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THE FLAT TOP COAL FIELD

Advantages Offered Laborers--Condition Good

There is no section of West Virginia where the laborer has more and better advantages than in the Flat Top Coal Field. Every man who desires to earn a good living can get work at wages equal to those paid laborers in any part of the world and greater than in many places. The conditions under which the men work, whether in the mines, upon railroads, farms, at saw mills or wherever labor is employed in this section are good. They are paid well, treated fairly and given opportunities which few of their fellow toilers enjoy in other sections of the country. Houses are fairly good, rent is reasonable, and upon most of the coal operations in Mercer and McDowell counties the householders who wish to raise a garden is at liberty to use as much of the ground near his home as he can without extra cost. The stores, both company and independent, supply the very best food obtainable at reasonable cost. Only a few of the company stores over-charge for supplies. The average profit in the company stores of this section is about 15 per cent., while some of the stores only make from 10 to 12 1/2 per cent. Working days are from 8 to 10 hours and the men are not driven; miners and employes in and around the mines are not interfered with by mine guards, and it is a common thing for sick or injured employes to remain in the company houses for months without being pressed. It is true that in some of the mines where the miners get paid by the car, that the cars are too large for the price paid. The rate in this section per ton for mining coal is from 40 to 52 cents, or 80 to 90 cents per car. It is generally known that the cars upon some of the operations hold more than two tons and the operators are correcting this condition of their own accord. The writer was informed by one of the leading operators in this section that at a very early date standard cars or scales would be established throughout this field.

The schools are good and there are two or more upon almost every operation, with the best teachers available who receive the best pay of any teachers in the state. The school terms run from six to nine months. In McDowell county there are only a few schools with a shorter term than seven months. The educational system of this field is of the first class. Upon every operation and in every community there are two or more churches pastored by men who have the interests of the workers at heart, and in quite a number of cases the pastor is a miner himself. The companies assist the people in every endeavor for the general uplift.

The men who work in the Flat Top coal fields are generally happy and contented and a large number of them own property in West Virginia or elsewhere. The majority of the laborers in this field are Negroes and they are earning a good living, supporting and educating their families and only want the opportunities and privileges that are accorded other men.

Political conditions are good, the men vote for whom they please without intimidation or coercion. They are free American citizens, support whomever they wish and do not fear losing their jobs. If the coal companies and railroads of the entire state wish to prevent labor troubles and industrial strife, they will do well to employ Negro labor. The Negro is not so susceptible to the persuasion of the agitator as is the white and foreign laborer. Give the Negro laborer good wages, a good home, reasonable working conditions, good schools and churches and permit him to exercise his right of citizenship without hindrance and there will be no industrial warfare. Labor agitators, Socialists and demagogues have never found much favor with the Negro. This field offers advantages to the Negro found in no other section of the country.

Employ more Negroes, treat them fairly and industrial warfare will cease in West Virginia.

FAMOUS NEGRO IS ENTERTAINED

In Hotel Where He Was Once a Waiter

In the "Entertaining People" department of the June American Magazine, Booker T. Washington writes about William Henry Lewis, one of the country's most eminent colored men. Lewis was a star football player at Harvard, a member of the Massachusetts State Legislature, and now U. S. Assistant United States Attorney General. Booker Washington writes about him in part as follows:

Times:

"In 1911, when he was appointed to the position he occupied until recently, that of Assistant Attorney General of the United States, the colored men of Boston gave him a banquet at one of the leading hotels of the city. At this banquet, in reply to the congratulations showered upon him by other speakers, Lewis made a speech in which he made two references that particularly impressed me. He called the fact that in this same hotel in which he was at that moment an honored guest he had once served in the capacity of a waiter, and in reference to the honor that had been conferred upon him, he declared that he had no illusions, he of the fact that he was a Negro that knew, he said, that it was not in spite he had been honored with this high office. He added that he accepted the responsibilities of the position not merely as a distinction conferred upon himself, but upon the whole race which he represented."

"The reason I mention this fact is because it is not always comfortable to be a colored man in this country, and the inconveniences frequently increase as individuals, either by fortune or through their own particular merits, succeed in rising to a position above the masses of their fellows."

