

COMMISSION IS SHOCKED

At Testimony Given by Several Little Girls

EMPLOYED AT SILK MILLS

Judge Gray Expresses His Opinion of Fathers of Children

AFTER NINETEEN DAYS, MINE WORKERS CLOSE THEIR CASE. CHAIRMAN GRAY THINKS THE OPERATORS SHOULD QUIT OR PAY BETTER WAGES.

SCRANTON, Pa., Dec. 15.—The Mine Workers, after occupying nineteen days in presenting about 160 witnesses, practically closed their case before the Anthracite Coal Strike Commission this afternoon. The afternoon session today was one of the most important sittings the Commission has yet held, because the question of whether the close relationship of the coal carrying roads with the mining companies shall figure in the Commission's effort to adjust the controversy, came squarely before the arbitrators. The decision of the Commission, if Chairman Gray's remarks can be so called, was briefly this:

"That the Commission in a general way is adverse to the widening of the scope of the investigation beyond the terms of the submissions of the miners and operators; that in carrying on the investigation, it assumes that the coal companies can afford to pay fair wages; that if the coal companies in presenting their side of the case, maintain that they cannot afford to give an increase in wages, then the Commission will hear what the miners have to say on the ability of the companies to do so, and that if the business cannot pay fair wages, the employer ought to get out of it.

Several little girls employed in the silk mills, were called to the witness

stand, and as a result, Chairman Gray plainly gave his opinion of parents who would send their children to work at such a tender age. Annie Denka, aged 13 years, said she worked at night from 6:30 o'clock until 6:30 o'clock in the morning. She had to stand up all night during her work and received 65 cents a night. The Commission seemed shocked. Judge Gray asked her where her father worked, and she told him in the mines. Judge Gray said: "I would like to see the fathers of these girls. It may be necessary to send them to the Mills, but I do not think a father has the right to coin the flesh and blood of his children into money. It is an outrage, and I would like to see what instincts he has."

HANGING POSTPONED

GEORGE SMITH, WIFE MURDERER, SECURES CERTIFICATE OF PROBABLE CAUSE.

PORTLAND, Or., Dec. 15.—George Smith, the colored wife murderer, will not be hanged next Friday, according to the mandate of the court, Judge George having this morning signed a certificate of probable cause, which is in effect to stay the execution until the further order of the court, or until the appeal has been heard in the Supreme Court of the state.

Smith's attorneys, W. T. Hume and Charles Petrain, appeared before Judge M. C. George in his chambers this morning and presented the bill of exceptions for his signature. Having been attested by the district attorney as correct, it was signed by the judge. The same questions having been raised as in the Bedford case, and the judge of the Supreme Court having signed a certificate of probable cause in that instance, Judge George concluded he was in a position to sign the certificate in this case and save the trouble of sending the attorney to Salem.

The certificate, as signed, is as follows: "I, M. C. George, hereby certify that I am Judge of the Circuit Court for Multnomah county, department 4, and the judge who presided at the above entitled criminal action, and of the court wherein the conviction of said defendant was had, and that in my opinion there is probable cause for the appeal of the defendant, filed in the above entitled action.

M. C. GEORGE." The bill of exceptions was prepared this morning in the office of the county clerk, and the appeal will be taken to the Supreme Court as soon as possible.

Sheriff Storey was, this morning notified that the execution of Smith had been postponed.

COLOMBIA HAS MEAN DESIGNS

Is Preparing to Make Attack on Nicaragua

TO TAKE MOSQUITO STRIP

To Put Herself in Position to Make Her Own Terms

WANTS LAND WHICH CONTROLS BOTH AVAILABLE ROUTES FOR ISTHMIAN CANAL—WASHINGTON TO HAVE ELEGANT DEPOT. MONEY TO FIGHT DISEASE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Whatever doubt has existed in Nicaragua as to the intention of Colombia to carry out her threat to attack her as soon as her own revolutionary movement has been checked, has been removed by the receipt of advices here that the Colombian army officers at Panama and Colon are making ready for the invasion of Nicaragua.

Colombia wishes to take forcible possession of the Mosquito strip, which would control both routes available for the Isthmian Canal, and so enable her to make her own terms with the United States.

Union Depot For Capital.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The House today passed the State Bill for a union railroad station for this city to cost \$4,000,000. The Government is to pay the Pennsylvania Railroad \$1,500,000, and the Baltimore & Ohio \$500,000. The House also passed the Urgent Deficiency Bill, which carried among other items the appropriation of \$500,000 for the eradication of the foot and mouth disease in New England.

