

STORM BURSTS IN BUTTE WITH FURY MINERS' UNION HALL IS BLOWN TO PIECES IN FIGHT

Moyer's Meeting Is Not Held and Federation Leader Flees the City

Deputies Open Fire Upon Dense Crowd When Moyer Asks Sheriff for His Help Insurgents Reply With Dynamite Shots

Butte, June 24.—(Wednesday).—One was killed and four wounded in rioting that resulted in Butte tonight when 80 deputies under Sheriff Timothy Driscoll opened fire upon a crowd of miners congregated in front of Miners' Union hall on upper Main street when it was feared that an attempt was to be made to break up a meeting called by Charles H. Moyer, president of the Western Federation of Miners, in an effort to placate the seceding faction of miners.

Edward J. Noy, aged 31, Great Northern freight clerk, a bystander, dropped at the first fire, shot through the neck and instantly killed. Noy was killed as he stood in the doorway of an undertaking establishment directly across the street from the Miners' hall.

Pete Bruno, aged 56, a miner and a member of the Moyer force, was shot by mistake by a deputy as he was ascending the steps of Miners' hall to attend the meeting. He was shot through the head and is probably fatally wounded.

Christ Kramer was shot in the abdomen, but the wound is superficial and he will recover. Kramer stumbled into the affray. He had just arrived from Los Angeles during the afternoon and, seeing a crowd collecting, thought a parade was in progress and that the sound of revolver firing was the firing of firecrackers. He proceeded directly in front of the hall and the deputies opened fire upon him.

T. Noland, another spectator, was shot in the leg.

President Moyer, President Bert Riley of the local organization of the Western Federation, and the other officials of the local body, took flight at the first sign of hostilities, effecting their escape from a rear door of the Miners' hall. In anticipation of trouble, the officials had an automobile in waiting and the officials leaped into the machine and were hurried from the city.

The deputies continued to hold the hall until the miners succeeded in gaining the roofs of nearby buildings when a hot fire was directed into the hall. With darkness falling, the deputies withdrew from the building when it became apparent that the approaches no longer could be protected from attempts at dynamiting.

With the crowd in possession of the structure a march was made to the Stewart mine nearby, and the engineer held up and compelled to lower a number of the rioters to the powder magazine. Half a dozen men carried a 50-pound box of dynamite each to the hall and blasts were exploded repeatedly against the wall of the building. More than a dozen blasts were required before material impression had been made upon the building, but the 13th charge brought down the entire front of the two-story structure into a jumbled mass of brick. The rear wall was standing at 12:20 o'clock this morning but appeared wobbly and the crowd still was continuing its bombardment of dynamite. The explosions rocked the neighborhood, shattering windows in every direction. The shattered glass is inches deep for a radius of a block and a half of the hall.

Before a blast is set off at the hall, a small blast is fired in the middle of the street to warn the thousands which have packed the streets and the crowd nearest to the hall responds by making a wild dash down the street to a point where humanity is so closely packed that further retreat is impossible.

At midnight Governor Stewart, who had been in telephonic communication with Butte, said that he had under consideration the question of ordering troops to Butte. He said that no difference how great the need for troops he could not get them here tonight.

At 12:35 o'clock this morning 23 blasts had been exploded against the hall but the rear and side walls still were standing, although the front had been blown out.

The miners apparently have run out of dynamite and a party has gone for further supplies. Pistol shots were used as a signal that blasts were about to be fired, when the dynamite supply got low.

The streets in the vicinity of Miners' Union hall at 12:30 were still crowded.

Peace for Peace.

From the start officials of the new union tried to stop the rioting. Before the first shot was fired, Dan Shovlin, who has been one of the active leaders in the secession movement, addressed the crowd, urging them to

MOYER WAS MAKING LAST-DITCH STAND

Butte June 23.—(6 p. m.)—President Charles H. Moyer of the Western Federation of Miners early this evening announced his confidence that he would be able to swing the seceding miners back into the federation fold in consequence of the plan of action he proposes to present at a meeting of the remnant of the federation local tonight.

Mr. Moyer refused to discuss his plan in advance of its presentation to the union, but he asserted his belief that common ground would be reached and the breach closed. He expressed his determination that there would be a searching probe of the internal strife in the local union and that all abuses complained of by the seceders would be removed.

permit all who wished to attend the meeting to go inside, as trouble would only hurt their cause. Shovlin's words were drowned in shouts of the crowd. One man shouted an insult, and Shovlin pointed his finger at him and loudly shouted, "That's all right, you keep your face shut. It's your kind that are always trying to raise hell. The mine workers don't want trouble, and I am speaking by request of the new union."

