

MITCHELL'S POSITION

Strike Leader Makes Statement to the President

CONFIDENT OF FINAL OUTCOME.

That the Miners' Convention Will Agree to Abide By Award of Commission.

Washington, Special.—The response of John Mitchell, president of the United Mine Workers to President Roosevelt's notification that he had appointed a commission, was made public today. It informs him of the action of the executive board of Districts 1, 7 and 9, in calling a convention and agreeing to recommend unanimously the resumption of work and the submission of the differences between the operators and the mine workers of the anthracite coal fields" to the commission. The reply expresses confidence that the convention will agree to the arbitration of the "eminent and impartial men" chosen by the President and expresses gratitude to the President for his patriotic efforts to bring about an honorable settlement of the strike. The reply goes at length into the grievances of the miners and concludes with the expression of the hope and belief that from this arbitration will come "a complete, satisfactory and permanent solution of the troubles which have vexed the anthracite field from time immemorial." The President, in his telegram to Mr. Mitchell, announced the appointment of the commission and said: "It is a matter of vital concern to all our people, and especially to those in our great cities who are least well off, that the mining of coal should be resumed without a day of unnecessary delay."

Mr. Mitchell's reply recounts the efforts of the miners to secure arbitration and goes into a defense of the union and its demands, saying: "If the offer of arbitration or impartial investigation had been accepted six months ago, instead of now, there would have been no strike. We have been so eager, Mr. President, to respond to the people's demand for coal, that during the progress of the strike we have more than once offered arbitration, but we have invariably been rebuffed with the reply that 'we will not permit outsiders to dictate to us in the management of our affairs. We have nothing to arbitrate.'" "Now that the managers of the companies have been compelled by you to a thoroughly aroused public conscience to recede from this position, we are proud that the firmness and heroic endurance of our men and women in support of their rights and a vital American principle have won the victory."

The poor, under-paid mine workers of these coal regions, who toil hard from early morning until late at night for a livelihood, nobody supported by organized labor in this and other lands, are taught these corporation managers a useful lesson of civic and social duty. We exult over this tribute to the dignity of labor, because it is the triumph of right and of good public policy. We do not, however, exult over our opponents; we appeal to them now, as we have from the first, to turn their eyes to the future and to co-operate with us in an effort to establish better relations between employer and employee for the advantage of both. We forgive them their arrogant refusal to deal with us, and in this hour when they are forced to acknowledge their inability to operate their mines without our consent and co-operation, we hold out the right hand of friendship and ask them to join with us in forming amicable relations and wholesome conditions in this region. We forgive them even the false accusations which they made against us. The pressure of the operators that they were unable to produce coal because intimidation kept from work men who were willing to work, has been proven false in the fact that the protection which they demanded has decreased rather than increased the number of men mining coal. The operators declared that they would have nothing to do with the United Mine Workers of America, but they have found it necessary to recognize the power of the United Mine Workers of America.

Through you, Mr. President, and seeking peace which will enable them to resume their business of mining and selling coal. The recognition of our strength thus forced upon the operators is stern necessity we exult over, not in narrow spirit, but because we believe it marks a forward step toward a new era. Upon the foundations laid through war, we are ready to join with them in building for better conditions and a long lasting peace. The United Mine Workers of America, since its organization in the anthracite field, has constantly sought to establish:

"First. To be just to both parties. We have never made demands beyond the ability of the industry to pay on a basis of equitable division of profits between labor and capital.

"Second. Amicable relations between employers and employees, the latter speaking through their organization and their organization aiding the companies in maintaining discipline, adjusting all difficulties by conciliatory methods, averting local strike and lockouts and securing stable and satisfactory conditions to the industry."

"Our organization by the same methods which we have proposed here, has secured just such relations and just such results on the coal fields of the country. Organization, like an individual, must stand upon what it has done and the life it has lived. We invite scrutiny and investigation of our record and character. In the soft coal fields we have joint conferences with the operators and with them we have just differences, we sign joint agreements together we preserve discipline, settle disputes and maintain harmony and stability in the trade.

"Upon our past record we are willing to stand or fall. We have, time and time again, invited the anthracite operators to adopt these business methods and to deal with us on this basis. Despite repeated rebuffs, we persisted, but they resented any attempt upon our part to organize their employees; they refuse our overtures for amicable discussion and possible satisfactory adjustment of wage differences in joint conference.

