

FOURTEEN DIED WITH LEADER

FUGITIVE'S STORY OF KILLING OF LIEUT. SCHMIDT.

Norodny, Russian Revolutionist, in New York, Receives a Letter Describing the Execution—The Men Who Would Not Fire Were Killed for Their Refusal.

Jan Norodny, Russian revolutionary, head of the attempt at mutiny in Cronstadt last year and Minister of Domestic Affairs in the abortive provisional Government in the Baltic provinces, has arrived in New York a refugee and is staying at the "A Club" in Fifth avenue. He escaped from Russia in the disguise of an army surgeon early in January with a 30,000 rouble price on his head. That price has been collected, by the way, and Norodny doesn't know whether he has a price on his head now or not. There is a game in it, such a game as should persuade any one that the Russian people are ready for self-government.

About as soon as Norodny got away a man bearing a remarkable resemblance to his published description appeared in St. Petersburg and flaunted himself before the police. Him the head man pointed out to the police as Norodny. He was arrested at once and damning proofs were found on his person. He protested loudly that he was not Norodny but could bring no witnesses to prove it.

The case seemed so strong that the authorities paid the full amount of the reward and the head feller walked out of sight of the police. Three days later the assistant feller brought absolute proofs to show that he was not Norodny. There was no proof that he conspired with the head man in putting up that game—still proof is not really needed in Russia just now. At any rate, the prisoner walked out a free man, hiked off somewhere and divided up. If, therefore, you see a Russian fellow coming don't turn Norodny over to him. You might not get your money.

Norodny, a Little Russian and an "intellectual," told again the story of the trouble on the Black Sea and the Baltic. He is just in receipt of a letter from an attorney named Riasner, who was an eyewitness to the execution of Lieut. Schmidt of the Russian Navy on March 19 at Otkachoff.

Norodny has been studying English for only three weeks. Being a Russian, he has caught nearly the whole vocabulary of the language, but his pronunciation is Karmaylesk and he gets twisted on idioms. His translation of the letter was free, therefore. This is the substance of it:

"I saw the assassin of Grand Duke Sergius hanged; yet that was as nothing for horror with this shooting. My pen refuses to move when I think of it.

"At 4 o'clock in the morning he was led out on a little island, together with the three common sailors who died with him. His struggle to the end was to save the three sailors. On the way to the island he begged for permission to send a telegram to St. Petersburg taking all the responsibility and exonerating the sailors. The Admiral refused that. 'Then let me at least die as an officer,' he said. 'Do not blind or bind me.'

"They granted that, and decided that, since he could see and the others would be blind, he should be shot first. Schmidt was placed with his back against the hill. Thirty men of his own command, many of whom loved him, were told off to kill him. It was being done for an example, and the atrocity spared no horror.

"Now the Admiral feared that these men might not shoot at the word, and behind them, he stationed 200 men, with loaded rifles trained on every man of the firing squad. Their orders were to shoot instantly any man who failed to fire. Schmidt did not know this; had he, I am certain that he would have begged them to fire if they loved him, since his end was inevitable.

"Schmidt walked like a soldier to the spot. All the way he spoke incessantly to the soldiers who walked to right and left, exhorting them to rise for humanity. A priest approached him.

"No," said Schmidt kindly. "I believe in death, not in the gift of humanity." Then he stepped into his place.

"The officer had drawn his sword, when Schmidt called out:

"Wait! I want a glass of water! You will not refuse that to a dying man?" It seemed a strange request, but they granted it. Hardly were the water bearers out of range when he raised the glass high above his head:

"To the people of Russia!" he cried. "To the Russian people and the Social Revolution!"

"Those were his last words, for the officer, seeing it all now, cried:

"Fire!"

AGAIN A SEWER BOMBARDMENT

GASOLINE FROM GARAGES NOW SAID TO CAUSE BLOWUPS.

Several People Hurt in Fourth of Series—Manhole Covers Shot into the Air and Glass Smashed Along Ninth Ave. in Lower Fifths—Residents in Panic.

