

BAER TO RAISE PRICE.

HIGHER COAL ON MAY 1.

Will Make Tidewater Price \$5 a Ton if Possible.

President Baer of the Reading company, a witness before the Interstate Commerce Commission in the investigation of the relations of the coal carrying roads and the coal mining companies, yesterday declared that on May 1 he was going to advance the tidewater price of coal, now \$4.50 a ton, to \$4.60, and try to work it up to \$5 a ton.

President Baer declared that he fixed the price and compelled the other dealers to do the same in the following words: "I have been careful as a lawyer not to cross the line. I have been very particular. I thought we were the strongest people, and I fixed the price and compelled the other dealers to do the same. They accused me of being arbitrary, and I admit that perhaps I was arbitrary; but I felt that it was necessary. Several of the companies complained that I had fixed the price."

"I am speaking of the time after the strike that they could get a better price than I had fixed for the Reading company's coal. They asked me to raise the price, but I refused, and they had to come down to our price." Precious to making these statements President Baer, when ordered to do so by the commission, had refused to produce contracts between the Reading road and the Temple Iron Company.

Mr. Baer first declined either to produce the contracts unless ordered to do so by the commission, or answer if he could produce them if he would. When the court told him to produce them each of the lawyers arose and one by one voiced objection.

"Has the Guarantee Trust Company paid the Central Railway 12 1/2 cents a ton for all coal hauled from the Temple Iron Company mines?" continued Mr. Shearn.

Ex-Judge Campbell objected, but the commission ordered an answer. President Baer said that the Central Railway had paid certain sums to the guarantee company as required under the contracts, but he could not say what it amounted to a ton.

Some of the questions and answers ensuing follow: Q.—Who owns the capital stock of the Temple Iron Company? A.—It is scattered far and wide over the United States. It was created with the Guarantee Trust Company of New York under a voting agreement and the issue of which was made by three or four hundred persons.

Q.—Who votes the stock? A.—The trust company, since I have been president of the company. Q.—Does the board of directors control the policy of the subsidiary company? A.—There is not much direction needed. We employ competent mine managers and the instructions they give to mine all the coal they can get as they can.

Q.—Are the different collieries in the Temple Iron system controlled by their own directors or by the Temple Iron company directors? A.—By the Temple directors. No dispute about that.

Referring to meetings of the railroad presidents Mr. Baer declared he never was present at a meeting where a discussion pointing to the fixing of the price of coal or the fixing of the output was held. "There has never been such a discussion during my administration of the Reading and the Jersey Central," he declared. "There has been no pool and no combination to regulate the price or output of coal between the railroad presidents since I have been president of the Reading system."

"Who fixes the price of coal sold by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal Company?" Mr. Shearn asked, after Mr. Baer had told at some length that the coal purchased on percentage and the coal moved by the company were handled together and sold as company coal.

Mr. Baer explained that the price was fixed after a general consultation with the general coal agents and the sales agent. The other companies pursued a like course.

"Ton and General Thomas could raise the price of coal if you desired?" Mr. Shearn asked. "No, not without reducing the consumption. The price of coal depends, like all other products, on the demand for it."

"But you have raised the price 50 cents a ton?" "Yes, but the cost of production had increased. The Reading system is not earning fair dividends for its stockholders because of the low price realized on its coal."

Mr. Baer referred to the difficulty of getting men to work in the mines. "Why are they locked out now?" asked Mr. Shearn.

"They refuse to work unless we give seven hours' work the pay of ten hours' work, and we are not going to do it," was the answer.

John Edmonds, the sales agent here for the Reading Coal and Iron Company, testified that the total sales average 1,000,000 tons a year. He did not know how the price was fixed. All the companies made the same market price, and it was seldom that there was any deviation from that price. The deviation has been even less frequent since April, 1901, than it was in the three years preceding that date.

About 7,000,000 tons of anthracite were consumed annually here in New York, and the Reading system sells 800,000 tons of that amount. He had no authority, when competing for business, to deviate from the circular price.

Witness had taken customers from the Wilkesbarre and Lehigh Coal Company, but he was not allowed to tell what inducements he had offered.

Henry E. Meeker, a local coal merchant, declared that when coal was \$4 at tidewater he lost money on a purchase if he had to pay full freight rates. He paid full rate under protest. Prior to the end of the 1900 strike there was a monthly rebate from the Lehigh Valley road.