"One reason why I, with most other colored people, believe in, honor and respect Mr. Lewis, is because, in the high position in which he has arisen, he has neither forgotten his own path nor sought to separate himself from the race to which he belongs."—Charleston Gazette

THE GHOST AND CORPSE OF STATE RIGHTS

(By S. B. Moon.)

The California anti-alien land law has dug up the corpse and loosened the ghost of state rights. Like Bar-quo's, this ghost has walked before and will not down. The Federal Constitution adopted in 1787 was a compromise between the Federalists, led by Washington, Hamilton, and John Marshall and the devotees of state rights, who worshiped in the "Temple of Goliath," where Patrick Henry was high priest and Thomas Jefferson recording secretary. The Federalists wanted to form a constitution giving the general government plenary powers. The Democrats (then called Republicans) clung desperately to the worthless old "Articles of Confederation," desiring to make the states supreme, absolute and uncontrollable and the Federal government a powerless, supplicating figurehead. The constitution as adopted was a compromise between the two extreme views. Compromises never settle anything. They are only drugs—temporary panaceas. The compromise instrument of 1787, great that it was, could not withstand the assaults made upon it and the Civil War resulted. It was fondly hoped that the delusion of state rights had found its final resting place at Appomattox and that the supremacy of the Federal government would thereafter be unquestioned and unquestionable. The hope was vain. Dual sovereignty of state and nation, each supreme within its sphere is a fallacy and an impossibility not only in affairs of government, but likewise in the administration of the domestic concerns of the humblest citizen. There must be a supreme power whose decisions are final and whose jurisdiction shall be limited only by the laws of nature and the laws of nations.

It is worth recalling that men like Washington and Hamilton, who fought in the Revolution, earnestly contended in the convention for a general government with ample powers, while the talkers and scribbles, like Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson wanted a confederation of independent and sovereign states. They preferred thirteen weak republics to one strong one.

LA FOLLETTE SCORES DEMOCRATIC TARIFF

Madison, Wis., May 23.—Senator R. M. La Follette contributes an article to his magazine in this week under the caption "Tariff Making in the Dark."

"Tariff legislation under Democratic control is to proceed exactly as under Republican control," he says. "The subject is not to be treated as an economic problem. It is to be the stake in a partisan game and the people of the United States are to suffer the consequences."

"The Payne-Aldrich bill raised the rates regarding the burdens imposed upon the consumer. And the course of the Democrat Senators indicates the Underwood-Simons bill will fix the rates regardless of production cost and the wrongs it will inflict on the wage-earner and on the industry."

HUNDRED DOLLAR GOLD MEDAL FOR COLORED MEN AND WOMEN

New York City.—A white man interested in the welfare of the colored race has offered a gold medal to be rewarded annually to the man or woman of American descent and of American citizenship who shall have made the most distinguished achievement during the year in any field of honorable human endeavor. This announcement was made at the fourth annual conference of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, an organization composed of members of both races, which met at Philadelphia.

The donor of the medal is president of the association's New York state branch, Prof. J. E. Spingarn, for twelve years a professor in Columbia university and one of the most ardent champions of the civil rights of colored people. He has offered to give \$100 every year for a gold medal. The medal will be awarded by a committee of five appointed by the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and the announcement made at the next meeting of the association in the spring of 1914.

JOHN A. SHEPPARD TENDERS RESIGNATION TO GOVERNOR

Considerable surprise was sprung on the public when it first became known Thursday night that John A. Sheppard, a member of the State Board of Control, had handed in his resignation as such to Governor Hatfield. The resignation was handed to Governor Hatfield late Thursday night, and it is understood that Mr. Sheppard meant that it take effect at once, and that he meant to depart for his home in Huntington yesterday.

Mr. Sheppard assigns as the reason for his resignation, that his own private and personal affairs would not permit him to further hold the position as a member of the board without great sacrifice.

Mr. Sheppard was one of the first members of the board which was appointed in 1906, and was appointed for two more years. At the end of the two years he was reappointed to serve for a full term and hence had only served two years of his term and had four years more to serve. The other two members of the board are J. S. Laklin and Dr. E. B. Johnson. There is much conjecture as to who will be Mr. Sheppard's successor on the board, but no information is yet obtainable as to who Governor Hatfield will appoint.

SOCIALISTS COMMEND GOVERNOR HATFIELD

Debs and Berger Had Wrong Impression of W. Va. Executive Former Will Correct the Harsh Things Said.

