

MILLS ARE IDLE

Strike Against the Steel Trust Is Now On

MANY THOUSAND OUT

The Closing of Certain Non-Union Mills Occasions Surprise--Secretary Williams Makes a Statement

Pittsburg, July 15.—Arrangements were made this morning for the quick handling of reports from the various plants affected by the strike. Mr. Shaffer will remain at headquarters and expects to be in touch with his men all the time.

The first surprise this morning was when the news came of the closing of the mills of J. Painter & Sons, on the outside. This has been a non-union plant for several years. It was known that the Amalgamated Association recently organized a lodge there, but it was thought that it did not have enough members to close the mill. The union workmen of the plant held a meeting last night and decided to go out this morning and the non-union men went with them. No attempt was made to start the mill this morning. Some of the laborers reported for work, but found most of the fires out and the doors closed. By 9 o'clock the place was deserted.

Mr. Shaffer said he was too busy to issue a statement at noon and added that he did not expect to make any new moves for a day or two. The significance of the remark is not known. Some persons consider it a veiled threat to call upon the National and Federal steel men to join the strike if the combine does not ask for another conference at once.

Mr. Dolan, president of the Pittsburg district of the United Mine Workers, strengthened this opinion by declaring his men to be prepared to go out if called upon to do so.

A sensational statement was made by Jno. Williams, secretary of the Amalgamated Association, in reply to the interview given out in New York yesterday by Warner Arms who was one of the combine's representatives at the conference here last week. Mr. Williams insists that the statement issued by Mr. Arms contains misrepresentations. He says that on last Friday one of the trust's delegates, when recognized by the chairman of the meeting, said it was the object of the manufacturers to keep the balance of power in their own hands, but that if the demands of the Amalgamated Association were granted that organization would be supreme in labor matters in the United States. Mr. Williams quotes the speaker as saying "to recognize your association in all of our mills would be to throw the balance of power into your hands. To avoid this we will fight to the finish." Neither side would weaken and the strike was declared.

Another point was scored by the Amalgamated Association when it succeeded in closing the Lindsey & McCutcheon plant, which, like the Painter mill, is in the non-union class. The association formed a lodge in the Allegheny mill recently, but until today it was believed that the order to strike would not affect the plant seriously. Only a few laborers and boys were working there this morning and 600 men are idle. There are 700 men out at the Painter mill.

Mr. Shaffer issued a general order this morning requesting all members of the Amalgamated Association to keep away from the mills of the combine. He warned them that it is to the interest of the organization to preserve good order. The mills in this district which are idle today are as follows: J. Painter & Sons, steel hoop; Lindsey & McCutcheon, steel hoop; McKeesport, sheet steel and steel hoop; Monongahela, tinplate; Star, tinplate; New Kensington, tinplate; New Castle, tinplate; Girard, tinplate; Struthers, sheet steel; Warren, steel hoop; Cannonsburg, tinplate; Saltsburg, sheet steel; Scottsdale, sheet steel; Pomeroy, sheet steel; Carnegie (Pennsylvania) tinplate; Youngstown, upper and lower mills, sheet steel and steel hoop.

A conservative estimate is that from 15,000 to 18,000 men are affected. It is said that as the men in this district have been earning good wages for a long time they will not immediately ask for benefits from the Amalgamated Association. The money received by assessment upon working members will probably be saved for a defence fund.

The following reports have been received regarding the progress of the strike in other places:

Cambridge, Ohio: The 800 men of the two plants here are out.

Wheeling, W. Va.: The strike was inaugurated in the Wheeling, Martin's Ferry and Bridgeport mills this morning without incident.

Anderson, Ind.: One hundred and eighty five men of the hot mill department notified the management today that they will not return to the American tin plate works because of the strike ordered from the Amalgamated Association. Four hundred men will be idle in consequence. Seven hundred in the American Steel and Wire Company's mills here will not go out as they are not ordered.

Elwood, Ind.: The strike ordered of the Amalgamated Association went into effect at the Elwood tinplate works this

morning. Fifteen hundred men are affected. The strike is also on at Alexandria, Frankton and Middletown, where about one thousand men have been employed.

