

ANOTHER RISE IN COAL.

RETAILERS HOIST THE PRICE 50 CENTS A TON.

WHOLESALE MEN AND COAL ROAD OFFICIALS THINK THE STRIKE WILL SOON COLLAPSE.

If the views of most of the leading coal road officials in this city are correct, the retail coal merchants who are expecting to reap a rich harvest from the strike of the Pennsylvania miners will not have much time for their reaping. These officials seemed confident yesterday that the strike would be of short duration. They based this opinion upon the small proportion of the miners who quit work. The retailers are losing no time, however. Yesterday they raised the price of coal in Manhattan 50 cents a ton on a lump. Red ash coal is now \$6.00 a ton, and white ash \$5.30. This is almost 10 cents more than was sold for a week ago, although the strike is only one day old.

Henry Brenrich, president of the Retail Coal Dealers' Exchange, was asked yesterday by a Tribune reporter if this did not seem of extortion he replied: "There is no extortion about it. It is mere business prudence. The stocks carried by the retail coal dealers are very large and the average demand is almost unprecedented. Thousands of our customers who usually buy a few tons at a time are scared at the prospect of a long strike, and are ordering twice and three times the usual quantity. If we fill now all the orders we have our stocks will be exhausted in ten days."

Other retail coal dealers who were seen today expressed the same confidence. Wholesale operators, however, took the view that the miners would be back at work long before the coal supply was depleted to any considerable extent. President Maxwell of the Central Railroad of New Jersey was of this opinion. He said the small number of men who went on strike was a complete vindication of his former contention that the miners had no desire of their own to strike, but that professional agitators and labor leaders were trying to bully the miners into laying down their tools and demanding an unreasonable advance in their wages.

It was untrue, Mr. Maxwell added, that the miners of his company took their tools out of the mines on Saturday. He said that the tools were left in the mines, and a comparatively small number of the men failed to appear and go to work with them yesterday morning. Moreover, nearly all of those who did not return to work started from their homes, dinner pail in hand, when the morning whistle blew, but were met by agitators and union men who threatened and persuaded them to return home. When the men realized how weak the strikers really are they will not allow themselves to be kept away from work and wages more than a day or two more, Mr. Maxwell thinks.

President R. M. Olyphant of the Delaware and Canal Company acknowledged that practically all his miners had returned to work. He, too, thought the strike would be of short duration. Being asked if renewed overtures for arbitration had been made to him he replied that he did not see how the questions in dispute could be arbitrated. Neither did he think there would be any need of calling out the State militia, because the men in the mines were not striking against their will. There were reports current in Wall Street that a conference had been arranged to take place in this city to-day between the presidents of the coal companies and Father Philip, who has been exerting his influence with both sides with a view to a general settlement of the various grievances.

W. V. S. Thorne, vice-president of the Pennsylvania Coal Company, said yesterday: "We operate thirteen collieries, and all but two are closed. Many men have reported at our mines, and it is probable that they will all be back at work by the end of the week. The men who have never returned to work are those who have no grievances, and as far as we can learn they have no grievance against the company. The miners received on the average \$3.40 a day, and receive yearly an average of about \$60. They have never seen a boy or a girl at work in the mines. The miners are asking for an increase of wages, and a long strike would undoubtedly be attended. A long strike would have serious effects on the coal trade. The operators can hold out for a few weeks, but it is our custom to carry on our books a supply of coal. Retailers, especially in a city like New York, are not in a position to hold a large stock of coal. I think the situation is not an advance in coal prices, but a return to the normal price. Extra watchmen have been taken, and I do not think any outside labor will be imported, unless the strike should be very prolonged."

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MINERS' ALLEGED GRIEVANCES. John B. Garrett, vice-president of the Lehigh Valley Coal Company, yesterday made the following statement in review of the various grievances alleged by the United Mine Workers to exist in the anthracite coal fields:

"This company conducts no stores, nor does it employ any influence upon employees to prefer one merchant above another. This is a general rule of the company, and it is applied to all the mines. The company employs no doctors and makes no charges against its employees for medical services, and it does not employ any outside labor. The company is not in the habit of carrying on its books a supply of coal. Retailers, especially in a city like New York, are not in a position to hold a large stock of coal. I think the situation is not an advance in coal prices, but a return to the normal price. Extra watchmen have been taken, and I do not think any outside labor will be imported, unless the strike should be very prolonged."

