

STEEL STRIKE UNSETTLED.

BELIEF THAT FRUITLESS EFFORTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY SHAFER'S PREDECESSOR.

MAY MAKE EFFORT TO OPEN CLARK MILL—GRIEVANCE OF INDEPENDENT STEEL MEN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Pittsburg, July 24.—M. M. Garland, ex-president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Plate Workers, and now United States Surveyor of Pittsburg, arrived here from New-York to-day, where he has been for the last two days seeking to settle the strike.

He held a conference with President Shaffer before he left this city, and again to-day. Neither would tell what success Mr. Garland had. It is believed that he is looking after the political feature of the strike. When President Shaffer issued the statement several days ago to the effect that he would introduce politics into the strike, and that the Republican party would be the target, Mr. Garland called on President Shaffer and tried to dissuade him from dragging the fight into politics.

Shaffer promised to cease his political talk if Garland would induce the Republican party leaders to have the strike called off. It is believed that Mr. Garland has been unsuccessful, as the United States Steel Corporation shows signs of becoming belligerent. This is made clear by the fact that the police force about Clark's mill, in this city, has been increased from two to ten men at each watch.

This looks as if an effort will be made to operate the plant with non-union men. The plant adjoins that of the Carnegie Steel Company. The men at the Carnegie plant are non-union and are not in sympathy with the Amalgamated Association. It is believed that some of these will be induced to operate the Clark mill.

The work is entirely different, however, and the roller or heater used to running steel bars or steel shapes is not qualified to operate hoop mills. It is doubtful if the rollers will stay out with the Amalgamated. They never were in sympathy with the association, and frequently have broken strikes by teaching new men. The rollers at Jones & Laughlin's broke a strike several years ago in this way.

The Amalgamated Association is strongest among the roughers, heaters and assistants. They are the semi-skilled operatives, the boss rollers and heaters being those mainly depended on. Independent manufacturers have a grievance against the United States Steel Corporation since the strike developed. They allege that the corporation has announced reductions on steel products to confuse the market, whereas it has no steel to sell.

In announcing the reduction it was specified that orders will not be filled for sixty days, which shows that the big concern expects to be operating all the plants by that time. Simultaneous with the announcement of a reduction came intimations that a further reduction will follow. The independents say that the corporation is not filling orders, hence their quotations are valueless, and the move is merely made to puzzle buyers, so they will hold off purchases, and the steel corporation in the end will gobble orders which should be going to independents.

All eyes are turned on the small Wellsville, Ohio, plant. It is expected the first trouble will occur there, because the strikers are getting more demonstrative daily. Judge P. M. Smith, of Wellsville, is expected to make application for an injunction to restrain the plant. This interfering with operations of the plant. This was settled on here yesterday, and as soon as additional evidence is secured against the strikers the move will be made.

President Shaffer is more than satisfied with results to date. He believes he can cripple every plant of the United States Steel Corporation if he so wills it, but will delay in calling out other members of the organization until more heroic measures are necessary. He could cripple the American Steel and Wire Company and delay operations in the National Steel Company, now under the Carnegie Steel Company, but it is doubtful if he could call out fifty men in any of the Carnegie plants. Citizens in the towns along the Kiskiminetus Valley, where mills are operated by the American Sheet Steel Company, are sure that the organizers sent them to get the workers out of the Saltburg, Vandergrift and Apollo mills. The organizers admit that they are not meeting with success, owing to the antipathy of citizens, who are encouraging the steel workers to stand by their employers.

The American Tin Plate Company has about cleaned its stock out, and no more tin plate can be secured until the strike is settled, except a limited amount being made by the independents and the Monessen plant of the American company. This is operated by H. Donner, who on selling to the American Tin Plate Company contracted to operate it five years. He never employed union men and has never allowed any in the shops. The Amalgamated Association has hoped that the National Tube Company would discharge the men who were recently organized at McKeesport. This would cripple the tube company and would probably bring all the tube works out. The National Tube Company has not said anything to its men relative to unionism.

PROFESSOR VAN DYKE ON THE STRIKE.

MANUFACTURERS, HE SAYS, ARE ON THE SIDE OF LIBERTY AND FAIR PLAY.

Princeton, N. J., July 24 (Special).—Dr. Henry van Dyke, professor of English in Princeton University, who returned last night from a fishing trip along the rivers of New-Brunswick, Canada, when interviewed on the strike situation gave out for publication to-day the following statement in relation to the strike of the steel workers:

So far as information has been given to the public, the strike of the American Amalgamated Association of Steel Workers seems to me to be altogether without just cause or reasonable excuse, and I sincerely hope that it will turn out to be a sheet lightning strike, going off with a bang and a rumble without doing anybody any particular harm.