"When the inevitable conflict came on they attempted to justify themselves upon the false pleas that ours is an irresponsible organization. When we demonstrated our responsibility they then asserted that we were a lawless organization which was dominated by violence. When society attempted to interfere to settle the strike they declared their divinely appointed right to be let alone. When reports of national and State governments tried to mediate, they resented the 'meddling by politicians.' But thanks to you, Mr. President and to the power of public opinion, they have been brought to a realization of the fact that the interests and welfare of the American people cannot be ignored with impunity.

"By the eminent tribunal which you have named we have confidence that justice will be done our people. We are glad to have a chance to appear before such a court empowered to consider and dispose of all questions at issue. First among these is the demand of the mine workers for increased wages and a reduction in the hours of labor; second, is the relations which ought to exist between the employers and the organization which the men have formed and which they authorize to speak for them."

News Briefs.

The Livingstone Lumber Co. of Livingston, Texas, has been chartered, with a capital stock of \$100,000. The incorporators are Harry H. Monteith and Isaiah A. Dyo of Livingston and Charles B. Kelly of Chicago.

Messrs. Eugene F. Verdery, H. G. Barrett, Henry C. Perkins and others have incorporated Planters' Cotton Factorage Co., with capital stock of \$6,000, and privilege of increase to \$50,000. They will conduct a general cotton factorage and brokerage business, etc.

A woman whose vocabulary is limited to the words "get up" and "go" has been adjudged insane. Yet "get up" and "go" together express the quality generally deemed essential to one seeking the sanest success.

TROUBLE NOW OVER

The Commission Appointed to Make Terms to Settle Coal Strike.

MITCHELL NAMED SOME OF THEM.

A Meeting of the Executive Board of Mine Workers Called—Work May Be Resumed Soon.

Washington, Special.—The strike is settled. Secretary Root announced at 1 o'clock Thursday morning that a common ground of agreement has been reached. The President has named a commission of six persons to settle the strike.

An official statement will announce the names of the strike settlement committee. It is believed that the sixth representative will be chosen from the ranks of labor. The President will urge the immediate resumption of work at the mines and the administration believes the request will be followed at once.

President Mitchell has called a meeting of the executive board, and the strike will be called off at once and mining resumed in two or three days. Some of the members of the committee were named by Messrs. Sargent and Mitchell at the conference with the President and later meetings Sargent officially represented the mine union leader.

The members of the strike settlement commission are: Brigadier General John M. Wilson, E. W. Parker, of Washington, D. C., connected with the Geological Survey; Judge George Gray, of Delaware; E. E. Clarke, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa; Thomas H. Watkins, of Scranton, Pa.; Bishop John L. Spaulding, of Peoria, Ill.; Carroll D. Wright.

As named the commission is practically satisfactory to both miners and operators. Assent of the miners was given through President Mitchell and Mr. Sargent, Commissioner of Immigration, and of the operators through Messrs. Robert Bacon and George W. Perkins, of the banking firm of J. Pierpont Morgan & Company. The final outcome followed a series of conferences beginning with two during the day with Mr. Mitchell and two during the night with Messrs. Bacon and Perkins. Events moved quickly at the last, the President being determined on a speedy settlement.

The commission will assemble in a few days and choose a chairman. It then will arrange for sessions and testimony.

Washington, Special.—The following official statement announcing the close of the strike was issued at the White House at 2:20 a. m.

After a conference with Mr. Mitchell and some further conferences with representatives of the coal operators, the President has appointed the members of the commission to inquire into, and pass upon all questions at issue between the operators and miners in the anthracite coal fields:

Brigadier General John M. Wilson, U. S. A., retired (late chief of engineers U. S. A.) Washington, D. C., as an officer of the engineer corps of either the military or naval service.

E. W. Parker, Washington, D. C., an expert mining engineer. Mr. Parker is chief statistician of the coal division of the United States Geological Survey and the editor of The Engineering and Mining Journal, of New York.

Hon. George Gray, Wilmington, Del., as a judge of a United States Court.

Mr. E. E. Clarke, Cedar Rapids, Ia., grand chief of the Order of Railway Conductors, as a sociologist, the President assuming that for the purpose of such a term of sociologist means a man who has thought and studied deeply on social questions and has practically applied his knowledge.

Mr. Thomas H. Watkins, Scranton, Pa., as a man practically acquainted with the mining and selling of coal.

