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Evening Times-Republican

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VOL. XXVI.

MARSHALLTOWN, IOWA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 1900

NO 105

THE UTAH MINE HORROR

Between Three and Four Hundred Men Killed In Mine Explosion.

OVER TWO HUNDRED DEAD BODIES ARE RECOVERED

Indescribable Scenes of Suffering at Scofield, Utah—Horror of the Affair Increases as Work of Rescue Progresses—Most of the Dead Men Heads of Families—Details of the Disaster.

Salt Lake, Utah, May 2.—Two hundred or more lives were lost in the explosion in mine No. 4, of the Pleasant Valley Coal Company at Scofield, Utah. One hundred and thirty-seven bodies have already been recovered. The work of rescue is still progressing, although there is no hope that any of the men who are unaccounted for escaped death.

The scene of the disaster is just outside of this place on the line of the Rio Grande & Western railroad. The explosion, which occurred in the winter quarters of the mine, is attributed by some to the blowing up of a number of kegs of blasting powder. The company has two mines, known as Nos. 1 and 4. The explosion occurred in No. 4. The first news of the disaster received in Salt Lake gave the list of killed as about twenty-five, but not until evening was the full extent of the calamity understood. Many of the people of this city have friends and relatives at the mines and the newspaper offices and the coal company's offices were visited by numbers of anxious people, who feared some of their friends or relatives might be numbered among the victims.

The Pleasant Valley Coal Company rates back sixteen years. Its mines are at Scofield, where three are located; at Castle Gate, Sunny Side and Clear Creek, the latter being but seven miles from Scofield. It appears to have been one of those accidents common to the very best regulated mines and against the endeavors of the most competent superintendents.

W. C. Wilson was one of the fortunate ones who was on the lower level of No. 1, who escaped. He tells his story as follows: "There was a low rumbling noise heard in the distance, followed by a sort of wave that can hardly be described, but that is known to all who have been in an explosion, and I have been in several. I said to my partner that if gas was known to exist in the mine I should say an explosion occurred. I advised that we run to a tunnel, and with me came six men working in that section. In the main tunnel we met a driver and asked him if he noticed the strange occurrence. He replied he had almost been knocked off the bar by the rush of air. I was then convinced it was indeed an explosion and advised my comrades to hasten with me to the surface. We met two others further on and they proceeded with us. We were gone too soon for the after-damp reached some three or four minutes before we reached the open air, almost suffocating us."

After-damp delayed the work of the rescuing party, but the magnitude of the disaster soon became apparent. All the men on the raise known as Pike's Peak were lying in clusters. John James county commissioner was found with his son George, entwined in loving embrace in each other's arms. All these men had apparently realized that death was coming, for all were found as though in an attitude of defense. Some had their cloaks pulled over their heads and others had protected themselves by burying their faces in the ground floor of the mine, hoping thus to escape the deadly gas that was fast enveloping them.

They must have lived some time in prayerful expectation of rescue reaching them. Donald Deuell, a promising enterprising young engineer from Springville, Utah, who had just entered the mine a few minutes before with his assistants, was found with his instrument set while he and his men lay dead around it. As fast as the bodies were removed they were carried to the company barns across the canyon, where they were washed and identified.

The scene was ghastly, yet most pathetic. Between the blackened and stalwart men lay little lads who were engaged as couplers and trappers. Some lay alongside their fathers and older brothers. It was a scene that made many strong men turn away in tears. After the foul air had cleared away from No. 1 the work of rescue began here and it was soon found a great many miners of No. 1 had been suffocated. The men of the lower level had been warned of the explosion and made their escape before the gasous air reached them. Cars were taken in and the dead loaded into them and brought to the mouth. Here was a scene that beggared all description, for men, women, children and relatives of the dead miners began to gather, and the bodies were brought out and recognized by their respective families the lamentations were most heartrending. The dead were all carried into a boarding house directly opposite the mine and at midnight 150 stalwart men, nearly all heads of families, were laid out in the cold embrace of death.

