



FIVE HUNDRED DEAD. VICTIMS OF VESUVIUS.

Ashes Destroy Houses—Eruption Ceasing—Volcano Loses Conc.

Naples, April 9.—Reports of fatalities consequent upon the eruption of Mount Vesuvius are coming in. According to information received late to-night probably five hundred lives were lost. It is said that more than two hundred perished in the district of San Giuseppe, while from the ruins of a church which collapsed, owing to the weight of ashes on the roof, forty-nine bodies were extricated. It is asserted that at San Giuseppe thirty-seven persons were killed by falling houses.

A railway train bound for Naples was thrown from the track by showers of stones from the crater. Cavalry going to the succor of the inhabitants of the devastated section have been unable to make progress, the rain falling on ashes a foot deep having made it impossible for the horses to travel. The sea is greatly agitated. The sky has cleared, but heavy clouds hang over the east, threatening a further downpour. The streams of lava are almost stationary. Troops are erecting barriers in the direction of Pompeii to prevent further danger in that quarter.

Professor Matteucci, director of the Royal Observatory, sent a message from the observatory at 6:30 o'clock this evening, as follows: The explosive activity of Vesuvius, which was very great yesterday and accompanied by very powerful electric discharges, has diminished. Yesterday evening and during the night the explosion of rock ceased, but the emission of sand increased, completely enveloping me and forming a bed over ten centimetres deep, which carried desolation into this elevated region. Masses of sand sliding along the earth created complete darkness until 7 o'clock. Several blocks of stone broke windows in the observatory.

Last night earthquake shocks were stronger and more frequent than yesterday and displaced the seismic apparatus. Yesterday afternoon and this morning torrents of sand fell. While I am telegraphing several balls of fire rise without rambling from the enlarged crater and the new crevasses.

Almost equal to the devastation wrought by the lava is the damage done by cinders and ashes, which in incredible quantities have been carried great distances. This has caused the practical destruction of San Giuseppe, a village of six thousand inhabitants. All except two hundred of the people had fled from the village, and these assembled in a church to attend mass. While the priest was performing his sacred office the roof fell in and hundreds were killed or injured. The wounded were for hours without surgical aid. The only thing left standing in the church was a statue of St. Anna, the preservation of which the poor, homeless people accepted as a miracle and promise of deliverance from their perils.

At Ottajano five churches and ten houses fell under the weight of ashes and cinders, which lie four feet deep on the ground. In the fall of the buildings about twelve persons were killed and many were more or less severely injured. The village is deserted. After the evacuation of the place the barracks and prisons fell in.

Reports from the coast and inland towns tell of terrible devastation. San Giorgio, Cremona, Portici, Resina and Torre del Greco have been almost entirely abandoned.

The inhabitants of Torre Annunziata are prepared to leave the town on a moment's warning. Somma Vesuviana is another village which has suffered severely.

Most of the buildings in the villages are of flimsy construction and have flat roofs. They are thus unfit to bear the weight of ashes and cinders that have fallen upon them. It will doubtless be found that a considerable number of people have perished by the falling of their homes. Although the eruption of the volcano is less violent than it was twenty-four hours ago, the ashes are still falling in great quantities.

