

HOPES ENTERTAINED FOR SETTLEMENT OF MINING SITUATION THIS MONTH

AMICABLE RESULT OF ILLINOIS JOINT CONFERENCE INDICATION FOR GOOD.

BOTH SIDES MAKE NEW PROPOSITIONS

Meeting of Joint Executive Board Held Last Evening - Operators Make An Official Statement to the Public Outlining the Situation.

From Friday's Daily. Hopes are entertained today that the suspension of work in the coal mines throughout Iowa may be concluded inside of thirty days and that the men will go to work again on the terms proposed by the operators. That this is practically the only solution left open for the miners...

Des Moines, April 1.—(Special).—After making arrangements whereby for two weeks the men necessary to keep the mines from damage by water will be furnished, the various operators by the miners' union, the joint conference of the executive boards of the miners and operators adjourned...

Officials Make Statements. Meanwhile the task of reaching an amicable settlement is in the hands of the executive boards of the two organizations. After the adjournment last night, C. H. Morris, president of the operators' association and Edwin Perry, secretary of the miners' district union, made statements of the positions of their respective organizations, as follows:

C. H. Morris—"The adjournment is satisfactory to the operators. We have given everything that we think is right, and will make no further offers. I would hardly call it a strike or a lockout. It is more like a truce for two weeks. At the end of that time it is probable that the difficulty will be solved."

Edwin Perry—"There is still hope of a settlement. The calling of the conference together has been left in the hands of the presidents of the two bodies. The miners have left the settlement of the question in the hands of the executive board. I believe that the miners have gone farthest to reach a settlement."

The Final Propositions. At the meeting last night the final propositions of both the miners and the operators were presented by their respective spokesmen. Nothing was done by either with the other's proposition but action is anxiously awaited by both. The propositions are as follows:

Operators' Proposition. That the following question be submitted to one person and these two to select a third who shall be the arbitrator and shall be a disinterested person, and his decision shall be final and binding on both the miners and operators: Question—In following the Indianapolis settlement, what reduction should the drivers receive in the first and fourth sub-districts of Iowa?

Miners' Proposition. Resolved, That a board of arbitration, consisting of three members be selected as follows: The miners and operators to select one member each, respectively, and the two members so appointed shall have power to select a third member of said board, who shall be a disinterested party.

Said board not to meet later than April 5, in the city of Oskaloosa, and shall hear the evidence and arguments and render a decision as soon as possible, and its award shall be final and binding on both parties and same made a part of the agreement, and effective from April 1, and continuing during the life of our agreement.

Questions to be determined by said board: First: What shall be the rate of wages of drivers, cagers and trip drivers in sub-districts one and four of District 13, U. M. W. of A.?

HOPE ENTERTAINED FOR SETTLEMENT OF MINING SITUATION THIS MONTH

Operators' Official Statement. The operators have made an official statement to the public of the situation as they see it. This statement, written largely by Hon. H. L. Waterman, of Ottumwa, is as follows:

The miners' side of the scale committee, after various propositions from each side, moved that the following propositions be submitted to arbitration: First. What shall be the rate of wages for drivers, trippers and cagers in sub-districts one and four of District 13, U. M. W. of A.

Second. What shall be the rate of wages to be paid outside day labor in District 13. Third. What shall be the price of powder sold to the miners of District 13, during the life of this agreement.

Fourth. What shall be the hours per day for engineers, and the number of days to constitute a full month's work under our next agreement.

The operators stated that in accordance with the Indianapolis settlement, which was ratified by a referendum vote, and which referendum the miners of Iowa were a party, that there should be a reduction of one-half of last year's advance in the price of mining labor and dead work, except that which shall be reduced the same as track-layers.

There being no dispute as to the amount of last year's advance, there should be no difficulty in determining what is one-half of said advance, which is the agreed amount of the reduction and hence, they know of no question that should be submitted to arbitration.

But if the miners insist there be proper subjects for arbitration, that is the question to be arbitrated, and especially as the joint scale committee has already appointed a sub-committee of three operators and three miners to determine what questions should be, and in what form, submitted to arbitration.