This mine had been worked for over twenty years and has a reputation, according to State Mine Inspector Thomas, of being one of the best ventilated and protected in the west. His statement that he inspected it less than five weeks ago and believed it entirely safe at that time. It never had bad air and always had been free from gas, and as the coal is mined with shovels there had not been a large accumulation of dust. Nine-tenths of the men killed are Americans and Welsh. The former came mostly from Utah, with a small number from Tennessee and Colorado. Several experienced undertakers were sent down this morning and coffins will go down as soon as the bodies are shipped. J. M. Beattie, of Scofield, who is the company's store keeper, said on arrival this morning that no tongue could tell the horror, sadness and appalling extent of the catastrophe. When he left none could tell how many had been killed, but it was thought the shift in No. 4 had been wiped out and many killed in No. 1.

Whether it was a powder explosion or dust explosion or both has not been decided. In fact, no one had any thought but of the rescue of the injured and to recover the dead and relieve the suffering.

The financial loss to the company cannot be estimated, but will be very great, with the various claims, expenses, loss of daily output and reduced tonnage on the railroad by shipments being stopped. In every way it is regarded as the worst disaster that ever occurred in this part of the country. The nearest approach to it was the Southern Pacific Alloy, Wyo., explosion five years ago, when over 100 men were killed.

At 10:30 201 bodies had been recovered. It is now known that between 300 and 400 men entered the mines, the great majority of whom were killed. The two camps have always been conspicuous for the large number of married men employed. This fact makes the disaster appalling and far-reaching in its results. Several families have been robbed of all the male representatives. In the Hunter family seven are missing. Among the dead are twenty boys who acted as trap boys. At Provo \$3,000 have been subscribed for the families of the victims.

General Grosvenor Gives Bryan 174 of McKinley's 840—Kansas Doubtful. Washington, May 2.—According to the first detailed estimate of the vote in the next electoral college McKinley will have 280 votes and Bryan 174. This estimate is made by Gen. Charles G. Grosvenor, who already has opened his campaign bureau for the coming presidential campaign. Like practically all republican leaders, Gen. Grosvenor believes Bryan will be the next democratic nominee and the issues will not differ materially from those of four years ago, save that the results of the war with Spain will inject a new factor.

"I concede Maryland and Kentucky to the democrats," said Gen. Grosvenor, "and I am magnanimous enough to give them Nebraska, although I am not sure that McKinley will not carry that state. Really, it should be classed as doubtful." Bryan carried Kansas four years ago, but I don't think he will have successful this time, and I have classed Kansas as doubtful. All this talk about Indiana going democratic is bosh. Indiana is safely republican. The Porto Rico tariff, about which there has been such a howl, is going to help out rather than hurt. And as for New York, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming, which some say are doubtful, they will be republican."

Gen. Grosvenor's estimate is as follows: For McKinley—9 Alabama—11 Connecticut—6 Arkansas—8 Illinois—24 Colorado—4 Indiana—15 Florida—4 Iowa—13 Georgia—13 Idaho—3 Maine—3 Kentucky—13 Massachusetts—15 Louisiana—14 Minnesota—9 Maryland—8 New Jersey—10 Mississippi—9 New Hampshire—4 Missouri—17 New York—26 Montana—3 North Dakota—3 Nebraska—3 Ohio—23 Nevada—3 North Carolina—11 Pennsylvania—22 Rhode Island—9 Tennessee—12 South Dakota—4 Texas—15 Vermont—4 Utah—3 Washington—4 West Virginia—6 Wisconsin—12 Wyoming—3 Total—260

Iowa at Washington. Washington, May 2.—Patent: Joseph M. Christie, Des Moines, box car loader; Margaret Doyle, Emmetsburg, shelf; Charles P. Crosby, Trimbledo, clevis; Elroy W. Flint, Des Moines, broom sewing machine; Frank P. Grode, Dubuque, manufacturing balusters, pillar or the like; James L. Groat, Bonacore, farm gate; Edwin B. Jones, Des Moines, car seal; Elias Nother, Waterloo, refrigerator or cooling room; Peter Peterson, Reels, tug hook; George D. Pettigrew, Jefferson, knuckle for car coupling; J. H. Pittman, Neola, freight car door; Julius H. Sengen and G. E. Smith, Des Moines, glass cutting apparatus; William H. Vass