Coal Famine in Washington.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The coal famine in Washington is already affecting the Government buildings and the supply in most cases is near exhausted. The coal supply at the Post-office Department was exhausted early today and all the electric lights above the first floor were shut off. The steam plant at the Interior Department was also shut down.

To Adjourn For Holidays.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Senate today discussed a bill to promote the efficiency of the Militia and Statehood Bill and agreed to the concurrent report of the House for adjournment from December 29th to January 5th.

Site For New Building.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The Treasury Department has selected a site for the public building at Spokane, Wash., at the northwest corner of Lincoln street and Riverside avenue. Price \$100,000.

Pritchard Declares Himself.

Washington, Dec. 15.—At the White House today Senator Pritchard, of North Carolina, declared himself in favor of the reduction of the representation of the South in Republican National Conventions. He said he would support any properly directed effort in that direction.

MRS. JULIA DENT GRANT

PASSED AWAY SUNDAY EVENING AFTER LONG SUFFERING FROM HEART FAILURE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant died at her residence in this city at 11:17 Sunday night. Death was due to heart failure. Mrs. Grant had suffered for years from valvular disease of the heart, which was aggravated by a severe attack of bronchitis. Her age prevented her rallying from the attacks. Her daughter, Nellie Grant Sartoris, was the only one of her children with her at the time of her death, her three sons, who had been summoned here, all being out of the city. There also were present at the bedside when the end came, Miss Rosemary Sartoris, a granddaughter; Dr. Bishop, one of the attending physicians, and two trained nurses. Death came peacefully, the sufferer retaining consciousness practically to the end.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The arrangements for the funeral of Mrs. Julia Dent Grant, the widow of the former President, will not be made until Brigadier General Fred D. Grant, one of her sons, arrives from the West. It is expected that he will reach here Thursday. The President will take no action on the death of Mrs. Grant beyond the sending of a handsome floral piece from the White House conservatories, conveying an expression of his grief and that of Mrs. Roosevelt.

BIG POOL OF CASH

FIFTY MILLION DOLLARS AMASSED TO MEET EMERGENCY IN MONEY MARKET.

NEW YORK, Dec. 15.—A number of banks, including J. P. Morgan & Co., have formed a pool of \$50,000,000 to lend in the money market in the event of an actual emergency.

Legal Blanks, Statesman Job Office.

FRIENDSHIP TOO PRECIOUS

With United States to Be Risked for Either

GERMANY OR VENEZUELA

Such Is the Concensus of the Opinion of English Press

ARE AFRAID GERMANY MAY DECIDE TO DEFY MONROE DOCTRINE—ITALY IS GETTING RESTLESS AND WILL JOIN ALLIES IN BLOCKADE.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The issue of the parliamentary papers has to a considerable extent, but not altogether, abated the public impatience with the Government. The grounds of Great Britain's complaint against Venezuela are held fully to justify the employment of force to obtain satisfaction. The feeling against the Government, however, for too readily linking itself to Germany, whose claims are supposed to be purely financial, still runs high.

This strong feeling is the outcome of the apprehension that some impulsive action on the part of Germany might end in anger the existing friendliness between Great Britain and the United States. In this light many newspapers protest most strongly, and it is asked what would happen should Germany try to defy the Monroe Doctrine and try to obtain a foothold in South America.

In short, all the opposition papers, as well as many of those in sympathy with the Government, contend that the friendship of the United States is too precious to be risked for either Germany or Venezuela.

Italy Will Press Claims.

Rome, Dec. 15.—In the Chamber of Deputies today Foreign Minister Prinetti made a statement on the subject of Italy's attitude toward Venezuela. He said: "Italy claims damages for her citizens who sustained losses during the insurrection. The Italian Minister at Caracas, having exhausted all efforts to bring about a friendly adjustment, presented a list of the claims reduced to the minimum of 2,310,256 bolivars."

Will Join the Blockade.

Rerlin, Dec. 15.—The Foreign Office today informed the Associated Press that Italy will participate in the blockade by agreement with the allies and that a portion of the coast will be assigned to the Italian ships.

Some Apprehension Felt.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The situation in Venezuela is causing much comment among the Senators, and there are indications that a resolution of inquiry may be introduced at an early day. This proceeding, in all probability, would have been instituted today but for the fact that assurances were received from the State Department that its information is quite meagre.

Among the Senators and Representatives who have discussed the Venezuelan question with President Roosevelt, the situation is regarded as quite serious, but it is not generally believed the United States will become involved in the controversy.