It is getting to be a pretty hard thing to keep the lid down in the district along Ninth avenue between Forty-ninth and Fifty-fifth streets. The sewer manhole covers in that region blew up again yesterday afternoon, just two weeks from the day and hour that they blew up the last time. Yesterday's explosion was the fourth.

When the explosion occurred two weeks ago, injuring several persons and doing much damage to property, the authorities thought that it must have been caused by illuminating gas getting into the sewers. They think now that the garages are to blame for it. Gasoline and naphtha from places along Broadway, they say, are allowed to drain into the sewers and cause the mischief. There is going to be an investigation to determine this at once.

The explosion yesterday came a little after 4 o'clock. There was first a low rumble, which lifted most of the manhole covers. Ten-year-old Jimmy Lane happened to be playing marbles on a cover at Tenth avenue and Fifty-first street when this happened. The cover was lifted with Jimmy on it and it threw him and his marbles into the gutter.

This incident caused a crowd of 500 people to collect and attracted several policemen. They were trying to fix up Jimmy when there was a loud explosion followed by a succession of reports like the discharge of a battery. Covers flew up in the air in all directions—some of them as high as thirty feet, and from the holes there came bursts of flame. Houses were shaken as if by an earthquake. Whole panes of plate glass in store windows and houses crashed to the sidewalk. People ran panicky in all directions.

Immediately after the explosion the streets and houses were filled with a queer smell. It was the familiar sewer gas smell, only with it was mixed a smell like that of gasoline.

James Reilly, an employee of the Consolidated Gas Company, was at Ninth avenue and Fifty-first street when the second explosion occurred. He was one of a gang which the gas company has had going around ever since the last explosion trying to find if gas was getting into the sewers. Reilly was just about to go down the manhole when the burst of flame came from it and he was thrown twenty feet away. He was covered with bruises and his right arm was broken. He was taken in an ambulance to Roosevelt Hospital.

Every manhole along Ninth avenue from Forty-ninth street to Fifty-fifth street was sent into the air. Those on Fifty-fifth street from Ninth to Eighth avenue were also sent skyward. But the full force of the explosion seemed to be in Fifty-first street from Eighth avenue to the river, along the route of the four foot brick sewer to which the others are tributary.

Fifty-first street west of Ninth avenue was crowded with children when the covers blew up and the manholes shot forth flames. There was a panic of serious proportions. Children shrieking with terror ran through the street. Out from the houses whose windows had been broken rushed the mothers. They grabbed their own children and all the other children they could get their hands on, ran through the houses with them and out into the back yards, some even lifting the children over the fence so as to get to the next street.

The heavy manhole covers fell into the street in fragments. In front of 422 West Fifty-first street the whole pavement around the manhole was torn up. A group of children were playing in the gutter. They were thrown into the front yard of a house.

Two stained glass windows in the Church of the Sacred Heart were smashed, as were two windows in the rectory next door. There was not a house on the block without a broken window in it. The police collected nearly a hundred bats after it was over. They were claimed mostly by children.

Along Ninth avenue the damage was almost as great. May Shannon, a 19-year-old girl, living at 78 Ninth avenue, was knocked down by the explosion at Fifteenth street and Ninth avenue. She dragged herself into a doorway, where she fell unconscious. She was found there by rescuers and sent to Roosevelt Hospital. She was suffering principally from fright.

John Ewald, who happened to be near a manhole cover at Ninth avenue and Fifty-first street, had his clothes torn into tatters. At Fifty-fourth street the slot of the surface car track was damaged, causing a blockade of the cars on the northbound track, lasting for twenty minutes.

Capt. Zimmerman of the West Forty-seventh street station house turned out his reserves and Inspector Walsh sent for reserves from four precincts. The police also sent for a wagonload of barrels, which they put in the manholes whose covers were broken.

A lot of people were hurt from being cut by glass. Michael Ryan of 507 West Fifty-fourth street had his scalp cut open and had to be taken to the hospital. Others who were treated by surgeons were Nathan Berg of 446 West Fifty-third street and William Slattery, 475 West Fifty-ninth street, both cut on the head.

Not only were the streets filled with glass, but after the explosion the air seemed to be filled with pulverized glass, and many people complained of their eyes being hurt by the glass dust.

