

**THE COAL STRIKE COMMISSION.**

**The Testimony for the Miners Concluded.**

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 16.—Notwithstanding the fact that the mine workers announced yesterday that they had closed their case with the exception of calling one more witness, the entire two sessions of the strike commission today were consumed in hearing three witnesses for the men. They were John C. Haddock, an individual operator; Rev. Dr. Peter Roberts, who is assisting the miners, and President Samuel Gompers of the American Federation of Labor. The principal point in Mr. Haddock's testimony was that he favored giving the mine workers concessions under certain conditions. Gompers testified as an expert on trade union movement. He created a stir when he strongly implied during his examination that the coal companies are responsible for bringing immigrants to the coal regions. When one of the lawyers for the coal companies asked him if he knew it from personal knowledge, he said he could prove it if necessary.

The miners made another attempt today to have the commission admit as evidence a large mass of testimony tending to show that the anthracite coal carrying roads charge extortionate and discriminating freight rates and that a monopoly exists in the anthracite mining industry which keeps the wages of men at an unnaturally low level. The commission again decided that the evidence must be limited to the scope of the commission and if it did take up the claims made in the evidence proposed to be submitted, the justifiableness of the mine workers' demands would still remain.

Chairman Gray, who is taking an especial interest in boycotts, asked Mr. Gompers what he thought of such methods. The witness said he would boycott a man who chose to do business with the person that is boycotted. Mr. Gompers was then cross examined by James Torrey, counsel of the D. & I. company. Mr. Torrey asked the witness if he did not believe that members of the United Mine Workers of America should be 21 years of age and able to read and write before they are admitted to membership in the union.

To this the witness replied: "Yes, ten years from now and when the companies stop bringing illiterate foreigners to this country. They are brought here by the companies and the labor union must protect them and see that they get their rights."

At the morning session Chairman Gray said the commissioners were impressed at the spectacle of the little girls who testified that they worked all night. He said the people of the community and citizens of the commonwealth should not let the incident pass without taking some steps to have the legislature of Pennsylvania seriously consider the enactment of a law that will forbid the employment of children at night. At the suggestion of the commission the statements of the wages of the fathers of two of the girls were presented. One earned more than \$1,000 last year and the other over \$900.

**The Liveliest Session That Has Yet Been Held.**

Scranton, Pa., December 17.—The anthracite coal operators opened their side of the controversy with the mine workers today before the strike commission, and the attorneys who are on record before the commission as representing the non-union men, who have been admitted to the arbitration scheme, began calling witnesses. The sessions today were probably the liveliest yet held by the commission. At the morning session the miners' lawyers challenged the fairness of certain wage statements handed to the commission by the Pennsylvania Coal Company and in the afternoon lawyer Darrow had a spirited discussion with Chairman Gray as to whether or not the miners had a right to know who is paying the lawyers representing the non-union men before the commission. Mr. Darrow asserted they were employed by the coal operators. Preceding this Simon P. Wolverton, counsel for the Reading Company, who delivered the opening address on behalf of all the large coal companies, made the point in his address that the recognition of the union is not an issue before the commission, which brought out a protest from Mr. Darrow. The latter claimed that if it were not, then the operators should be forbidden from presenting testimony that tended to show the union was responsible for all the alleged violence committed during the strike.

The alleged unfairness of the wage statements came to the notice of the commission as a result of its inquiry into the child labor question in this vicinity. Several little girls testified on Monday that they worked all night in a silk mill in order to help their fathers along, who were employed in the mines and received poor pay. Yesterday Everett Warren, who represents the Erie Company, which controls the Pennsylvania Coal Company in whose mines some of these fathers worked, handed to the commission a memorandum showing that one father last year received \$1,400 for himself and laborer, and that the other father received \$1,600 for himself and laborer. At the opening of the session today the miners placed the two parents on the stand and they swore that the earnings mentioned were divided among from four to six men. This testimony surprised the commissioners.

Chairman Gray asked that counsel for the company indicate in the wage statement whether the figures were for one or two or more men, but General Manager May said that he did not know whether two, four or six men divided the money. He admitted that two and four men worked in a place, but said that the company only paid one man.