MacDonald Acts.
President "Mucky" MacDonald of the new union was as cool headed as any. He gathered some of the officials of the new organization about him, and after a consultation rushed to the Miner office and had 5000 hand-bills struck off, reading as follows: "Fellow workers, in the name of your new union keep peace and go home."
"MUCKY" MACDONALD, "President."

Volunteers.
Dozens of volunteers were then pressed into service and the bills distributed. A committee with a megaphone went through the streets and asked the men to disperse. Small shops in the vicinity of the miners' hall were completely wrecked by the force of the explosions, and the street in front of the miners' hall has the appearance of having had a cyclone go through it.

The front of very building in the block around miners' hall is a wreck, and the damage wrought is estimated at a hundred thousand dollars.

MINE SCHOOL NAMES HEAD.

Reno, Nev., June 23.—Prof. Francis Church Lincoln, mining engineer, native of Boston and a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, has been chosen head of the Mackay school of mines of the University of Nevada in this city.

NO COMPETITION.

Washington, June 23.—Declaring that he regarded two American manufacturers not to be real competitors in their bids on hunting for American flags, Secretary Daniels Thursday withheld indefinitely the award of contracts for the navy department.

FORMER SOLDIERS GET DEGREES.

Athens, Ga., June 23.—Degrees were awarded yesterday by the University of Georgia to 18 Confederate veterans who, as students 50 years ago, left that institution to take part in the civil war.

union until every miner in Butte could have an opportunity to express his choice for new officials.

Enrollment of new members in the organization launched by the insurgents is progressing at a rapid rate.

Mine officials stated today that there would be no suspension of mining operations as no contracts exist between the Western Federation of Miners and the mining companies, which provide that only Western Federation of Miners be employed. The existing contract provides only for the regulation of the wage scale. The card system, the abolishment of which recently was voted by the insurgent miners, was a rule the union had made for the regulation of its own affairs and it is not even mentioned in the contract with the companies.

Mining operations will continue uninterrupted was the definite assertion of one official high in the councils of the mining companies.

STORY OF THE FRAY THAT CAUSED DEATH AND SHOCKED A CITY

Butte, June 24.—(4 a. m.)—The first shot fired at the Miners' Union hall was the signal for a fusillade and series of revolvers were discharged and rifle bullets whizzed through the air over the heads of the crowd.

Moyer in Flight.

President Moyer and his lieutenants and probably a hundred members of the Butte union were in the hall when the firing commenced, and there was a rush for the rear exits of the building. Thousands of excited persons packed the streets, and when word that the officials were escaping by the rear door became known there was a rush by the mob for the rear streets. Rifles and pistols began cracking from the rear windows of the miners' hall and the mob retreated to protecting sides of nearby buildings.

The miners began gathering in the union hall at 6:30 and at 7 o'clock the last man who had stood by the federation had entered the hall. Admission was by card only.

Dense Crowd.

The crowd grew denser momentarily and although there were cries of "direct action" and hoists of mention of the name of Moyer and other officials nothing was done until Peter Bruno, one of Moyer's own men, edged his way through the crowd. As he stood in the doorway he was jeered by enemies of the federation. He turned at the entrance and in broken language remonstrated with the men who were hooting him.

Bruno Pleads.

"I have been in this town longer than any of you," he said, "I don't ask you where you are going and you don't ask me where I am going. I go to this meeting and you go to that meeting and it is all right."

As he started to climb the stairs a tremendous shout went up from the crowd, but above it could be heard the sharp reports of firearms. Bruno was seen to stumble and fall on his face. He struggled to an upright position with his hands crossed over his stomach. Then he reached into a side pocket for a handkerchief which he held to his head. Blood streamed down his face and he fell over on his elbow.

Deputies and policemen rushed to his aid and their efforts were seconded by leaders of the new miners' union. Escorted by insurgent miners, he was taken to the emergency hospital.

A Surging Mob.

The crowd in the streets by this time had become a surging mob and scores of revolvers were aimed at the hall and shot as rapidly as triggers could be pulled. When the shooting started hundreds fled panic-stricken in every direction, but their places were taken by the belligerent miners angered by the shots coming from the hall.

The First Victim.

