

THE WAGES OF COAL MINERS

How the Laborers in the Anthracite Fields Are Really Paid.

Many persons have asked for fuller information as to the actual earnings of the miners of the anthracite region under normal conditions. It appears that on account of conflicting statements in regard to the earnings of miners a great deal of confusion has arisen in the public mind. Many think the miners are forced to work for starvation wages, while others are equally sure that the men earn big wages and that there is no justification whatever of the strike. To clear up this controversy by reference to actual record is both important and interesting.

It should be borne in mind at the outset that less than one-quarter of all the persons employed in the production of anthracite coal are actual miners. According to the official figures of the Pennsylvania state bureau of mines last year the total number of employees was 141,500, of whom 33,000 were employed inside the mines and 48,500 outside. Of the 33,000 workers within the mines, 26,500 were actual miners, 24,000 were helpers and 10,000 were drivers. The remainder were door boys, timbermen, laborers, etc.

It will thus be seen that the miners and their helpers together make up an army of about 50,000 workers, or about 45 per cent of the whole force. These 50,000 men in round numbers are not paid by the day, week or month. They are paid according to the amount of coal produced. The miners (certificated as such under the mining laws of Pennsylvania) are really contract workers; that is to say, they undertake to remove coal from the veins at so much per colliery car, paying their own helpers who do the loading, and buying their powder and oil and paying for the sharpening of tools, etc.

As a rule the miner does very little work with pick and shovel. He is the skilled workman who undertakes the responsibility of handling explosives in a dangerous calling. He must know his business thoroughly. Hence the provision of the Pennsylvania law that every certificated miner must have had at least two years' experience in the mines. After a helper has had three years' experience he may undergo an examination and receive a certificate as a miner. The miner goes into the colliery at 7 in the morning. He drills holes in the vein in the "breast" to which the mine boss has assigned him, charges it with powder, adjusts his fuse, explodes the charge, and the coal comes tumbling down. His helper loads it on the mine cars, and the company's employees, driver boys, hitch on the mules and haul the cars out to the breaker, where the coal is cleaned and assorted and loaded at once into the railway cars for shipment to market.

Some of the miners do their own loading, or part of it, as is shown by the fact that there are more miners than helpers. If anything goes wrong with the powder charge the miner has to take his pick and clear it away. As a general rule the miner's work is not very hard, and in from five to seven hours he can knock down enough coal to make a day's work. Customarily the miner quits work and goes home

before the loader has finished his task. There is a great difference in the veins. Some work easily and others with much difficulty. There is also a difference in the skill of men. Thus it happens that here and there a miner may earn \$100 a month or some such figure. He may have two loaders. The few miners who make such large earnings have the best "breasts" to work in and are skillful men. Of course there are the exceptional cases, which give rise to the reports that "the miners are able to earn \$5 or \$6 a day for as many hours' work." This is true of a few men, but the vast majority cannot do half so well. Everyone will understand that it is the general average which counts, not the exceptional cases.

In the anthracite field wage conditions vary according to the district and the mine. There is no uniformity as to pay per car or as to size of car. But there is not much difference in the average earnings of the workers, mine compared with mine or district with district. Again, there is no absolute wages which the miners are able to pay their helpers, but in nearly all instances the helpers are given exactly one-third of the gross sum received for the coal produced. If a miner turns out coal for which the company pays him \$75 one-third of this or \$25 goes to the helper. In difficult workings one helper may serve two miners. The miner must also pay for his powder and oil and sharpening of his tools at the companies smithies.

In the report which he made to President Roosevelt, Labor Commissioner Carroll D. Wright did not on his own responsibility state what the average earnings are in the coal fields. But he collated the evidence given by company managers, bosses, miners and others, and there is no substantial conflict between these statements. They agree that the following figures fairly represent the average daily earnings of the various classes of labor throughout the region:

Certificated miners (skilled labor).....	\$2.56
Miners' helpers.....	2.08
Day laborers.....	1.82
State pickers, men.....	1.26
State pickers, boys.....	1.15
Car loaders.....	1.15
Laborers, first class.....	1.15
Laborers, second class.....	1.15

