

STATEMENT ISSUED.

President Mitchell Issues a Statement to the Public

DEFENDS THE STRIKERS' POSITION

Shows the Cause of Complaint is One of Long Standing-- Replies to the Statements of Employers.

Wilkesbarre, Special.—President John Mitchell, of the United Mine Workers of America, Saturday issued an address to the public for publication in the newspapers. It is partly a reply to the statements of the operators declining to accede to the demands of the union, which were published about ten days ago. Briefly summarized, the address states that every possible means was resorted to in the effort to prevent the strike; claims that the cost of living has increased to the point where the miner was compelled to ask for higher wages, denies the allegation of the operators that the productive capacity of the mine workers has fallen off and says that on the other hand it has increased; quotes official figures to substantiate the contention that the employers can pay higher wages without increasing the cost of coal to the consumer; asserts that the coal carrying roads which control about 85 per cent. of the mines, absorb the profits of the coal companies by charging exorbitant freight rates; and claims that the cost at the mines means from 2,740 to 3,000 instead of 2,240 pounds. The address also says that in the event the coal is crushed, which it adds is not true, a new organization would rise from its ruins. It concludes with an appeal for arbitration of all questions. Among other things, President Mitchell says: For more than 25 years the anthracite coal mine workers of Pennsylvania have chafed and groaned under most intolerable and inhuman conditions of employment imaginable. Their average annual earnings have been less than those of any other class of workmen in the United States, notwithstanding the fact that their work is more hazardous and the cost of living greater than in any other important American industry. The total number of persons employed at and around the anthracite coal mines is 147,500; they employed never to exceed 200 days a year, and they receive compensation for their services an average of 12 for 10 hours. It will thus be noted that they earn annually less than \$2. Such pay may supply a living on a par with some classes of European workers, but who will say that it is sufficient to support American citizens, or to educate or properly maintain their families? True it is, that a 10 per cent. increase in wages was granted by the operators as a strike concession two years ago, but it is also true that a large proportion of this 10 per cent. was paid back to the companies to buy suppression of an old powder grievance; moreover, according to reliable commercial agencies, the cost of living increased, particularly in the purchase of food stuffs, from 30 to 40 per cent. so that the purchasing power of their wages is less than before the year 1900. The presidents of the various coal carrying railroads have given publicity to a statement that during the year the productive capacity of mine workers deteriorated an average of 10 per cent.; in other words, the operators' organization is accused of encouraging poor workmanship. An examination of the reports on coal production compiled by the United States government discloses the fact that the statements of the railroad presidents are misleading and untrue, as the following figures will demonstrate: From 1890 to 1900, inclusive, the mine workers were in operation an average of 182 days per year, and for each person employed there were produced 363.58 tons of coal per year, or 2.16 tons were produced per employee; while in the year 1901, against the operators' organization, the mine workers were in operation 182 days and there were produced 363.58 tons for each person employed, or each day the mines were in operation, 2.36 tons were produced per worker, thus showing that instead of

a deterioration there was a decided improvement in the productive capacity of the men after they became thoroughly organized. Can the unprejudiced reflect upon these facts and conclude that the anthracite miner is not a better workman than he was before the 10 per cent. concession in wages two years ago. In conclusion, President Mitchell says: "We repeat our proposition to arbitrate all questions in dispute and if our premises are wrong, if our position is untenable, if our demands cannot be sustained by facts and figures, we will again return to the mines, take up our tools of industry and await the day when we shall have a more righteous cause to claim the approval of the American people."

**Fire at Buckroe Beach.**  
Newport News, Va., Special.—Flames originating from a defective stove burst from the kitchen of the Buckroe Beach Hotel, at Buckroe Beach Saturday night, while 800 persons were witnessing a performance by the Boston Ideal Opera Company, in the Rex Carlo Theatre adjoining. The coolness of the hotel employees reassured the 206 guests in the hotel and the crowd in the theatre, averting a panic. The damage is less than \$50.

**An Injunction.**  
Cleveland, O., Special.—The Circuit Court granted perpetual injunction against the construction of the so-called 3-cent fare street railway in this city. The court declared that the ordinance granted by the city council to the promoters of the new company to build roads on at least three of the 17 routes was invalid. Mayor Johnson is credited with being back of the 3-cent fare company. The mayor stated today that steps would be taken to amend the franchises and a new start taken on the project.