Said committee has failed to agree and has been discharged. The operators then offered the following as an amendment to the miners' proposition: That the questions be referred to an arbitrator, to decide whether such questions, or any of them, are proper subjects for arbitration, and if all or any of them are proper subjects for arbitration, then in what form they be submitted to an arbitrator.

The operators feel confident that their offer to arbitrate all of the demands of the miners in the manner above set forth, is a concession that they should not be asked to make, but make it in order to secure a settlement and avoid a conflict which will bring disaster to all concerned.

They object to arbitration of these questions as they are all intended to reduce the amount of the reduction, which the referendum fixed and provided should be granted. The miners have all the chances of gaining and the operators none and they are, under the surrounding circumstances, not proper subjects for arbitration, and feel confident they will show to an impartial tribunal that such is the case.

If the miners believe they are proper subjects for arbitration, they should not hesitate to have that question impartially determined. They do not think it a fair proposition to be asked to arbitrate the question of whether they should keep what they believe to be clearly their own, but in the interest of harmony they have consented to submit such questions of ownership to arbitration.

The demands of the miners, if granted, would change prices and conditions that have been established and maintained on the present basis for several years.

Miners Will Reply. President White, for the mine workers, said that the above statement is not altogether as the miners view the situation but because of the executive committee meeting said the miners were prepared to make a statement of their side of the controversy at once.

The miners say that they have not refused to arbitrate the question of wages at all times, insisting they were questions for arbitration, and that the operators have avoided the issue by pretending that the questions to be arbitrated should first be determined by arbitration.

FLOODS ON INCREASE

THROUGHOUT OHIO AND INDIANA THE CONDITIONS GROW WORSE.

RAILWAYS ARE DAMAGED

Trains Are Either Held Up Completely or Several Hours Late—Ottawa River Breaks Records at Lima, Ohio—Reservoir at St. Mary's Not Broken.

Chicago, April 1.—Throughout Ohio and Indiana the flood situation is worse than at any previous time in the past two weeks. The washing away of roadbeds has demoralized railroad traffic on many lines. Local thunderstorms, amounting almost to cloudbursts, have done great damage.

Railways Tied Up. Reports from Indiana today show that all the men and all the gravel procurable are being sent to points where railroad trains have been inundated or made unsafe. In Ohio many trains are stalled and others are hours late.

The Ottawa Breaks Records. Lima, Ohio, April 1.—The Ottawa river, which runs through the center of the city, is higher today than has ever been known as the result of the heavy rainfall. There are 2,000 people either homeless or confined to the second stories or roofs of their homes to escape the raging waters.

Many Houses Submerged. Fully 500 houses are submerged and several of the largest manufacturing plants are under water and will suffer heavy losses. This afternoon, indications are for continued rain and worse conditions than now prevail are feared.

Celina is Isolated. Celina, Ohio, April 1.—Heavy rains have caused a big rise in the Lake Mercer reservoir, notwithstanding the gates have been removed. A large force of men is at work strengthening the abutments. There is much apprehension among the people living in the adjacent valley lest the reservoir break over its bounds. Celina is entirely cut off from train service today.

Reservoir in Good Condition. Although the reports that the dam of St. Mary's reservoir had given away are untrue, the water is higher now than for many years. Only heavy rains for the next forty-eight hours would give cause for uneasiness. The banks of the river are in good condition.

Largest in the World. This reservoir is the largest artificial body of water in the world, being ten miles long and from two to four wide, covering about 20,000 acres. Its banks are from ten to twenty feet high. In the event of a serious break the damage would be immense.

SENTENCE REPEATED.

Car Barn Bandits Again Doomed to the Gallows.

Chicago, April 1.—Today owing to the alleged technical error in the previous sentence, the car barn bandits, Vandine, Niedermeier and Marx, were re-sentenced. The bandits will be executed on April 22, the date named in the original sentence.