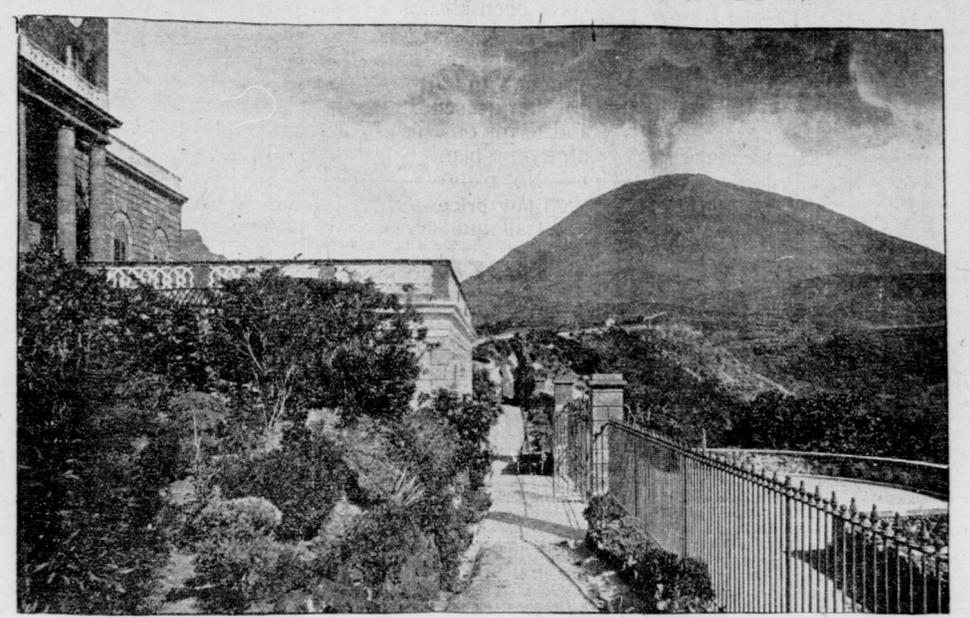
The Associated Press's correspondent this evening made the round of the menaced villages. The railway and tram tracks were inches deep below volcanic ashes, and the same material made the roads impracticable for horses, so that an automobile was the only means by which the inspection of the devastated country could be made. The scene was one of misery and terror. Smoke and ashes made breathing difficult. Slight tremblings of the earth were felt, and frequent flashes of lightning cut through the smoke. Darkness came at intervals long before nightfall. In the streets of the deserted towns the only sounds to be heard were the thud of lumps of ash falling on the roofs and the puffing of the automobile. In the towns where people yet remain the houses are all closed, the inhabitants roaming disconsolately about the streets and gaining what comfort is possible from the carabineers and soldiers. These are the heroes of the day. They seem never to sleep or be tired, and where there is danger they are cool, strong and alert.

In the course of the trip a point was reached from which Vesuvius could be seen under its cloud of smoke. The high cone of the volcano has gone almost entirely, having been swallowed up, so that the height of the mountain is nearly six hundred feet less than formerly. On the north side of the mountain new craters have formed.

Refugees from the threatened or destroyed villages are pouring into Naples by the thousands, arriving in every description of conveyance and on foot. The roads are crowded with processions of men and women carrying crosses and crying piteously. Special railway trains, warships and steamers are employed in conveying the homeless people from their localities to Naples, Rome and Castellammare, while large numbers of people are fleeing overland in the direction of Caserta. Not fewer than fifteen thousand refugees have reached Castellammare, where the steamer Princess Mafalda is anchored. This vessel left the island of Capri with one thousand passengers, including many

Continued on second page.

MOUNT VESUVIUS AND THE OBSERVATORY DAMAGED BY THE VOLCANO.



RUMOR OF EXTENSIVE SMUGGLING ON THE OREGON DUTIABLE GOODS VALUED AT \$750,000 REPORTED TAKEN ASHORE AT SAN FRANCISCO.

San Francisco, April 9.—"The Evening Post" publishes a story to-day that there is a strong belief that dutiable goods, valued at about \$750,000, were smuggled ashore in launches from the battleship Oregon just before she departed for the Bremerton navy yards. It says that an order has been issued instructing the inspectors at Bremerton to delay every man on the battleship until the whole affair has been sifted to the bottom, and the customs authorities throughout the country have been requested to find and examine the questionable packages if possible. The battleship was scheduled to get away for Bremerton on Saturday morning, but was delayed on account of not having receiving sailing orders.

"At noon, however," says "The Post," "a telegram was received from the Navy Department stating that officers and men must have their baggage in readiness for inspection by the customs officers when the Oregon reached Bremerton. This notice was posted in the messroom and the news flashed over the ship like lightning. It was then, according to those who watched the whole scene, that the goods were hurried ashore."