**Great Forest Fires.**  
Tacoma, Wash., Special.—The fire department of this city has sent men, engines and hose on a special train to Buckley, in this county, which is threatened with complete destruction by forest fires, raging between that town and Enumclaw, King county. A great cloud of smoke hangs over Tacoma, 33 miles from Buckley. The Mountain Mill, seven miles east of Buckley, was burned. Undoubtedly many lives of mountain campers and loggers have been lost.

**President Takes Long Walk.**  
Alexandria, Va., Special.—President Roosevelt, accompanied by Gen. Leonard Wood, visited this city Friday afternoon, arriving here on the Washington ferry boat, at 4:45 o'clock. The two walked back to Washington, along the railroad tracks a portion of the time, and going by way of the Arlington National Cemetery. The President was recognized by many persons as he walked through the streets, but there was no demonstration.

**Commencement of Military Institute.**  
Lexington, Va., Special.—The Virginia Military Institute commencement, which marks the ending of the sixty-third year, began Sunday, with a sermon by the Rev. Dr. McFadden, of Lynchburg, to the cadet battalion, preached in Stonewall Jackson Memorial Hall. Highly interesting military exercises will mark the proceedings during the next three days. This year's graduating class is unusually large. Governor Montague and Congressman DeArmond, of Missouri, will address them on Wednesday, the final day.

**Murdered While Asleep.**  
Des Moines, Iowa, Special.—The home of James Gallagher, at River Junction, was visited by unknown parties. Gallagher was murdered while he was asleep. The assassin reached over two children who were sleeping with Mr. and Mrs. Gallagher, placed the weapon at Gallagher's ear and fired. Mrs. Gallagher was chloroformed and when she awakened the murderer had gone. Bloodhounds will be placed on the trail.

A man who was "wanted" in Russia had been photographed in six different positions, and the pictures were duly circulated among the police departments. The chief of one of these wrote to headquarters a few days after the issue of the set of portraits, and stated: "Sir, I have duly received the portrait of the six miscreants whose capture is desired. I have arrested five of them, and the sixth is under observation, and will be secured shortly."

STATE BAR ASSOCIATION

Interesting Meeting to Be Held in the City of Asheville.

Asheville, Special.—The fourth annual meeting of the North Carolina Bar Association will be held at the Battery Park Hotel on July the 9th, 10th and 11th. Here is the program: Wednesday, July 9, 10:30 a. m.—Association called to order by chairman of executive committee, H. A. London, Speech of welcome and response. Address of the president of the association, Charles M. Busbee. Appointment of committees, new business. 9:00 p. m.—"System of Law in Louisiana and some of its Special Features." Hon. Francis T. Nicholls, Chief Justice of the Supreme court of Louisiana. Report of secretary and treasurer. Reports of standing and special committees. General business. Thursday, July 10, 10:30 a. m.—"The Triumph of Equity," James C. McRae, of the University of North Carolina. Discussion. Miscellaneous business. 9:00 p. m.—"The Supreme Court of the United States," Mr. George Rountree, of Wilmington. General business. Friday, July 11, 10:30 a. m.—Miscellaneous business. Report of committee to recommend officers. Election of officers and members of executive committee. 9:00 p. m.—"Smoker," given by the association.

Homicide Near Cameron.

Cameron, Special.—A very serious affair occurred near here about dark Saturday evening, which resulted in the death of Pat Pierce, and the serious injury of Neill Black, his slayer. Black who has been employed as a railroad section master on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad for a while and who was raised in this county, was the man who did the killing. It appears that there has been a feud existing between Black and Pierce, who are near neighbors, for some time. Saturday they were in Cameron together with friends of both, when an argument arose, but no trouble resulted until later on. They left town in the same wagon, and when about two miles out the dispute was renewed and Pierce cut Black with his knife to a degree which he thought fatal. Black pulled his revolver and shot Pierce through the head, killing him instantly. Black is seriously injured, but it is not thought that he will die. The coroner is holding an inquest, the result of which is not yet known.

Railway Damaged.

