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THE STATE MAY INTERFERE.

LABOR COMMISSIONER TODD SENT TO THE STRIKE SCENES.

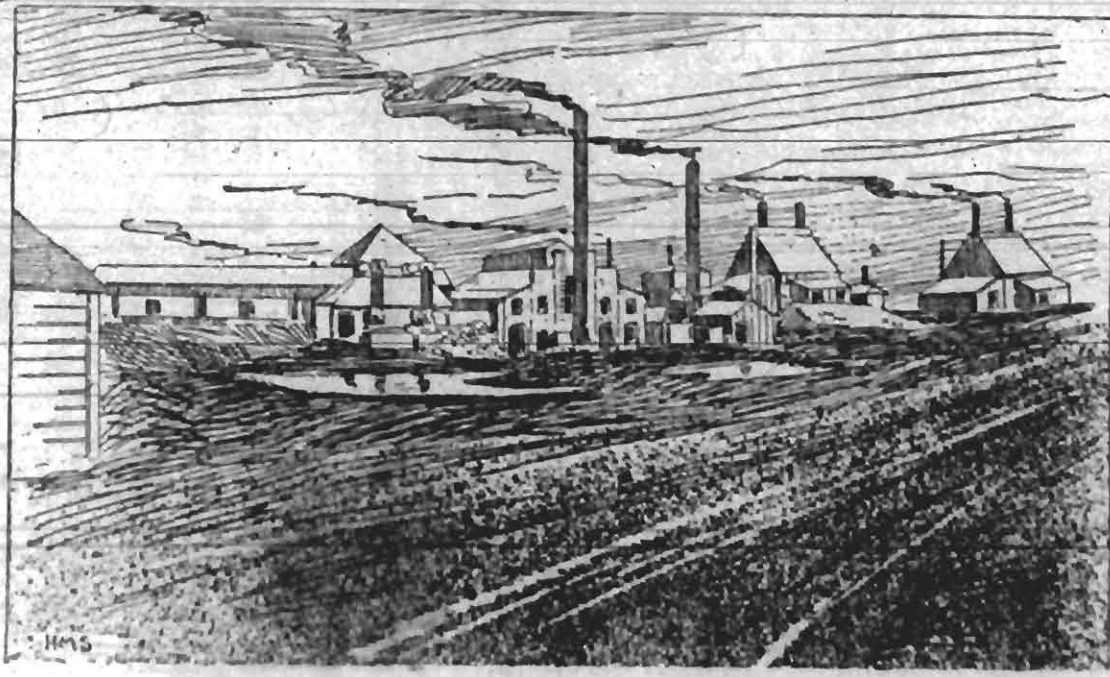
Governor Lewelling Believed to Have Given Special Instructions—The Leaders of the Miners—Claims of the Workmen—Smelters Deeply Concerned.

TOPEKA, May 24.—Governor Lewelling, this morning, sent Labor Commissioner Todd to the scene of the coal miners' strike in the Cherokee district. Before Todd departed he had a long conference with the governor, but what his instructions are, if any, is a state house secret. The governor says Todd's mission is simply in connection with the bureau of labor statistics, and that he will do nothing more than collect facts for his next report.

Todd said that he would not attempt to settle the strike unless called upon by interested parties. He said his office gave him no power

taken by the operators to put into effect their plan for disrupting the labor organization and of treating with the men as individuals. Then will come the real test and upon it will depend the success or failure of the strike.

The greatest industry threatened by the Kansas strike is that of zinc smelting. Pittsburg proudly claims that it is the largest zinc smelting city in the world. Day and night, on the north, east and south of the town, the great furnaces belch out smoke and flame, and always the retorts are full of metal ores in process of separation. Six companies have smelters in the immediate vicinity of Pittsburg. The Granby smelter, the smelters of the three Sanyons, the Weir City and the Pittsburg are in active operation. The fires are never allowed to go out. The proportion of coal required to smelt the ore is as three to one. Every car load of zinc ore requires three car loads of coal. The six smelters will average sixty cars of ore a week, and are therefore required to have weekly at least 180 cars of coal. The danger that now confronts the smelter owners is failure of the coal supply. At present most of the smelters have coal on hand to run perhaps twelve days without inconvenience. But should there be no change in the present situation they will then be forced to close. This will mean a serious loss outside the inconveni-



THE GRANBY SMELTER AT PITTSBURG

or authority in such matters and he could do nothing unless called upon to act as arbitrator. Should he be asked to serve in such capacity he admitted that he would consent.