Victoria Land a Plateau. They established the fact that the interior of Victoria Land continues at a height of 9,000 feet, and is evidently a vast continental plateau. A new route to the west was found and a depot was established 2,000 feet up the glacier.

ILLINOIS FOR PEACE

Miners and Operators Make An Agreement For Two Years.

Springfield, April 1.—After a day of doubtful anxiety during which it was thought impossible to make an agreement on the question of a wage scale for the miners of northern Illinois, the joint conference of operators and miners finally came to a close last night and a scale for the next two years is signed by the officers of the two organizations. Tomorrow the men will return to work after celebrating today as the annual eight hour holiday.

Hunter Downs Mitchell. John M. Hunter, former president of the Illinois miners' union, opposed John Mitchell the national president, when the latter lead the element opposed to accepting the cut proposed by the operators. Hunter won out and secured the votes of the conservative element of the miners on his side. Then the miners announced that they were ready to sign the scale proposed by the operators.

The news of the failure to strike in Illinois was received by the coal operators of Iowa with no little relief. Had the Illinois miners voted to suspend work or to call a strike the Iowa men would have had the moral support of these men. But now that Illinois has decided to take the cut it is natural to expect the Iowans will do the same, ultimately if not at the next meeting of the joint conference, whenever it may be called by the two presidents.

EXTRA TRAIN IS ROBBED

THREE MASKED MEN DYNAMITE EXPRESS CAR ON SOUTHERN PACIFIC.

MESSENGER MURDERED

W. J. O'Neil, in Charge of Express Car, Refuses to Open Door to Bandits and is Deliberately Killed—Robbers Make Their Escape.

Sacramento, Cal., April 1.—Three masked men last night held up the Oregon Express, southbound, on the Southern Pacific railroad at Copley. They killed W. J. O'Neil, the express messenger and carried off the contents of the express box.

Cut Train in Two. As the train stopped at Copley for water the three men jumped aboard and cut the train in two, taking the engine and express car down the track a short distance.

Messenger O'Neil Killed. They stopped the engine and demanded that Messenger O'Neil open the express car. He refused, whereupon they blew up the express car with dynamite and deliberately killed O'Neil by shooting him through the head.

Size of Haul Not Known. It is not known how much booty the bandits obtained. After robbing the express car the men cut the car loose and getting on the engine they compelled Engineer Joe Sink to go ahead. When near Keswick the men dropped off the engine and disappeared.

Says Loss Was Light. San Francisco, April 1.—Superintendent Barstow, of the Wells-Fargo Express company, said today that there was not much money in the express safes blown up by the robbers at Copley. There were no valuables from the east in the car.

VOYAGERS ARE SAFE

THE ANTARCTIC STEAMER DISCOVERY RETURNS TO LYTTLETON, NEW ZEALAND.

Lyttleton, New Zealand, April 1.—The British Antarctic steamer Discovery and the relief steamers Morning and Terranova, arrived here today.

Much Scientific Work. The relief ships which left Hobart, December 5 reached the Discovery February 14 and found all the members of expedition in excellent health and spirits. The scientific work was continued by the explorers throughout the winter of 1903.

NO DEFINITE ACTION. U. M. W. of A., No. 152, to Hold Called Meeting Saturday Evening. No definite action relative to the crisis that at present exists between the coal miners and the operators was taken at the regular meeting of No. 152, U. M. W. of A., at their quarters in Labor hall last evening.

A NOVEL SUICIDE. Old Man Deliberately Casts Himself Into the Niagara Rapids. Niagara Falls, N. Y., April 1.—Otis White, of Ransomville, an old man, committed suicide today by deliberately walking into the rapids, where he was carried over the American falls.

THEY WANT REFERENDUM

CLINTON MEMBERS OF IOWA HOUSE ASK FOR CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

APPROPRIATIONS MADE. Institutions Under Board of Control Will Get \$99,000—Buchanan Secures Passage of Amendment to Require Board to Report to Legislature.

[BY LEON BROWN.] Des Moines Bureau of the Courier. Des Moines, April 1. The members from Clinton introduced a resolution in the house for a constitutional amendment to establish the initiative and referendum in the enactment of laws in Iowa.