Horace Loomis, chief engineer of the bureau of sewers, said last night that the department had about made up its mind that the garages were responsible.

"Ever since the last explosion," said Engineer Loomis, "the Consolidated Gas Company has had men working on the sewers trying to find out if the trouble was caused by leakage of illuminating gas. The superintendent recently reported to the bureau that on the occasion of the last explosion there was a distinct smell of naphtha and gasoline. We are already satisfied that this comes from the garages and that they cause the trouble. It is the custom in these places to wash out the machines, causing a lot of inflammable oils to empty into the sewers."

Broadway just below Fifty-ninth street contains more garages than any other locality in the city now. The section is drained by a sewer running through Fifty-fifth street and thence down Ninth avenue to Fifty-first street, where it empties into the trunk sewer to the river.

Dewar's Scotch. Proved as pure, Meliorated by great age. Recommended by doctors.—Advt.

NO GERMAN LOAN FOR RUSSIA.

Official Refusal Taken as Revenge for Russian Attitude at Algiers.

LONDON, April 6.—A German official announcement that the Government is unable to recommend a Russian loan to the German market is exciting attention in all the European capitals. There is a widespread opinion, despite an official intimation that no political consideration is involved, that Germany's refusal is intended as a snub in return for Russia's failure to support Germany at the Algiers conference.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Telegraph depicts the situation, of which the German refusal is an indication, in quite an alarming manner. He says:

"Clouds are again fast gathering over Europe. The fair weather which the Algiers conference was expected to bring about is further off than before, for the cause of restlessness, which hindered normal tranquility until then, not only continues operative but has increased in intensity, and now two great empires are looking askant at each other. Germany, resolved to make herself heard, considered and felt by all nations, is deliberately upsetting Europe's political arrangements, with results which may become much graver and more far reaching than is generally anticipated. Every Power which contributed to isolate her at Algiers has been or is being punished more or less condignly."

Her punishment of Russia, according to the correspondent, is this sudden and insidious change of attitude. The correspondent dwells at great length upon Germany's disabling act in refusing to recommend a Russian loan.

The Berlin correspondent of the Tribune records the satisfaction of the German Russophobes at the refusal and their tendency to regard it as an international snub, but other correspondents at Paris and Berlin represent the German attitude as being due to Germany's own serious need of money, both for the Empire and Prussia, the latter alone wanting \$150,000,000. Germany's contribution to the Russian issue was to have been nearly equivalent to this sum. The total issue will now be reduced by that amount and the operation confined to Paris, London, New York, Brussels and Amsterdam.

ALGER TO LEAVE THE SENATE.

Michigan Senator Announces That He's Out of the Race—May Resign.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—The Michigan delegation in Congress was made aware to-day of the formal announcement made in Michigan by Senator Russell A. Alger that he would not be a candidate for reelection to the Senate. The announcement created no surprise here in view of the serious condition of Senator Alger's health. He has had four attacks of heart trouble, the most serious occurring a few days ago at Atlantic City.

A few months ago Mr. Alger made the formal announcement that he would probably not be a candidate for Senator, but this was followed early in the year by a letter addressed by him to the members of the Michigan delegation in which he said that because of the improved condition of his health he would probably ask for reelection. The announcement did not serve to clear the field of Senatorial candidates, for two who had already announced themselves, Arthur Hill of Saginaw and W. C. McMillan, son of the late Senator McMillan, continued in the race. It is understood that Senator Alger's final withdrawal opens the way for a number of candidates, among them Congressman William Alden Smith, ex-Congressman Henry Smith, Representative Townsend, Representative Hamilton and probably Representative Samuel W. Smith.

DETROIT, April 6.—Senator Russell A. Alger to-day announced through his son, Fred M. Alger, that he is not a candidate to succeed himself. He said the step is necessary owing to the condition of his health.

While his term does not expire until March 3, 1907, it is believed he will soon resign his seat in the Senate and his friends are expecting the announcement any day. In fact, it was said to-day that he had placed his resignation in the hands of his son and that it would be given to Gov. Warner if he will appoint some one agreeable to Alger. Alger's choice is Gen. Henry M. Duffield.