Lincolnton, Special.—Recent heavy rains have badly damaged the Carolina & Northwestern Railroad's new road-bed. This company has been using every effort to run trains over the new part of the line by July 1st, which is the contract limit, and thought it would finish laying the track this week but yesterday's heavy rains ploughed deep furrows through fills all along the line and some large ones in the newly-made fills in town. Some of the trestles are also swept away. This will be a heavy loss to the company both on account of the additional work to repair these places and by the delay it will cause in getting the road completed within the contract limits. The cotton mills which it will touch have agreed to pay a considerable sum to induce the Carolina & Northwestern to build this road down the river which was to be completed by July 1st, and this is why it was important that it be completed by that time.

Negro Woman Forges a Check.

Greensboro, Special.—Carrie Fleming, a stupid looking colored girl, forged a check for \$45 on Dr. Petree and bought a pair of shoes, getting the difference in money. Chief of Police Scott arrested her this morning, and she is languishing in jail. The woman, though apparently stupid, is a first class pensman. Dr. Petree examined the check this morning and says he could not for his life have told the difference in the signature from his own, had the woman not prefixed it with "Dr."

Jail Breaking at Lumberton.

Lumberton, Special.—Three persons escaped from jail here Saturday night. They forced the bars of their cell with a bicycle wrench, passed into a vacant room and thence to the third story, forced the slats to a window and let themselves to the ground by blankets tied together. The escaped prisoners are Rev. R. B. Perry, colored, awaiting trial for forgery; Hector Stackhouse, colored; Joe Powers, passes for white, crime, larceny. Sheriff McLeod offers a reward of \$25 in each case.

Herr Most Sentenced.

New York, Special.—Johann Most, who was convicted on a charge that he printed an incendiary article in a newspaper conducted by him, was sentenced to serve one year in the penitentiary. The article was printed at the time President McKinley was shot. The case was carried to the Court of Appeals, which confirmed the judgment of the lower court.

A DISASTROUS WRECK

Part of a Train Goes Through Trestle Near Shelby.

Shelby, Special.—A portion of a mixed train on the South Carolina and Georgia Extension railroad fell through an approach to the bridge over Broad river Thursday afternoon, killing one man and injuring over a dozen passengers. The dead: LEROY GRIGGS, Shelby. Injured: EDWARD TURNER, conductor. D. W. PHIFFER, trestle-master. RILEY WHISENANT, a negro. A dozen passengers including two ladies were also injured but their names are not known. About the time the rear coach was on the span just above the river Engineer Albert felt the trestling giving way and opened the throttle, sent the train across the bridge saving all of it except the rear coach and three box cars. The coach fell precipitately 50 feet on the brink of the river swollen by the recent rains and was caught by the stone pier supporting the bridge which saved the passengers from a watery grave.

Teachers' Assembly Echoes.

One of the best sessions this organization has ever held came to a close last week. The teachers were there in numbers and seemed thoroughly imbued with the importance and responsibility of their work. The papers and addresses were short and to the point, and all possessed merit.

The place of meeting was in the Assembly building at Morehead City, our host was Mr. A. N. Perkins, proprietor of the Atlantic hotel. It is almost impossible to overdraw the picture of the Atlantic hotel. Situated on Bogue Sound and nearly surrounded by water there is not a room in the whole building (containing 300 rooms) but what gets its share of delicious salt-laden breeze. Mr. Perkins is a pastmaster in the profession of entertaining. He seemed to know just what each guest wants, and hardly ever fails to gratify these wants.

The teachers, while they came for the purpose of better fitting themselves for their profession, delighted in the attractions offered by this up-to-date resort, and left invigorated, mentally, physically and spiritually.

The great interest now taken in Southern education and especially in the State of North Carolina, is being deepened and widened by the character of the men and women who are day by day spending their vital and moral force in providing an education for every child in the land. The day must come when it will be a criminal offense to deprive a child of the advantages of an education.

Mill Building at Graham.

Graham, Special.—The building and improving boom in our town and county still goes merrily on. The walls of the Voorhees Mill are going steadily up and the constant building of new cottages, and grading of new streets, is making the Voorhees and Travora neighborhood quite a pretentious suburban town. The Pomeroy Brothers and others are also preparing to put up another cotton mill on the Haw river, about a mile and a half north of Graham. They have an excellent water power there. White, Williamson & Company will soon build a new dam at Saxapahaw, and enlarge the mill. The capacity of the Swepponville Mill is also to be doubled. Messrs. J. Q. Gantt & Sons will erect a new mill west of Burlington. They have bought a site.

