon for oil in his home town recently, in order to drive out competition.

### Italian Island Quaking.

New York, March 23.—A cable dispatch to the Herald from Palermo says: There have been 21 earthquake shocks on the island of Ustica during the last three days. The population lives in constant terror. A great valley has been formed in the center of the island and all the houses have been demolished. The shocks were vertical, not undulatory, and were accompanied by loud subterranean rumblings. The last shocks, which occurred yesterday, finished the work of destruction. Panic seized upon the 2,000 inhabitants.

### Its Decree Was Scorned.

Washington, March 23.—The subject of the lynching of Ed Johnson, a negro, at Chattanooga, Tenn., while he was under sentence of death, and in whose case the Supreme court had issued a writ of execution, continued to engage the attention of members of the court today. A conference of the justices now in the city was held at the home of Chief Justice Fuller today regarding the matter. It was said at the office of the clerk of the court that it was not yet apparent what action, if any, the court would take.

### Millions of Sockeye Fry.

Vancouver, B. C., March 23.—Twenty-nine million sockeye salmon fry will be turned out of the Dominion government hatchery at Harrison lake next week and started toward the sea. The fish are about three inches long. The operations at the Harrison lake hatchery last fall and winter were attended with great success. The fish at the Seton lake hatchery, which is a provincial institution, will also shortly be released.

### New Drydock for Puget Sound.

Washington, March 23.—Secretary Bonaparte appeared before the house committee on naval affairs today and discussed naval appropriations. He urged an appropriation for a stationary drydock on Puget sound.

## GIFTS ARE ILLEGAL

### Opinion of Judge in New York Insurance Investigation.

### JEROME ASKS FOR WARRANTS

If Intent Was to Defraud, Perkins Committed Larceny, Says the District Attorney.

New York, March 24.—If the grand jury which is investigating some of the conditions developed by the recent legislative investigation reaches the conclusion that contributions of insurance company funds to political campaign committees were made with intent to defraud the true owner of this property, it must find that larceny has been committed. This opinion was expressed today by Justice O'Sullivan in the Court of General Sessions, in answer to a presentation on the subject submitted to him by the grand jury. Judge O'Sullivan added that it is not within the province of the court to say whether or not there was such intent. That is a question which the jurors must determine for themselves from all the facts and circumstances in the case. He charged the jury to make a thorough investigation into all the facts and to place the responsibility for such crimes, if they find that crimes were committed.

Mr. Jerome was in court today, and when Judge O'Sullivan had delivered his opinion, the district attorney asked the jury to remain, as he desired to address it upon the subject in question. He declared that Judge O'Sullivan had misconceived the subject which he had considered, and that, if the court held to its opinion, it would be the duty of the grand jury to return indictments against George W. Perkins, ex-vice president of the New York Life Insurance company, for larceny, and against George B. Cortelyou, chairman, and Cornelius N. Bliss, treasurer, of the Republican National committee, as receivers of stolen goods.

### GOVERNMENT MAY APPEAL.

Wants to Punish Officers of the Beef Trust with Corporations.

Washington, March 24.—President Roosevelt held an extended conference today with Attorney General Moody, Secretary Taft and James R. Garfield, commissioner of corporations, concerning the adverse decision rendered in Chicago by Judge Humphreys in the beef packers' case. No details of the conference were obtainable at the white house, but it is certain the attorney general proposes to look carefully into the law bearing upon the matter, with a view of ascertaining whether an appeal from the decision of Judge Humphreys by the government will lie.

Despite the decision relieving the individual officers of the packing corporations prosecution will continue, of course, but it was the desire of the government to place responsibility for the violations of the law upon officials of the corporations where they are found to be guilty of such violations. In such efforts as may be made by the attorney general and other officials of the department of justice to secure an appeal from the decision of Judge Humphreys, this point will be kept to the front. It could not be decided at the conference today whether an appeal from the decision would lie, but that question will be gone over carefully, and, if, in the opinion of the law officers of the government, a foundation for an appeal can be made, it will be taken.

### States Should Interfere.

Chicago, March 24.—The committee appointed in Chicago last February at the conference of governors, attorney generals and insurance commissioners, with instructions to prepare a form of laws for better regulation of life insurance companies, with a view to their ultimate adoption in several states, concluded its deliberations tonight and adjourned after declaring itself in favor of interference by the states in the internal affairs of the insurance companies and in favor of a standard form of policy.

### Knocks Off Epauettes.

Washington, March 24.—Inspection at the War department of the bill abolishing the grade of lieutenant general of the army after October 12 next, which passed the house, makes it appear that the bill, though intended to wipe out this rank only after that date, would really relegate to the grade of major general on the retired list, Generals Miles, Young, Chaffee, Bates, Corbin, and MacArthur. This would follow from the failure of the house to limit the proposed abolition to the officers on the active list.