"The Post" then says that the records of the Wells Fargo Company show that they gave receipts on 2,800 packages taken from the Oregon. The Santa Fe Railway gave shipping bills for 1,900 trunks and cases, many of which weighed several hundred pounds.

Acting Customs Inspector Hamilton, when asked regarding the case, said that the statement as to the alleged smuggling had been conveyed to the customs officials, who had at once proceeded to verify the report, sending out the orders referred to and making an investigation here, but as yet nothing definite had been established.

WITTE AGAIN RESIGNS. CRISIS NEAR IN RUSSIA.

Issue of Reaction or Reform Once More Before the Czar.

St. Petersburg, April 10.—The steadily swelling tide of Liberal successes and the overwhelming victory of the Constitutional Democrats in the election at Moscow have brought the struggle between reaction and reform to a head. Premier Witte late last night, according to information which has reached the Associated Press, again tendered his resignation to the Emperor with a clear-cut intimation that the Emperor must choose, and at once, between him and the Minister of the Interior, M. Durnovo. The Emperor, according to reports, took the resignation under consideration and returned no answer.

Since his return from Tsarskoe-Selo on Thursday of last week, when he pleaded with Emperor Nicholas to heed the voice of the people and grant a written constitution, Premier Witte has brought all possible pressure upon the Emperor to divorce himself from the reactionary cabal and align himself unreservedly with the new school. Events now, as in the great October strike, preceding the issuance of the imperial manifesto, have played the Premier's game. Every new election dispatch has made it clear that any idea that the Parliament would be held in leading strings is utterly futile, and after the receipt of the returns from twenty-eight provinces and Moscow, Count Witte apparently felt strong enough to play his final card and force the issue. If he wins he will replace M. Durnovo with M. Shipoff or some other Liberal working in agreement with the government. If he loses Durnovo, Treppoff and Ignatieff will inherit the task of dealing with the accredited representatives of the nation.

VOTE BUYING CHARGED. Assemblyman of Monroe County Indicted by Rochester Grand Jury.

Rochester, N. Y., April 9.—Among the indictments handed down by the grand jury to-day was one against Assemblyman Albert P. Beebe, of the 4th Monroe County District, who is charged with offering money to voters of the town of Parma on election day. About fifty residents of Parma were subpoenaed and examined.

Beebe came up from Albany Saturday and went before the grand jury this morning at his own request and made a statement. After the grand jury reported the indictment this afternoon he went into court and was admitted in \$500 bail.

CARNEGIE OFFERS TWO LIBRARIES.

Dartmouth, Conn., April 9.—By two votes at a town meeting here to-night it was decided to refuse an offer of \$5,000 by Andrew Carnegie for the erection of a library building.

Derby, Conn., April 9.—It was announced here to-night that an offer of \$5,000 by Derby Neck for the erection of a library building has been given land for a new building for the support of the library and that a site is secured free of charge. In this connection announcement is made that the heirs of William E. Downs, of New Haven, have given land for the proposed new building. As the city now appropriates \$600 yearly for the support of the present library, it is expected that the offer by Mr. Carnegie will be accepted.

CHILDREN PREVENT TRAIN WRECK.

Lead, S. Dak., April 9.—Victoria Levesque and Cordelia Johnston, ten and eleven years old, respectively, found a curve on the Northwestern Railroad buried under a heap of rocks. After trying in vain to lift them off they ran five miles to stop an approaching passenger train. When the engine came to a stop they fell in utter exhaustion.

DEWEY'S WINES STAND FOR QUALITY.

We make Pure Wines and Mature them naturally. Dewey & Sons Co., 133 Fulton St., New York. Adv.

BLACKMAIL TRAP FAILS FOR EX-GOVERNOR'S SON.

Police Get Train Clerk Who Threatened Louis R. Fuller.

