

Miners Quizzed By Col. Roosevelt Get "Big Pay" If it Is \$1.75 Per Day

By Dorothy Dale.

WILKES-BARRE, Pa., Aug. 17.—When Col. Roosevelt heard David A. Thomas of Dickson say "from \$2.50 to \$2.75," and had come out of the front room of Simon Kosckinlek's little house in "Mine Patch," Wilkes-Barre, where the head of the house earns 70 cents a day in the breakers, he knew the best and the worst of the "big pay" talk for miners in the Lackawanna valley.

That is, the best and the worst when there isn't any shut down. Benj. McEnaney, president of District No. 1 of the United Mine Workers, says that shut down clause means half time.

"But we can't get that every day," Thomas answered the ex-president's next question.

He explained to me just what he meant. Thomas says he works in one of the best mines of the valley, the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Storr's mine. He is what is called a "contract miner." He has worked 34 years in mines, since '82 where he is now, and corresponds to a skilled workman at any trade.

The men who get out the coal of the valley are divided into two classes, the contract miner and the laborer who helps him.

The miners sign a contract which reads differently in different mines.

"At our mine we lose fewer days than at the others," said Thomas. "We lose on an average 20 to 30 a year unless there's a shut down on account of machinery breaking."

"All the miners through this section work on contract. In our mine the contracts allow us to mine six cars of coal a day, and we get \$1.08 a car. Each car holds two tons.

"That looks like we could make \$6.48 a day. But it's nothing like that."

"The helper has to be paid 40 cents a car out of that. Then there's his picks and shovels to buy. A shovel lasts six weeks and costs 65 cents. Picks cost 60 cents. Then for sharpening it's about \$1 to \$1.25 every two weeks. Then there's the dockage if the cars aren't full enough, besides the oil and powder and squibs. And we don't much of the time get the full six tons a day. We're lucky if we get four sixes in two weeks. Many only get two to three cars a day if the vein isn't good."

"Last week I drew \$9.40 for the two weeks before."

Matthew Cavanaugh, another experienced contract miner whom Col. Roosevelt visited, gave this account of pay conditions in the Scranton Coal Co. mines:

"Our contract lets us get seven two-ton cars a day at 93 cents a car," he said. "One-third of that goes for the helper. For powder, \$3 a week—sometimes less, according to the coal. Oil and squibs average 31 cents a week. Sharpening 40 cents to 50 cents."

"The check docking boss we have to look after the docking of our cars we pay from 10 cents to 15 cents in two weeks. Then counting the docking if they aren't full enough, and the days we get seven cars are rare. We're in luck if we get four or five."

"Lots of the miners don't make a dollar a day."

One contract miner allowed me to see two of the company due bills showing just what he and his helper got for two weeks in May and two weeks in June. Here are the figures in the first of these:

Dr.	Cr.
3 cars at 93.....	\$2.79
1 yard at \$1.75.....	1.75
Gross earnings.....	\$30.56
Laborer's time.....	\$12.81
Supplies.....	1.82
Smelting.....	.30
Check docking boss.....	1.11
Store account.....	5.00

Balance..... \$10.34

The June due bill shows that the laborer received \$11.75 for the two weeks and the contract miner \$13.34. Adding \$10 for "store account" (groceries bought from company store) to the contract miner's balances, his earnings for the month aggregate \$33.68, as against his helper's \$24.56.

Over in Mine Patch in Wilkes-Barre is where the other "big pay" extreme was found.

"Mine Patch" is a row of little red houses at the bottom of a gravel and clay hill. Almost all of the dwellers there are Polish.

Col. Roosevelt visited the family of Simon Kosckinlek. The twelve-year-old son Joseph, the biggest of the five children, talked with him.

"Do you go to school?" he asked the little chap.

Joseph said he went to the Polish school. He also told the big man who was asking him questions that his father was a slate picker.

Slate pickers get from 50 cents to 70 cents a day.