There was none now. He protested on the ground that the rates were exorbitant and excessive, and more than the railroad charged to the Lehigh Valley Coal Company. The railroad company denied that he had been discriminated against. He had had similar experiences with the Susquehanna Railroad.

P. H. Heiler, sales agent of the Lehigh Valley and Wilkesbarre Coal Company, declared that President Baer fixed the price of the coal sold by his company, and that that price could not be altered only by instruction from him.



Most men long for the country these days, but most of us must take it out in longing.

At least you can have a suit which savors of the country—though it's perfectly proper for town.

Norfolk suits of chevots; some of them rough Donegals mixtures.

Jacket and long trousers, \$15 to \$20; extra knee trousers, \$3.50 to \$5.50.

ROGERS, PEET & COMPANY.

258 Broadway, opposite City Hall, and 7 Ann, Warren St., 842 Broadway, cor. 15th, and 120 Broadway, cor. 14th, and 1200 Broadway, cor. 52d, and 54 West 53d St.

RUSH TO BUY COAL.

Price Raised, But Demand Is Unprecedented for Season.

In view of the fact that President Baer of the Reading company testified yesterday before the Interstate Commerce Commission that he was to put the price of coal up 10 cents a ton the first of the month, and to raise it to \$5 a ton at tidewater, and keep it there if the market would stand it, it is interesting to note that now the people are buying coal from the retailers in vastly greater quantities than ever before at this time of year.

One retailer yesterday declared that the trade throughout the city was 50 per cent greater than ever before. The consumers, frightened by last year's strike and shortage, are, according to this dealer, filling up their bins for the next coal season. Yet the price of coal is 50 cents a ton higher than last year, \$4.50 instead of \$4.00 at tidewater, \$5.75 instead of \$5.25 to the consumer.

"Never before have I seen anything like it," said the dealer. "In former years we have solicited summer orders. Now our customers come to us and ask us to fill their bins. They don't care so much about the price, either. They want the coal. I can't fill an order given now within two weeks. If I were to stop taking orders now I have enough business to keep me busy for two months. I expect that this rush will keep up, too."

"You can see for yourself that the other dealers are fixed as we are. There were only two willing to bid on a recent city contract, only two willing to bid on a recent government contract. And the people will buy even if the price does go up. The extra 50 cents President Baer proposes to put on the tidewater price, in addition to 50 cents already added to pay the cost of the strike, will make the retail price \$6.25 instead of the \$5.25 of last year. But the people want the coal, and will have it. Another dealer, Michael F. Burns, of Burns Brothers, one of the committee of three dealers chosen by the Mayor to act with the representatives of the coal carrying roads in obtaining cheap coal for the poor, said yesterday that the rush of coal buyers was unprecedented. He expected, he said, that it would continue at least until the next month, and should mean a lively business for the coal companies all summer."

TWO PROSTRATIONS.

Day Is the Hottest April One in Seven Years.

MERCURY GOES UP TO 84.

Limbored by the warmth of the previous day, the mercury climbed yesterday into the upper reaches of the little glass tube, where it had not been since last summer. It began to climb early in the day and by 10 o'clock the thermometer registered in the seventies. By noon it had reached 80 degrees.

The high temperature was maintained, and the sun shined brightly. The wind, which was from the east, was fresh and strong. The air was clear and bright. The sun shined brightly. The wind, which was from the east, was fresh and strong. The air was clear and bright.

WISCONSIN FREEZES.

Gale of Wind and Snow, the Worst of the Year.

West Superior, Wis., April 29.—The worst blizzard of the year has been raging here since early morning. There is a strong wind and snow has been falling steadily. The temperature this morning was 7 degrees below freezing.

SNOW FALLS ON SHIVERING KANSAS.

Topeka, Kan., April 29.—Reports received at this city from the Bureau here to-day state that snow is falling in the western part of the State, with the temperature below freezing point. The temperature dropped 23 degrees in an hour. There is danger that fruit is being killed. Weather predictions for to-night are rain, snow and cold.

BLUSTERING STORM IN DULUTH.

Duluth, Minn., April 29.—Duluth is experiencing a heavy, blustering snowstorm, following several days of warm spring weather. It commenced raining last evening, turning to snow early this morning. The storm increased during the forenoon, and several inches of snow have fallen, drifting considerably in some places.

CHINESE COOLIES FOR MEXICO.