Homer Hawkins, a train clerk in the Mott Haven yard of the New York, New Haven & Hartford Railroad, was arrested yesterday afternoon at the Melrose station, 11st street, and locked up in Police Headquarters on the charge of attempt at blackmail. The complainant is Louis R. Fuller, a Harvard graduate, who is in business with his father, at No. 61 Fifth avenue, in a health food concern. The detectives say that Hawkins is a nephew of Fuller.

According to Inspector McLaughlin's men, the blackmail was based on the threat of information by Hawkins that Fuller's conduct was such as to jeopardize his engagement to marry a Miss Rowtham. A threat of exposure was contained in letters sent to the latter, and a personal in a newspaper last Sunday morning paved the way for the payment of \$500 as the price of silence. These letters, it is alleged, were sent by Hawkins, who when arraigned at Police Headquarters, answered Fuller's question, "What have I done that you should have acted this way?" with, "Well, you've got what I ought to have had, including your education."

This remark is construed to represent bitterness existing between the two branches of the family concerning certain bequests.

Hawkins said he lived at No. 352 Mott avenue, but his mother lived at the northwest corner of Columbus avenue and 88th street.

Fuller went to Inspector McLaughlin last Friday, saying he had received an anonymous letter and that he wanted the writer apprehended. He showed the following letter:

Dear Sir: I desire to borrow from you the sum of \$500 (Five hundred dollars). I will expect to see in next Sunday's "Herald" a personal from you saying that you will let me have this sum, and I will later send you word where to send it. Should the personal not appear, how would Mr. Rowtham like to hear among other things the affair with Miss Howe? His daughter would be pleased to hear that. Expecting I will hear from you, I remain yours respectfully, A. B. C.

Inspector McLaughlin had a "personal" inserted in the paper reading as follows:

A. B. C.—Letter received O. K.; send directions. L. R. F.

Yesterday morning Fuller received the following:

Dear Sir: Take the 3:34 p. m. train out of the Grand Central Station (New York Central). Get off at Melrose station and walk up the track alone. You will not ask no questions, simply place in messenger's hand the money in gold coin and those letters you have received. If any one is with you these instructions are not carried out to the letter. It will be a signal for a letter to be sent to Mrs. George Rowtham at once. But, on the other hand, you do as you are told, you will not be betrayed, now or in the future. Remember, 3:34 p. m., Monday, out of Grand Central Station. A. B. C.

P. S.: Walk up track until you are stopped. Let us misunderstand I will be with you. A man will come up and say to you, "Mr. Fuller." You will answer and hand over the money; walk on to the next station and wait for the next train going down.

This letter took Fuller to headquarters. Detective Sergeants Cary, Rheame and McCafferty, of the Central Office, were detailed on the work of landing the man. The first two went up to Melrose and took a position a short distance away from the station about an hour before Fuller, with McCafferty, boarded the train as the letter directed.

The Melrose station is below the street, and a bridge crosses the tracks at this point. On the bridge McCafferty stationed himself, leaving Fuller to walk up the track as directed. Then in a moment McCafferty saw a man pass Fuller, then wheel about and go to him. The detective ran to them just in time to hear Hawkins say, angrily: "Why, there's only \$30. I won't take it."

"You're my prisoner," said McCafferty, now at his elbow. Young Hawkins threw his hand to his hip pocket and the detective seized his wrist. "Here's something you may as well take, too," said Hawkins, indicating a .38-caliber revolver. "I did it," was what Hawkins declared then, according to McCafferty. "I did it, for I needed the money for my mother and myself."

He was quiet when taken away to be locked up.

Fuller is the son of Dr. Frank Fuller, territorial Governor of Utah in Lincoln's administration. He married a sister of Jacob H. Thompson, an editorial writer on "The New York Times," who was killed on September 17 last in his rooms in the St. James Hotel. Dr. Fuller has a country home about two miles out of Madison, N. J.