Before leaving, Col. Roosevelt walked into the front room where the whole family of seven sleep. There is a bed, a mattress on the floor, a baby's crib and a chair or two in it.

"Why so many in one room?" I asked.

"Boarders sleep upstairs. 12 of 'em," explained the boy. "We got to sleep down here."

I asked why they took so many boarders. Mrs. Kosckinlek, who had a baby on arm, tried her few English words to explain.

"Man make 70 cents, 50 cents,



THE FAMILY OF SIMON KOSCKINLEK, WHO EARNS 70 CENTS A DAY AND TAKES IN BOARDERS AT \$7 A MONTH TO MAKE BOTH ENDS MEET.

60 cents day," she said. "So many to eat. Must take boarders. Too old, too slow to mine. Must pick slate."

The house has five rooms. The rent is \$11. Each boarder pays \$7 a month, because they make only a little money and the 12 sleep in two rooms."

After talking with the miners I went to officials of the Lehigh Valley Coal Co. and the Kingston Coal Co. to ask if I might see their pay rolls for a year back, so that the account would be accurate.

Assistant Manager Frederick Chase of the Lehigh company refused to give it out at his office.

"It is against the policy of the company," he said. He referred to a publicity department in New

York, where a statement might be procured.

Benjamin McEnaney is president of District No. 1 of the United Mine Workers.

"The average pay a day for the contract miner is \$1.75," he said. "The contract miner's pay ranges from \$1 to \$2.75. The helper's from 50 cents to \$1."

"But they don't get that steadily. The miners are shut down enough to make the work time just about half time."

The company store is almost gone from the valley. But the prices for food are exorbitant. Flour is \$3.75 per 100 pounds. Coffee 25 cents per pound. Butter 38 cents per pound. Potatoes \$1 a bushel. The cheapest boiling meat 10

cents a pound.

"The poor miners are always behind," said John Swantowski, who has a store at Duryea. "They are behind on an average of \$40 each. Some we carry are \$100 behind."

"Yes, and many's the time your heart would break to see some woman stand and beg for an eel or a loaf of bread for her children," said Mrs. David Thomas, over in Dickson, as she told of the struggle of the miners to make, not ends meet, but just keep alive on their "big pay."

And it's all in the vicinity of the richest township in the world—Hanover—where it is said the land is worth \$100,000 an acre because the finest coal vein known lies undeveloped under it.

NO MORE FIGHTS IN NEW YORK

(By United Press Leased Wire.) NEW YORK, Aug. 17.—Acting Mayor Mitchell announced today that there would be no more fights held in New York while he is acting mayor. It is expected that Mayor Gaynor will take the same stand when he returns to his duties.

ALASKA TOWNS SHUT OFF

(By United Press Leased Wire.) CORDOVA, Alaska, Aug. 17.—The United Wireless stations here at Katalla are closed today. Lack of business is given as the cause. Residents of Katalla are distressed, as it leaves their city cut off from communication with the outside world.

SHE SAW MAYOR GAYNOR SHOT



Signora Pedro Monti, Wife of the President of Chile. Mayor Gaynor Was Chatting With Her and Her Husband When Gallagher Opened Fire.

GET RID OF FLIES
Use Sanitary Fly Screen. Has patent fly escape. Costs no more.
Sanitary Fly Screen Co.
1205 Puyallup Ave.
Tel. M. 6512.

TRY TO BLOCK COLLICOTT IS APPOINTED

(Continued From Page One.) Individually, I want and expect the support of the progressive business men in the organizations, but for the trustees to endorse it would hurt it."

Clubs Favor Dock. (South End Improvement Club.) Resolved, That the South End Improvement club go on record endorsing Mayor Fawcett's stand for the municipal dock, and that we favor the Eleventh street site over all others offered. Further, we believe that all suggestions being now made on the question of docks are merely to throw sand in the people's eyes by those who have some interest to serve. We recommend that the city council instruct the city attorney to bring suit against the Northern Pacific to condemn such property as is needed for the dock.