San Francisco, April 29.—The advance guard of an army of Chinese coolies, who will be employed in the hemp fields of Mexico, have arrived here on the steamer Doric, en route to Salina Cruz. Fifty-seven came to-day and 25,000 families are soon to follow. They are in the charge of John G. Meyers, a wealthy hemp grower of Merida, Mexico.

REIMPORTATION OF COTTON.

Novel Development in Market—Hundreds of Bales Brought Here.

A novel development in the cotton market is the reimportation of some hundred bales which had been shipped to Liverpool some time ago, and are now being brought back to this port for delivery on May contracts. The Oceanic, which came in yesterday, had 83 bales of American cotton, consigned to one of the largest cotton commission houses of this city, and it is understood that the bales, which arrived here a few days ago, had on board about 400 bales, and that the Oceanic, now on her way here, is bringing about 1,000 bales. The stock of contract cotton on hand at this point is at

Dr. Lyon's Perfect Tooth Powder. Used by people of refinement for over a quarter of a century. Prepared by J. W. Lyon, D.D.S.

FLINT'S FINE FURNITURE FLEMISH RENAISSANCE. If one could go back to the 17th Century Flanders and visit the homes of the wealthy burghers, he would find sombre oaken pieces, richly and boldly carved, picturesque and sturdy of form—just such furniture as you would expect the hardy old Flemings to make.

Van Norden Trust Co. Desirous of Taking Over the Eastern. CIRCULAR TO STOCKHOLDERS. The Van Norden Trust Company, it was learned yesterday afternoon, is desirous of taking over the Eastern Trust Company, of No. 115 Broadway.

A proposition has been submitted to the stockholders of the Eastern Trust Company to exchange their stock for stock in the Van Norden Trust Company, and to have the latter company acquire the assets of the Eastern Trust Company. The assets of the Eastern Trust Company consist of real estate, city bonds and call of time loans on listed collateral. With the present state of the money market, it is estimated that the assets of the Eastern Trust Company are worth about \$1,000,000. The Van Norden Trust Company stock is now selling at 25 cents per share. The proposed exchange would give the Eastern Trust Company stockholders 100 shares of Van Norden Trust Company stock for every 100 shares of Eastern Trust Company stock they own.

NEW-YORK CITY. The Sixty-third-st. chapel of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church will have an entertainment, "The Berryville District School," at No. 342 East Sixty-third-st., to-night. The annual competition of the men's gymnasium will be held on the evening of May 4.

POSTAL EMPLOYEES DISMISSED. Mr. Payne Takes Measures to Stop an Abuse. Washington, April 29.—The Postmaster General to-day issued an order in which he says reports have reached him that there are persons doing duty in the department who are carried on the rolls either of the Washington City Postoffice, or other offices, or who are employed under a specific appropriation for other purposes than department service in Washington, and the termination of this practice wherever it exists, is directed.

MARINE INTELLIGENCE. MINUTE ALMANAC. Sunrise 5:02; Sunset 6:54; Moon sets 10:22; Moon's age 11 1/2. P.M.—Randy Hook 9:20; Island 9:52; Hell Gate 11:49. A.M.—Sandwich Islands, April 29; East Indies, 12:08.

DISPUTE OVER ABSENT JUDGE. Van Wormer Murder Case the Occasion for a Unique Controversy. Albany, April 29.—The case of the three Van Wormer boys, who are under stay from sentence of death for the murder of their uncle, Peter Halenbeck, near Kinderhook, in the County of Fulton, Appeals a dispute over an absent judge. The case was on the calendar for argument to-day, but was crowded over until to-morrow.

WOMEN'S PEACE MEETING. Chicago, April 29.—The fourth annual demonstration of women in behalf of peace and international arbitration will be held on May 18. A call was issued to-day by Mrs. May Wright Sewall, of Indianapolis, president of the International Council of Women.

TO TAKE ROGUES FROM GALLERIES. All the galleries known as "rogues" galleries which have been at various police stations for some years were at Police Headquarters yesterday on orders from Commissioner Grover. Inspector McClusky explained that hereafter it would be the duty of all galleries to be at the Detective Bureau. The galleries which had been in thirty-seven station houses were practically obsolete, none of the pictures or measurements being on the Bertillon

A LIFE INSURANCE POLICY with GUARANTEED PROFITS. Net costs and all results. Many people want a profit sharing investment combined with their insurance. They do not want estimates which are merely individual expressions of opinion on the part of the agent or company and form no part of the contract.

