

AWAITING THE RESULT.

Mine Owners in Kansas City Want to Hear From the Miners.

The coal operators here are waiting to-day the result of the miners' meeting to be held at Pittsburg to-morrow, at which the miners will decide whether or not to accept the offer of fifty-four cents a ton for mine run coal the year round.

President Walters, it is said, has signified his willingness to have the men return to work at the fifty-four cent rate, and will do what he can to bring about a settlement.

E. J. Crandall, manager of the Kansas and Texas Coal company, who has been one of the most determined of the operators, has gone to Pittsburg to see what can be done. It is not unlikely that if the offer of fifty-four cents is rejected he will return prepared to suggest terms of compromise that can be agreed upon.

John Perry of the Central Coal and Coke company says the operators will do nothing until the men decide.

"What we shall do then," he said, "I cannot say now. We will probably put in other men if we can not make terms with these. The mines cannot lie idle. The operators have talked of putting in colored men, but our decision on that point is held in abeyance for the present. I suppose negroes are like white men in the mines. Some are useful and some are worthless. We might put them in, but we wouldn't need to go far to get white men, as there are plenty of them out of employment."

Colonel E. H. Brown, president of the Midway Coal company, is opposed to employing negroes even if efforts to secure a compromise fail. "I suppose," he said, "that the American negro is as good as the Hungarian and Italian laborer, but they are not a race of miners and I think my mines will be idle for some time before I put them in."

It seems to be understood among the operators that there is very little probability of negroes being put to work. There would be trouble not only with the miners, but with the Kansas farmers, and although the mine operators ordinarily care very little for the political effect of their acts, they will hardly take the risk of arousing the anger of the men in control of that state.