Noy was walking up the street a sightseer, his attention directed upon the federation hall. He almost reached the corner of the first cross street above the hall and was almost directly in front of the Duggan undertaking establishment when he stumbled and fell upon his face. At that instant a foreign-appearing man was pumping an automatic in the direction of Miners' hall. It is probable that it was a stray bullet which struck Noy, although others aver that a rifleman, firing from the roof of the

Miners' building, was the one that hit him.

Neither police nor deputies could make an effort to interfere with the miners firing at the hall and their efforts were directed toward getting women and children out of the crowd and keeping others from rushing within range of the bullets.

A drunken man staggered down the sidewalk directly in front of both sides, walked past the entrance of the hall and proceeded on down the street. For fully 30 minutes bullets were pumped into the Miners' hall and then the cry went up for dynamite.

Dynamite.

The first five or six blasts were light and did nothing more than to wildly excite the town. The blasts, however, hurled brick and timber from the hall and many in the crowd packing the street were hit. This caused the crowds to retreat to within a block and a half of the hall.

Alarm spread among the merchants and they hurried to protect their stores. Every plate glass window in the hardware and big machine store of the Anconia Copper Mining company was shattered. In the square where stood the Miners' hall, not one window remained when the blasting was finished. Scores of windows are broken in the federal building nearby.

Wreckage.

In the next square south plate glass windows were shattered by the force of the explosions and hundreds of persons were struck by flying glass. Half a dozen women fainted during the excitement.

Bernan Schmidt, a spectator, was struck on the head by a brick flying from the debris of the dynamited hall and injured. Joe Schultz, a miner, was struck on the shoulder and head by a flying piece of timber and seriously hurt, and was taken to the hospital.

BUTTE UNDER CONTROL SAID MAYOR AT 9 P. M.

Helena, June 23.—(9:30 p. m.)—Governor Stewart has just received a message from Mayor Duncan, saying the situation is under control. The governor is keeping in close touch with the situation in Butte, but at 9:30 tonight he announced that no action had been taken by the state authorities.

LONDON WARNER IS SAFE.

Washington, June 23.—London Warner of the Smithsonian institution, whose relatives feared he was lost in a prairie fire in the heart of Montana, is safe, according to word received here today. Mrs. Warner, who was formerly Miss Loraine Roosevelt, a cousin of Colonel Roosevelt, is in Shanghai.

TUC FOTOMAC IN DRYDOCK.

Portsmouth, N. H., June 23.—Navy officials reported the tugboat Potomac, which wintered in the gulf of St. Lawrence, to be in good shape when put in dry dock Thursday. It was said that her machinery and boilers were perfect, and that she would be floated again in 20 days.

GOVERNOR STEWART CONSIDERING THE SENDING OF STATE MILITIA

Helena, June 23.—(Special).—At midnight Governor Stewart, who had been in communication with Butte, said that he had under consideration the question of ordering troops to Butte. He said that no difference how great the need for troops he could not get them there tonight

"FUN ENOUGH FOR ONE NIGHT ---WE'D BETTER GO HOME NOW"

Butte, June 24.—(2 a. m.)—Butte has seen the wildest night in her whole history. Just as the evening approached the storm burst and for six hours hell reigned. It was a wonderful experience. Now the fury seems to have spent itself. Fifteen minutes ago, just as the reverberations of the last shot of dynamite in the ruins of Miners' Union hall had died a way, a man mounted the pedestal of the statue of Marcus Daly, which overlooked all the terrible details of tonight's struggle, and in a voice which attracted the attention of the great crowd, said: "Boys, we've had fun enough for one night. We'd better go home."

It seems now that the crowd is taking his advice, though the streets are thronged. But the mass appears to be breaking up. I have just come from the street in front of the wrecked hall. It was somewhat of a perilous trip, but I heard the speech of that wise man who counseled the going home and I had thrust into my hand one of the flaring posters which "Mucky" MacDonald, the president of the insurgent union, has caused to be distributed everywhere, urging the men to maintain order and to disperse.

It is a scene of desolation. There remain standing only parts of the shattered walls of Miners' Union hall, once the temple of organized labor in this part of the world. There is not a pane of plate glass left within blocks of the fighting. As far down the street as the Daly bank, the fronts of the buildings are without a scrap of glass. How many are dead nobody knows. Killed in the street there was one certainly. Some reports say there were more. And it is feared that there are bodies in the ruins of the hall. That will not be known till daylight.