Gov. Warner says he has not been approached on the matter, and it is said that he will appoint some one who is not in the Senatorial race, Secretary of State George Prescott being mentioned as the most likely man.

That Alger is very sick is admitted, and Mrs. Alger and their children insist that he get out of politics at once.

BEGINS TO FIGHT LONGWORTH.

Horstman Starts Campaign by Asking What He Has Eyes Done.

CINCINNATI, April 6.—Attorney Theodore Horstman, who is trying to succeed Nicholas Longworth as Congressman from the First district, made a formal statement to that effect to-day. Horstman and his friends are planning to make their fight at the Republican primaries and in the party's convention. He is standing on his own record of independence from boss control and of fighting ring rule in Cincinnati. He was asked to-day why he felt that a fight should be made on Longworth. He answered: "It is pretty hard to tell where he stands. He has been on both sides of almost all the political questions. He started out as a protégé of E. O. Eshelby in Eshelby's first fight against the local boss. It seems that he is not anywhere when local issues are concerned."

"The Longworth family, through his father, his uncle, Bellamy Storer, and himself, has been honored with all sorts of offices by the people of this city and county. Yet several generations of them have been large real estate owners here, but have never furthered any improvements worth mentioning."

"The Legislature the only notable thing Congressman Nick Longworth did was to get the Delta avenue viaduct built to improve the Longworth properties. I don't think he represents that spirit in the Republican party which is awakening and the support of which it is necessary to have this time in order to win. I can't recall anything he has done in his two terms in Congress, can you?"

COALITION ON THE RATE BILL.

SOME DEMOCRATIC SENATORS PROPOSE A CAUCUS.

To Arrange for Concerted Action With the Minority Republicans on the Long Amendment—Enough of the Democratic Senators Opposed It to Defeat It.

WASHINGTON, April 6.—With the object of forming a Democratic coalition with Senator Dolliver and the other minority Republicans who are opposed to giving the courts full authority to revise rate fixing orders of the Interstate Commerce Commission, some of the Democrats in the Senate are endeavoring to have a caucus of their party associates called. While the ostensible purpose of the proposed caucus is to give the Democratic Senators an opportunity to discuss the rate bill situation, it is regarded as a movement to arrange for concerted party action in the interest of the amendment offered by Senator Long in behalf of the Republican minority, providing for restricting the Federal judiciary in its examination of the decrees of the Interstate Commerce Commission. Senator Bailey, the Democratic leader, has not committed himself in favor of the suggestion that a caucus be held, but he has told some of his colleagues that there will be no party conference for ten days at least.

There seems to be no reason to doubt that a majority of the Democratic Senators are in sympathy with the proposal to limit the jurisdiction of the courts in respect to railway rates. But it appears to be equally true that there is a sufficient number of Democrats favorable to unrestricted court review to make it practically certain that their votes, added to those of the Republicans who think the same way, will insure the defeat of the Long amendment.

Senator Bailey hit close to the mark when he said in the Senate yesterday that only about one-third of the Republicans are in favor of limiting the power of the courts. Of the 55 Republican Senators whose votes can be cast not more than 17, and probably only 15 or 16, are willing to support the Long proposition. Seven at the most, and perhaps only 5, Democratic votes will be necessary to bring defeat to Mr. Long's amendment and to secure the adoption of a substitute provision for unlimited review by the judiciary.

It does not follow that because most of the Democrats seem to be willing to restrict the authority of the courts they will support the Long amendment. Many Democratic Senators are aroused over the belief that President Roosevelt is attempting to influence rate legislation, and they may show resentment of this by opposing whatever is proposed by the small minority of Republicans who profess to represent the President's views. The Democrats are naturally anxious to get whatever political capital is to be secured by their party by helping to put a rate law on the statute books. At the same time a considerable number among them are inclined to believe that interference with the right of the Judiciary would be contrary to the spirit if not the letter of the Constitution, and they are not inclined to go off at half cock merely to give a partisan advantage through the passage of a faulty law which might require additional amendment or perhaps an entirely new enactment.