With this as a basis it is easy to get at the average annual or monthly earnings. In the anthracite region the men work an average of 29 days per year, or seventeen days per month. In 294 days they can and do produce all the coal which the companies can sell at the prices which the managers fix. If the miners were lower the public would consume more coal and the miners would have a greater number of days' work in the year. But taking the conditions as they actually exist, seventeen days' work per month, the earnings figure out as follows:

Certificated miners.....	\$43.52	\$522
Miners' helpers.....	35.36	425
Day laborers.....	32.81	393
State pickers, men.....	29.40	353
State pickers, boys.....	27.03	324
Car loaders, company men.....	27.03	324



1. A coal breaker. 2. Breaker boys receiving news of "arbitration offer." 3. National guard at coal fields. 4. Miners preparing for winter. 5. Miner and his laborer in a three-foot vein. 6. Miner's home.

The above halftone is made from latest snapshots showing conditions in the anthracite coal fields of Pennsylvania to be investigated by the arbitration commission appointed by the president. Immediate resumption of work in the coal fields is the first result of President Roosevelt's appointment of an arbitration board. A sincere effort will be made by operators and men to mine enough coal to avert the big national fuel famine that threatens.

Laborers, first class.....	27.03	324
Laborers, second class.....	21.93	263

March.....	16,494	194	2,150
April.....	16,261	194	2,139

January.....	9,828	204	\$1,478
February.....	8,752	20	1,481
March.....	16,225	184	1,441
April.....	16,195	204	1,455

January.....	25,804	194	\$1,890
February.....	25,270	184	1,803
March.....	26,729	184	1,834
April.....	26,829	194	1,905

INSIDE LABOR.			
Number Days Average			
Month—	men worked	per day	
January.....	15,976	184	\$2,102
February.....	15,318	174	2,146

OUTSIDE LABOR.			
January.....	9,828	204	\$1,478
February.....	8,752	20	1,481
March.....	16,225	184	1,441
April.....	16,195	204	1,455

TOTALS.			
January.....	25,804	194	\$1,890
February.....	25,270	184	1,803
March.....	26,729	184	1,834
April.....	26,829	194	1,905

The men in the mines worked an average of 18 1/2 days per month, and earned an average of \$2.18 per day, or at the rate of \$63.10 per month. Here are included all the miners, all the helpers, all the men actually concerned in getting the coal out of the veins and into the open air.

It is true that wages were increased 10 per cent in October, 1900, at the end of the strike of that year. The figures given above are for the first four months of this year, when the average number of days worked was a little above the average. The cost of living has increased fully 10 per cent since the advance in 1900. It is true that most of the families in the anthracite field get along fairly well at the wages now paid, and a few save money, but in nearly every case where money is put by in the savings bank it will be found that father and sons are all working, the former in the mines and the latter as drivers, door boys or state pickers in the breakers, while the wife, if there are any, work in the silk mills, the woolen mills or the shops. Walter Wellman in Chicago Record-Herald.

IF YOU HAVE PAIN IN YOUR BACK
Do Not be Deceived. You Have
Kidney Trouble, and You Do
Not Need a Physician to
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Let us give you a piece of advice. Pain in the back is an almost infallible sign of kidney disease; a sure sign is the condition of your urine. If you have a pain in the back then look to the condition of your urine. It is easily done. Take a glass tumbler and fill it with urine, after it has stood 24 hours. If it has a sediment, if it is milky or cloudy, if it is pale or discolored, stringy orropy, your kidneys and bladder are in a dangerous condition and need immediate attention, or the consequences may prove fatal.

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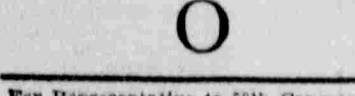
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JACOB MORITZ.	
For State Representatives, Eighth District, HEBER A. SMITH.	
JAMES W. CAHOON.	
THOMAS HULL.	
JOHN J. STEWART.	
DANIEL McRAE.	
ALBERT L. HAMLIN.	
WILLARD DONE.	
ALBERT H. NASH.	
JAMES N. HASLAM.	
CHARLES BRINK.	
For Commissioner, Four-year Term, W. W. WILSON.	
For Commissioners, Two-year Term, JAMES H. ANDERSON.	
HENRY N. STANDISH.	
For Clerk, JOHN JAMES.	
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For Sheriff, C. FRANK EMERY.	
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For Assessor, BEN R. ELDREDGE.	
For Auditor, I. M. FISHER.	
For Surveyor, JOSEPH B. SWENSON.	
For Justice of the Peace, Salt Lake Precinct, FRANK H. CLARK.	
For Constable, Salt Lake Precinct, WILLIAM F. HILLS.	