Senate Sifting Committee. The senate looking towards adjournment, adopted a resolution to appoint a sifting committee next Monday.

\$99,000 Appropriations. The house passed a bill appropriating for the institutions under the board of control amounts aggregating \$99,000.

Buchanan Wants Report. Representative Buchanan of Wapello got into the measure an amendment requiring the board of control to report within five days after the next assembly meets the unexpended balances on hand and the amounts transferred from one fund to another.

EXTRA HAS FOUND MURDERERS

MAYOR OF DES MOINES SAYS HE HAS SOLVED PETERSON MURDER.

A MOST BRUTAL CRIME

James Brenton Says the Two Men Who Killed the Little Brother and Sister After Outraging Latter Are in Penitentiary for Other Crimes.

Des Moines, April 1.—(Special).—Mayor James Brenton claims to have positive evidence to prove that the two men who murdered the Peterson children just outside of Des Moines two years ago are serving terms in the state penitentiary, one for stealing chickens and the other for grand larceny.

Mr. Brenton says that the names of the murderers was unknown when they were sentenced to penitentiary but that it has been since that time and that the names are now in his hands.

Harrowing Crime. One of the two little Peterson boys, a brother and sister, was one of the most harrowing crimes in the history of Iowa. The boy and girl were on their way home from church in the evening and were assaulted by two brutal men who outraged the girl and ended by murdering both children. Judging from the condition of the bodies when found, the boy had been killed in attempting to save his sister's life.

Crime Baffles Police. The police and detective force of Des Moines and in fact every city in the state has been baffled for two years by the crime. A Des Moines detective who had spent nearly two years trying to locate the murderers recently went insane and killed himself after brooding over his failure.

Can Enjoin Bootleggers. The house passed the senate bill defining bootleggers and making it possible to enjoin them.

MUSCATINE BANKER DIES

Charles Page, Old Business Man of That City, Stricken in South.

Muscatine, April 1.—(Special).—Word was received here today that Charles Page, cashier of the Muscatine Savings bank, is dead at Dallas, Tex., where he went a week ago in the hope of benefiting his health. He had been a prominent business man of Muscatine for nearly half a century and his loss will be keenly felt.

OTTUMWANS ATTEND

Class of 3,100 Candidates Initiated by Royal Arcanum of Chicago.

Justice O. L. Campbell and Attorney W. W. Epps of this city attended the meeting held under the auspices of the Grand Council of Royal Arcanum of Illinois in the First Regiment Armory in Chicago last evening, when a class of 3,100 candidates were initiated.

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MAKE BIG PROFITS.

At the request of Root, Hawley's lawyers produced a batch of these statements. They showed that heavy transactions in cotton for the joint account of Hawley & Sully and Hawley, Ray & Sully had been made in December, January and February. The transactions ran from 100 bales to 10,000 and in one it was shown that Hawley and Sully had divided a profit of \$90,000. In another the three men divided nearly \$150,000.

DENIES PARTNERSHIP.

Hawley denied any co-partnership with Sully. Hawley's examination was then postponed until April 7.

MAY CHOOSE ALBIA MAN.

Prof. H. C. Hollingsworth For President of Teachers' Association. Muscatine, April 1.—(Special).—Indications are today that the election of officers by the Southern Iowa Teachers' association will result in the choice of Prof. H. C. Hollingsworth, principal of the Albion schools, for president, and S. J. Finley, of Oskaloosa, for chairman of the executive committee.

EXTRA VICTORY FOLLOWS

JAPANESE COMPEL THE ENEMY TO RETREAT FARTHER NORTH.

RUSSIANS SAID TO BE IN DIRE DISTRESS

Unofficial Report of Monday's Battle Makes St. Petersburg Glad—Russians Claim a Victory and Say the Japs Were Completely Unnerved.

Seoul, April 1.—It has been learned here that the Russian cavalry is in much distress and is retiring toward Wiju. They are cutting down telegraph poles to use as fuel, and their horses are dying for lack of proper food.