Senator Tillman, who is in charge of the rate bill, tried to-day to have a date fixed for voting upon the measure, but was unsuccessful. In the brief debate over Mr. Tillman's proposal he referred to Mr. Aldrich as the Senator who controlled the other side. This was resented in a good natured way by Mr. Spooner, and Mr. Tillman may have to explain that it was a slip of the tongue. He was not gifted in the art of oral expression, he said, and frequently used words which did not exactly conform to his intention. The little episode was settled by an agreement between Mr. Spooner and Mr. Tillman that neither Senator Aldrich nor any other Senator "controlled" the Republican side of the chamber. And when this agreement had been reached Mr. Tillman's effort to secure an understanding as to the time for voting on the bill.

The belief is growing among Senators that the general debate on the rate bill will not last longer than two weeks more, and that a week or ten days will be devoted to discussing and voting on amendments. Should this idea be fulfilled the final vote will be taken probably in the concluding week of April.

President Roosevelt continued his conferences to-day with members of the Senate in regard to the pending rate legislation. Three Republicans and one Democrat went to the White House at the invitation of the President. The Republicans were Senators Allison, Long and Nelson, the first two of whom were members of the now famous conference held at the White House last Saturday. Mr. Allison said when he left the White House:

"We talked about different things—far different things. That is, Senator Nelson talked about one thing and I talked about another."

Senator Rayner was the Democratic Senator who talked with the President to-day.

REAPPORTIONMENT FIGHT WANTS

Parsons Will Call Executive Committee at His Own Convenience.

Herbert Parsons, chairman of the Republican county committee, came on from Washington yesterday and was in town for only a few hours. The condition of his wife made it necessary for him to hasten back to the capital. Out of sympathy for Mr. Parsons the faction opposed to him in the drawing up of the reapportionment plans to be suggested to the Legislature did not carry out its purpose of asking the chairman to call a special meeting of the executive committee for to-day.

It has been left to Mr. Parsons to summon the committee at his own convenience. It is understood that the meeting will be held next Tuesday or Wednesday, when the issue will be fought out as to whether the plan of the Parsons sub-committee or of the element opposed to him shall be sent to Albany. It is understood that Mr. Parsons is hopeful that an understanding can be reached and a unanimous recommendation be sent to Albany.

PALM SUNDAY AT ATLANTIC CITY.

Special tour via Pennsylvania Railroad. Leaves New York Saturday, April 7. Rate \$10 to \$11, includes two days' hotel board.—Advt.

STORER'S STATUS IN VIENNA.

Austrian Government Considers Recalled Ambassador as There Incognito.

VIENNA, April 6.—The curious diplomatic situation caused by the recall of Ambassador Storer has been straightened out. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has arranged to consider the Ambassador as nominally taking a holiday and to regard his presence here as incognito. This, of course, is merely to bring matters into harmony with the Austrian court's stereotyped etiquette.

Count Goluchowski, the Foreign Minister, has visited Mr. Storer, who thanked him for the arrangement. The Emperor will receive Mr. Storer privately and unofficially to bid him farewell. The Government now has formal diplomatic intercourse with Chargé d'Affaires Rivers.

PANIC AT PABST HARLEM.

Bursting Steam Pipe Puts out the Lights and Fire Engines Clatter Up.

A steam pipe in the boiler room of the Pabst Harlem restaurant burst last night about 1 o'clock. The engineer, Ballantine Beach, and his assistant, Michael Lenhard, were scalded and were taken to the J. Hood Wright Hospital. All the electric lights in the dining room went out, and the confusion in the crowd was increased by the turning in of a fire alarm by Henry Meyer, Jr., son of the proprietor.

The steam shot out of the basement on the 124th street side of the building and rushed in at the open windows of the dining hall. The white clouds pouring in made the diners think there really was a fire, especially as they had heard the engine bells. They rushed for the exit and it was great good luck that no one was hurt.

The waiters hurried to light the gas and the place soon began to do business again. A defective joint caused the bursting of the pipe.

WINS FIGHT FOR A MILLION.

Mrs. King Gets Part of the Money Her Husband Willed to Charity.