OUR 20 YEAR GUARANTEED DISTRIBUTION POLICY offers an investment less expensive than endowment insurance, yet giving at the end a broad choice of Cash Profits, Additional Insurance, Life Annuity, or a combination of these features. EVERY FIGURE WE GIVE WE GUARANTEE. Send for descriptive circular. The Travelers Insurance Company HARTFORD, CONN. New York Branch, 31 Nassau St.

HOME NEWS.

PROMINENT ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS. ALBEMARLE—Lieutenant F. E. Hopkins, U. S. Army, from the Philippines, Philadelphia, Pa. Cambridge—Commissaire Dandini of Sylvia, Florence, Italy. Grand Hotel, New York.

WHAT IS GOING ON TO-DAY. Military Tournament at Madison Square Garden. State Railroad Commission hearing. Fifth Avenue Hotel. Actors' Church Alliance reception. Church of the Resurrection. Seventy-fourth-st. Park-ave., 2:30 to 3:30 p. m.

It settles all disputes in short order, and this ready reference costs only 25c. Order at once from . . . . .

Still Advancing. The Army of Tribune readers is constantly progressing and growing as it advances. The net sales for March, 1903, were 22% more than in March, 1902. You need the Tribune Almanac . . . . . 1903 . . . . .

The Tribune Uptown Office is now located at 1,364 Broadway Between 36th and 37th Sts.

Meetings. QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE, MAY 7th & 8th, P. M., at 19 West 44th St. HENRY WELSH, Sec'y.

SHIPPING NEWS. Port of New-York, Wed., April 29, 1903. ARRIVED. Steamer Oceanic (Br.), Cameron, Liverpool April 22 and Queenstown 23. With 320 passengers, mails and 1,168 stowage passengers, mails and mds. Arrived at the Bar at 5 p. m.

THE MOVEMENTS OF STEAMERS. FOREIGN PORTS. Liverpool, April 29—Sailed, steamer Teutonic (Br.), McKinstry, New York via Queenstown. Steamer Colon (Br.), Zeilten, Philadelphia, to New York.

Amusements. CLOSES SATURDAY NIGHT MADISON SQUARE GARDEN MILITARY TOURNAMENT. THE GREAT MILITARY TOURNAMENT. THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT. THE MILITARY TOURNAMENT.

MURRAY. HILL THEATRE. LEE AVE. & 42d ST. MATINEE EVERY DAY, 2:30. MISS MILTON. Harlem (Amelia Bingham) Even. 8:15. Mat. Sat. 2:15. P. M. 7:15. Review and Military Programmes Sat. & Sun. New Week—JOSEPH JEFFERSON in Repertoire.

SULTAN OF SULU. PRINCESS. EDWARD AND 29th. Mats. To-day & Sat. 8:15. 8:30. Last Matinee Wed. & Sat. 2:15. Evening at 8:15. "The Man Who Stole the Castle."

MAJESTIC GRAND CIRCUS. B'way & 59th St. WIZARD OF OZ! Best Great Artistic Production. 58c. Only A 125c. Week of Showgirl.

AMERICAN BARBARA FRETCHIE. 42 St. & Broadway. TED MARKS' Big Concert Sunday Night.

WALSH IN RESURRECTION. 42 St. & Broadway. DAVID BELASCO and Present MONDAY WARFIELD in "THE AUCTIONEER."

WEST END—SHORE ACRES. MENDELSSOHN HALL. This (Thurs.) Aff. at 5 P. M. Recital BLOOMFIELD-ZEISLER. Henry Wolfshausen. Res. Seats \$1 & \$1.50, at Ditson's, 367 W. 4th St.

EDEN WORLD IN WAX. New Groups. CINE MATOGRAPHS. U. S. E. Wonderful Electric Theatre. Art. & Dev.

METROPOLITAN JOCKEY CLUB. SIX RACES TO-DAY AT 2:30 P. M. SPECIAL TIME TABLE TO-DAY. The race will be run at 12:10, 1:00, 1:50, 2:40, 3:30, 4:20. Parlor car on all trains.

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ANNIE RUSSELL in MICE AND MEN. MAY 4—Ezra Kendall—THE VINEGAR RIVER. CHARLES HAWTREY. A MESSAGE FROM HELL.

HERALD SQUARE THEATRE. Even. at 8:15. Mats. Wed. & Sat. 2:15. PRINCE OF PILSEN. WED. MAT. SAT. 2:15. PRICES 25c. and 50c.

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