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For State Representatives, Eighth District, MAHONRI SPENCER.	
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THOMAS MORRIS.	
ALEXANDER C. EWING.	
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For Sheriff, GEO. HAM NAYLOR.	
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For Recorder, THOMAS ALSTON.	
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For Auditor, GEORGE H. WOOD.	
For Surveyor, WILLIAM H. EVANS.	
For Justice of the Peace, Salt Lake Precinct, CHARLES M. NEILSEN.	
For Constable, Salt Lake Precinct, BRIGHAM Y. GOLDING.	



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For Justice of the Supreme Court, WARREN FOSTER.	
For State Senators, Sixth District, LOUIS HERRICK.	
EDWIN L. POWELL.	
For State Representatives, Eighth District, FRED RICHARDS.	
J. H. ZENGER.	
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For Commissioners, Two-year Term, H. W. HANSON.	
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For Attorney, GEORGE E. POATE.	
For Sheriff, LOUIS S. LARSON.	
For Treasurer, M. C. PRATT.	
For Recorder, HERMAN FASCHER.	
For Assessor, JOHN F. OSBORNE.	
For Auditor, PETER JOHNSON.	
For Surveyor, GEORGE FOX.	
For Justice of the Peace, Salt Lake Precinct, RICHARD POLE.	
For Constable, Salt Lake Precinct, HENRY O. OLSON.	

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE AND CONSTABLES FOR SALT LAKE CITY PRECINCT

Justice of the Peace, Republican—Frank H. Clark, Democratic—Charles M. Neilsen, Socialist—Richard Pole.	Constable, William F. Hill, Brigham Y. Golding, Henry O. Olson.
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Justices of the Peace and Constables for County Precincts.

Justice of the Peace, Republican—F. M. Bishop, Democratic—John Gabbott.	Constable, Samuel Nowell, Thomas H. Woodbury.	Districts, 53, 54
Justice of the Peace, Republican—George Christensen, Democratic—Isaac Maxwell.	Constable, Albert Capson.	55
Justice of the Peace, Republican—John Rider, Democratic—J. A. Cornwall, Socialist—Isaac Maxwell.	Constable, Samuel Haslam, Lynn Lann, Henry M. Saville.	56, 57, 58
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Charles Holm, Democratic—D. A. McMillan, Socialist—Joseph Marriott.	Constable, Joseph C. Smith, Frederick Peterson, Oscar Boden.	59, 60, 61
Justice of the Peace, Republican—David B. Brinson, Democratic—H. R. Stevenson.	Constable, Byron Nelson, Jacob Christensen.	62
Justice of the Peace, Republican—J. J. Harrop, Democratic—	Constable, W. C. Wooten.	63, 64
Justice of the Peace, Republican—William Panter, Democratic—Henry C. Monteer.	Constable, Foster Greenwood, Charles F. Cole.	65
Justice of the Peace, Republican—William Burrows, Democratic—H. P. Johnson.	Constable, Lars A. Lundgren, Abel Johnson.	66, 68
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Alva John Butler, Democratic—Alma H. Rock.	Constable, William J. Despain, Alfred H. Soderberg.	69
Justice of the Peace, Republican—John T. Spencer, Democratic—William Fairbourne, Frederick A. Olsen.	Constable, Fred A. Olson, Jacob Christensen.	70
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Elihu Brown, Democratic—James R. Rawlins.	Constable, Elias J. Day, Andrew J. Day.	71
Justice of the Peace, Republican—George W. Bills, Democratic—(No Report).	Constable, Robert J. Turner.	72
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Seth Pixon, Democratic—Charles E. Miller.	Constable, James W. Dansie, Frederick W. Webb.	73
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Albert Mahey, Democratic—John W. Whedon.	Constable, Gordon S. Beckstead, Alfred Ehrgren.	74
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Joseph J. Williams, Democratic—Alma H. Rock.	Constable, Alma H. Soderberg.	75, 76
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Archibald Frame, Democratic—Samuel Bringham.	Constable, James Marsden, William Harker.	77
Justice of the Peace, Republican—George E. Lee, Democratic—John A. Farrell.	Constable, John L. Forbes, Ray H. Hennen.	78, 80, 82, 83, 84
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Joseph Kauffman, Socialist—Joseph Kauffman.	Constable, A. M. Stringham.	85
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Samuel G. Spencer, Democratic—	Constable, David Reid.	86
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Manassa Smith, Democratic—Richard C. Wilkin.	Constable, George H. Robinson, Stewart T. Tanner.	87, 88, 89
Justice of the Peace, Republican—Simon F. Mackie, Democratic—John Varley.	Constable, James McChie, John Dearing.	90
Justice of the Peace, Republican—O. W. Rudy, Democratic—	Constable, Frank H. Rudy.	91