After hearing two mine inspectors the miners rested their case, and Mr. Wolverton formally opened the operators' side of the controversy by reading a statement which represented the views of all the large coal companies. Mr. Wolverton contended that the powers of the commission are confined to the questions affecting the rates of wages paid and the reduction of the hours of labor, and in no way involving the question of recognition, or the bringing into any agreement with

the Miners' Union. He declared that the rate of wages in the anthracite region is not 40 or 50 per cent lower than in the soft coal region, but actually higher, and maintained that the present system of weighing was the best that could be had.

Ira H. Burns, one of the attorneys for the independent operators, presented the opening statement of the individual companies. This statement asked that if the commission's award favored the mine workers the latter should give some assurance that they would not interfere with non-union men.

It was arranged that the attorneys representing the non-union men should first call their witnesses, and five witnesses were produced, who testified that strikers had killed one man and had more or less seriously annoyed two other men who worked during the suspension. The first witness was Mrs. James Wenston, the wife of the murdered man, and then second was her son-in-law. Mr. Darrow asked the son-in-law who was paying for the lawyers who are representing the non-union men, and the ensued the liveliest tilt that has occurred in the sessions of the commission. Counsel for the witness objected and Mr. Darrow insisted that he and the commission had a right to know who were back of the non-union men, but Chairman Gray differed with him.

The colloquy was carried on for some time, and finally Chairman Gray consulted his colleagues, and as a result quietly answered that the commissioners thought it immaterial who was back of the non-union men.

**Attempt Being Made to Prove That a Reign of Terror Prevailed in Coal Regions.**

Scranton, Pa., Dec. 18.—The coal strike commission listened today to further testimony tending to show that a reign of terror existed in the anthracite coal fields during the five and a half months of the mine workers' strike. About a score of witnesses were called during the two sessions by the attorneys for the non-union men. They told of serious boycotts, brutal attacks by crowds of men, women and boys, and an attempt to burn the house of a non-union man. The lawyers for the miners objected frequently to the admission of testimony on hearsay and sometimes objected because of irrelevancy of other statements. Chairman Gray said the commission was not bound by any strict rules of evidence, but asked counsel to confine themselves in examining witnesses to direct evidence. He said it was too difficult in trying to prove that boycotts existed to get information on the subject. The commission, he said, wanted to know whether a reign of terror existed in the anthracite region and could not get that information if the strict rules of evidence were applied. "The coward who will go to the storekeepers," he said, "and tell them not to sell necessities of life to a poor woman, usually seeks the obscurity that the law of evidence throws around him. If a girl is discharged from her position in a store because she rode in a street car in inclement weather while a street car strike was on, the coward who discharged is coward enough to refuse to testify."

He recognized, he said, why some merchants will not come forward and tell who forced him to refuse to sell necessities of life to certain boycotted persons, but if he (Chairman Gray) were a storekeeper, he thought he would risk his all in order to assist in breaking up the cowardly.

The witnesses that were called, testified that their wives were insulted on the streets, the children were beaten by other children and could not be safely sent to school, that local unions required storekeepers to refrain from selling goods to any one related to a man working in the mines; that their houses were stoned, that they were stoned, shot at and hung in effigy and that life was made generally miserable for them and their families. Most of the witnesses connected strikers with the offenses alleged.

The lawyers for the non-union men said tonight they would continue calling witnesses to prove that a reign of terror existed during the strike. The commission will adjourn about noon on Saturday and will reconvene in Philadelphia on January 5th.

The piracy industry still flourishes in the Philippine waters, but we haven't heard any one claiming that as one of the results of the Dingley tariff.—Wilmington Star.

It is said that the late T. B. Reed, who went to New York a poor man, made \$200,000 in the past two years in dealing in stocks. He got the right kind of tips. In addition to that he was making about \$50,000 a year in his law practice.

**What's in a Name.**

Everything is in the name when it comes to Witch Hazel Salve. E. C. DeWitt & Co. of Chicago, discovered, some years ago, how to make a salve from Witch Hazel that is a specific for piles. For blind, bleeding, itching and protruding piles, eczema, cuts, burns, bruises and all skin diseases DeWitt's Salve has no equal. It has given rise to numerous worthless counterfeits. Ask for DeWitt's—the genuine. J. S. Hughson & Co.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 16.—At Big Stone Gap early this morning burglars blew open the safe in the postoffice, taking about \$800 in stamps and \$400 in money. They entered the room by boring out a panel in the door. The postmaster had received a large supply of stamps from the department last night, which had been invoiced. The same gang a little later entered a hardware store and got \$100 in money.