Patton, Fairfield, cartridge loading machine. The comptroller of the currency has authorized the First National Bank of Moulton, Iowa, to begin business with a capital of \$25,000. J. A. Bradley is president and W. C. Stickey is cashier of the new bank. Pensions to Iowans: Increase—John W. Morton, Washington, \$12; James A. Butt, Knowlton, \$8; Michael T. Carter, Maquoket, \$8; Joseph Jordan, Chelsea, \$17; Daniel W. Mages, Floyd, \$17. Original widow, etc.—Special accrued, April 17, Susan Fitch, Detroit, \$8; Clara Morgan, Churdan, \$8.

PUBLIC DEBT INCREASES.

Heavy Payments on Bonds Reduce the Cash on Hand. Washington, May 2.—The monthly statement of the public debt shows that at the close of business April 30, 1900, the debt, less cash in the treasury, amounted to \$1,948,026,985, which is an increase of \$12,545,727. This increase is due to the increase in the cash on hand made necessary by the heavy payments on account of present worth of bonds now being extended at 2 per cent interest. The monthly comparative statement of the government receipts and expenditures shows that during April the receipts aggregated \$46,029,326 and the expenditures \$40,903,927, leaving a surplus for the month of \$4,125,000. The receipts during the month show an increase of \$3,500,000, as compared with April, 1899, and the expenditures a decrease of \$2,500,000. The total receipts for the ten months of the present fiscal year were \$472,357,062, an increase over last year of more than \$18,300,000. The disbursements were \$119,584,000 less than for the same period last year.

HEPBURN WAS MAD

Iowa Has a Wordy War With Cannon on the Canal Question—Amendment Regarding Fortification Passed—General Appropriation Bill Introduced. Washington, May 2.—When the house met today, on motion of Hepburn, of Iowa, in charge of the Nicaragua canal bill, general debate on the bill was closed and it was read for amendment under the five minute rule. The sundry civil appropriation bill, the most important of the general supply bills, and the last on the list, was reported by Chairman Cannon. It carries \$91,586,715, being \$9,709,146 more than the appropriations for the current year. In addition to the amounts carried, contracts are authorized amounting to \$4,437,600, including \$3,275,000 for public buildings.

The committee amendment to substitute the word "protect" for "defend" in the first section of the Nicaragua canal bill was adopted. Parker, of New Jersey, offered an amendment to strike out that portion of the bill limiting the president's selection to the Nicaragua route. It was defeated, 31 to 87. A dramatic and sensational scene occurred between Cannon and Hepburn. The former resented some remarks made last night by the latter impugning his sincerity. Cannon spoke under great excitement and recalled an intimation that had come to him of which he had spoken yesterday that those who were promoting this bill were doing so to delay the canal. He said he had acquired Hepburn of any such intention. Today he frankly stated that Hepburn's name had been connected with the rumor. "Who was the author of the rumor," asked Hepburn, jumping to his feet. "A newspaper man," replied Cannon. "I don't know his name." After a wordy war between the two gentlemen, during which the house was in a wild state of excitement and confusion, the incident closed by Cannon dismissing the whole subject, believing Hepburn's violent remarks due to temper and not to calumny.

Another scene occurred between Gaines, of Tennessee, and Mann, of Illinois. The former took exception to some remarks of the latter, saying they were "devoid of common decency, courtesy and gentility." Mann replied that if that remark came from any one but Gaines it would merit a reply. Gaines denied his responsibility for anything he said and the incident closed.

NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR BRYAN.

Democrats of Dewey's State Instructed for the Nebraska. Concord, N. H., May 2.—The state convention today chose four delegates and alternates to the national convention. They are instructed to vote for Bryan. The resolutions adopted endorse the Chicago platform, denounce republicans for abandonment of bimetallicism and the enactment of the gold standard, for inflicting upon the nation a policy the colonial conquest with its attendant evils of imperialism and militarism. Favors free trade for Porto Rico and independence for Cuba and the Philippines as soon as capable of self government. Favors election of senators by direct vote of the people.

