

WILL DESTROY COAL COMBINATION

Attorney-General Wickersham Believes Supreme Court Decision Will Bring Relief to the Public—Railroad Contracts For Output of Independent Mines Are Cancelled—Railroad Combination to Stifle Competition Dissolved.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The supreme court of the United States today cancelled as violative of the Sherman anti-trust law the contracts by which railroad owned coal companies in the Pennsylvania anthracite fields had purchased the output for all time of "independent" mines.

Attorney General Wickersham in a statement tonight expressed the belief that the decision "will so completely destroy the combination which now controls the price of anthracite that it must result in a distinct measure of relief to the public."

No Combination to Restrict Output Shown.

The court also ordered the dissolution of railroad control of the Temple Iron company, by which the principal railroads and their coal companies were found to have strangled a project to put a competing railroad into the anthracite fields in 1893 and by which monopolizing schemes could be put into execution handily in the future.

The government failed, the court held, to show a "general combination" to apportion the amount of coal to be put upon the market annually by the various roads. The government's other charges as to a general combination were characterized as "indefinite."

Minor Cases Dismissed.

Minor combinations were held to have been improperly included in the petition of the government and the proceeding against them was dismissed without prejudice to other actions by the government. Attorney General Wickersham was not prepared today to say whether he would direct new proceedings against these alleged combinations.

Railroads Violated Law.

The court finds that the principal defendants did combine for the purpose of shutting out from the dependent line of railroads, the New York, Wyoming and Western railroad, and to accomplish that purpose it is found that the stock of the Temple Iron company and of the Simpson and Watkins companies, was acquired for the purpose

of and with the intent, not of normally and lawfully developing trade, but of restraining interstate commerce and lawfully developing trade, but of restraining interstate commerce and competition in transportation, which would have presumably come about through the construction and operation of the proposed competing line of railroad between the mines and tidewater.

Railroad-Coal Contracts.
The court holds that certain contracts made with producers covering between 20 and 25 per cent. of the total annual supply of coal, known as the 35 per cent. contracts, by which such independent producers bound themselves to deliver the output of their mines or any other mine which they might acquire, to the railroad companies for 65 per cent. of the average market price at tidewater, were also void because in violation of the anti-trust act as abnormal and legal restraints upon interstate commerce.

Court's Decision Unanimous.
Justice Lurton announced the unanimous opinion of the court which for the purpose of this case, consisted of only six members. Justice Day took no part in the decision because of his absence from the bench when the case was argued in October, 1911. Justice Hughes refrained from participating in the action of the court, because he was a special assistant to the attorney general when the coal business was first investigated by the government. Justice Pitney was not on the bench when the case was presented to the court.

Lower Court's Finding Upheld.
The suit was sent back to the judges of the court in which it originated, the circuit court for eastern Pennsylvania. The enforcement of the decision. The finding of the lower court was upheld, except as to the contracts with the independents.

The railroads concerned in the case were the Philadelphia and Reading, the Lehigh Valley, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the central railroad of New Jersey, the Erie, and the New York, Susquehanna and Western.

GOVERNMENT TO HANDLE COMMERCIAL MESSAGES.

Wireless Station at Key West Opened for Business Last Night.

Washington, Dec. 16.—The first government wireless station to be opened for the regular receipt of commercial messages is that at Key West, Fla., which by orders of the navy department begins tonight at midnight to handle such business. This is in accordance with the recent act of congress which provided that commercial business should be handled at naval and army wireless stations when there was no commercial station within 100 miles.

The Key West station has a powerful range practically covering the gulf and the Caribbean sea, and the many points of the various West Indian group of islands. It also will be the main point of wireless communication with steamships bound to and from Cuba, Panama, and Central and South America.

The rates of the government will be the same as those charged by commercial companies, with a minimum of ten words in a despatch, twenty cents per word for the ship and station charge, four cents additional per word for the cable line from Key West to the mainland, and the usual land telegraph charges to the point of destination. All messages must be prepaid, as the Berlin wireless convention provides against collect messages or for messages agreeing to make payment if a responsive despatch is sent. The moneys received at the Key West station will be turned into the treasury to appear hereafter as miscellaneous receipts.

Later the same system will be extended to other government wireless stations on the South Atlantic and Pacific coasts, Porto Rico and Alaska. Heretofore some of these stations have handled private messages, largely as a matter of accommodation and without charge, but now it will be a regular business.

To Draw Pay for Labor Day.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Pay on Labor day, a holiday for all per diem employees of the government, is provided by the Radford bill, passed in the house today without opposition. Labor day has long been a legal holiday but the comptroller of the treasury ruled that there was no authority for paying government per diem employees gratuity wages for that day.

Leicester, Pa.'s, Poor will have cost this winter. The city has purchased 300 tons for distribution from the fund left by President James Buchanan, who was a resident of that city.

RECORD GRAIN CROPS HARVESTED THIS YEAR.

Eleven Principal Crops Exceed Last Year's in Value by \$50,531,000.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Record crops of corn, spring wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, rye, hay and rice were harvested this year, according to the final estimates of the department of agriculture announced today. They exceeded the preliminary estimates made several months ago in almost every instance. With a total value of \$3,311,449,000, the eleven principal crops estimated today exceeded the value of the same crops last year by \$50,531,000.

Corn, the greatest crop of all, went almost 200,000,000 bushels beyond the record crop grown in 1906 and surpassed the 1911 crop by 232,265,000 bushels. The value of the crop, however, was less by \$64,000,000 than last year's, the price per bushel on Dec. 1 being 43.7 cents this year against 61.8 cents last year.