All the demands of the workers in regard to wages and hours have been met. The manufacturers have expressed their willingness to treat with the labor unions directly, and on equal terms. They have consented that their workmen shall join the union if they wish to do so. The one thing they will not do is to force their men to join the union whether they wish to or not. In this refusal they stand distinctly on the side of liberty and fair play. The sentiment of the community will undoubtedly recognize this fact and will support them in the attempt of the Amalgamated Association to use the United States Steel Corporation as a catspaw of coercion.

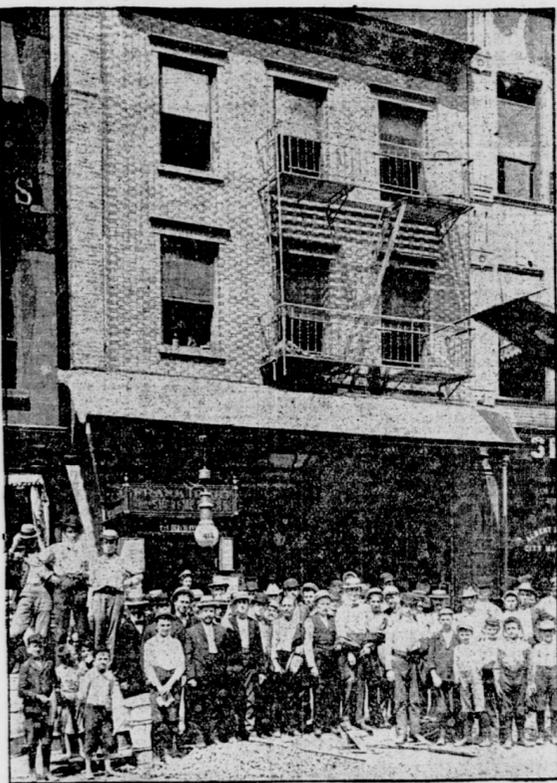
SCRANTON MACHINISTS GO BACK.

Scranton, Penn., July 24 (Special).—At a meeting yesterday afternoon the machinists employed at the Allis Chalmers, Finch, Scranton Nut and Bolt Works and other shops voted to resume work Thursday without concessions. Committees were appointed to call upon the manufacturers to request them to take the strikers back in a body. These committees reported at a meeting this afternoon, and the strike was declared an end.

Upward of two thousand machinists have been on strike since May 26. When the Lackawanna Railroad machinists returned last Monday, the others became disheartened, and the decision to go back was unanimous.

TOBACCO WORKERS QUIT WORK.

Kingston, N. Y., July 24.—Four hundred boys, comprising the entire stripping department of the American Cigar Company's factory here, struck to-day. Bales of "short" tobacco were given to them to strip and they claim that by stripping this much of tobacco they would earn only about half as much as they have been receiving.



HEADQUARTERS OF THE STRIKING GARMENT WORKERS. No. 412 Grand-st.

EFFORTS TO BREAK STRIKE.

NON-UNION MEN SAID TO HAVE BEEN SENT TO WELLSVILLE—TO START A SHEET STEEL PLANT.

Pittsburg, July 24.—Two moves, it is reported, were made by the aggressive officials of the American Sheet Steel Company to-day toward the breaking of the strike. One was the shipping of some of the non-union men who have been employed in the Vandergrift mills of the company to Wellsville to assist in the starting of the plant there. It was stated that the men were to be shipped to Wellsville in the early evening and would reach there after dark.

As a consequence of this report there is suppressed excitement pervading Wellsville which at any moment may break out into a serious condition. Both strikers and officials of the company are on the alert and ready for any emergency. The impression is strong to-night that the general officers of the United States Steel Corporation have become determined on the subject of the early breaking of the strike and to ultimately force the operation of all the idle plants.

The second move that is understood to have been initiated to-day is the starting of the long idle Hyde Park plant of the American Sheet Steel Company. This plant was taken into the combination burdened with objectionable contracts made by the former owners, and has remained idle since the American Sheet Steel Company took hold of the property.

The long idleness of this mill has caused most of the men formerly employed there to leave Hyde Park for other places, and the company believes there would be less difficulty in starting this plant than where the Amalgamated Association has control. It was apparent in Pittsburg this evening that fresh and decidedly important developments in the strike of the steel workers were about to take place. At the Amalgamated headquarters the two leading officials of the association were absent the greater part of the day. It was stated that President Shaffer was away on personal business, and had nothing in hand concerning the strike.

The absence of Secretary John Williams was also accounted for in the same manner. The conference held on Tuesday night, which kept President Shaffer and Secretary Williams out until early this morning, remains as mysterious as before. Neither of these officials would give out any idea of what had taken place aside from stating positively that they had not met any of the officials of the United States Steel Corporation. Whatever the object of the meeting, it is believed to have been continued to-day, and much of importance is expected to be developed from the conference.