(United Commercial Travelers.) Resolved, That the Tacoma council No. 124, United Commercial Travelers, heartily endorse the efforts being put forth by the municipal dock committee of this city toward the establishment of a municipal dock at Eleventh and Dock streets, and trust that the effort now being made by the commission of the city of Tacoma to secure the necessary site from the Northern Pacific Railway company will be successful.

SCHOOL OPEN ALL SUMMER

Visit Our Classes

Fall Term Opens September 6th

Phones: M. 802
A. 3802.

Elevator Service for Day and Night School

ELECTRO Dental Parlors

Largest and most thoroughly equipped Dental Office in the Pacific Northwest.

We believe that moderate prices, work of quality and satisfied patients are the BEST advertisements.

- Full Plates... \$5 to \$15
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- Painless extracting... 50c

Careful, conscientious examination of your teeth made WITHOUT CHARGE.

DR. J. F. AUSTIN—Managers—DR. W. B. BURNS

Electro Dental Parlors
Tacoma Theater Bldg., 9th and C Streets.

Want T. R. To Take Trip In The Clouds

BOSTON, Aug. 17.—"I believe that Col. Roosevelt will fly with me around the aviation field for a few minutes," said Clifford H. Harmon, the millionaire aviator, today. "I shall invite him to accompany me on Friday."

On Friday Roosevelt will be a guest of the Doubleday-Page company at the jaying of the cornerstone of the Country Life building at Garden City, where part of the ceremonies will be aeroplane flights by Harmon, Baldwin and Fairchild.

Stagers Skeptics
That a clean, nice, fragrant compound like Bucklen's Arnica Salve will instantly relieve a bad burn, cut, scald, wound or piles, stagers, skeptics. But great cures prove its a wonderful healer of the worst sores, ulcers, boils, felons, eczema, skin eruptions, as also chapped hands, sprains and corns. Try it. 25c at all druggists.

Little Things That Happen Around Town

One Kelly is like John D. Rockefeller in that he has a good forgetter. Kelly had a pair of tan shoes claimed by another, which fact was responsible for his appearance in police court.

"Did you steal those shoes?" asked Judge Arntson.

"I don't remember," was Kelly's reply.

"Did you attempt to sell those shoes for fifty cents at Bob Siegel's second-hand store?" was the next question.

"I don't remember," again stated Kelly in the same monotone as before.

"Do you want to give any testimony?" asked the judge.

"It's up to you. You are the judge, you know," Kelly replied nonchalantly.

Kelly was fined \$100 and costs.

The Central Improvement league last night was asked by the South End Improvement club to give up its central meeting place

and meet once a month around with the individual clubs. This would acquaint the league with the various sections of the city and save rent for a meeting place.

J. McDonald was yesterday freed from the bonds of matrimony which united him to Mary McDonald by Judge Easterday.

The complaint alleged abandonment.

GRAND THEATER
Tacoma's Leading Vaudeville House
SEARLE AND VIOLET ALLEN
in the novel playlet
"Keeping an Appointment"

Admission—15c; lower floor, 25c; box seats, 50c. Matinees, except holidays and Sundays, 15c.

PANTAGES THEATER
Unequaled Vaudeville All Week
MR. AND MRS.
"BOB" FITZSIMMONS

"A Man's Man"
(Bob will tell of the Reno fight)
Seven Other Stellar Acts.
Prices—15c, 25c. Box Seats, 50c.

(Paid Advertisement.)

P. B. EGBERT
Insurgent Republican candidate for the State Senate from the Twenty-sixth district, says he favors:
A direct primary law.
A bank guarantee law.
A railway commission law for interurban, suburban and street railways, the commissioners to be elected by the people, with recall attached.
The headless ballot law, removing party names from the official primary ballot.
A workman's compensation act.
All legislation benefiting labor.

VICTOR or EDISON
\$1.00 Down.
\$1.00 Week.