### Bank Robbers Offered Receipt.

Moscow, March 24.—The Credit Mutual bank today issued a notice to the effect that the robbery of \$432,000 from its vaults March 20 will not affect its solvency. The employees deny giving the key of the vault to the robbers, declaring that the leader of the band had a key of his own. The leader of the band grimly offered to give a receipt for the money in the name of the revolutionary committee, but this was declined.

### Test of Battleship New Jersey.

Quincy, Mass., March 24.—The battleship New Jersey, constructed for the government by the Fore River Shipbuilding company, left today for an unofficial test of her engines. The official trip will be held on March 29 or 29, when she will be required to make 19 knots an hour.

## HEARD ON THE TROLLEY.

Tommy's Questions at Last Discovers to His Parent.

It was little Tommy's first ride on a trolley car and he promptly opened up: "Papa, what makes this car go?" "Electricity, Tommy," answered papa from behind his paper. "What is 'electricity'?" "Er—it's a power they get from batteries and dynamos and such things."

Tommy was silent a moment and kept looking out of the window. Just then another car came by and Tommy commenced again.

"Is that funny thing on top of the car a dynamo, papa?" he asked.

"No, Tommy, that's a pole."

"Do they push it with that pole?"

"No; that is where the electricity is carried from the wire to the car."

"Is it heavy to carry?"

"No."

The other passengers were on a broad grin and papa was in a dudge. Just then another car passed and some sparks flashed from the wire.

"Oh, papa! Is that pole burning?" asked Tommy with renewed interest.

Papa, thinking to make the best of it, sighed and said:

"No, my son; that is caused by the closing and breaking of the circuit."

"Does it often break?"

"Who fixes it?"

"Tommy, will you stop asking questions?"

The frantic effort of the motorman to stop the car at a down-grade crossing next attracted Master Tommy's attention.

"Papa, what is that coffee mill for?"

"That's not a coffee mill; it is the handle to turn off and on the electricity. The man turns it to start and stop the car."

"Does he wind the car up?"

"No. For heaven's sake, Tommy, will you be quiet?"

Just then the car stopped suddenly and the conductor went hurriedly to the rear platform. This was too much for Tommy.

"Papa, the car stopped that time and the man did not turn the grinder."

"The car slipped its trolley."

"Then we won't get home, will we?"

"Certainly; why not?"

"Because the other night when you didn't get home Uncle Henry told mamma he had seen you and you looked as if you had slipped your trolley."

"We got off here," said Tommy's father quickly and as the car started on its way again even the hum of the motor did not drown the shrill shrieks of Tommy. And every individual woman in the car glanced back and murmured: "The brute!"—Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

## WAIST AND SKIRT HOLDER.

One Part Attached to the Corset and the Other to the Skirt.

As a rule women should be better acquainted with women's garments than men, and if any deficiencies or betterments are necessary women should be the first to recommend them. A New York inventor, noticing probably the insecure manner in which a woman's

skirt is held in place, has devised a holder which seems worthy of mention. This holder is made of wire, bent to the shape shown in the illustration. There are two sections, the lower one in the form of a safety pin with a hook on one side. This section is attached to the waistband of the skirt. The upper portion has a catch designed to support the hook on the lower portion. This section is fastened to the corset by means of projections which fit into the eyelets through which the corset lacing is passed. Being connected to the corset of the wearer in this way, the holder is serviceable for simultaneously supporting the skirt and holding the waist down in proper relative position to the skirtband.

Two newshybs stopped before a fruit stand, says a writer in the Denver Post, and one of them asked the price of apples. "Five cents each," said the stand man, pointing to one pile. "Two for five," indicating another. "Gotta have three for five," said the boy, starting away. "All right," said the stand man, "here's three. Gimme your nickel." The boy took the apples and paid over the nickel. He gave one to the other boy.

"What you going to do with the extra one?" asked the other.

"The first boy did not reply. On the next corner was a blind man seated on a stool. The boy with the extra apple approached him.

"Here," he said, giving the fruit to the blind man, "here's an apple for you."

As the two boys moved away the one who had bought the apples said:

"That fellow didn't have any dinner. I been hanging round that corner, and he didn't have a thing to eat."

Tit for Tat.

Mr. Jinks—"Who has been fooling with this gun?"

Mrs. Jinks—"The new girl got hold of it this morning and discharged it."

"My gracious! What did you do?"

"I discharged her."—New York Week.

A father is either getting reproving looks from his wife because he doesn't make the children behave, or because he is trying to.

## SUPPOSE WE SMILE.

HUMOROUS PARAGRAPHS FROM THE COMIC PAPERS.

Pleasant Incidents Occurring the World Over—Sayings that Are Cheerful to Old or Young—Funny Selections that Everybody Will Enjoy.