Where Moyer is, nobody knows who will tell—perhaps nobody knows at all. He fled at the firing of the first shot and it is given out that he has left the city, taking with him, President Riley of the once-powerful Butte Miners' union. But this report did not serve to stay the wrath of the men who feel that they have been terribly wronged by the Moyer crowd, whose members they trusted for years.

That is the only explanation of the scene of tonight, which was the scene repeated of the opening battle last week. The insurgents made no attack upon any building but their own hall; they sought nobody but Moyer. They regard him as the man who has betrayed their trust. They have discovered the clay feet of their idol and they are grieved, shocked and enraged.

It is comparatively quiet at this hour. The last blast was a full box of dynamite. Butte is quieting and holding its breath as it wonders what tomorrow has in store.

The strangest feature of it all has been the quiet, determined faces of the men. There has been no drunkenness; aside from the fight at the hall there has been no disorder. The men were stern, determined and calm. But they were bent upon one purpose and that was to get Moyer. They are better off that they didn't, but nobody can make them believe that now. "Mucky" MacDonald did all that a man could do to stay the hands of his following. But they were desperate.

—E. H. B.

GOVERNOR STEWART AS THE BULLETINS BUTTE IS RESTLESS TALKS WITH MAYOR TOLD THE STORY DESPITE HOPE OF END

STATE'S CHIEF SAYS THERE HAS BEEN NO CALL MADE FOR ANY ASSISTANCE.

SIDELIGHTS THAT FLASHED WHILE BUTTE'S BATTLE WAS IN PROGRESS.

THE CITY IS CALM THIS MORNING BUT UNEASY AS POSSIBILITIES ARE VIEWED.

Helena, June 24.—(Wednesday).—Governor Samuel V. Stewart at an early hour this morning issued a brief statement with reference to the removal of the labor troubles in Butte, having kept in close touch with the situation all evening.

"I have talked over the telephone with both Sheriff Driscoll and Mayor Duncan," said the governor, "and there have been no calls for assistance. They reported conditions to me, but asked for no troops to help quell the disturbance."

The governor was to have made an address of welcome at the public reception of the visiting Eagles, but was called out of the meeting by a message telling him of a renewal of the labor troubles in Butte. He kept in close touch with the situation until an early hour this morning, receiving long distance telephone communications from friends in the Copper city.

BULLETINS.

The deputies are holding the hall, fearing that the mob will wreak vengeance upon President Moyer and Bert Riley, head of the federation local, who are in the Miners' union hall.

Local authorities are attempting to devise methods to get Moyer and Riley out of Butte, as it is felt that once they have left the city the trouble will immediately stop.

Butte, June 23.—President Moyer had asked Sheriff Driscoll for protection, and had been assured by the sheriff that deputies would be on hand to prevent any attempt to break up the meeting.

A hundred deputies with sawed-off shotguns are holding Miners' union hall.

Sheriff Driscoll, shortly after the firing commenced and the crowd was forced down the street, appeared at the entrance of the hall and shouted that he wanted 500 deputies. No response was made to the sheriff's appeal.

The shooting was precipitated by fear of the deputies that the crowd of miners assembled in the street would rush the meeting of the union. The shooting came as a surprise to the crowd, as no warning had come from the deputies.

At the first sign of firing, Moyer, Riley and all the other officials took flight from a rear door of the Miners' union hall, according to officers, and none but the deputies are in the hall. The union officials have left the city, according to a report, which cannot be verified at this time, and which also says that an automobile was in readiness at the rear door in which the officials were whisked away.

Butte, June 24.—(3 a. m.)—There is a report current here, which has some show of authority, that secret orders have been issued, sending federal troops in this direction. However, all persons in official circles deny this story emphatically. Mayor Duncan has issued statements during the night that the city was orderly and that the warring elements were under control. At 9 o'clock last night he sent a message to the governor that the city was entirely under the control of the officers.

There has been more "soft-pedaling" than this. But there is no suppressing the seriousness of the situation. Those who know Butte best are most uneasy. The ease with which the men obtained dynamite tonight has awakened a realization of the terrible possibilities which lie in the local situation.

There is no fear expressed that there will be any attempt made to destroy any of the mines, but should there be a continuance of the strife between the factions of the union, it might be that other property than that which was destroyed tonight would become involved, as it is impossible for the men to select the scene of their encounters.

It has been a night which Butte will always remember. Nothing like it has ever occurred in the history of the city, unless it be the explosion which killed 15 men of the fire department more than 20 years ago.