Todd and President Walters of the Miners' union are personal friends. Walters, who was a Populist member of the legislature, was largely instrumental in securing Todd's appointment as labor commissioner and it seems to be the understanding that Todd goes to the scene of the strike at the request of Walters.

Governor Lewelling repeated to-day that he had not yet been called upon to take official notice of the strike and he did not expect to be. He said he believed the strike would be conducted to the end without violence on the part of the miners and that therefore there would be no necessity for executive interference.

There is talk in Populist circles of an arbitration of the strike by the governors of Kan-

ence and delay. When the fires go out the retorts burst, and to replace means an outlay each time for every smelter of at least \$1,000. The six smelters of Pittsburg employ about 1,500 men. They make an average of \$2.50 a day. When the present supply of coal is exhausted they will be added to the host of men now idle in the district.

GUIDED BY A GAMBLER.

Baptist Delegates Enjoy a Decidedly Novel Sensation in Denver.

DENVER, Col., May 24.—Up to noon, to-day, fully 600 more delegates to the Baptist national convention had arrived. Everywhere their colors—the purple and the white—are to be seen.

Men-about-town were amazed this morning to see a noted confidence man and gambler piloting a party of delegates to their destina-

WILL DRIVE

EFFECT OF NEW SOCIAT

Kansas and Missou the Charge for and Say Tu Bush

Kansas City mercen business are receiving da tomers in Kansas and the new rules of the c They say that it is men of Kansas City and to charge them checks when they ca these privileges free. timate plainly that th mit to what they term benefit of but one pa have written to dealer buy elsewhere unlc remedy the evils of w

The rules which trouble have been in the Kansas and Mis ness men here grow new rules, the more opposition to them dealers in hardware ments at Coffeyville, THE STAR:

After this season we e and implements from S where our checks are w lar. Our check is just a for the amount for whic buy where it will be tak ment for our bill for go

Quite as decided i THE STAR from S. C. He says:

The new rules of the l came effective May 1, an all over Kansas. Withu ness man in the state with Kansas City. W cities and get them cas cents per \$100.

It is not believed by sult will be as bad as Walter, but they are Kansas City's trade w The charges for exch must ultimately com while the banks chan dividual in turn will that the country cust the toll.

In addition to the the charges for col customers complain t out circulars are tac how remittances mus selves calculated to d

As yet no concerted towards changing the if remonstrances cou idly as they have in-t likely that something

