

STRIKE FEVER SEIZES SOFT COAL MINERS

Quarter of a Million Men Dropped Picks and Shovels Last Night

Differences With Operators About Wage Schedule the Difficulty--Trouble Not Likely to Be Settled Soon, as Companies Hold Large Stocks--Non-Union Fields Working.

Indianapolis, Ind., March 31.—Two hundred and fifty thousand picks dropped from the hands of as many bituminous coal miners of the United States this evening, not to be used again until a wage settlement has been reached, a scale adopted between the members of the United Mine Workers of America and the coal operators of the various fields.

The situation, however, does not indicate a prolonged strike. An open winter and industrial depression have left a large stock of coal on hand, and the differences between miners and operators are very slight. It is practically agreed that the present wage scale will be continued but some policies in connection with the change tonight in the national officers of the miners organization and local differences between operators and miners have resulted in temporary suspension from work until a new wage scale is agreed to either by districts or individual miners.

Until two years ago, the bituminous coal mining wage of the country was based upon the agreement reached in the Central competitive field, consisting of Illinois, Ohio, Indiana and western Pennsylvania and considered as a unit. This unit system was broken two years ago, when President Mitchell signed a scale with Pittsburgh operators who agreed to pay the scale demanded after operators of the other three states had refused and the miners won their fight in consequence. Operators signed the scale individually throughout the country.

Since that time the miners have tried to get back the unit rule, or interstate agreement, but operators of western Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois, after negotiation, lasting all the past winter, have refused to meet in interstate convention with the miners. As a last resort, President Mitchell called the miners in national convention and district settlements were authorized with the present wage scale as a minimum. Failing to agree by districts, miners were authorized to sign the present scale with operators individually.

Vice-president Lewis, who will succeed President Mitchell tomorrow, is endeavoring to revive the interstate unit rule. In the meantime district joint meetings are being held in the various states.

Central Pennsylvania and the Black coal district of Indiana county are the only two districts that have signed up. Indiana operators and miners in session at Terre Haute, are adjusting their small differences and have decided to continue at work pending a settlement. There will be no strike in this state. The Illinois district meeting at Springfield has not reached an agreement, but the relations between the opposition interests are friendly. Western Pennsylvania had not reached an agreement and the mines will close down, throwing out of work 30,000 men. Ohio mines will close also as no agreement has been reached.

The southwest district, consisting of Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas and Arkansas are holding a meeting in Kansas City and it is said the miners will be idle for a time. Thirty-five thousand miners are affected. The miners of the Kanawha field in west Virginia are holding their joint meeting at Huntington and while no agreement has been reached, one is expected.

The New River, Pocahontas and Fairmont fields are non-union and are not affected.

West Virginia and Kentucky miners and operators will continue operations, it is believed, pending a settlement. President-elect Lewis of the miners national organization said this evening he would make no move for several days. He wishes negotiations now in progress in the various districts to reach some kind of conclusion before he begins to work out his plans. He is still in the hope of re-instating the joint relations between the operators of Indiana, Ohio, Western Pennsylvania and Illinois, and the indications are that he will call an interstate joint conference within the next two weeks. He will not convene the new national executive board for at least a week.

A Sweet Breath

is what all should have, and it can be ensured by the judicious use of Beecham's Pills. A sweet breath denotes that everything is well, so at the slightest indication of the digestive organs not working properly, do not forget to take

Beecham's Pills

Sold Everywhere. In boxes 25 cents.

CZAR LOSES HIS LAW SUIT

Winnipeg Judge Decides Against Emperor of Russia in an Attachment Suit

Winnipeg, March 31.—Mr. Justice Mathers on Saturday delivered judgment in the Emperor of Russia vs. Proskurekoff, an application to set aside an order of attachment by which goods of the defendant had been seized by the sheriff. The statement of claim alleged that the defendant was formerly the treasurer of the Department of the Interior for the Russian Government in the province of Turkestan, and that during his term of office, he received, as treasurer, over \$160,000, which money he stole or embezzled and appropriated to his own use. His Lordship, in delivering judgment, held that under the circumstances there was no jurisdiction to issue the order of attachment, and it must be set aside with costs to the defendants in any event. But an order was made for the detention of the goods by the sheriff upon the condition that he insure them to their full insurable value, and the costs of detaining, storing and insuring them be always kept paid by the plaintiff in advance, so that, in the event of the plaintiff failing to establish his claim at hearing of the action, they will be restored to Proskurekoff.