Washington, Dec. 16.—Confirmations by the senate: Lloyd Griscom, minister to Japan; Micah J. Jenkins, collector of internal revenue for the district of South Carolina.

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For Infants and Children.

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Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Hatcher*

**THE BIGGEST PECAN GROVE.**

**10,000 Trees Are Growing on a Farm in South Carolina.**

Probably few people here know that the largest grove of pecan nut trees in the world grows and bears fruit in Charleston County, but such is the fact. The grove is located in Christ Church parish, near the town of Mount Pleasant and is owned by Mr. John S. Horlbeck, who has cultivated the trees to their present state of valuable and increasing production from seedlings.

The grove covers 500 acres of land and contains 10,000 trees. It is a veritable forest of great trees, for the pecan grows to large size and is rich of foliage. It would be almost a day's journey to ride over the whole grove and it is no short way through it in a straight path.

The cultivation of this grove was begun by Mr. Horlbeck ten years ago, though he had previous to that time given considerable attention to the growing of the nuts. For a decade he has carefully and scientifically developed his trees, by systematic selection and treatment until now he has a fruit bearing tract of the greatest extent in the world. The trees are just beginning to bear a large return and every year from now on their production will increase until at the age of fifty years they will reach their full fruiting.

The pecan trees require a lot of attention. They were planted first as seedlings grown in forcing beds and then carefully set out in the open. Since then they have been fertilized, selected, pruned, grafted and treated with the same diligence and skill required of a grove of oranges until they have been brought to their present state of high cultivation and rich commercial promise. And they will have to be cultivated always to keep them up to the high grade they hold, though of course, they will not in the future require such careful nurture as they have demanded up to this time.

The pecans are first planted in a nursery and after two years are transplanted to the permanent grove. They are then cultivated with fertilizer as other crops and are carefully watched as to their development. Generally a hardy stock is planted and on this a select stock is grafted. The grafting is the most difficult of all fruit bearing trees and in some cases after it has apparently taken well there appears a reversion to the original stock after the trees reach a mature growth. Not all of the trees, however, are grafted. The pecans are attacked by caterpillars with avidity, and it is necessary during the spring when the caterpillars appear to spray their foliage to save them from the ravages of the worms.

At present Mr. Horlbeck's grove is bearing very well, but it is just beginning to return him a profit on his investment. The product of these varies. A full grown tree will produce from six to ten barrels of nuts, but this is far beyond what is being done by Mr. Horlbeck's trees now. There is greater demand for his pecan nuts upon Mr. Horlbeck than he can supply. The local market will take up all he can furnish now and the ordinary nuts bring him 25 cents a pound, while the fancy grades will return as high as \$1 a pound. The chief market for pecans is in New York, and as his product increases Mr. Horlbeck expects to ship large quantities to that place.

The nuts are gathered in the fall and they are beaten from the trees with sticks, care being taken not to injure the branches.—Charleston Post.

**Kodol Dyspepsia Cure**

Digests all classes of food, tones and strengthens the stomach and digestive organs. Cures dyspepsia, indigestion, stomach troubles, and makes rich red blood, health and strength. Kodol rebuilds worn-out tissues, purifies, strengthens and sweetens the stomach. Gov. G. W. Atkinson, of W. Va., says: "I have used a number of bottles of Kodol and have found it to be a very effective and, indeed, a powerful remedy for stomach ailments. I recommend it to my friends. J. S. Hughson & Co."

When General Fitzhugh Lee returned from Cuba several years ago and the reporters tried to interview him, he replied jocularly in Spanish. He was most discreet, and let no word drop that would in any way embarrass either himself or the administration. We think the General would have done well to preserve the same discreet silence, now that it is all over. We do not think that it comes either in good taste or in good grace for him to be telling tales on Mr. Cleveland at this late day. He was President Cleveland's confidential agent in Cuba, and his communications to the President were of a confidential nature. Moreover, Mr. Cleveland was one of the most valuable friends that General Lee ever had.—Richmond Times.

**Does it Pay to Buy Cheap?**

A cheap remedy for coughs and colds is all right, but you want something that will relieve and cure the more severe and dangerous results of throat and lung troubles. What shall you do? Go to a warmer and more regular climate? Yes, if possible; if not possible for you, then in either case take the only remedy that has been introduced in all civilized countries with success in severe throat and lung troubles, "Boschee's German Syrup." It not only heals and stimulates the tissues to destroy the germ disease, but allays inflammation, causes easy expectoration, gives a good night's rest, and cures the patient. Try one bottle. Recommended many years by all druggists in the world. You can get this reliable remedy at China's Drug store. Price 25c. and 75c.