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part of the miners and that therefore there would be no necessity for executive interference.  
There is talk in Populist circles of an arbitration of the strike by the governors of Kansas and Missouri but it has assumed no definite form and when Governor Lewelling's attention was called to it this morning he said he had not heard of it and had not thought of it.  
**THE LEADERS OF THE STRIKE.**  
**PITTSBURG, Kas., May 24.**—There was absolutely no change in the strike situation in this region to-day nor is there likely to be any until next Monday. All are quiet and there is no prospect of trouble.  
M. L. Walters, president, and John M. Lacey, secretary of the fourteenth district, United Mine Workers of America, are the two men upon whom will fall the greater burden of the labor to be performed by the executive board. They have made Pittsburg their headquarters and from the office of the *Miners' Echo* they will issue all the orders to the striking miners.  
President Walters is a strong limbed, broad shouldered man at least six feet tall. He is about 35 years old and has been a practical coal miner since the time he was large enough to go down the shaft. He is an even tempered, but energetic man. As president of the fourteenth district, embracing the states of Kansas and Missouri, his opportunities for mischief are unlimited should he avail himself of them. Since the strike he has been busy counseling moderation and preparing to maintain order in the numerous camps. He came to Kansas eight years ago, and every working-day since that time has been spent in the mines of Cherokee and Crawford counties. His home is at Scammon, a small town ten miles from this place, but since the walkout Pittsburg has been his headquarters. When the United Mine Workers twelve months ago organized Kansas and Missouri, he was selected as president of the district because of the ability he had shown as an organizer, and because he was regarded as a temperate, prudent leader.  
Secretary Lacey, like President Walters, is a man who actually mines coal for a living.  
**CLAIMS OF THE STRIKERS.**  
There are no "walking delegates" in the Southeastern Kansas coal strike. The miners who have walked out claim that they were forced to do so, because slowly but surely the operators have yearly reduced the scale of prices until the point had been reached where they were forced to take united action. Many of these men have been in the district eight, ten and twelve years. They have grown gray in the service of one operator or of one company.  
To prove the justice of their cause the old miners cite the fact that ten years ago many of them began working for operators who had not a dollar of capital, and who went into debt for the machinery to sink the shafts. Today these operators are without exception wealthy men, while the mineers who worked for them have seen their wages go down from \$2.50, \$2.35 and \$2.25 a day to \$1.75, which is the best schedule now maintained. They claim that with the increasing prosperity of the operators have come correspondingly hard times for them. Their condition is worse than it was five or six years ago, and the problem of bread winning is more difficult than ever.  
The Pittsburg coal miner lives in a small three or four-room frame house and, whether he owns or rents it, it is almost a copy of his neighbor's home. A small lot and a little garden spot in the rear are the rule. But the atmosphere is poisoned with coal smoke and the fumes from the smelters, so that vegetation

their colors—the purple and the white—are to be seen.  
Men-about-town were amazed this morning to see a noted confidence man and gambler piloting a party of delegates to their destination and at the same time taking great pains to point out every object of interest. Later an acquaintance jeered at him for this and narrowly escaped a thrashing.  
"I want you to understand," said the gambler, "that I am a Baptist." But quickly correcting himself, in a subdued tone he added, "At least my mother was."  
The several street car systems placed special cars at the disposal of all who wore the white and purple ribbon this morning, and they were soon speeding through the streets of the city and out through the suburbs.  
**VICTORY FOR THE REBELS.**  
**Nicaraguan Government Troops Defeated in a Decisive Engagement.**  
**PANAMA, May 24.**—Advices from Nicaragua state that the expected battle between the government forces and the revolutionists concentrated near Masaya was fought on last Saturday. It lasted twelve hours. The fighting was severe and each side suffered several repulses.  
Eventually the government troops were driven from the field. Counting deserters, dead and wounded, the government lost fully half of its army. The rest are demoralized and disheartened.  
Of twelve departments but four now remain loyal to President Sacaza and he is believed to be ready to treat for surrender. The removal of the Pacific Mail steamship service from San Juan to Corinto has disturbed the plans of the revolutionists who are anxious to maintain their relations with the outside world.  
**NEW YORK IS UNEASY.**  
**Recent Failures Said to Be the Forerunners of Others to Come.**  
**NEW YORK, May 24.**—The suspension of the National Bank of Deposit, the failure of a house which has been prominent in the toy trade with liabilities not far from \$300,000, and the attachments which have been issued against the Domestic Sewing Machine company, are, it is believed here, only the beginning of a series of financial embarrassments which will be made public one after another, and will probably last all summer. There are two, and perhaps three, large banks which have loaned large amounts of money to institutions which have failed.  
**A Machine of Fearful Power.**  
**ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 24.**—At Washington university, yesterday afternoon, a hydraulic testing machine, invented by Prof. J. R. Johnson, with a power of exerting a pressure of 1 million pounds was exhibited. Huge timbers, such as are used as pillars in large commercial buildings, were crushed—not broken—lengthwise. A piece of timber capable of sustaining 8,000 persons, more than twice as many as could be seated in the Music hall of the exposition, was crushed like an egg shell when placed in the machine. The best brick piers two feet square, columns of granite a foot square and sand stone three feet square were ground to powder with the greatest ease. A log of selected long yellow leaf pine eleven inches square and thirty-six inches long was crushed under a pressure of 514,000 pounds.  
**A Kansas Farmer After Klopers.**  
**WICHITA, May 24.**—Charles Thompson, a wealthy farmer, living north of town, was here this morning in search of his wife and William Dough-