Charleston, W. Va., May 24.—Eugene V. Debs, Socialist leader; former Congressman Victor Berger and Adolph Rev. of Illinois, accompanied by Rev. Paul I. Paulson, member of the international board of the United Mine Workers, went into the Paint and Cabin Creek coal field this morning. It is expected they will visit the New River field tomorrow.

Mr. Berger in a statement this morning said: "I have an entirely different impression of the first I presumably had of West Virginia's executive and his attitude to the working man," while Mr. Debs told the governor, "You have been placed in a false light. I have said some hard things of you in the past but now I will correct them."

Much data and information was laid before the leaders by the governor.

Debs and Berger state they preferred that any information concerning the conference should come from the Governor. However, Mr. Debs made a short statement saying they were well pleased with the interview and that they were satisfied the Governor had given the miners fair and square treatment and they believed all the labor troubles would be satisfactorily settled. The whole labor situation was gone over and a better understanding arrived at all around.

The visitors were very pleased yesterday at the release of the twelve prisoners, among them several Socialists.

In an interview with Messrs. Debs and Berger last evening, they expressed themselves as pleased with their interview with Governor Hatfield. They said the governor treated them with great courtesy and they felt that they had a better understanding. The visitors went over the entire labor situation with the governor. He gave them an altogether new impression of his actions in connection with the strike trouble.

"We wish to say," said Mr. Debs, "that we believe Governor Hatfield treated the men fair and square. We are satisfied he has been responsible for some of the consequences to which he was not responsible. The Hatfield proposal that the law should be enforced and that workmen should be fully protected in their lawful rights, which has not been the case in the past. We are entirely satisfied with the governor's treatment of us and with the results of the interview. We look forward to a complete settlement of the entire labor troubles."

John W. Brown, one of the Socialists released yesterday morning, the governor, was with Messrs. Debs and Berger last night.

It is understood that both the Labor Star of Huntington, and the Labor Argus of Charleston, have been given permission to resume publication, but that they must not publish any inflammatory utterances.

REPUBLICAN COMMITTEE

Discuss the Question of Calling Convention to Organize

MANY OPPOSE CONVENTION

Executive Committee Will Trench Out the Questions and Put it up to the National Committee.

WASHINGTON, May 23.—The Republican national executive committee which meets here tomorrow at the call of Charles D. Hilles, chairman of the national committee, primarily will consider the advisability of calling an early meeting of the national committee to consider plans for strengthening the party lines preparatory to the next congressional campaign.

Before determining to call the committee together it will be decided whether the time is ripe for the beginning of organization for the future, or whether it might be better to wait until the present Democratic administration has proceeded farther on its way; until after the opposition tariff law has been written into the statutes and its effect on the country analyzed.

Some of the party leaders are firmly of the mind that the agitation for a re-organization meeting of the national committee this fall is premature and it would be chiefly to consider the advisability of such a convention that the national committee would meet.

The progressive wing will strongly urge the executive committee to issue a call to the national committee. The conciliation committee named as a result of the recent Chicago conference met today in Senator Cummings' office and decided to send a letter to the committee asking that the national committee be assembled and setting forth the Progressive Republicans' views as to reorganization of the party, changes in delegate representation, methods of handling contests, and other matters. The letter will be sent to the executive committee addressed to National Chairman Hilles and the members of the conciliation committee expect that they may be called upon to appear before the committee further to explain their views.

Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire admitted today that he belonged to the "so-called reactionaries" in discussing the urgent demand of the Progressives for a national convention, declare that when the time came for reorganization the Republican party would reorganize itself.

"WHITE HOPE" TAKES THE FINAL COUNT

Calgary, Alberta, May 24.—Luther McCarty, claimant of the white heavy weight championship of the world, today took the count of ten from Referee Edwin Smith, of Chicago, which marked him the loser in his ten round bout with Arthur Pelkey, and eight minutes later died.

Death was caused by a chance blow delivered somewhere in the region of the solar plexus after exactly one minute and forty-five seconds of fighting time had elapsed.

Arthur Pelkey tonight was arrested on the charge of manslaughter by the northwest mounted police and released a short time afterward on bail.