**CONFEDERATE PENSIONS.**

CONFEDERATE Veterans are hereby notified as to applications for Pension for the next year, that The Pension Commissioner, P. P. Gaillard, will attend the Auditor's office every Saturday in January to prepare papers to be passed on by the Pension Board, which will meet the first Saturday in February, 1903, after which date no applications will be received, and applicants for pension are earnestly requested to meet the Commissioner in January.

W. D. SCARBOROUGH,  
Chairman Pension Board.  
Dec. 17.

**Child Burned to Death.**

Florence, December 18.—A small tenant house, in the northern portion of the city, was destroyed by fire last night and the child of Son Brunson, the negro occupant, was burned to death with it. Brunson left his wife and child at home and went up-town. As soon as Brunson left his wife put the child to bed and went to a quilting nearby.

Shortly after the alarm of fire was sounded and Brunson's house was the scene of the trouble. When found the flames had made such headway that the child could not be saved. This morning the trunk of the child's body was found burned beyond recognition, the head and limbs having completely burned off. The building belonged to Mr. A. B. Hammond and was not insured. It is supposed that a live coal from the fireplace popped out and set fire to the bed, as the fire was first seen burning on the inside.

**The Honest Man.**

Washington, Ind., Dec. 17.—John R. Boyle, of Loogootee, Ind., came to Washington Thursday afternoon, and walking into the City Treasurer's office, he said: "About twenty years ago I lived in Washington. I had a note for \$40 which I then had reason to believe was worthless. When the Assessor came around I did not return the note to him for taxation because I never expected to realize a cent from it. Several years after, in a trade, I collected the note, and now I want to pay the city of Washington \$3, that being the amount I think I owe for taxes on that note."

**A Cold Wave.**

The forecast of sudden changes in the weather serves notice that a hoarse voice and a heavy cough may invade the sanctity of health in your own home. Cautious people have a bottle of One Minute Cough Cure always at hand. E. H. Wise, Madison, Ga., writes: "I am indebted to One Minute Cough Cure for my present good health, and probably my life." It cures coughs, colds, lagrippe, bronchitis, pneumonia and all throat and lung troubles. One Minute Cough Cure cuts the phlegm, draws out the inflammation, heals and soothes the mucous membranes and strengthens the lungs. J. S. Hughson & Co.

**MANY PEOPLE**

Are willing to sacrifice themselves and their children to the prejudice of "what people say."

**The Foolish Prejudice Against the Use of Glasses**

By children with defective Eyes often results in the greatest suffering—sometimes permanent disability of one who might otherwise become a power in the world.

**E. A. BULTMAN,**  
Jeweler and Optician.

Dr. Z. F. Highsmith, Optician, in charge of Optical Department.  
17 S. Main Street, Sumter, S. C.  
Phone 194.

**...TO THE PEOPLE...  
HERE AND EVERYWHERE.**

From now until January I will sell you cheaper than ever before—any and everything that I carry in stock—for cash. I have an immense stock and must sell it before the year closes. If you are a judge of furniture and are looking for bargains, see me. I have more stuff than I can get in my store.

I have shades from 15c to \$1.25 apiece.

I have lace curtains, \$1 to \$6 per pair, spreads \$1 to \$2 apiece, blankets, from 1 to \$8 per pair, comforts 1 to \$1.25 apiece, rugs, 1.50 to \$10 apiece.

Lamps, I have a beautiful line, and they must go, from 25c to \$5. Clocks from 50c up. Pictures, as pretty a line as has ever been shown in Sumter, also frames, all sizes, at prices to suit them. Easels to go with them. Screens for hall rooms and for fire place, rocking chairs, no end to them, many styles and kinds in willow and oak, dining chairs, from 40c to \$2 apiece, baby carriages and go-carts, from \$5 to \$11, boys' wagons at your price, not mine, baby cradles at any price to get rid of them, ladies' desks, gentlemen's desks, china closets, trunks, lounges, sofas and settees, bedroom suites, odd dressers, odd bedsteads, iron beds, springs and mattresses, iron cribs, side boards, wardrobes, safes, dining tables, center tables, hall trees, &c. Please see me before you buy.