STRIKE OF C. P. R. BILLING CLERKS QUICKLY BEATEN

(Montreal Star.) A dozen or more young billing clerks who have been in the employ of the Canadian Pacific freight department, Berri street, are today on strike. Some time ago they made a demand for an increase in wages, and they were told that it would be placed before the proper authorities. The answer did not come soon enough, and the clerks decided that they would put an end to all work in the East End freight yards of the C. P. R.—the largest in the company's system—by going on strike. They went to lunch a week ago, and did not return. As trains cannot be sent out without the freight being properly billed, their absence threatened to upset the routine of the department, at least for a few hours. The officials, however, quickly got a few of the older clerks to start the billing, and then put on new hands and kept them right in the building. Food was sent from the Place Vigor Hotel and cots were provided for the new-comers until all danger of them joining the strikers was over. The department is today running quite smoothly, and the incident seems to be almost forgotten. The officials have no statement to make.

FOWLER QUERIES ABOUT OFFICIAL SELLING INSURANCE EVIDENCE

Ottawa, March 31.—Geo. W. Fowler on Thursday next will enquire if copies of the evidence taken by the Royal Commission on insurance were sold by an official of the government for his private profit, and what was the name of the official and the department he belongs to.

SAYS LIBERAL PARTY FAVORS BUILDING GEORGIAN BAY CANAL

Toronto, March 31.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier and the whole Liberal party are in favor of the Georgian Bay canal as a national work, according to Senator Poirier. He addressed the Canadian Club at Fort William last night and said the party also favored a twenty-two foot channel all the way.

Cough Caution

Never, positively never poison your lungs. If you cough—even from a simple cold—your lungs are being poisoned. Sufferers with bronchitis, cough, colds, and all the ailments of the throat and lungs, should use Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure. It is a safe, reliable, and effective remedy. It is sold everywhere. For twenty years Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure has been a household name. It is a safe, reliable, and effective remedy. It is sold everywhere. For twenty years Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure has been a household name.

Dr. Shoop's Cough Cure

LOOKING FOR NEW STEAMER

Capt. Troop to Sail From St. John Friday on Empress and for the C.P.R.

Among the passengers on the big C. P. R. liner Empress of Ireland on Friday is Capt. J. W. Troop, Superintendent of the British Columbia Coast Service of C. P. R. He goes to England and Scotland to arrange for and supervise part of the construction of a new steamer for the Victoria, Vancouver & Seattle route. This new steamer is being built by the Fairfield firm on the Clyde, and considerable progress has already been made with the construction of the hull, which is 38 feet longer and 6 feet wider than that of the Princess Victoria, built by Swan Hunter, Wigham Richardson on the Tyne. There is this important difference between that vessel and the new steamer. The house work of the Princess Victoria was of wood and was built on the Pacific Coast. That of the new steamer will be of steel and will be completed by the builders on the Clyde. It is to superintend that part of her structural equipment and to look after other details that Capt. Troop now goes to the United Kingdom. The new vessel, which is expected to be completed in the autumn, will surpass the much admired Princess Victoria in size, speed and other respects as well as in accommodation and appointments. He will sail by the Empress of Ireland on Friday.