There had been one or two mixups of inconsequential nature, then came a clinch. Referee Smith separated the men. Both cleared off in pugilistic attitude, neither seeming to be too wise for the clinch. McCarty was seen to double up in a crouching position. To the spectators it looked as though his position simply was a fighting pose. He dropped lower and lower, his eyes rolling. Then he collapsed and fell full length on the floor of the ring. The referee, assuming that McCarty had been knocked out, stood over him to count off the seconds. It was the final count for the fighter.

WHAT A DEMOCRATIC PAPER SAYS ABOUT HON. GEO. WOLFE

(Charleston Gazette.)

George Wolfe relates with significant gusto a dream he had recently "dreamed," said he, "that I had died and gone to Heaven, as coal men sometimes do,—and that I was given a job at princely pay, at running a coal train through to the Kingdom below with instructions to use my discretion about hauling from fiery brimstone bars, the railroad men who were roasting there. I dreamed that I recognized in every one of them, men who had failed to give me cars when I needed cars, oh! so badly—and I dreamed that I ran that train daily for years and years—and never furnished transportation to a single railroad man." We said "significant gusto" for the reason that he enjoys it so much that you spot him, at once, as a coal mine operator. He has operated a coal mine for years—and has never had a strike or a labor disagreement of any kind to contend with. Perhaps that will give you an idea of what kind of a man he is—if it doesn't, it ought to.

Delegate Wolfe is some geographical product. He was born at Camden, N. J., (in 1874); was reared and educated at Jacksonville, Fla., and has done his life's work, so far, in West Virginia. He isn't likely to make another move, for he likes this state and then feeling is mutual. He is a lover of work, but can play with rest and profit—and does it, too, for he believes in never doing anything by halves.

Though born, reared and elected to the legislature in three different sections of the Union, it was always a Republican and he expects to die in the same faith. His other affiliations are with the Episcopal church and lodge of Elks. He has a happy home at Davy, W. Va., where with his wife and two fine boys, he leads an ideal life, when not wrestling with legislative problems at Charleston. He favors all progressive legislation within the ranks of the Republican party.

RALPH W. TYLER APPOINTED National Organizer of Negro Business League.

The Board of Directors of the National Negro Business League has appointed Hon. Ralph W. Tyler, Auditor for the Navy, as National Organizer of the Business League.

Mr. Tyler has been Auditor for the Navy for more than four years and has filled the office with credit to himself and race. He has been the most efficient officer who ever filled the office, according to a statement made by former Secretary of the Treasury McVigh. The Auditor who will shortly go out to make room for one of the thousand hungry Democrats is a journalist by profession, having been connected with the Ohio State Journal, a white daily, for a number of years before his appointment as auditor. He is an able, fearless man and will be of great service to the business league and the Negro race.

EXAMINATION FOR CLERKS AND CARRIERS IN BLUEFIELD

There will be an examination for clerks and carriers for the Bluefield post office tomorrow on June 14th. Some competent colored men should enter this examination and try for some of the places. It is a good opportunity to test the fairness and efficacy of the civil service laws. There are a number of colored men in Bluefield and vicinity who are undoubtedly qualified for these positions and it will do no harm to make the effort to get a few of them.

Your Uncle Samuel claims to be fair and impartial, that only a merit citizen, so it is the right of every American citizen to try and get on his Uncle's pay roll.

GUARD NEGRO RIGHTS Enforce Fifteenth Amendment, Says W. E. Chandler--Puts Test to Republicans--Former Senator From New Hampshire Gives Copy of Letter Addressed to Committee--Promises Reduction in Number of Southern Delegation--Sends Copy to Hilles.

Former Senator William E. Chandler, of New Hampshire, has written a vigorous letter to F. W. Estabrook, member of the Granite State of the Republican National Committee, pointing out the proposed reduction in the membership of the Southern States in the national convention of the party and at the same time calling for the enforcement of the amendment to the Constitution. He has also transmitted a copy of his letter to Chairman Hilles, of the Republican Executive Committee. Mr. Chandler writes as follows:

"Washington, D. C., May 19, 1913.

Hon. F. W. Estabrook, New Hampshire Member of the Republican National Committee.

My Dear Mr. Estabrook—It seems to be taken for granted by reason of the outcries of eminent and trusted Republicans that there are to be immediate conferences among them for reviving and animating for future campaigns of the national Republican party.