Sharon, Pa.: Sharon, South Sharon and Wheatland industries are not materially affected by the strike of the American Steel Hoop and American Steel workers' strike. The three plants owned by the United States Steel Corporation are the National Steel Works, American Steel Hoop and American Sheet Steel mills. The last named two have not been in operation for two years, while the National is non-union and is running as usual today. It is not known whether the strike will affect the Sarop tinplate mill or not. This concern sells its product to the United States Steel Corporation. The mill is in operation today.

Greenville, Pa.: No attempt was made today to start the local plant of the American Steel Hoop Company. Quietness prevails among the iron workers, fifty per cent of whom are working in other plants for the present.

FAT PICKINGS

Beer Trust Failure a Good Thing for the Lawyers

Baltimore, July 15.—Owing to the large amounts granted receiver of the Maryland Brewing Company, the stockholders are up in arms. Circuit Court No. 2 allowed each of the five receivers \$10,000 in addition to their fees, four lawyers were allowed fees of \$5,000 each and three others \$2,500 each. Three lawyers as trustees under the mortgage were allowed \$2,000 each for additional services, three other lawyers were given \$1,000 each. This made a total of 75,000 for winding up the business of the brewing company and in addition the bondholders' committee of five will have to be paid out of the funds of the corporation together with their counsel.

The receivers have been in charge of the property less than four months. It is certain that the stockholders or some of them will file exceptions in court to the fees allowed.

MILLIONS IN OIL

Big Capital to Back a New Texas Company

Baltimore, July 15.—Another big deal has been successfully financed by the Maryland Trust Company. This is the organization of the Houston Oil Company which was recently incorporated with a capital of \$30,000,000. The Maryland Trust Company will handle all the money of the new concern. The company will issue \$10,000,000 of preferred stock and \$20,000,000 of common stock of the par value of \$100 a share. Its financial plan provides for the issuance of \$7,500,000 of preferred stock for the present. This has practically all been subscribed and the money is now being paid over to the Maryland Trust Company. Those interested in the company are Boston, New York, Baltimore and St. Louis capitalists. The extensive character of the new company's property may be imagined when it is considered that it owns over a million acres of land in Texas. This huge tract embraces a large part of the now famous Beaumont region, where enormously productive oil wells have been struck. It also includes practically the entire yellow pine lumber region of Texas.

BRITISH HOPES REVIVE

News from South Africa Is More Encouraging

London, July 15.—The increase in captures made by the forces of General Kitchener indicate renewed activity on the part of the British army in South Africa. The news of successful movements against the burghers is received here with a great deal of gratification. A dispatch has arrived here from Desolation, Cape Colony, stating that the Boer laager at Camdeboo has been taken by the British, after a lively engagement. The English forces took thirty-one prisoners and captured fifty-six horses. Despite the efforts of the British, however, Commandant Scheeper escaped them.

The capture of the laager was a carefully planned operation of four columns in a sudden rush. The main body of the Boers escaped by precipitous paths. Among the Boers captured were Adjutant Liebenberg and Lieutenant Luyt. The rest of the prisoners were principally Cape rebels. The British had no casualties.

General Kitchener reported to the War Office today that Mrs. Schalkburger, wife of the acting president of the Transvaal, has been brought into Pretoria.

These dispatches, added to those of yesterday which told of the surprise and capture of the town of Reitz (the so-called Orange River government of which Mr. Steyn's brother was a member) and valuable papers, has revived the hope of Englishmen that persistent military effort will be able to force the Boers into a position where they will ask for and accept terms of surrender. It is believed here now that the British have the burghers on the run, and the dispatches of the next few weeks will chronicle many successful and effective movements on the part of the king's army.

General Kitchener reports that since July 8 the commanders of the various British columns state that thirty-two Boers have been killed, thirty-four wounded, 140 have surrendered and 307 have been taken prisoners. He also states that 218 rifles, 15,870 rounds of small ammunition, 445 wagons, 4,825 horses and many cattle have been captured in the same period.