THEY MAY HAVE TO RIDE IN BOX CARS

Troops in attendance at Quebec Tercentenary may not all get Passenger Accommodation

Ottawa, April 1.—The military authorities state that the proportion of the active militia to take part in the Quebec Tercentenary celebration will not exceed fifty per cent of the training establishment for 1907. Funds will not allow of more, but it is hoped to be able to concentrate 20,000 troops. Each unit will send an approximate proportion of its establishment but the Army Service Corps will send their full establishment. No man not previously trained will be included on the strength. The corps must remain in Quebec from July 21 to July 24. A due proportion of bands must be available for ceremonial review, and march past. The orders newly state that if the railway companies are unable to supply a sufficient number of passenger cars the troops must not complain if they are conveyed to and from Quebec in freight cars, and they hope, as the militia will be privileged to take part in a ceremony of historical interest and importance, all ranks will display a soldier-like spirit of endurance in meeting whatever hardships and inconveniences may be involved, without complaint or remonstrance.

Plans are under way in Ottawa for making Empire Day a red letter date in the Quebec battlefields fund campaign in Ottawa. The local clergy are being approached with the object of having special reference made to the movement in all the city pulpits on Sunday, May 24. All those seen have consented and the proposal will be taken up by the Montreal Association for confirmation.

WHITNEY'S PROTEST ALARMS LAURIER

Ottawa, March 31.—Premier Whitney moved a resolution in the legislature today concerning the bill incorporating the Ontario and Michigan Power Company introduced in the senate, as an invasion of provincial rights.

Shortly after the conclusion of the debate A. G. MacKay, leader of the opposition, received a telegram from Sir Wilfrid Laurier in answer to one from him as follows:

"Matter news to me, but if effect of bill is, as you state, an invasion of provincial rights, the bill will not be allowed to pass."

BURNED TO DEATH IN CHICAGO HOTEL

Chicago, Mar. 31.—Willis S. Meigs, 51 years old, who came to Chicago recently from Atlanta, N. Y. was burned to death last night in his room in the Mountain House, 54 Wells St. The origin of the fire is unknown.

THE GREAT REMOVAL SALE!

Begins Tomorrow (THURSDAY) at 8 a. m.

Store Closed Yesterday and Today.

We move on or about May 1 to 17-19 Charlotte street. We have a big stock of Clothing and Furnishings that must go into the homes of the people instead of going up to Charlotte street, so we are PUTTING THE KNIFE into prices very deep, and if you don't take advantage of the inducements we offer you, you'll be the loser.

Look at These Prices

Come In and Investigate

Men's Suits	Boys' Suits
\$7.00 SUITS for . . . \$3.89	\$4 3-PIECE SUITS . . . \$2.89
8.00 SUITS for . . . 4.89	5 3-PIECE SUITS . . . 3.29
10.00 SUITS for . . . 6.49	3 2-PIECE NORFOLK SUITS 1.89
	4 2-PIECE NORFOLK SUITS 2.49
	BOYS' BUSTER BROWN and FANCY SUITS, \$2.89 to \$3.29
	Boys' Pants
	ALL SIZES . . . 39c, 49c, 69c

Furnishings

HANDKERCHIEFS, - 8 for 25c	SHIRTS, - - - 38c and 49c
BOYS' HANDKERCH'FS, 12 for 25c	MEN'S HOSE, - 10c and 15c pair
SUSPENDERS, - - 13c and 19c	UNDERWEAR, - - - 39c

Special Bargains in Every Department

Come with the crowds. All goods marked in plain figures.

Henderson & Hunt

40-42 King Street, St. John

A SUMMARY OF THE FINDINGS OF THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

The service should be entirely freed from political favoritism or patronage.

Appointments should only be made by merit after competitive examination.

A permanent commission of three officials created to deal with the question of the service.

Different examinations in the different subjects required by the several classes employed in the civil service.

The whole management of each department should be inspected by this commission at least once a year.

Pay and promotion determined by merit only.

Below the deputy head should be a rank of officers of special and technical qualifications.

TOO MANY FEMALE CLERKS.

The great influx of women is swelling up the lower grades of the civil service, and proving detrimental to the development of the higher branches.

The Civil Service Act embraces only a small proportion of Government employees.

A small Public Accounts Committee should be appointed, based on the British system.