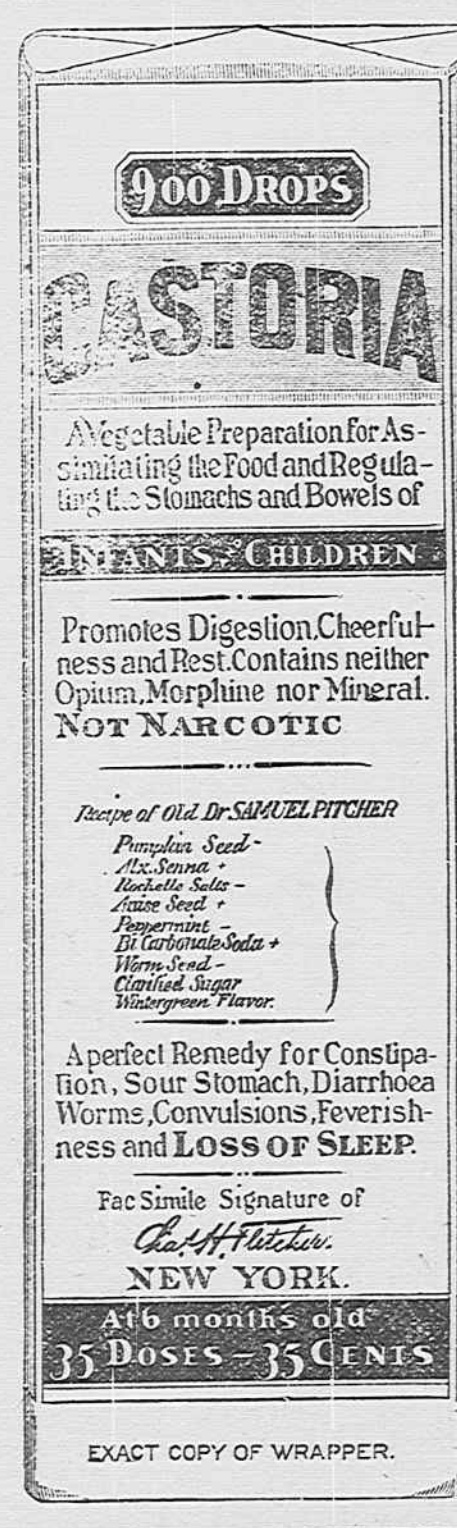
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**BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS.**

A FEW fine Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerels are offered for sale at reasonable prices. They are from the best strains and are large well marked birds.

Eggs for sale in season. The supply will be limited and orders will be filled in order of receipt.  
H. G. OSTEEN,  
Sumter, S. C.  
Dec. 24—tf.



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THE CENTAUR COMPANY, NEW YORK CITY.

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**Thirty Head Choice HORSES AND MULES.**

This shipment contains some of the smoothest and nicest mules ever brought to this market. Come and see them, whether you wish to buy or not. A look will be worth the trouble. Respectfully,

**ANSLEY D. HARBY.**

Sept 17

**Corn, Oats, Hay, Ship Stuff, Hulls and C. Seed Meal, Carolina R. P. Seed Oats at**

**HARBY & CO.'S STABLES.**

Also full line of standard grade Wagons, both one and two horse, Buggies, Harness, Carriages

We also have on hand a full line of building material, such as Lime, Cement, Plaster Paris, Hair, Laths, Fire Brick, Terra Cotta Pipe, Stove Flues, &c.

We want to give you prices when you need any of above, and we will get your patronage.

Yours truly,

**HARBY & CO.**

Aug 8

**DO YOU DRINK ALE?**

Glenn Springs Ginger Ale, made with Glenn Springs Mineral Water, is the best on the market.

**WHY?**

Because all ingredients used are the purest and best.

Because it is made from Glenn Springs Mineral Water.

The old reliable, that, in its natural state, has been alleviating suffering for over one hundred years is now being made into most delightful drinks. Try it and we know that you will say, as all others have said, that it is "the best."

Drinkers of Ginger Ale will be delighted to get this delightful and refreshing drink, made with Glenn Springs Mineral Water. Experts pronounce it the finest on the market. Try it and you will be convinced. Ask your dealer for it.

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GLENN SPRINGS, S. C.