DEATH GRAPPLE A HAPPY ISLAND

The Machinists and the Metal Trades Association

WAR TO THE KNIFE ALL NEEDS SUPPLIED

Strikers Declare That No Compromise Will be Made—Financial Aid Given to the Cincinnati Strikers

Washington, July 15.—While President James O'Connell of the International Association of Machinists says he does not wish to enter into a newspaper controversy regarding the situation of the Cincinnati machinists' strike, his information regarding conditions there does not agree with the press dispatches. Mr. O'Connell is in constant telegraphic communication with P. J. Conlon, first vice-president of the machinists' organization, who has charge of the strike there. The plan which is being carried out and which doubtless gave rise to the reports that the men had given up the strike and returned to work was outlined by Mr. O'Connell as follows:

"As a strategic move against the Cincinnati employers who are members of the National Metal Trades Association, we have decided to allow the men who were employed in shops not controlled by that association to return to work under the old conditions. The men who will thus return to work comprise about 30 per cent of the 3,000 men who are on strike in that city. No men will return to shops controlled by the National Metal Trades Association in Cincinnati or anywhere else. We are in the fight against this association in particular. No compromises have been made so far with any of its members, and none will be made."

In reply to the statement that no financial aid has been given the Cincinnati strikers by the machinists' association, Mr. O'Connell said that more money had been distributed among the strikers there than in any other locality since the general strike began. Several thousand dollars had been sent from headquarters here before the \$2,000 which was sent last Friday, he continued.

About 3,000 men in the tube mills and rolling mills at Reading returned to work this morning, according to advices received by Mr. O'Connell, having been granted the nine hour day and increase of pay demanded. The American Fire Engine Company and the International Fire Engine Company, both of Seneca Falls, N. Y., granted the demands of their machinists Saturday and their forces of 500 men returned to work this morning. The same action was taken by the Harlan & Hollingsworth Shipbuilding Company of Wilmington, Del., who employed about 200 machinists.

BRIGHTON BEACH RACES

New York, July 15.—Results at Brighton Beach:

First race—Chararage 9 to 5, Passe Partout 3 to 1, Mon Doctrine 8 to 1.

Second race—Bonner 1 to 4, Leiseshen 6 to 1, S. of the West 5 to 1, Time, 1:40.

Third race—Animosity 4 to 5, Nitrate 5 to 2, Hammock 5 to 2, Time, 1:48.

Fourth race—Decatur even, Scary 8 to 1, Vitellius 4 to 1, Time, 1:53.

Fifth race—L. Sterling 5 to 2, Ben Howard 10 to 1, Oclawha 4 to 1, Time, 1:47.

Sixth race—Saducee 4 to 5, Bobs 10 to 1, R. Sterling 8 to 1, Time, 1:14.

Entries for Today

First race, 1 mile 70 yards—Oread 96, Bounteous 111, Barretto and Marother 89 each, Lucky Star 103, Kid 99, Annite 84.

Second race, handicap, 2-year-old, 5 1/2 furlongs—City Bank 110, Dixie Line 100, B. of Roscrea 103, Schalbe 102, Essene 100, Carroll D. and Andalusian 97 each.

Third race, 3-year-old, 1-1/16 miles—Kochampton 111, T. of Candles 96, Benford 111, Cresson 101, Baron Pepper 101.

Fourth race, Jamaica, 1-1/16 miles—Seminole 84, First Whip 111, San Luis 95, T. Musketer 104, The Regent 86, Bombshell 101, Templetown 97, Latson 104, Intrusive 108, Tartar 93, A. Thompson 88.

Fifth race, maiden, 2-year-old, 5 furlongs—Musidora, Merry Houts, Frieval, Emma A. M. and Criss Cross 107 each, Fair Knight, C. Rosenfeldt, Cast Iron and Andalusian 119 each.

Sixth race, 6 furlongs—Godfrey 112, J. of Navarre 97, Hawk 107, Twig, Ante Up and Ondurdis 100 each, J. Brown 102, M. Gilroy 112, Connie 102, Ezra 108, Ashes 95, Midden 97, Hops 102, T. Foley 101, King Bramble 115.