May Name Cleveland.

New York, May 2.—"An important conference of ex-President Cleveland's friends, it was stated yesterday," says the Brooklyn Eagle, "will be held within a very short time, probably in Manhattan. The object of the meeting is to canvass the whole democratic situation, and if it is deemed advisable to make a formal announcement by Mr. Cleveland's friends of their purposes to the country with reference to a re-nomination of Mr. Cleveland. It could not be learned whether there had been any communication with the ex-president."

Will sustain McKinley. Philadelphia, May 2.—Features of national political significance have come to the surface in connection with the official announcement that Charles F. Kindred, of this city, formerly of Minnesota, has secured a full copyright in possession of the Philadelphia Times. The new policy of the Times will be announced editorially in the morning and by Mr. Kindred's own private statements. The editorial will commit the paper to President McKinley's expansion policy and to a national republican administration policy in general. Privately, however, Mr. Kindred says that although he has heretofore been a good friend of former Senator M. S. Quay, he will now "have to see about it" as to who shall be Quay's successor.

TWENTY KILLED.

American Garrison in the Philippines Surprised by Filipinos and Nearly Annihilated—Only Ten Escaped. Manila, May 2.—The American garrison at Catubig, island of Samar, consisting of thirty men belonging to the Forty-third Regiment, was attacked by rebels. Twenty Americans were killed. The remainder were rescued. The Americans were quartered in Calubig church, which the enemy, numbering several hundred men, surrounded and fiercely attacked. The Americans fought for two days. Then the rebels managed to ignite the roof of the church. It burned away and finally fell upon those inside. The walls remained intact, however, and were used as shelter by the besieged Americans three days longer, the enemy attacking the buildings on all sides at once. The Americans continued firing from the windows and doors of the church and did great execution among the Filipinos. It is estimated that over 200 of the latter were killed. After five days' resistance by the Americans a lieutenant and eight men arrived from Laoan and engaged the besiegers, who thereupon retreated. The fortunate arrival of these reinforcements prevented the annihilation of the American force, who repeatedly declined to surrender when ordered to do so by the Filipinos. The ten survivors were without food, had little ammunition and were physically exhausted when relieved. This fight has encouraged the Filipinos, who are now acting in an aggressive manner and threatening the town of Catarma, whence the garrison probably will be withdrawn to Laoan.

SULTAN NEEDS MORE MONEY.

Customs Duties Not Increased, But They Are Necessary. Constantinople, May 2.—The circular issued by the porte relative to increasing the customs duties states that the raising of the duties to 11 per cent is more in the nature of a project than of a decision, it inviting the embassies to acquiesce. The circular maintains that a provisional measure is rendered necessary by the exigencies of the financial situation and requests the embassies to present delegates to conclude new treaties. An trade has been issued prohibiting the importation of all electrical apparatus, including bells. Ismail Kemal Bey, well known for his friendliness for Great Britain, who was recently appointed vail to Tripoli, which appointment is tantamount to exile, has mysteriously disappeared. He embarked on Saturday with the German colonel, Von Ruedigisch, who is also going to Tripoli. The military department, on board the dispatch boat Faud, the captain of the vessel not having received imperial authorization to sail, Ismail Kemal Bey and Col. Von Ruedigisch landed during the evening. Subsequently the newly appointed vail disappeared and no one knows his present whereabouts. It is believed that he has been planning to escape abroad with his three sons.

The affair has produced a great sensation at the Yildiz Kiosk, because the flight of Ismail is hardly less important than that of Mahommed Pasha, the sultan's brother-in-law, who disappeared from Constantinople on Dec. 14 last, and it is considered another symptom of the state of affairs in Turkey.

Ismail Bey Has Disappeared.