"Jack Hardy told me he was going to call to see you to-morrow evening," said Mr. Staylate.

"Yes?" replied Patience Gonne, with a yawn.

"Yes, some people never seem to realize that their welcome is worn out."

"Oh, Mr. Staylate, don't talk about yourself so much."—Pittsburg Post.

A Recognition.

"Do you think that spiritualistic medium was really controlled by the eminent financier you wished to consult?"

"Yes. I recognize his methods. She insisted on getting the money first and making me take all the chances."—Washington Star.

A Double Reminder.

Miss Singleton—This paper says that it is impossible for a man to kick with full force when there is nothing to kick at.

Mrs. Wedderly—That may be true of bachelors, but all married men are forcible kickers—and they usually kick at nothing.

Greatest Ever.

Green—Who was the greatest, liar known?

Brown—Old Rip Van Winkle.

Green—How do you figure that out?

Brown—Why, didn't he lie in the woods for twenty years?

Not Affected by Weather.

"Is it cold enough for you this morning, Mr. Newcomer?" queried the landlady, who was inclined to be sociable.

"If you mean the coffee, Mrs. Hasher," answered the new boarder, "it is."

Accepted.

Collector—Are you going to pay this bill within the next few days, or never?

Debtor—Well, it's mighty nice of you to give me my choice, old man. I'll make it never.—Cleveland Leader.

His Reason.

Henpeck—I like to be an election judge.

Hobson—Why?

Henpeck—The law won't allow my wife to loaf around within 100 feet of the polls.

Strong Foundation.

Fair Customer—Have you any good butter?

Dairymen—Certainly, madam. My reputation rests upon my butter.

Fair Customer—If the last I got of you was a fair sample, your reputation certainly rests on a strong foundation.

Somewhat Different.

"I say, old man," said Joshem, "did you ever see a cake walk?"

"No," replied Soberleigh, "but I've seen a cheese that might have walked if the cage door had been left open."

As Announced.

Kind Lady—Poor man, are you really anxious to earn a good dinner?

Truthful Thomas—I'm more anxious for dinner than I am to earn it, ma'am.

Between Friends.

Nettie—Well, I hope I'll get a husband who is easily pleased.

Elsie—Don't worry, dear; if you ever marry that's the kind you'll get.

Waiting for the Ring.

Tom—Miss Pouchy is a silent belle. Jack—What's the answer?

Jack—I kissed her the other night and she never talked.

Nil Nisi Bonum.

Fred—Do you believe in palmistry?

George—I believe that it does some good, as it makes people wash their hands before they have them read.—Illustrated Bits.

In the Right Direction.

"After all, don't you think the grafters are the ones that get along?"

"Well, yes. Just now a good many of them seem to be getting along pretty well toward the penitentiary."

Met Often.

"Why are you bowing to that man? Do you know him?" asked Madge, in surprise.

"Yes," said her chum, "he walked over me so many times getting out between acts at the theater last night that we got real well acquainted."

She Had a Better Test.

"I've just learned a new charm to tell whether or not a man loves you," says the girl with the bulging pompadour.

"What is it?" asks the girl with the new diamond ring.

"Why, you take four or five apple seeds and name each of them after a particular man and place them—the apple seeds, I mean—on the stove, and the first one that pops is the one that loves you."

"Humph!" mused the girl with the new diamond ring, absent-mindedly twisting that piece of jewelry about her finger. "I know a surer way than that."

"You do?"

"Yes, indeed. You take one particular man and place him on the sofa in the parlor and sit close to him with the light a little low and look up to him very attentively, and if he doesn't pop you know it's time to put another man on the sofa."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Time to Quit.

"I've had to get a new barber."

"Your old one getting careless?"

"No, but his baby is beginning to say cute things."—Cleveland Leader.

## The English Election in Ireland.

Jarvey (who is driving political canvasser)—Is it here Tim Rooney's livin' in?

Boy—It is. But he's dead.

Jarvey—Och, thin, tell him we don't want to see him.—Punch.

A Choice.

"What is it this morning?" asked the new waitress. "Ham and eggs, isn't it?"

"No," replied Mrs. Starvem, "not exactly, and I want you to note this well. You must be careful to say to each boarder: 'Ham or eggs.'"

Catholic Standard and Times.

Hardened.

Explorer—But have you had any experience that would tend to fit you for hardships of an arctic expedition?

Would-Be Member of Party—Have I? Why, I lived two winters in an apartment house where I was at odds with the janitor.—Judge.

Explained.

"Say, papa, explain the sweet girl graduate, 'what is your definition of the term 'womanly woman'?"

"A womanly woman," replied the old man, "is one who is capable of manufacturing a pie like your grandmother used to turn out."

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