General Wood Out of Danger

Washington, July 15.—In a telegram dated Havana, July 13, to Colonel War, acting Adjutant-General U. S. A., Captain Scott, Adjutant-General of the Department of Cuba, says:

"Continued improvement in General Wood's condition. Temperature 99 and no friction. Now considered out of danger."

Boers Abandon Horses

Cape Town, July 15.—The columns of the Boer invaders commanded by Malan, Latejan, Bred and Smit, which were marching on Victoria West, came in contact with the British forces under Colonel Hink and Goringe at Van Reenan in the Zuurberg. The Boers escaped by abandoning a large number of their young untrained horses.

Taxes Low and Treasury Full in Porto Rico

Customs and Internal Revenue Go into the Insular Treasury—Big Reserve Fund to Meet Any Deficiency

ALL NEEDS SUPPLIED

Customs and Internal Revenue Go into the Insular Treasury—Big Reserve Fund to Meet Any Deficiency

New York, July 15.—Among the passengers who arrived today on the steamer San Juan from San Juan, Porto Rico, was Jacob H. Hollander, treasurer of the island of Porto Rico. Mr. Hollander, who holds the chair of assistant professor of finance at Johns Hopkins University, was sent to Porto Rico by the President to formulate a revenue system. His leave of absence expires October 1st. When sent to quarantine this morning Mr. Hollander said he was on his way home on a leave of absence to attend to some personal business. As to his future movements he would give no idea. He had no information concerning the rumor of his proposed trip to Manila. He had not been asked to go. Mr. Hollander gave out the following statement concerning his work in Porto Rico:

"The present financial condition of Porto Rico compares favorably, I think, with that of any State or territory in the Union. The island is free from all funded or floating indebtedness. The burden of taxation upon its people is less than upon the residents of any other part of the United States, and the insular treasury begins a new fiscal year with sources of revenue that should supply all necessary expenditures, and with a surplus large enough to afford security against any unforeseen contingency. These are the conditions which make it possible for Governor Allen to convene the insular legislature in extra session July 4th, and for that body to pass the joint resolution as to the adequacy of its present revenue system, which, it is hoped, will soon result in a new trade with the United States."

"The annual expenditures of the island are about \$2,000,000, of which about half is devoted to schools and roads. Necessary revenues are supplied by customs duties on goods imported into Porto Rico, from countries other than the United States, by excise taxes on alcoholic, tobacco, and a few minor articles; and by a direct tax of one-half per cent upon real and personal property. And deficiency in current receipts will be supplied from out the reserve funds of the insular treasury of which one item alone, customs collections on Porto Rican exports into the United States since May, 1900, aggregates \$600,000, no part of which the insular government has found it necessary to draw upon up to the action of congress in appropriating customs duties on Porto Rican trade to the insular instead of the federal treasury, and by exempting the island from the operations of the United States internal revenue laws, thus leaving the way clear for a local system of excise taxes."

"Of the \$2,000,000 that Porto Rico spends annually \$1,500,000 accrues from two sources—customs duties and excise taxes—that in every part of the United States are appropriated by the federal government. In other words, as compared with every other State and territory in the Union, Porto Rico is enabled to expend for its own use and benefit, four times the amount that it derives from insular taxes proper."

WORTH A MILLION

Crops in Connecticut Benefitted by the Rains

Springfield, Mass., July 15.—It is estimated that the recent rains have been worth \$1,000,000 to the tobacco growers of the Connecticut valley, who had begun to entertain fears that the whole crop would be destroyed by the withering heat. A total of some twelve thousand acres were set out this season, the start being late. The early growth was greatly retarded by the cold, wet weather and for a fortnight preceding the recent rains the crop suffered from the drought.

The introduction of improved machinery has resulted in the cultivation of a larger acreage. A few years ago eight acres was a large amount of tobacco for one planter to set out. This year, however, there are several fifty-acre plots. Several farmers in Springfield, Conn., are growing their crops under the shade of cheesecloth tents. The expense of this method of cultivation is large, but the yield is heavy and the leaf brings a fancy price.