The total wheat crop was 195,929,000 bushels greater than last year; oats, 495,039,000 bushels greater; barley, 83,534,000 bushels greater; rye, 3,545,000 bushels greater; buckwheat, 1,700,000 bushels greater; flaxseed, 8,700,000 bushels greater; potatoes, 127,810,000 bushels greater; hay, 17,775,000 tons greater; tobacco, 57,716,000 pounds greater; and rice, 2,120,000 bushels greater.

RAILROAD EMPLOYEES TO MISS HELEN GOULD.

Tell Her She is Getting a Model Man and Congratulate Her.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 16.—Employees of the Missouri Pacific at the headquarters of the road here today sent to Miss Helen M. Gould this telegram of congratulation on the announcement of her engagement to Finley J. Shepard:

"You are very dear to the hearts of the Missouri Pacific employees and hence the announcement that you are soon to become the wife of one of our number, a model man, whom we esteem most highly, is exceedingly gratifying to each one of us. Please be assured that the sincere, cordial wishes for a blissful future go to you."

"DYNAMITERS" TRIAL IS NEARING THE END

Thirty-one of the 41 Defendants Have Now Testified.

Indianapolis, Dec. 16.—The trial of the forty-one men accused of compli-



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Girls: Show it to the husband-to-be.**

They like good things to eat—and they will like your baking better if you use **SERV-US FLOUR**—"the flour that makes the bread that makes you hungry." It pays to tempt the men folk with nice light creamy Bread, Biscuits and Pastry made from **SERV-US**, the "pedigreed flour." **SERV-US**-made bread keeps fresh and sweet longer because it is so rich in gluten. It is made from the firm, plump grains of Minnesota and Dakota hard spring Wheat. Every kernel is carefully washed with pure artesian water, scoured, ground with an almost endless row of steel rollers

and then sifted thru pure silk, all done in a sanitary mill. It is untouched by human hand until you mix the dough.

SAVE ON YOUR BREAD BILL
SERV-US flour will make a more delicious loaf of bread for 2½¢ than you can buy anywhere for 5¢. It is guaranteed to give you entire satisfaction or you can take it back and have your money refunded. Every sack is the same.
Remember that all of the

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But be sure to buy your flour and baking powder separately—never mixed together in the so called prepared, self-raising, or quick flours. These are made sometimes with alum, sometimes with lime phosphates.

city in the McNamara dynamiting plots which has been in session for almost three months and in preparation by the government for more than a year, today was said by both sides to be nearing an end.

Thirty-one of the defendants had testified in their own behalf, denying the charges of illegal transportation of explosives, at the close of today's session. Some of the remaining ten defendants are not to take the stand.

BIG PILE OF MAIL AWAITED WILSON.

President-elect Will Give State Business His First Attention.

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 16.—After a month's leisure and recreation in the Bermuda Islands, Woodrow Wilson returned home tonight and took up in earnest the many tasks that confront him in his dual role as governor of New Jersey and president-elect of the United States.

Thousands of letters awaited Mr. Wilson's arrival, and though most of them concerned his national administration the president-elect made it clear that he was still governor and intended to devote his energies now to state business. Mr. Wilson said he would defer office filing and announcements concerning his administration until after he had cleared away the accumulated detail of his New Jersey office.

Mr. Wilson may remain governor of the state until about March 1st, only a few days before he must go to Washington. This is because he wishes to finish his programme of legislation pending in the state legislature which convenes Jan. 14.

With respect to his cabinet, Mr. Wilson said today he had not made any final selections. Mr. Wilson said he realized that before deciding upon the personnel of his cabinet he would have to determine just what type of cabinet he would form. He recognizes two types from a review of the manner in which his predecessors have met this question. One type is the political cabinet, constructed from party material that must in a sense be rewarded in order to preserve party harmony. The other is characterized by Mr. Wilson as the personal cabinet, made up of men whose business fitness is known to him personally and on whose judgment he would like to lean.

TO SAIL FOR PANAMA NEXT SATURDAY NIGHT

President Taft and Party Will Travel on a Dreadnaught.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Although final details of President Taft's trip to Panama have not been completed by White House officials, the personnel of his party and most of the preliminary arrangements have been made.

Mrs. Taft, Charles Taft, the president's youngest son; Miss Louise Taft, daughter of C. P. Taft, the president's brother; Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Hilles, Assistant Secretary of the Navy; Beckman Winthrop and Mrs. Winthrop; Major Thomas L. Rhoads, the president's military aide, and physician; and Lieutenant Commander John N. Timmons, his naval aide, will be in the official party. They will be quartered with the president aboard the dreadnaught *Arkansas*. The convoy will be the battleship *Delaware* and a half dozen newspaper men and several photographers will make the voyage to the home and back on her. The president will leave Washington at 10:30 Thursday night over the Atlantic coast line railway for Jacksonville, Fla., and Key West. He will stop in Jacksonville for 45 minutes Friday night and probably make a speech there. He is due in Key West Saturday afternoon and expects to sail for Panama that night. He will be back in Key West, according to the

present plan Dec. 29, and will reach Washington about 2 o'clock on the afternoon of December 31.

Attempted to Lynch Commissioners.

Lima, Peru, Dec. 16.—The populace of Putumayo attempted yesterday to lynch the two judicial commissioners, Senor Valcarcel and Dr. Romulo Paredes, appointed by the Peruvian government to investigate the atrocities in the rubber fields made public by Sir Roger Casement, British consul general.

David Haines, father of State's Attorney Frank D. Haines, died at his home at Portland, Conn., in his 83rd year.

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