Constantinople, April 30 (via Plovidiv May 2).—Ismail Kemal Bey, who was recently appointed governor of Tripoli has disappeared, and all the efforts of the sultan to discover his whereabouts are unavailing. The new governor received \$2,500 as traveling expenses, which he used to assist himself and his two sons to fly from the country, because he believed that his appointment was merely a pretext for his removal from the capital.

Turkey's New Custom Duties.

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The Jewey Celebration.

Chicago, May 2.—The Chicago celebration in honor of Dewey was practically closed today with an excursion by the admiral and members of the general committee of the Dewey celebration down the Chicago drainage canal as far as the Conroy drains at Lockport. The party left the city at 10 and returned about 2. Mrs. Dewey was entertained this afternoon at a luncheon given by Mrs. Bryan Lathrop.

It is reported from the Kiowa and Comanche agency, Kansas, that the Indians are starving. Money due them has not been paid, it is said, their rations have been cut off and traders have refused them credit.

THE JOY OF DEMOCRATS

Matter of solutions at Tomorrow's Convention Perplexing Party Leaders.

The Conservative Element Led by Cato Sells Wants to Relegate Silver.

Attempt Will Be Made to Adopt Benton County's Resolution on Expansion.

Special to Times-Republican. Des Moines, May 2.—The democrats are in considerable perplexity and disagreement as to what they would best do in Iowa this year. Cato Sells, the most far-seeing and shrewd of the democratic leaders, has seen that anti-expansion and free silver will not do. He knows that a policy of this sort will remove from Iowa all the elements of contest and leave the campaign committees little to do. He therefore proposes to inject into the campaign a plank which will cause endless discussion as to what it means. This proposition, which has now become famous, was written by him and presented to the democratic county convention of Benton county, which adopted it unanimously. Here it is, and it is a gem: "Resolved, that we are opposed to the government of any people not subject to the limitations of the constitution; that where the constitution does not go the law shall not stay. We favor ultimate independence for Cuba under an American protectorate and a similar policy for the Philippines."

Mr. Sells will endeavor to have this resolution adopted by the state convention tomorrow. He will also try, as he has before, to steer clear of the silver question as much as possible. If he succeeds in his plan that the democratic party in Iowa can make a fairly good showing, otherwise he has no such expectations and will frankly say so in private, tho, of course, he would not admit it publicly. It will be observed that nothing in this resolution is against expansion and that it goes farther in its application to Cuba than the most ardent expansionist has yet dared to advocate. It has been generally supposed that the policy of the administration and indeed of the country, was to put Cuba on her feet, feed her until she is old enough and strong enough to walk alone and then start her out as an independent little republic. Mr. Sells proposes that the United States shall continue to exercise a degree of sovereignty over the island.

This proposition, coming from Mr. Sells is highly significant, because of the fact that it undoubtedly represents the views of William J. Bryan. Mr. Sells has spent many days at different times this year with Mr. Bryan and they are in perfect harmony. There can be no reasonable doubt that Mr. Sells in introducing this resolution was acting in harmony with the views of the next democratic nominee for the presidency. While the attendance is not likely to be large tomorrow, it will certainly be lively enough, because the contention over what to do with free silver and whom to honor with the positions of delegates at large will furnish plenty of excitement.

GILBERT BEATS ELLIOTT.

Opening of Illinois Gun Club's Tournament at Springfield. Springfield, Ill., May 2.—The Illinois Gun Club tournament opened with about fifty well known shooters present. The weather was all that could be desired and the attendance was large. Fred Gilbert, of Spirit Lake, Ia., and J. A. R. Elliott, of Kansas City, Mo., were to have shot for the Republic cup, but they were both absent. The match was won by Gilbert, who killed 15 birds, while Elliott shot 13. The next most interesting match was for a loving cup and \$50, contested for by Mrs. Murray, of Stillwater, Minn.; Mrs. F. P. Johnson, of Minneapolis; and Miss King, of St. Louis. The match was at twenty-five live birds each. Mrs. Murray won the cup, killing 15 birds; Miss King was second with 15, and Mrs. Johnson third with 17. It was agreed to divide the \$50 between the three.

NEW RECORD IN SQUAD SHOOTING.