Captain Strong Relieved

San Francisco, July 15.—The army transport Grant will sail at noon tomorrow for Manila. Among the passengers will be Quartermaster-General Ludington, who goes out to assist in the service in the Philippines, and Assistant Quartermaster-General C. H. McCaulley, who will remain at Manila. Captain Bradley Strong's resignation from the regular army relieves him of the necessity of going on the Grant. If his resignation had not been accepted he would have been forced to sail or become a deserter. Strong is still with Lady

Strikers Return to Work

Baltimore, July 15.—Many of the strikers who quit the shops of the Maryland Steel Company returned to work this morning. It was said at the strikers' headquarters that five of the men had been refused employment because they were alleged to be instrumental in inducing the men to quit work when the trouble began. The strike against the Maryland Steel Company, it was said, has not been declared off, and the hope of eventually securing a nine hour day at the plant has not been abandoned. The men returned to work to await a more favorable opportunity to secure the nine hour day.

Charges Against Whitmarsh

Manila, July 15.—H. Phelps Whitmarsh, governor of Bengus, who was summoned here to answer charges made against him that he had used his official position to benefit himself, appeared before the Philippine Commission this afternoon. A record is being kept of all proceedings and Governor Whitmarsh will answer the charge in writing. The charges are brought by Secretary Sheerzer, but they are not believed either by the natives or Americans.

CROPS CUT OFF

Corn and Cotton Suffer Severely in Arkansas

Little Rock, July 15.—The excessively high temperature the last four weeks has greatly damaged all growing crops. Local showers have fallen in nearly every county, but were so light and scattered as to be of no benefit to the crops. Early corn is a complete failure. In some parts of north Arkansas no corn will be raised.

The cotton crop in the bottom lands was doing fairly well up to a week ago, but has sustained a great deal of damage since then. The plant is small and is fruiting, and if the weather continues warm and there be a continual absence of rain in the bottoms will be ready for picking three weeks earlier than usual.

In the uplands the corn crop is a complete failure and only a fourth of an average crop will be gathered. It is estimated that during the period of drought cotton planters in eastern Arkansas have suffered a loss of 20 per cent in their crops. In parts of south Arkansas, it looks like a famine and starvation. The corn crop is a total failure and the cotton crop but little better in the bottom lands of south Arkansas. About a third of a crop of corn will be produced, while on the cotton lands south and west of Pine Bluff not more than a hundred pounds of seed cotton will be gathered from an acre.

SCATTERING SHOWERS

Some Relief from the Drouth in Missouri and Kansas

St. Louis, July 15.—Rain in many parts of Missouri and Kansas has greatly ameliorated the conditions so long prevalent, but it will require a great deal more moisture before the crop situation is materially improved.

Secretary Ellis of the State Board of Agriculture says that light rains will be harmful rather than beneficial, owing to the effect of the consequent steam arising from the ground, which is injurious to crops. Governor Dockery today issued a proclamation setting apart next Sabbath as a day of fasting and prayer that rain might fall.

From Valley Falls, Kansas, comes the report that an inch of rain fell there this afternoon, preceded by a heavy hail storm, which caused a marked fall in the temperature. The showers in this State, however, have been purely local. Slight rain was reported east of Topeka today, but the precipitation was so slight that it will not benefit crops.

The water famine continues, and live stock is being hurried forward to market at a great loss to the farmers. From Kansas City comes the report that the markets are glutted with shipments of cattle and hogs from Kansas and Missouri. According to stock men, the critical period has arrived. Heavy losses have been sustained in nearly every case where the feeder was forced on the market.

Rain fell today at Coffeyville, Eldorado, Atchison, Manhattan and Wichita, Kansas, and along the Santa Fe Railroad; also at Joplin, Lamar and Neosho, Missouri.

Another Strike Threatened

McKeesport, Pa., July 15.—Five thousand tube workers sent a committee to George Crawford, manager of the National Tube Works, in this city, at 10 o'clock this morning, demanding an increase of ten per cent in wages. Unless their demand is acceded to by next Saturday the greatest plant in the control of the National Tube Company will close down. The rolling mill department of the works has been shut down since July 3 for repairs. It is doubtful if enough men could be secured today to operate it if it were ready to start.