"The New York Tribune of the 18th instant states that Chairman Hilles has called for May 24, in Washington, a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Republican National Committee and says: 'There is scarcely any dissent from the view that basis of representation in conventions should be changed before the next nominating convention. . . . Prominent members of the party such as Senators Root and Crane, of the Conservative wing, and Governor Hadley and Senator Cummings of the progressives, are convinced that now is the time to set the party right before the people.'

Senator Cummings has planned to have a meeting of the progressive leaders of the party in Chicago next week.

GARDNER TO BE CHAIRMAN

It is reported that the courageous and combative Republican reformer, Representative Augustus F. Gardner, is to be chairman of the Republican Congressional Committee and to aid in framing new legislation.

(Continued on Page Four.)

DOINGS AT THE STATE CAPITOL

Jottings of the Wise and Otherwise, Normal and Abnormal

Perhaps one of the most interesting features of the State Capitol is the gallery where the public may see the members of the Legislature. The gallery is a fine example of the architecture of the Capitol. The members of the Legislature are seated in a semi-circle, and the public is seated in a gallery behind them. The gallery is a fine example of the architecture of the Capitol.

WHO WILL SUCCEED HUGHES IN CONGRESS?

During the past few months, and especially during the illness of Congressman Hughes of the Fifth Congressional District, the McDowell Times has received many letters and verbal inquiries as to who will receive the nomination to succeed Mr. Hughes and who the McDowell Times is for as the successor of the present incumbent.

The McDowell Times decided to answer those who make inquiries in an article for the general information of all who are interested.

It was generally understood before the last primary that Hon. Jas. A. Hughes would not be a candidate to succeed himself again. Hence the interest of the people of this district in his successor. The health of Congressman Hughes has been exceedingly bad for several years and he has grown worse during the past few months. He has represented this district in Congress for the past ten years and during the session of the past Congress he was the only Republican in Congress from the state of West Virginia. His record is clean, and he made a splendid representative of his district, but because of his promises and his health it is believed he will not again attempt to succeed himself.

The Fifth Congressional District is by no means a well qualified and competent constituency and will represent as well as the legislative halls at Washington, and also will guard well the interests of the people of this great state. Among that number is the son of the man who, more than any one else, helped Nathan Galloway U. S. Senator, rescue the state from Democratic misgovernment.

John Cooper was practically the father and builder of the Republican party in this section of West Virginia. He was a big, broad-shouldered man who came up from among the people, who knew neither wealth or poverty, capital or labor, Jew or white, Protestant, Catholic or Jew, when it came to the question of human rights, or the impartial and fearless government of the people of W. Va.

This great man left a son who is the counterpart of the father. He not only inherited the wealth of his father but is inheriting all the other qualities of the father and their many of his merits are not mentioned. This son of a great father is a man of great ability, and with the hearty citizens who dig into the bowels of the earth for coal, he works. He is made more than his father, with the men who toil, looking into conditions and seeing that they are treated fairly, than he was in the office of his father. The writer had occasion to call on Mr. Hore, Ed and Cooper upon a business matter. He went to his home and upon his arrival he found him talking with several dignitaries. After the conference of the writer with Mr. Cooper he went to the depot to wait for the train and met the favored dignitary, who asked him, "Did you see Mr. Cooper?" "I replied that I did." This man who carries his head high before a God. "Any man, old or young, who is a God, that wants to see Mr. Cooper, can come right to his home and he will see him, too busy to know what he has to say, and if he can, help him." This is the sentiment of every laboring man in this section of the state.

Even though Ed and Cooper is wealthy, educated, being a lawyer by profession, and the manager of great industries, he has always been close to approach, a real man of the people, who ever has this

DEPUT COMPANY SUED

The McDowell Times is pleased to announce that the Deput Company has been sued for the purpose of enforcing the law. The company is a well-known firm in the community and has been operating for many years. The suit is a result of a recent action taken by the state government.

ATTORNEY A

The McDowell Times is pleased to announce that a new attorney has been appointed to represent the community. The attorney is a well-known name in the legal profession and is expected to bring about a settlement of the recent lawsuit.

NEGRO RIGHTS

The McDowell Times is pleased to announce that a new bill has been introduced in the legislature for the purpose of enforcing the law. The bill is a result of a recent action taken by the state government.