Bishop John L. Spaulding, of Peoria, Ill. The President has added Bishop Spaulding's name to the commission.

Hon. Carroll D. Wright, has been appointed recorder of the commission.

Buchanan to Be Tried.

Nacogdoches, Tex., Special.—A preliminary trial will be granted Jim Buchanan, the self-confessed murderer of the Hicks family, next Tuesday, and the negro will be brought here for trial. Five hundred citizens of this county have guaranteed a fair trial and protection. The consensus of opinion, however, is that the militia or State Rangers must be sent here to prevent his execution by a mob.

Synod in Session.

Mechanicsburg, Pa., Special.—The Potomac Synod of the Reformed Church of the United States is meeting in annual session here, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland and central and southern Pennsylvania being represented by about 150 delegates. The Synod organized by electing Rev. John M. Schreck, of Washington, pastor of President Roosevelt's church, president; Rev. N. H. Skiles, Woodstock, Va., vice president; Rev. H. N. Bassler, St. Thomas, corresponding secretary.

Beauvoir Transferred.

Jackson, Miss., Special.—The formal sale and transfer of Beauvoir, the home of Jefferson Davis, by Mrs. Davis to the Sons of Confederate Veterans, was consummated Wednesday at the opening session of the reunion of the Mississippi Division, Sons of Confederate Veterans. The home will be used as a home for indigent Confederate Veterans. Mrs. Davis received \$10,000 for the home.

SENATOR MORGAN'S VIEWS.

He Does Not Believe the Coal Strike Settlement Permanent.

Baltimore, Special.—Senator John T. Morgan, of Alabama, now visiting in this city, was interviewed on the coal strike and on the isthmian canal outlook. Speaking of President Roosevelt's success in bringing about arbitration, the Senator said: "I am very glad that a modus vivendi has apparently been formed, and I should think the Republican situation would be relieved considerably. In a matter where the comfort and prosperity of the whole people are concerned, we should not entertain any question of party advantages, but should consider the general welfare. But the strike question has only been put to sleep for a time. You will find much debate and attempted legislation in Congress and in Legislatures of States containing mines, which meet this winter concerning the status of mines. The so-called question of capital and labor is a broad one. Mr. Hill, in New York, has taken the wrong idea of handling the fuel question through the exercise of the right of eminent domain. It is a municipal matter, the regulation of a public utility such as a ferry, turnpike, or a street railway. Attorney-General Knox expressed the right idea when he said: 'Let the common law define the wrong and then frame the statute to apply the remedy.' The common law has defined the right of the State or municipality to make regulations for the health, comfort, convenience or protection of the public for hundreds of years.

Touching on politics, the Senator said: "I do not see that the Democrats have anything to gain by controlling the next House of Representatives. I do not believe the Democrats of this country want to constitute themselves a clog to legislation, yet that result would naturally follow. With the two branches of Congress or opposite political faith, the government will be seriously embarrassed. There is nothing to gain by a coalition of this kind. It would not be any advantage to any one."

Asked what he thought of the prospects for the construction of an isthmian canal, Senator Morgan said: "I have always felt confident that when the whole matter has been gone over the Nicaragua route will be accepted as the only practical location. The money has been appropriated, and I do not believe any commission of men or scoundrels will be able to prevent it and cause the money to be converted back into the Treasury. Mr. McKinley, with the wisest policy which was ever exhibited by any President, was a firm friend of the plan, and Mr. Roosevelt, who is unmistakably sincere and honest, is carrying out his policy. Recent railway developments indicate that J. P. Morgan and the other great financiers have accepted the fact that the isthmian canal must be constructed. He recognizes the fact that the canal will be built and he wishes to control the great tonnage which must be carried from all over the country east of the Mississippi and south of the St. Lawrence to Pensacola, Mobile, New Orleans and Galveston."

News in Brief.

Senator Harris, of Kansas, one of the Democratic leaders of the Senate, who went to Europe this summer in the interest of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, said on his return here today that he had on a pair of shoes made in New England, which he had purchased abroad for 20 per cent less than the retail price in this country, and that he knew no better object-lesson for the people in the cause of tariff reform. He said that he would take them off and save them for use in the campaign and that he proposed to exhibit them on the stump as a concrete example of the way the American consumer is forced to pay for the same thing more than the consumer abroad, through the aid of the tariff.