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**PARIS, May**



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To prove the justice of their cause the old  
miners cite the fact that ten years ago many of  
them began working for operators who had  
not a dollar of capital, and who went into  
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den spot in the rear are the rule. But the at-  
mosphere is poisoned with coal smoke and the  
fumes from the smelters, so that vegetation



A TYPICAL MINER'S HOME.

cannot thrive except remote from the shafts.  
There are many mouths to feed in these small  
cottages. Children may be found in all of  
them, and in many so numerous are the babies  
that it is a continual source of wonderment to  
the visitor whether they sleep all at once or  
stand "watch and watch," turn about.

**WILL THERE BE DEEP WANT?**

Where the food will come from to feed the  
little ones in the event of a three or four  
months' struggle is a very grim phase of the  
present situation. The executive board as-  
serts its ability to preserve law and order and  
keep bread in the hundreds of three-room cot-  
tages in southeastern Kansas until the matter is  
won whether the time be ten days or six  
months. According to the last report of the  
State Labor Commission of Kansas the  
miners of the state make average wages of  
\$1.19 per day. The cutting off of this weekly  
income from 5,000 homes in two counties must  
necessarily produce some privation and some  
suffering after a time. It is then that the  
miners' organization will have difficult work  
to perform and that time will undoubtedly be

... For a clear head and steady nerves  
Take House-Holder—trial bottle 25c.

**A Machine of Fearful Power.**  
ST. LOUIS, Mo., May 24.—At Washington  
university, yesterday afternoon, a hydraulic test-  
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long was crushed under a pressure of 514,000  
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**A Kansas Farmer After Elopers.**  
WICHITA, May 24.—Charles Thompson, a  
wealthy farmer, living north of town, was here this  
morning in search of his wife and William Dough-  
erty, her brother-in-law, who are said to have eloped.  
The runaways were seen here last night, but have  
disappeared. This is the same Mrs. Thompson who  
almost succeeded in sending two neighbors to the  
penitentiary on a charge of burglary last summer,  
she swearing that they bound her to the bed while  
they robbed the house of \$900, brought home that  
morning by her husband. Thompson says he does  
not want his wife back, but will kill Dougherty on  
sight.

**A Prank of Bad Boys Causes Trouble.**  
CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., May 24.—Last Sat-  
urday night someone gained access to the tower of  
the main college building of U. S. Grant university  
at Athens and hauling down the United States flag  
substituted a canvas bearing the stars and bars of the  
Southern Confederacy. The flag was found floating  
on Sunday morning and it was some time before it  
could be removed as the halcyway had been securely  
fastened. As Northern money maintains the institu-  
tion the indignation of the faculty can be imag-  
ined.

**England's Iron Outlook Dark.**  
LONDON, May 24.—At the annual meet-  
ing to-day of the Iron and Steel Institute of Great  
Britain, President Richards said that the year 1892  
had been one of the worst known in the iron and  
steel industries, which were still greatly depressed  
and the outlook was gloomy. The production of  
pig iron had fallen off 900,000 tons and steel rails  
were in a worse condition.

**Kansas Druggists Elect Officers.**  
WICHITA, Kan., May 24.—The Kansas  
Pharmaceutical association at its session this morn-  
ing elected the following officers for the ensuing  
year: President, F. W. Williams of Topeka; vice  
president, F. H. Horage of Wichita; secretary, H.  
M. G. Mize of Hays, and treasurer, W. A.  
Strangler of Perry. The *Arkansas Froth* was design-  
ated the official paper of the association.

... For a clear head and steady nerves  
Take House-Holder—trial bottle 25c.

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