In Possession of the Fort.

London, Dec. 15.—Cabling from Willemsaad, Curacao, the correspondent of the Daily Mail says that the British flag is now flying over the fort at Puerto Cabello.

A GREAT VICTORY

UNION COOKS & WAITERS' UNION OF SAN FRANCISCO HAS WON OUT.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 15.—The signing of an agreement by the Restaurant Keepers' Association, of this city, this afternoon, to unionize their establishments, makes the greatest victory organized labor has ever achieved in this city. The Association was primarily organized some year and a half ago, to resist the efforts of the then Cooks' and Waiters' Alliance. It represents seventy-one of the largest and most wealthy restaurants in San Francisco. For a time the Association was able seriously to cripple the cooks' and waiters' organization. In fact, at one time the latter organization was well-nigh crushed and disbanded through the actions of the proprietors. A handful of trade unionists still clung to the principles for which the Alliance stood, and under the masterful hand of its executive officers has the supreme satisfaction of having in a few months completely absorbed the one-time powerful aggregation of wealth and influence. Practically all the restaurants in San Francisco are now unionized.

CATTLE PERISHING IN SNOW. THE DALLES, Or., Dec. 15.—A report has reached this city that a large drove of cattle belonging to the various farmers of this county, on account of the recent snow storm, have been driven from the forests in the vicinity of Mount Hood, to a place called the "Meadows," located about

CONTROL OF GOVERNMENT

Advocated by the Quartermaster General

BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE

On Military Affairs—Says it Would Be Cheaper and Better

IN THE MEANTIME A STRONG DELEGATION FROM WASHINGTON IS GETTING IN ITS WORK WITH SECRETARY ROOT—WORKING FOR BUSINESS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Quartermaster General Luddington of the Army before the House Committee on Military Affairs today advocated the conducting of the transport service under the control of the War Department.

He said the cost of the service, as now conducted, is about \$3,000 less than any estimates submitted by the private concerns, but said that in his opinion it would be in the interest of the soldiers and the service for the War Department to operate its own line.

Delegation From Washington.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Senator Foster and Representative Jones, of Washington, and a committee of citizens of that state appeared before Secretary of War Root today in support of the movement to have the Government transport business with the Philippines conducted by way of Seattle or some other port on the Puget Sound.

They advocate the acceptance of the bid of the Boston Steamship Company. The Secretary said he would take their wishes into consideration before final action.

ROUNDHOUSE COLLAPSED.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 15.—The roundhouse of the Pennsylvania Road at the Powelton Avenue Station, West Philadelphia, collapsed this afternoon, burying fifty men in the ruins. A number of injured have been taken out and removed to the hospitals. The ruins caught fire and are now burning fiercely.

Nobody was killed as a result of the accident. Thirty locomotives were damaged by the falling roof. Firemen succeeded in subduing the flames before they got any headway.

OLD WASHINGTON RESIDENT.

FOREST GROVE, Or., Dec. 15.—S. S. Bateman, who had been a resident of Washington county for twenty-three years, died at Gales Creek yesterday, aged 59 years. A widow and seven children survive him. Interment will be in the Gales Creek Cemetery Tuesday.

"Did you ever see such wild flowers?" he exclaimed as he walked with her ahead. "You'd be just as wild yourself!" protested a modest daisy indignantly, "if you had a lot of chumps picking at you and walking all over you."

"Is your wife speechless with indignation?" "She says she is, but I have reason to doubt it."

"We have an expert to pump the organ in our church now." "Do you mean that he is a musician?" "No, he's a milkman."

Holiday Goods

DOLLS, GAMES, BOOKS, FANCY STATIONERY, TOILET CASES, WORK BOXES, ALBUMS, COLLAR AND CUFF BOXES, PHOTO CASES, SHAVING SETS, PERFUMERY, EMBROIDERY SQUARES, STAMPED LINENS, TABLE LINENS, RIBBONS, LACE CURTAINS, FANCY SHAWLS, STAND COVERS,

And all kinds of fancy trinkets suitable for presents

Our Extremely Low Prices apply to Holiday Goods as well as to all regular lines.

The New York Racket
E. T. BARNES, PROP.

Don't forget the practical presents. Give your friend a new Overcoat, a pair of Shoes a new Suit. They will appreciate the spirit of the gift and will find the article useful.

Everything in the Store Marked at Bed Rock Cash Prices.

Salem's Cheapest One-Price Cash Store.

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