Mob Attacks a Train

Cordover, Mex., July 15.—A train on the Vera Cruz and Pacific Railroad was attacked by a large force of men at Tierra Blanca, a small station. Seven men on the train were killed. As soon as news of the attack reached Cordover a force of Rurales were sent to the scene and they are now in pursuit of the mob. The motive for the attack is not known here.

OBJECTS TO DODGING

Bryan's Criticism of the Ohio Democratic Platform

THE MONEY QUESTION

It Is Still a Live Issue in Politics, He Declares—The Mistake Finley Made—Bryan Not a Candidate

Lincoln, July 15.—Mr. Bryan today gave out a copy of what he will say in the next issue of The Commoner on the action of the Ohio convention. He makes very plain in his discussion of platform that he does not think highly of it as a substitute for the Chicago and Kansas City platforms. Continuing, he says:

"The convention not only failed but refused to endorse or affirm the Kansas City platform, and from the manner in which the gold element has rejoiced over this feature of the convention one would suppose that the main object of the convention was not to write a new platform, but to repudiate the one upon which the last national campaign was fought. General Finley was right in insisting upon a vote on his resolution endorsing the Kansas City platform, but he made a mistake in including in his resolution a complimentary reference to Mr. Bryan. Mr. Bryan is not a candidate for any office, and a mention of him might have been construed by some as an endorsement of him for office. The vote should have been upon the naked proposition to endorse the platform of last year, and then no one could have excused his abandonment of Democratic principles by pleading his dislike for Mr. Bryan. The cause ought not to be made to bear the sins of an individual. Mr. Bryan will endure without complaint any punishment the Democracy of Ohio may see fit to administer to him, and he does not want his name used to the injury of a good platform."

"The gold papers assume that the convention refused to adopt the Kansas City platform because it contained a silver plank. If so, it would have been more courageous to have declared openly for the gold standard. If the gold standard is good it ought to have been endorsed; if bad it ought to have been denounced. To ignore the subject entirely was unexcusable. The money question is not yet out of politics. Every session of Congress will have to deal with it. Republicans care that it is dead, but they keep working at it. If reactionary influences succeed in Ohio or elsewhere it simply means another gigantic struggle such as was witnessed in 1896. The Democratic party cannot be made a plutocratic party even if there was room in this country for two such parties. There was a time, under the Cleveland regime, when party leaders used general and ambiguous phrases to deceive the voters, but that scheme cannot be worked again. We cannot expect the voters to have confidence in the party unless the party has confidence in the voters; and if the party confidence in the voters it will state its position on all the important questions before the country and invite judgment."

SOMEBODY BLUNDERED

Result Was a Fatal Head or Collision

Parkersburg, W. Va., July 15.—A head-on collision occurred on the Ohio River Railroad at Paden's Valley, 5 miles north of this city, at 6:30 this evening, through a blunder in constructing orders. Two were killed outright, two were fatally injured and several others were seriously, but not fatally, injured. The killed are Al Conrith, engineer on the northbound Ohio Valley express, and William Boothby, fireman for Conrith, whose home is in this city. The fatally injured are: William Day, of this city, engineer of southbound engine, and his fireman, Thomas Carter, also of this city, whose legs were cut off. Both are expected to die.

The collision occurred between the Ohio Valley express northbound and a loose engine southbound that was trying to make Sisto's mine from New Martinsville. The engine, it is said, had orders to side track at Paden's Valley, but failed to do so and was running at a high rate of speed when it came upon the express train, the schedule time of which is fifty miles an hour. The engine came together with a terrible force, piled high in the air, completely wrecked and shattered.

Put up the Rates

Colon, Colombia, via Kingston, Jamaica, July 15.—A decree issued recently increased the duties on all articles entering at Manzanilla port 150 per cent in order to cover the expenses of suppressing the rebellion. The steamship agents here held a meeting and adopted resolutions petitioning the government to suspend the decree.

Free Silver Convention

Cleveland, July 15.—In consequence of the setback which Bryan and free silver met with in the recent Democratic State convention, the free silverites of this State have decided to hold a convention at Columbus July 31, when a full State ticket may be nominated.