Five Marksmen Break 100 Targets Without a Miss—Handicap Today. Springfield, Ill., May 2.—The records for squad shooting were equalled yesterday at the second day of the Illinois Gun Club tournament. Helkes, Rike, Courtney, Conner and Elliott succeeded in breaking 100 straight targets at squad work, twenty to each man. The day was ideal for shooting. A. C. Conner, of Pekin, broke 108 straight targets, making the best score of the day. Today's card includes live-bird shooting in the Capital City handicap, with forty-five entries. A purse of \$1,175 is booked for Thursday afternoon.

Forest Fires Checked.

Menominee, Mich., May 2.—The wind changed suddenly to the north early today, saving several cedar groves along the west side of the Wisconsin & Michigan railroad from the destruction of forest fires. A Wisconsin & Michigan train succeeded in reaching Falthorn today, bringing the first train this week. It is now estimated that the loss will reach half a million.

Maj. John T. Hume, who served so

T.-R. BULLETIN.

NOTICEABLE NEWS OF TODAY

The Weather. For Iowa—Fair tonight and Thursday; frost tonight, with much colder in the east and south. For Illinois—Unsettled this afternoon; fair tonight and Thursday; cooler tonight.

PAGE ONE.

TODAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS: Awful Mine Horror in Utah. Two Hundred Dead Bodies Recovered. Laymen Win in Conference. Filipinos Kill Twenty Americans. Canal Bill Up in Congress. The Democratic Convention.

PAGE TWO.

TELEGRAPHIC AND GENERAL: A New Rural Postal Scheme. German Intrigue to Secure Island. News of the Day.

PAGE THREE.

IOWA NEWS: Suicide of a Boone Girl. Chicago Drains Water Tank. The Congregational Meeting. Short Iowa Specials.

PAGES FOUR AND FIVE.

EDITORIAL: Progression or Retrogression. The Recent Strikes. The St. Louis Fair. A Live Contest. Topics and Press Comment. Iowa Items and News.

PAGES SIX AND SEVEN.

LOCAL NEWS: List of City Teachers Arranged. Will Erect Detention Hospital. Important Mine Decision. Y. P. C. T. U. Convention Postponed. Marietta Postoffice Annulled. List of City News.

PAGE EIGHT.

IOWA AND GENERAL: British Forces Back Boers. Important Mine Decision. Wednesday's Markets by Wire.

bravely and so well with the Fifty-first Iowa Volunteers in the Philippines, will be found in his old position in the office of the adjutant general after July 4. At that time the law passed by the last legislature providing for a record clerk in that office takes effect. Mr. Stephens, the present chief clerk, will be given that position, the duties of which are to hunt up the records of old soldiers, which are constantly being called for. Maj. Hume will then become chief clerk and his old friends will find him in his old place, where he became so valuable before he entered the volunteer service. Maj. Hume has entirely recovered his health since his return home, also at that time he was in a very bad way, being full of malaria.

7 Wisconsin

BASE BALL YESTERDAY.

NATIONAL LEAGUE.

Philadelphia 3 7 27
Brooklyn 3 7 00
Cincinnati 6 4 00
St. Louis 5 5 45
Chicago 4 6 45
Pittsburg 3 6 33
Boston 2 8 200
Chicago 3, St. Louis 2.
Philadelphia 11, New York 8.
Brooklyn 3, Boston 2.

AMERICAN LEAGUE.

Minneapolis 15, Chicago 8.
Cleveland 13, Detroit 10.
Milwaukee 11, Kansas City 1.
Indianapolis 7, Buffalo 3.

S. U. 1-10, University of Kansas 3.

Iowa City, May 2.—State University students and their friends are rejoicing over the big victory of the S. U. 1 base ball team over that of the University of Kansas. The Iowa boys showed much the best training and were stronger all around. The result of the game was a 10-0 victory for the Iowa boys, and these away and the overwhelming victory was not a surprise.

Labor Day in Europe.