The admiration of the detectives was excited over the way Hawkins selected the place for such a game. There are several "getaway" routes there, since freight yards adjoin the vicinity.

MISS BOOTH TAKEN ILL ON TRAIN.

Miss Eva Booth, commander of the Salvation Army of the United States, was taken suddenly ill on a train late on Sunday while on her way from Chappaqua, N. Y., to Detroit. When the train reached West Mount Vernon Miss Booth was removed and taken to the home of G. H. Hardens, at No. 20 North Terrace avenue, where Dr. George C. Wells was summoned. Miss Booth was on her way to fill an engagement in Detroit.

LEFT \$20,000 TO HIRED MAN; CONTEST.

Kansas City, Mo., April 9.—A contest over the will of Mrs. Sallie J. Davenport began to-day in the Circuit Court. Mrs. Davenport, who was seventy years old and had been totally blind for twenty years, bequeathed \$20,000 to her hired man and \$10,000 to the Church of Christ. Her relatives are now contesting the will.

FAST TRAIN OUTDOES ITSELF.

Cleveland, April 9.—It was said to-day at the Lake Shore general offices that the Twentieth Century Limited ran at a rate of ninety-six miles an hour part of the way from here to Toledo last night. From here to Elyria the train was speeded up to eighty miles an hour, and when it passed through Vermilion the indicator was showing ninety-six miles an hour, and top speed had not been reached. The train covered the 108 miles to Toledo in ninety-nine minutes.

NIAGARA FALLS AND THE WEST. NEW YORK CENTRAL TRAINS AT 8:30, 8:45, 10:30, 11:15 A. M.; 1:30, 1:45, 2:30, 3:30, 4:45, 5:30, 6:30, 6:45, 7:30, 8:00, 8:15, 8:30, 9:30 P. M. Can you do better? Adv.

PITTSBURG NEAR PANIC.

Hospitals Overcrowded by Typhoid Patients—Epidemic Increases.

Pittsburg, April 9.—Ninety-six cases of typhoid fever were reported to the Bureau of Health to-day. These are cases that have developed over Sunday, and is a greater number than any like period since the epidemic has broken out. A majority of these cases were from the residential section of the city known as the East End.

Hospitals are being asked to erect temporary additions, and in several instances tents have been erected. The hospitals of Pittsburg and Allegheny are taxed to their capacity, more than five hundred patients being taken in in four days.

The state of feeling about the city borders almost on a panic.

SENTRY KILLS DESERTER.

Trooper, Awaiting Trial, Tries to Escape and Is Shot.

Atlanta, April 9.—Lewis Persell, of Troop A, 13th United States Cavalry, was shot and killed this morning at Fort McPherson by Private Ludlum, of Company C, 17th United States Infantry, on duty as sentry, while the former was seeking to escape.

Persell was driving an army team and lashed his mules into a run in the endeavor to escape. Ludlum, who had Persell in charge, called to him to stop and fired when the third command was not obeyed. Persell, whose home was at Washington, Tenn., enlisted with the 13th Cavalry at Knoxville last September as a private. He deserted at Fort Riley last December. He surrendered at Birmingham, Ala., and, while being brought to Fort McPherson to await trial, he made a second successful attempt to escape, jumping from a train near Tallapoosa. He was recaptured at Newman, Ga., and was brought to Fort McPherson.

RIOTS IN PERSIAN CITY.

Twenty Europeans Killed or Injured at Meshed.

St. Petersburg, April 9.—There have been riots at Meshed, a holy city of Northeastern Persia, capital of the Province of Khorassan, for the last three days, owing to the increase in the price of victuals. Shops have been plundered and burned and a crowd attacked the house of the Governor's treasurer. More than twenty Europeans were killed or injured.

LIKE A BLIZZARD UP THE STATE.

Schenectady, N. Y., April 9.—Snow has fallen in this city continuously since early morning, and five inches cover the ground in the home districts, where traffic is not heavy. Telephone and telegraph companies have experienced considerable trouble because of the storm.