Washington, Special.—The annual report of the commissioner of immigration was made public Saturday. It shows that of the 648,743 immigrants who arrived in the United States during the last fiscal year were 466,369 males and 182,374 females. Of the entire number of arrivals Italy supplied 178,375, an increase of 42,379 over the number for 1901; Austria-Hungary 171,989, an increase of 58,599, and Russia 107,847, an increase of 22,090.

In the British House of Commons John O'Donnell defied the Premier, shaking his fist in Mr. Balfour's face.

The Soufriere volcano is again in eruption. A mass meeting at Kingston denounced the government of St. Vincent and opposed enforced emigration.

President Castro is reported to be making a desperate stand at La Victoria, the battle with the insurgents still continuing.

Through the Indian Territory.

The Muskogee Southern Railroad has been incorporated in Oklahoma to build a railroad from Arkansas City, Kan., southeast through the Indian Territory to Shreveport, La., 300 miles. The incorporators are C. N. Haskell, W. T. Hutchings, W. R. Eaton and Charles H. Roser, all of Muskogee, and they are said to be backed by Philadelphia capital. This new line might be used by either the St. Louis & San Francisco, the Atchafalaya, Topeka & Santa Fe Company or the Rock Island system, but the backers of the project are not yet disclosed.

S. A. L. Reaches Birmingham.

The Seaboard Air Line Railway Co., and the St. Louis & San Francisco Railroad Co. have made an agreement under which they will jointly use the Birmingham Belt Line, and the Seaboard also retains its right to lay tracks in Birmingham under franchises granted by the city council. The Seaboard thus gains access to the Birmingham district for its extension from Atlanta.

Textile Notes.

Excavations are now being made for the buildings for the White Oak Cotton Mills near Greensboro, N. C. The work is in charge of a builder, and the owner will do the construction work. It will be recalled that this plant was announced last spring as to be built by the Proximity Manufacturing Co. of Greensboro. It will have 60,000 spindles and 2,000 looms for manufacturing denims, as previously stated. About \$1,250,000 will be invested.

The Weatherford (Texas) Cotton Mills will install fifty knitting machines to constitute the knitting plant reported last week as to be installed by the company. This company will then use the product of the 3,500 spindles it is now installing, instead of selling yarns in the market. No contracts have been awarded for the knitting machinery required.

Waco Knitting Mills of Waco, Tex., wants to buy 24s cotton yarn, also Egyptian yarns.

J. B. Martin of Raleigh, N. C., will establish a knitting mill to employ about sixty operatives. He will erect building 36x90 feet to accommodate the machinery.

Georgia Manufacturing Co., of Gainesville, Ga., has put in operation its 3,300-ring-spindle yarn mill, idle for three months. Fifty-five operatives are employed.

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL

An Incentive to the South.

The Galveston News makes a good point when it says that another argument in favor of cotton manufactories in the South is found in the recent scheme to grow in Africa cotton for European manufacture.

There seems to be a well organized movement among the Lancashire cotton spinners with a view to securing their raw material from British territories in order that they may eventually become independent of the American product. Their recently organized British Cotton Growing association has the endorsement of Colonel Secretary Chamberlain, it is said, and has assurance of help from all the colonial governors. Similar movements are being made in both France and Germany, and extensive preparations are going on in Africa, South America and Mexico.

It is explained that while efforts will be made by the English association to improve the quality and to increase the output of Indian cotton, the chief hopes of its management are apparently centered in West Africa, which is said to be capable of supplying 3,000,000 bales of cotton annually—which would be quite sufficient for the Lancashire spinners' use, and in the British Soudan the completion of the Saouk-Berber railway will, it is thought, vastly stimulate cotton culture.

It is predicted that in the course of time and the progress of changes that are going on a comparatively small amount of raw cotton may be sent from the United States to Europe. Two causes will operate to this end.

One of these is the growing demand of our home mills; the other is the falling off in the demand of the European mills which have hitherto depended upon the American cotton producer for material.

The South is manufacturing its cotton more and more largely into the finished product, thereby increasing steadily the profits of its crop.

The prospect of increased cotton production in Africa may prove a blessing in disguise by stimulating the great increase of cotton manufacturing in the South.

The time has passed when the South depended mainly upon raw cotton. The South realizes that her great future in cotton lies in the manufacture of the bulk of that crop.—Atlanta Journal.

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