CHICAGO, April 6.—Judge Walter of the Circuit Court this afternoon entered a decree confirming a compromise by which Mrs. Maude A. King, widow of James C. King, the Board of Trade operator, who died November 2, 1905, gets \$1,000,000 of the King estate. By the arrangement the James C. King Home for Old Men will lose this amount, but will still retain more than \$1,500,000 of the money left by Mr. King. Mr. King's estate is valued at \$3,600,000, the bulk of which was left for the founding and maintenance of the home, while the widow, according to the ante-nuptial agreement and a codicil in his will, received only \$100,000.

Contest of the will was made by Mrs. King after it was probated when she discovered the size of her husband's holdings.

NEW CRUISER UNSEAWORTHY.

Blunder Made in Construction of the British Warship Duke of Edinburgh.

LONDON, April 7.—The Daily Express says that the new armored cruiser Duke of Edinburgh, which was commissioned three weeks ago to join the first cruiser squadron, has been found unseaworthy, owing to her excessive top hamper, and has been docked at Portsmouth.

During her steam trials in the channel she rolled so badly that four of her citadel guns started and threatened to break adrift.

S. FRED NIXON LEFT \$500,000.

Also Owned a Third of a Gold Mine, Which Promises a Large Fortune.

JAMESTOWN, N. Y., April 6.—County Treasurer J. S. Van Schaick has completed his appraisal of the estate left by S. Fred Nixon for the purpose of assessing the inheritance tax. Mr. Swift's figures show that Mr. Nixon left an estate worth in round numbers \$500,000, and the appraised valuation will be less than the actual valuation. It consists of real estate, stock in corporations, railroad stock, bank stock and mining stock.

Mr. Nixon was a third owner of a gold mine in Mexico which promises to produce a large fortune. He also had an interest in a blanket oil lease which covers practically every Indian reservation in the United States.

SUSPENDS COAL CO.'S LICENSE.

Massachusetts Secretary of State Wants a Court Ruling on Extortion.

BOSTON, April 6.—Secretary of State Olin this afternoon suspended the license of the Metropolitan Coal Company under which it sells fuel in Boston and the vicinity. This action was taken because of charges made that the company had made its prices extortionate by increasing the price of coal from 75 cents to \$1.75 a ton throughout the city because of the trouble between the miners and operators.

Secretary Olin's move is purely a technical one and the company will continue the business until the Supreme Court has passed upon the question of what an "extortionate" price is. Should the court uphold the secretary, then the license of the company will be void.

FUND FOR CAPT. VAN SCHAICK.

Masters and Pilots Raising Money to Aid Him on Appeal.

The local harbor of the American Association of Masters, Mates and Pilots of Steam Vessels has raised more than \$1,000 for the defense of Capt. Van Schaick of the steamboat General Slocum, and contributions are coming in daily.

When Capt. Van Schaick was sentenced to a term of ten years for manslaughter because of his connection with the burning of the steamboat seamen generally believed that a scapegoat had been made of him, and the grand harbor of the masters and pilots' association began to raise a fund to enable him to appeal and to give him the best legal aid possible.

The appeal was sent all over the country on February 9 of this year, and money began to come in almost immediately. Seattle, sent \$100 and a promise of more. San Francisco sent \$150, and \$50 came from Tacoma. From Washington, D. C., came \$25 yesterday with a note saying that every licensed pilot except one in the harbor had contributed. Up to date only one-third of the country's harbors have sent \$5,000 will be raised before the case comes up on appeal in October. Capt. Van Schaick is now out on bail.

After all, Usher's Scotch made the biggest haul.

PARTIAL COAL ARBITRATION.

OPERATORS INCLINED TO SUBMIT ANY NEW QUESTIONS.

Old Dispute Not to Be Reopened—Answer to Mine Workers to Be Considered at Meeting To-day—Mitchell Looks for Acceptance—Denial From Baer.

The anthracite operators' committee of seven will meet to-day to consider the answer they will give to the arbitration proposition of the miners' committee of seven at the joint conference next Monday. While it is not believed that the proposition will be agreed to, it was thought yesterday that if the miners insist that there is something new which can be arbitrated and which has not been covered by the award of the Anthracite Strike Commission the operators may offer to put to arbitration the question whether or not any new question has arisen.