Railroad Contract Let.

Asheville, Special.—The contract for building the Asheville & Rutherfordton Railroad was let to George T. Canis, of New York, and work will begin at once. It is understood here that the Seaboard Air Line is backing the movement and the road will be extended through the mountains to the Tennessee line.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL

Charleston a Winner.

Reviewing the results of the Charleston Exposition, the News and Courier of that city points out that it brought more people, including the President of the United States, governors of fourteen States, diplomatic representatives of foreign governments and thousands of others, in six months than had previously visited the city in nearly as many years; that it added between \$3,000,000 and \$5,000,000 to the money in circulation there, gave hotels and boarding houses and railroads more business than they had ever had, employed hundreds of men, women and children, filled vacant houses, gave the city the most active business it had ever known, and advertised it as it had never been advertised before. These are facts to be considered in estimating the value of the exposition to Charleston, and they will be influential in strengthening the conviction that whatever the immediate financial showing of the undertaking may be, the balance in the account will be largely in favor of Charleston.

Salt Bed 700 Feet Thick.

D. B. Henderson of Galveston, Texas, writes the Manufacturers' Record stating the purposes of the Damon Mound Salt & Oil Co., which he and his associates incorporated several weeks ago. The company has effected permanent organization, with D. B. Henderson, Charles Fowler, E. L. Porch, J. S. Waters, C. H. Moore, A. Templeton and W. A. McVitie, all of Galveston, as directors, and with capital placed at \$300,000. Mr. Henderson states the company owns seventy acres of oil land in Brazoria county, near Damon Mound which is overlaid with a bed of solid pure salt of 700 feet in thickness. Salt works will be operated in the near future, and the oil underneath the salt will probably also be developed.

Industrial Miscellany.

At the annual meeting of the Commercial Club of Birmingham, Ala., Secretary J. B. Gibson, summarizing the advance in the district, estimated that \$20,044,818 had been invested during the year, of which \$8,955,100 represented the organized capital of 124 new corporations, \$1,750,000 increased capitalization of old companies, \$3,251,850 the cost of 1865 new buildings, \$1,476,000 the cost of eighty-two miles of new railroad, \$4,038,000 extensions, enlargements and improvements, and \$570,868 improvements of streets, sidewalks and sewers.

Twenty carloads of cattle for South Africa were shipped last week from Pensacola, Fla., and it is announced that other cargoes intended to restock the Transvaal will be sent through Pensacola, Charleston, Newport News and other ports.

During the first five months of this year building permits representing an investment of \$137,928 were granted at Roanoke, Va. The sum of \$42,970 represents business property and \$55,127 two-story dwelling-houses.

Textile Notes.

Stonewall (Miss.) Cotton Mills held its annual meeting last week. T. L. Wainwright, secretary, submitted report showing an entirely satisfactory condition of business. A division of \$6000 was declared, and several thousand dollars carried to its surplus fund. Some improvements were decided upon, but details were not announced. This company has \$400,000 capital.

Coleman Manufacturing Co., Concord, N. C., manufacturer of cotton yarns and sheeting, announces the call for its annual meeting, to be held at 12 m., on July 4. This will probably be the most important meeting in the company's existence, and the secretary hopes that all members may be in attendance. The plant operates 700 spindles and 140 looms.

D. P. McBrayer, president Riverside Manufacturing Co., Anderson, S. C., has not as yet organized his cotton-mill company, reported last week, but expects to do so in the near future. The capital stock will be \$200,000, and the equipment will be 10,000 spindles. The enterprise is assured of establishment.

Swift Cotton Mills, Elberton, Ga., will put in new electric plant, the engines, dynamos and other machinery all to be new. This company operates 70000 spindles and 174 looms.

Messrs. John N. Stearns & Co. of Petersburg, Va., have purchased building, which they will remodel and equip as a silk-dyeing plant. They are operating a silk-throwing mill of 15,000 spindles, and will remove their present dyeing plant to Williamsport, Pa., where they also have silk mills.

Messrs. J. T. Mallory, W. A. Orr and others of Ferris, Texas, will establish a knitting mill. They have opened a subscription list for a stock company.