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FOUND DEAD; FOUL PLAY SUSPECTED. Mrs. Sarah McCrink, who lived on the third floor of No. 36 Goerck-st., was found dead in bed yesterday morning by her son, Albert Kenefrick. The son went to the home of Coroner Bausch in Grand-st., and told him that he thought there was foul play as there were black and blue marks on his mother's neck, as if she had been throttled, and there was a cut on her right arm. Coroner Bausch informed the Delaware-st. police, Detectives Nesbitt and Monahan were detailed on the case.

Martin McCrink, husband of the dead woman, said he had been in the house in the morning, but not with his family. He lives in a lower floor. He said the first thing he knew of the death was when his stepson, Albert, told him. The marks on the dead woman's arm were explained by McCrink as being caused by an accident. He said he had been in the house a few days ago while breaking open a trunk.

TENNESSEE CAMPAIGN OPENED. Nashville, Tenn., Sept. 17 (Special).—John E. McCall, Republican candidate for Governor, opened his campaign to-day at Huntington, Carroll County, speaking to twelve hundred persons. He was introduced by ex-Governor Hawkins, and his address was made by Governor Hawkins.

WILKESBARRE, Penn., Sept. 17 (Special).—The Wyoming district this morning added to the number of strikers of the United Mine Workers fifty-one thousand out of its fifty thousand workers, and in all its length and breadth the strike is now maintained at work. Aside from this one the tie-up is complete. Attempts by the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Coal Company, in this city and vicinity, and the Pennsylvania Company, at Pittston, to work their collieries were futile, and although they kept up they show all day long there was really no coal mined, and the strike was a complete tie-up.

It is expected that to-morrow no work will be done except at the West End mine, at Moenagaw. This is operated by Conyngham & Co., of this city, employs about four hundred and fifty men and has an output of about one hundred and twenty-five thousand tons a year. Particularly enough it is not expected to strike, although it is a region where the union has made the best showing. It is quite distinct from other mining towns in the region, nesting in a hollow in the hills along the river, where the workmen live quite apart from other mining communities. They refuse to be organized, and promise to work as long as they are protected.

So certain were many of the mine owners in this region that their men would strike that at many of the mines the starting whistle was not blown, and neither the Lehigh Valley, Delaware, Susquehanna and Western, Delaware and Hudson, or the Pennsylvania Company made any effort to start work. A few men reported at each of the mines, not more than a dozen or so, but they were sent home again, the operators deciding it would be useless to attempt operations with so few, desiring

to avoid any incursion trouble with the union.

The Pennsylvania Company at Pittston and the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre Company here tried to make a showing, however, but it was unsatisfactory. The Lehigh and Wilkesbarre kept their mines working all day, but no production was made. The No. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

At Pittston it was much the same way in the Pennsylvania Coal Company's mine. From twenty-five to fifty men worked at the No. 5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100.

At the Woodward Colliery, Edwardsville, the miners gathered in groups shortly before the whistle blew and interrupted many men on their way to work. One man was injured in broken English, when a party of his own countrymen appeared and took him to task for his refusal to stop work. Some hot words passed between the men and the result was a general fight. Every foreigner in the crowd seemed anxious to get a blow in, and after the contest was over the man was found to be quite badly used up. Had he been unable to do so just then, one of his assailants expressed the opinion that he would not be able to work until the strike was declared off.

Considerable excitement was caused in Edwardsville this morning when an unknown Pole was stoned while on his way to work by a number of women. Sheriff James Harney has received no calls for protection from any part of the county, and has not sworn in an additional deputy.

The coal companies are looking to the protection of their own property and have a large number of coal and iron police, who are acting as special watchmen about their collieries.

The miners say the companies' property will not be molested by the strikers, and that there is no danger of any trouble.

President Nichols, of this district, gave out the following statement this evening:

"We have scored a great victory in the first district. Ninety-nine per cent of the men are on strike, and it will be only a few days before the hundred per cent of the men are on strike. The operators are not getting all they want, but are satisfied. Several breaker boys chanted the chutes with inscriptions, 'No work Monday,' but the foreman erased them."

At Pine Grove the Lincoln and Brookside collieries are not affected by the strike as there is no organization among the miners. Neither are powder and supplies so high in price as in Luzerne, nor are there any company stores. The miners have no grievances, and were all at work. At Williamstown all of the collieries are at work. At the Lehigh and Wilkesbarre collieries, about half of the men failed to appear this morning. The remainder are at work, but the colliery is going. The number of men out does not work full handed and on full time, and it is confidently expected that their product will be enough to relieve all fears that there will not be enough to supply the regular market.

The company has fully 100,000 tons at Port Richmond and nearly an equal amount near Schuylkill Haven, where there are storage yards with a capacity for 200,000 tons. The company has a large stock on hand, and it is confidently expected that their product will be enough to relieve all fears that there will not be enough to supply the regular market.

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