The question of the manufacturers securing injunctions against the Amalgamated Association was discussed guardedly to-day. Assistant Secretary M. F. Tighe said he did not think the measure would be resorted to at this stage of the proceedings, even if it was contemplated for a later day. There was practically no cause for such a measure, and if there was he doubted if under the conditions that exist at present the courts would grant such orders. Particularly in this case in Pennsylvania. In Ohio, President Shaffer seemed to feel confident that such injunctions would not be granted. Those best acquainted with the feelings of the manufacturers say that there is, in their opinion,

little cause for believing that such measures will be resorted to at this time.

OFFER FROM STRIKERS REJECTED.

Derby, Conn., July 24 (Special).—Managers Howley and Bliss, of the Farrel Foundry and Machine Company, to-day rejected the proposition for a settlement of the strike which was submitted to them with the sanction of the strikers by a citizens' committee of five headed by the Rev. E. B. Schmidt, rector of Christ Protestant Episcopal Church, where Franklin Farrel, principal owner of the company, attends. They also announced that the company would receive no more committees and entertain no more propositions.

The rejected proposition was the removal of all men now working on roll work, the re-employment of all employees without prejudice, and the entertainment of the question of hours of labor and wages upon the return to work of the old employees. Mr. Bliss said that the new men would never be discharged to get the strikers back. He said that this was a matter which would adjust itself after the old men came back. The strikers say their objection to the men is their incompetence; that they would spoil many rolls, and that, as all who handle them are alike responsible for any loss, they (the strikers) would suffer.

In an open letter to Franklin Farrel to-night a strikers' committee asks him to remove the present management and place his nephew, Alton Farrel, Jr., son of the late Alton Farrel, whom Bliss and Howley succeeded, at the head of the com-

pany. If he will do this the strikers say they will return unconditionally. The seventy new men the Farrel Company imported from New-York a month ago have now dwindled to twenty-eight, confined in the shop night and day being too much for them. The strikers sought to obtain a hearing for a committee to-night, and they are indignant over the company's refusal to grant it.

EGG TESTERS TO STRIKE.

THEY OBJECT TO WORKING THEIR EYES SEVENTEEN HOURS A DAY.

The egg candlers, or egg testers, are again agitating for a shorter workday. They do not object to their wages, but say they have to work sixteen and seventeen hours out of the twenty-four. The Socialist Trade and Labor Alliance, which has organized the egg testers as Local Alliance No. 249, reported yesterday that the local had ordered the egg candlers employed by a Woking-st. firm on strike for a reduction of working hours from seventeen to ten a day. If this strike is successful several demands will be made on the other employers for a shorter workday.

The egg testers are called egg candlers because they test eggs by holding them before a lighted candle in a dark cellar. The candler stands in a room in this cellar behind a tiny hole in a wall. A lighted candle is behind this hole and the candler tests each egg by holding it up between his eye and the candle. The faintest trace of spoiling can be detected by the practiced eye of a candler. Only young men with exceptionally good eyesight can learn the business, and few can continue at it longer than ten years before their eyesight begins to fail.

READING FIREMEN GET CONCESSIONS.

Philadelphia, July 24.—The firemen employed on the main line of the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad have received an increase in wages from \$35 to \$2.50, together with important concessions. At the Monocacy and Aramingo water stations men will be employed day and night who will clean the front ends and ash pans of each engine. Whenever crews are turned at Bridgeport men will be on hand to clean the fire boxes of the engines.

MANY FIREMEN AT WORK.

Reading, Penn., July 24.—This afternoon the men who remained at work in the locomotive plant held a meeting and decided not to strike at this time. Some said they would continue at work as long as no new men were put into the shops. Vice-President Voorhees started for Philadelphia at noon. He said that what he offered the men was as much as some competing roads were paying. The leaders declare that the strike will now spread.

BELIEF THAT MINE WORKERS WILL NOT HAVE TO EXERT THEMSELVES IN THEIR BEHALF.

Wilkesbarre, Penn., July 24.—All the mines except a half dozen, where repairs are being made, were working in this district to-day, and the outlook is now that the United Mine Workers will not be called upon to take any vigorous measures to compel the companies to take back the unemployed men who were made idle by the strike of the firemen. The officials of the Mine Workers have decided to wait for about a week before they hold another meeting to discuss the situation, and then, if all the men are not taken back, something will be done in their behalf.

THE COMPANIES WHICH ARE STILL REFUSING TO REINSTATE ALL THE MEN ARE THE LEHIGH VALLEY, THE DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN, THE SUSQUEHANNA, THE ERIE, THE TEMPLE COAL AND IRON

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WELLSVILLE OFFICIALS SAY THE STRIKE WILL BE SETTLED BY THE END OF THE MONTH.

Wellsville, Ohio, July 24.—The officials of the United States Steel Corporation here today said they believed the strike would be settled by the end of the month. They said that the company was now in a position to start the Hyde Park plant, and that the non-union men who had been sent there were now at work. They said that the company was now in a position to start the Hyde Park plant, and that the non-union men who had been sent there were now at work.

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