SLIGHING IN CONNECTICUT.

Winsted, Conn., April 9.—There is sleighing in Winsted and other towns in Northern Litchfield County to-night, five inches of snow being on the ground, and the storm is still raging. Trees and wires are weighed down under the mantle of white, thus making an ideal winter scene in spring. The farmer hails the storm as the poor man's fertilizer.

MINERS MORE HOPEFUL.

Believe Postponed Conference May Settle Strike.

Philadelphia, April 9.—Mine workers throughout the anthracite region express the belief that the action of the operators requesting a postponement of the New York conference until to-morrow is an indication that while President Mitchell's arbitration plan may not be accepted as presented, the operators themselves will have a proposition that will open the way for an amicable settlement of the existing differences.

There seems to be little hope in the coal fields, however, that the negotiations will result in an immediate termination of the suspension of mining. Should the operators present a counter proposition at to-morrow's meeting, it is regarded as certain that President Mitchell will ask for another adjournment in order to enable him to discuss its terms with the miners' committee and to frame an answer to the operators. The developments to-day in New York have created a more hopeful feeling among the idle miners.

The independent operators held a meeting to-day at Wilkes-Barre, it is said, to consider the proposition to be made to the miners' representatives to-morrow. The meeting was secret, and the proceedings were not disclosed. The superintendents of all the big coal companies in the vicinity of Scranton held a meeting in that city to-day, for the purpose, it was stated, of discussing the situation.

In an effort to keep up with the men who have been operating the washeries of the Pennsylvania Coal Company at Wilkes-Barre, that company to-day made a voluntary increase of 10 per cent in wages. The Delaware & Hudson, the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, the Erie, the West End and other companies operating washeries report a substantial increase in the number of men at work.

\$81.75 TO LOS ANGELES AND RETURN.

Or San Francisco, via Pennsylvania Railroad, April 24 to May 4, account Shivers' Imperial Circuit. Consult ticket agents. Adv.

AIRSHIP FALLS TO SEA.

MAN IN BIG KITE ESCAPES.

Ludlow Sees Hamilton Narrowly Miss Drowning.

Atlantic Beach, Fla., April 9.—In a balloon accident in front of the Continental Hotel here to-day, Charles K. Hamilton, a New York aeronaut, barely escaped with his life. As a curtain raiser to the automobile tournament which begins here to-morrow, under the auspices of the Jacksonville Automobile Club, Hamilton, who is only a youth, had been engaged to give an ascension daily.

Israel Ludlow, the young New York attorney who is the inventor of an aeroplane, had journeyed from New York to look after Hamilton's safety. He was closely associated with the last flight of Paul Nacquet, who lost his life on Long Island last week.

Just about 5 o'clock Hamilton, who had been working hard all day, got his airship in order and gave the signal to two powerful steam automobiles, which were attached to the balloon by means of a stout rope, to start. The airship rose gracefully, and the automobiles sped southward down the beach.

When at the height of two hundred feet a crashing sound was heard, and the monster aeroplane was seen to buckle to the strain of the rope and commence to fall. It was then about fifty yards out at sea. A strong wind fortunately blew it inland in its descent, and amid the cries from a large crowd of spectators it crashed into the surf a few yards from shore. It had turned completely over and Hamilton was seen hanging head downward.

Provisionally it righted itself within a few feet of the water and the young aeronaut landed feet downward, amid the crashing bamboo frame of the ship.

Alex Schwabach, of New York, and others rushed to the rescue of Hamilton. Beyond a slight cut on the face he was practically uninjured and walked ashore, declaring that on Wednesday he would have a strengthened frame on his aeroplane and would make another ascent.

OPERATORS TO MAKE IT.

Conference Postponed Till To-day to Hear Peace Offer.