Present age limit for entering civil service, thirty-five years, is too inflexible.

HIGHER SALARIES.

Deputy heads should receive at least \$5,000 a year.

The minimum of \$500 for lower grade officials should be raised to \$700.

Chief clerks, first-class clerks, etc., should receive an increase of \$100 a year until maximum is reached.

Salaries have been pretty constant for thirty years, and there should be increases of 12 1/2 and 15 per cent. for Eastern Canada, and 20 and 25 per cent. for Western Canada.

A comprehensive superannuation and pension system is needed.

More stringent certificates as to health and moral character.

No radical improvement need ever be expected until the political pull is completely eliminated from all branches of the service.

Pay of officers too high and utterly out of proportion to those of other departments.

Want of sympathy between officers and men responsible for numerous desertions, one of three of those who enlist.

PUBLIC WORKS.

Regarding the Public Works Department the report, in brief, is as follows:

Enterprises not recommended by experts as required are undertaken for political advantage.

In the Department of the Secretary of State it is stated that reports are duplicated at great cost to the public.

ALBERTA BUYS BELL TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR \$650,000

Montreal, March 31.—The province of Alberta has purchased the Bell telephone system within her borders, the price paid being \$650,000, the deal having been put through today by the Hon. W. H. Cushing, representing the Alberta ministry and the president of the Bell company in this city. The news of the purchase was wired this afternoon to Edmonton and tomorrow the work of transfer will be accomplished.

MONCTON FIREMEN LIKELY TO GET INCREASED PAY

Moncton, March 31.—The city firemen are asking for an increase of pay. At a meeting of the fire committee this afternoon it was decided to recommend an increase of \$10 per man. About fifty men are in the department.

A LOUIS XVI. ROMANCE at Nickel

The romantic days of Louis XVI. were filled with escapades and love affairs that make delightful reading in these later times and since the art of motion photography has been so wonderfully developed the picturing of plays and incidents

of this kind has become a charm not to those who are familiar with the stories but to people whose tastes are not exactly literary. Therefore the beautiful picture in The Days of Louis XVI, which is the striking feature at the Nickel today and tomorrow, will be a treat of unusual merit. The scenic embellishments of the varying acts of the drama—all natural open-air settings—make the whole film a series of art productions, each or any of which would look good on a wall.

Another fine picture is The Britton's Promise, a romance of the north of France, introducing a number of up-to-date French naval scenes, and the third film, Keen-Eyed Gendarmes, is a comedy of the Franco-German frontier. All these are Pathe Freres' latest productions, which are sufficient guarantee of their photographic and scenic, not to say dramatic, excellence. Today Mr. Beckley will sing Rule Britannia again, and Mr. Maxwell will render "Why Did They Sell Killarney."

The sound of revolver shots in Gafford street, Carleton, last evening caused some alarm. The story is that as a young man was driving along, a collie dog began barking at the horse, and the driver fired two shots at the dog but did not hit it. It is reported that some children were near at the time. The police have been notified and likely the matter will reach court.

"Don't Neglect a Cough or Cold."

It can have but one result. It leaves the throat or lungs, or both, affected. Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup is the medicine you need. It is without an equal as a remedy for Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Sore Throat, Pain in the Chest, Asthma, Whooping Cough, Quinsy and all affections of the Throat and Lungs.

A single dose of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup will stop the cough, soothe the throat, and if the cough or cold has become settled on the lungs, the healing properties of the Norway Pine Tree will claim its great virtue by promptly eliminating the bad effects, and a persistent remedy cannot fail to bring complete cure.

Do not be humbugged into buying cheap imitations of Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup, but insist on having Dr. Wood's put up in a yellow wrapper with the trade mark, and the name CHRONIO BROWN.

Mr. Wm. O'Hara, Sourin, "Having suffered for a long time from a severe attack of Chronic Bronchitis, I could not get cured, until I used Dr. Wood's Norway Pine Syrup. I am glad to state it is a complete cure."