RUSSIANS ARE RETREATING.

Tokio, April 1.—Information has been received here from a private source that the Japanese troops, after dislodging the Russians at Cheng Ju, on March 28, rested for a day and then advanced to Yong Chun, about forty-five miles west of Cheng Ju. After a brief engagement here, they drove the enemy further north, the Russians retreating toward Unsan, eighty miles northeast from Yong Chun.

HEROES ARE WELCOMED AT ODESSA.

Odesa, April 1.—The Russian steamer Malaya, with the survivors of the crews of the Koreitz and Varing on board, arrived here today and were accorded an enthusiastic reception by enormous crowds.

TOGO MAKES ANOTHER ATTACK.

London, April 1.—A dispatch to the Central News from Tokio says that Vice Admiral Togo made another attack on Port Arthur during the night of March 30-31. The dispatch adds that it is understood the attack was for the purpose of taking soundings and ascertaining the effects of the last attempt to bottle up the Russian fleet. No details of the attack are obtainable.

RUSSIANS CLAIM VICTORY.

St. Petersburg, April 1.—The following official dispatch has been received from Liao-Yang: "In the first encounter with the Japanese in northern Korea, which was crowned with victory for the Russian army, the enemy's losses were ten times those of the Russians. According to the Korean reports the Japanese buried fifty men, while 120 wounded were removed with the help of five hundred Koreans to the headquarters of the Japanese main force. The confusion of the Japanese was so great that they hoisted two red cross flags in token of the surrender. The people here are in high spirits over the news of the first brilliant fight in Korea."

NO APPARENT ALARM.

There is no apparent alarm, although all movable property is being partly removed. Will Prepare for Attack. It is understood that immediately after the eleven ships now here are loaded the port and the river will be closed, as work providing for the systematic defence of New Chwang is progressing.

ALEXIEFF AT PORT ARTHUR.

Port Arthur, April 1.—Viceroy Alexieff arrived here yesterday and was received by Vice Admiral Makaroff and the other officials. Correspondents Leave Tokio. Tokio, April 1.—The first party of foreign correspondents left Tokio for the front today. It consisted of sixteen newspaper men, mostly British and American. From here the party goes to Moji, leaving there April 6 on a Japanese transport for their destination, which is kept secret.

ASKS ACCOUNTING.

Martin Hardsocq Charged With Mismanagement of Nichols Mfg. Co. A petition calling for an examination of the books and records of the Nichols Manufacturing company, the jointing of the manager of the company, Martin Hardsocq, from engaging the Nichols Manufacturing company plant in the manufacture of any other article than the Nichols square has been filed in the district court by A. L. Wheeler against Martin Hardsocq, T. F. Norfolk and J. L. Norfolk. The petition alleges that the patent right to the Nichols square was purchased and the company formed for the express purpose of manufacturing that square and of engaging in no other business. It alleges that Mr. Hardsocq as manager of the company has caused the plant to be used for the manufacture of a number of other articles much to the disadvantage of its original purpose, the manufacture of the square. It further alleges that Mr. Hardsocq has charged up to the Nichols Manufacturing company \$59,933, the greater portion of which expenditure was incurred in the other outside branches of the manufacturing business done by the plant. The petition states that there has been a loss of \$18,000 already in the business.

HAWLEY IS QUESTIONED

PRESIDENT OF IOWA CENTRAL RAILROAD DEALT IN COTTON WITH SULLY. New York, April 1.—An examination to determine whether Edwin Hawley, president of the Iowa Central railroad and the Minneapolis & St. Louis railroad, and Frank H. Ray, head of several large tobacco companies, were practically partners of Daniel J. Sully in his cotton operations began today before Commissioner Alexander.

ELIHU ROOT RETAINED.

Former Secretary of War Elihu Root was retained to question Hawley and Ray. Hawley Tells of Deals. Hawley testified that his business relations with Sully & Co. began in December last and ended March 13. He kept no special record of his cotton operations relying chiefly on the statements he received from Sully & Co., following purchases or sales.