The anthracite miners' committee of seven was in readiness, with President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers at its head, to go to meet the operators in joint session in the Jersey Central Building yesterday when Mitchell was informed that the conference was unavoidably postponed until to-day at 1:30 p. m. The notification came over the telephone in the form of messages from President Baer of the Jersey Central Railroad and President Thomas of the Lehigh Valley Railroad to Mitchell at the Ashland House.

It was learned definitely in an unofficial way that a counter proposition would be made to the miners to-day by the operators, but it could not be learned whether it would be a proposal to arbitrate the question as to whether any new fact has been brought up raising questions not covered by the award of the Anthracite Strike Commission, or something entirely new.

One of the leading operators was asked as to the stand the operators will take to-day. He replied: "If you guess that the operators will make a counter proposition to the miners you will guess right. If you guess that the operators will be for an agreement longer than the two years' agreement proposed by Mitchell, you will guess right."

He declined to be more explicit. J. L. Calk, who represents the independent operators on the operators' committee of seven, was not in town yesterday, as he was attending a meeting of the independent operators in Wilkes-Barre. The other six members of the committee met in the Jersey Central Building at noon, and it was said went over the details of their offer to the miners, which they will submit to-day. Before the operators went into session, President Truesdale of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Company was asked if he favored arbitration. He said:

"All I can say is that my company, along with others, wants to bring about peace without a sacrifice of our independence."

There were various other reasons rumored for postponing the meeting. There was a talk about a split on the question of arbitration among the operators' committee of seven, and it was said that the representatives of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western and Lehigh Valley companies were more strongly in favor of arbitration than the others. It was denied on behalf of the operators that there was any division of sentiment among them. There were many independent operators to hear from, it was stated, and they wanted to have their sentiments fully on the subject before they took any action.

The companies, however, mine 85 per cent of the coal, and the independent operators are getting fewer. J. L. Calk, their representative, will be here to-day and a meeting of the operators' full committee of seven will be held at noon to prepare for their conference with the miners later.

This indicates that whatever offer the operators have to make to the miners is complete in its details and requires only to be ratified on behalf of the independent men. There would be no time for any discussion.

At the Ashland House one of Mitchell's aids said that at one of the joint conferences with the operators District President Nichols, of the miners, in a speech, said that the miners had lived up to the arbitration agreement. He then said that President Truesdale, of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western company, asked Nichols if ever he had known that any of the miners employed in the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western collieries had to bring complaints to the Board of Arbitration. Nichols, he said, replied in the negative, whereupon Mr. Truesdale was alleged to have said:

"And I don't expect there ever will be any complaints."

Mitchell, after a talk over the long distance telephone with the leaders in the Pittsburg soft coal districts, made the following announcement last evening:

"I have just been notified that the last of the Pittsburg operators has signed our agreement. About forty thousand miners in that district, including the men employed by the Robbins interests, will go to work to-morrow."

"Where's Mr. Dolan now?" some one asked. Mitchell smiled and did not reply. He said that the district mined from 35,000,000 to 40,000,000 tons of coal a year. It is known as District I of Central Pennsylvania of the United Mine Workers. He refused to talk of the coming meeting with the operators or give any hint as to what the miners would be willing to accept.

C. W. Post, as the president of the Citizens' Industrial Association of America, sent a letter to Mr. Baer demanding that there be no suspension in the mining of coal. The letter was addressed to Mr. Baer as "Chairman of the Anthracite Operators' Committee," at No. 143 Liberty street. It was said at the office of the Industrial Association in the St. James Building, 20th street and Broadway, that the letter had been delivered to Mr. Baer. The letter said that "the interference of the labor trust in this matter, and their stoppage of supply, is unwarranted and contrary to public policy."

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18 HOURS TO CHICAGO, PENNSYLVANIA SPECIAL. Leaves New York 2:35 p. m., arrives Chicago 8:55 a. m., via Pennsylvania Railroad. Other fast trains. Rock-hill roadbed.—Adv.

Continued on second page. EQUINOX WATER PUREST AND BEST. N. Y. Depot, 283 W. Broadway. Tel. 618-F'kln.—Adv.