London, May 2.—Labor demonstrations in celebration of May day were held yesterday in the capitals and chief cities of Europe. Telegraphic advices from Brussels, Paris, Barcelona, Vienna and other cities state that the demonstrations were counterparts of those of previous years, and were for the most part unmarked by any incidents of a disorderly nature. In London the celebration was of a notable character. An all day festival, including sports, a vaudeville entertainment and other features of amusement, was held at the Crystal Palace. The political features of the day's celebration were a great international meeting in the Center Transept, a concert by socialist choirs and a demonstration in the Crystal Palace, with the labor leaders of prominence as the chief speakers.

Steel Mill to Re-open.

Joliet, Ill., May 2.—The three local plants of the American Steel and Wire Company which were closed by the order of Chairman John W. Gates over two weeks ago, will be re-opened next Monday and over 1,200 men put back to work. Notice to this effect was sent to all the men today. It is said all surplus stock has been disposed of.

The Labor Situation.

Little Rock, May 2.—All motormen and conductors on the Little Rock street car system struck this morning. Up to 8 o'clock this morning there were only five cars in operation and over twenty-eight miles of track. There are no indications of trouble.

Central strike spreads.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 2.—Two hundred and twenty car repairers, inspectors, blacksmiths and mechanics of the Erie road struck in sympathy with the Central's men.

Exposition Laborers Strike.

Buffalo, N. Y., May 2.—Five hundred laborers at the Pan-American Exposition grounds struck today for an increase of wages.

Goes to Scott County.

Frankfort, May 2.—Judge Cantrill today ordered a change of venue to Scott county for trial of Powers, Davis, Yonty and others charged with complicity in the Gobel murder.

THE LAYMEN WIN OUT

General Conference of the Methodist Church at Chicago Grants Equal Lay Representation.

The Question Carried Unanimously When the Vote Was Taken Today.

An Impressive Beginning of the Great Church Congress—Opening Exercises.

Chicago, May 2.—The Methodist Episcopal conference, by unanimous vote, decided to admit equal lay representation to all Methodist conferences. Chicago, May 2.—The twenty-ninth general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church and the twenty-third of the delegated congress began here today. It will last a month and is expected to be the most important of any conference since the memorable one of 1844, when the south branch of the church severed relations with the main body over the slavery question. Representatives of Methodism are present from all quarters of the globe. The plot of the Auditorium theater was filled with delegates when Bishop Bowman called the conference to order this morning in a speech counseling conservatism in the consideration of grave matters which are to come up. Bishop H. W. Warren, following Bishop Bowman, announced the first hymn, which was sung with vigorous enthusiasm by the audience. The creed, led by Bishop J. M. Thoburn, of India, was recited by the audience, and then Bishop C. D. Foss delivered a prayer. This was followed by the reading of Psalm 46 by Rev. H. H. Lowery, D. D., of the North Carolina conference. The "Gloria" was then chanted. The second scripture lesson, from the first chapter of Acts, first to fourteenth paragraphs, was read by Rev. Austin Griffin, of the Wyoming conference, and another hymn was announced by Rev. Harry Swan, of West Texas conference. Prayer by Rev. Harry A. Gobin, of northwest Indiana conference followed, and was succeeded by another hymn announced by Rev. Jacob Yunkers, of north Germany conference. As the last note of the hymn died away Bishop S. M. Merrill took the chair and the first move was made in the business of the conference.

The first important business to come up was the matter of equal representation for laymen. The vote was taken and the proposition was carried unanimously. Announcement of the vote was greeted with cheers as it was a victory over which a fight has been waged for 100 years. The basis of the proposition is reference to representation at conferences now reads: "The lay delegates shall consist of one layman for each annual conference, except such conference has more than one ministerial delegate, which conference shall be entitled to as many lay delegates as ministerial delegates. General conference shall not allow more than one ministerial representative for every fourteen members of the annual conference; nor of a less number than one for every forty-five, nor of more than one delegate at annual conferences than there are ministerial delegates from such annual conference."

Dr. David S. Monroe, of Central Pennsylvania, was elected secretary of the conference by acclamation. The conference voted to admit provisional delegates.

Opening of Illinois Gun Club's Tournament at Springfield.

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