This is indicated by the pamphlet of President Wilcox of the Delaware and Hudson Company, which was made public on Thursday, in which he said that "the only question properly open is whether there are any new facts which raise new questions beyond the scope of the arbitration which has already taken place. No such new facts have been brought to public attention."

None of the coal presidents would talk yesterday on the probable answer of the operators to the miners' committee. President E. B. Thomas of the Lehigh Valley Company said:

"I have nothing to say on the coal situation now. I cannot discuss what attitude we will take ahead of the conference, or in fact discuss the matter at all."

It is expected that the conference will be attended by a number of the other anthracite operators outside the members of the committee of seven.

The members of the scale committee of thirty-six of the miners who are with Mitchell at the Ashtabud House held a meeting yesterday after which they went to their homes. They will be back in time for Monday's conference. Mitchell remained in the city. He was asked if he thought the arbitration proposition would be accepted by the operators.

"We would not have asked for arbitration if we did not hope that it would be accepted," he replied. "We expect that it will be accepted."

He refused to make any comment on the statement of the employers on Thursday in which it was intimated that there was nothing arbitrable in his propositions. He was asked what he thought of the situation in the soft coal districts.

"I am well satisfied with it," he said. "He was reminded that everything was tied up in Indiana, and he said that the miners would not work unless the operators signed the scale of 1903. He sent the following reply to the telegram sent to him by John H. Winder, president of the Ohio Operators Association, asking him if he is willing to submit the differences between the soft coal miners and the operators to arbitration:

Telegram forwarded from Indianapolis received in New York city. I have no authority either to accept or decline the proposition you make to arbitrate differences between the bituminous miners and operators. The international executive board of United Mine Workers of America will convene at Indianapolis 17th inst., at which time your telegram will be laid before it and the decision communicated to you.

It was noted that the arbitration proposition of Mr. Winder was almost word for word the same as the proposition made by Mitchell in his statement. He was asked what he thought of the proposition, and the operators were asked to agree to arbitration.

President Baer of the Jersey Central company sent a message to this city yesterday denying a statement credited to him in a Philadelphia despatch to the effect that he had made a statement that a canvass of the operators showed that they were opposed to arbitration. He had not even discussed the subject, he said, and did not authorize any such statement. He was asked what he thought of the independent operators who were in session in Scranton or Wilkesbarre.

The representatives of the soft coal companies who have offices in this city thought it a significant fact yesterday that the joint conference in the Clearfield district of Pennsylvania should be postponed until next Tuesday. The Clearfield district is one of the largest soft coal regions in Pennsylvania, and it is believed that the Clearfield operators are awaiting the result of the conference between the anthracite operators and miners in this city on Monday before they will decide whether or not they will grant the miners' demands.

A representative of one of the largest sales agencies of the companies admitted yesterday that anthracite was scarce in the New York market. The companies were not shipping any coal to this city. The scarcity, he said, was largely caused by well to do people filling the cellars of the month of March. The Lehigh Valley company, he said, was shipping some coal, but not much. One dealer told him that he had 67,000 tons of coal about the middle of March, and now it was nearly all gone.

WANTS SOFT COAL ARBITRATION.

President Winder Asks Mitchell for Same Terms as Anthracite Men.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, April 6.—The bituminous operators propose to settle the difference with the miners on the same terms as it is proposed to settle the anthracite strike-by arbitration.

President John H. Winder of the Ohio operators to-day wired President John Mitchell of the miners' organization and also President Roosevelt that the Ohio operators are willing to settle the strike in the bituminous field on the terms Mitchell proposed yesterday to the anthracite operators.

The text of Mr. Winder's telegram follows:

I propose that, subject to the approval of a convention of the bituminous operators of western Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois, which shall be called at the earliest date possible, the differences between us be referred to determination and settlement to a board of arbitration composed of the members of the present board of conciliation, provided for in the award of the Anthracite Coal Strike Commission, and Judge Gray or any person he may appoint to act as chairman and umpire. The decision of this tribunal or the majority of the mem-

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