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Fifty-One Big Piano Bargains

BEING THE ENTIRE STOCK OF USED PIANOS AND PIANOS TAKEN IN EXCHANGE DURING OUR MOST SUCCESSFUL CLUB SALES, TO BE CLOSED OUT IMMEDIATELY IN A

Rousing Mid-Summer Clearance

Among them are to be found dozen of pianos from America's foremost factories in practically every wood, style and finish—many of them almost new, and every one guaranteed to be in perfect musical condition.

Uprights, Baby Grands, Player-Pianos, Piano Players, Organs

All go at a fraction of their real value in order to make room for new stock and additional lines of pianos now arriving daily.

During the months of June and July more than 500 high grade Uprights, Baby Grands and Player-Pianos were sold on the club plan and we received in exchange nearly 50 upright and grand pianos of well known makes of which the larger proportion—nearly 75 per cent—are less than three years old. And absolutely the only objection their former owners had to these instruments was that no one in the home could play them. The pianos were all right, but the members of the family lacked the ability or skill to use them properly. So they traded them in at a sacrifice of their real values and secured new Player Pianos by means of which any member of the family could instantly provide the very best music.

Come in early tomorrow morning, look carefully over the stock, make your selection and have a fine instrument in your home before nightfall at a fraction of its original cost.

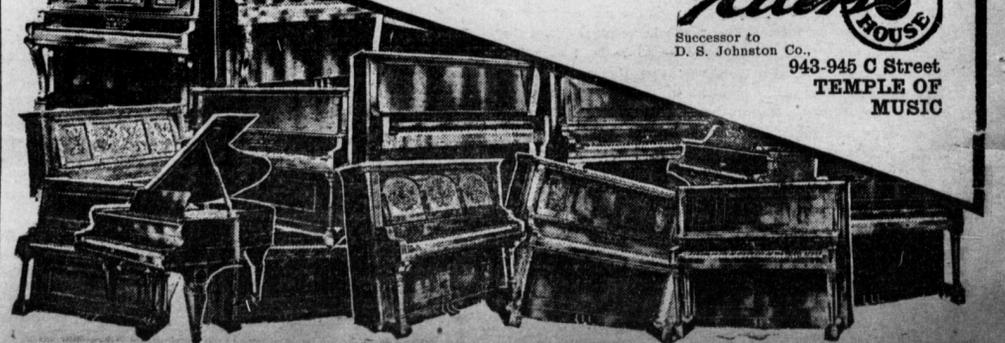
Here Is a Complete List

GRAND PIANOS		UPRIGHT PIANOS		PIANO PLAYERS				
Price	Clearance	Price	Clearance	Price	Clearance			
Bordman & Gray	\$750	\$375	Hall & Sons	\$325	\$158	Paragon Player	\$200	\$35
Lester	800	450	Kingsbury	275	165	Harmonist Player	200	40
Lester	875	535	Schilling	350	195	Simplex Player	225	50
Kimball	850	575	Hinze	375	206	Hardman Player	200	55
Kimball	900	720	Lucore	425	217	Cedilian Player	200	75
Chickering Art Grand	1100	840	Johnston	400	237	Apollo Player	250	115
			Strohmer	450	248	Pianola	250	125
			Lucore, large	475	265	Pianola	300	175
			Kimball	415	267			
			Schubert	450	282			
			H. M. Cable	550	284			
			Smith & Barnes	500	286			
			Pease	375	287			
			H. P. Nelson	450	289			
			H. M. Cable	600	292			
			Wheelock	600	292			
			Clarendon	450	297			
			Story & Clark	400	298			
			Kimball	525	315			
			Story & Clark	550	328			
			Schubert (Art)	550	335			
			Decker & Son	600	375			
			Johnston	650	448			

Your Credit Is Good

Bring this list with you and come in and see just what a fine opportunity this sale offers for saving money. A few dollars is all you'll need to secure the immediate delivery of any of these used upright pianos, no matter what the price. The balance you can pay in little amounts monthly that will entail no hardship on anyone, no matter how slender the purse may be. Don't put it off. Don't longer deprive your family of the great pleasure the piano brings. Come early tomorrow morning and get first choice.

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