STATE OF UTAH.

County of Salt Lake, ss.

I, John James, County Clerk in and for the County of Salt Lake, in the State of Utah, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the names of all candidates for office, duly nominated for the General Election, to be held on Tuesday, November 4th, 1902, as appears on file in my office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal, this 25th day of October, A. D. 1902.

(Seal.)

John James

County Clerk.

WEATHER F
Record at the local
weather bureau for the
at 6 a. m. today:
Barometer reading 3
inches. Temperature 69;
maximum, 69;
mean, 69; which is 1
normal.
Excess of daily m
since the first of the m
Excess of daily m
since January 1, 1902
Precipitation since
month, .34 inch, which
the normal.
Accumulated defec
tion since Jan. 1, 4.14
FORECASTS TILL 6
DAY.
Local forecast for Se
city:
Showers tonight and
er tonight.
For Utah: (Forecast
Cloudy; and unsett
night and Saturday; p
cooler.

WEATHER CON
An area of low pres
western portion of the
ter extending from the
coast southeastward
condition promises this
storm it has had in
Main has fallen over
Gulf, southern Idaho, ca
kota, Minnesota and a
Gulf coast. Moorhead
during the last 24 hour
changes have general
L. H. S.

TODAY'S TEMPE
6 a. m.
7 a. m.
8 a. m.
9 a. m.
10 a. m.
11 a. m.
12 o'clock noon
1 p. m.

To-day's Metals
SILVER, Bar, 50 3-8
LEAD, \$3.50.
CASTING COPPER, 11

THE SEMI-
WEEKLY N

THE GREAT
OF THE WES

is held Mondays and
contains all the cream
Saturday News.

LOCAL B

Rabbi Reynolds spea
in the Jewish temple
education.
The general meeti
school teachers which
held tomorrow morn
side high school, in
one week, when Super
tensen will speak on
Discipline in School.

There was quite a li
at last night's Chris
meeting at Fort Dou
atives from the Presby
as it was Presbyterian
Edith Lane presided, a
Van Houghten was the
was the usual receptio
Chaplain Marvin's hea
The semi-annual mee
Missionary union was
in the First Congrega
Mrs. R. G. McNeice was
ident; Mrs. Berkeley,
Mrs. W. Wright, secreta
treasurer. The execu
cludes the presidents
Missionary societies of

Secretary P. J. Daly
cratic state committee,
torian chin under a ch
night, while making a d
car, and was thrown
ground with such force
his shoulder. Mr. Daly
for several days, and it
C. M. Jackson will carr
ders the Atlas like dult.

George Raymond Wal
late J. H. Walker, is il
clase with appendicitis
era, Charles and J. R. V
been summoned to his h
makes the young man's
affecting is the fact th
wedding trip. And
Walker, brother of the
last summer in this ci
dits.

A young man giving
Charles R. Hubb has b
Seattle on charge of for
is thought that he is
commanding officer at
the colonel has wired f
He is said to have un
raised by forgeries, an
with hoping to gain en
bring his wife on to
young man was in very
circumstances, and has le
a speedy life.

The condition of De
Sandahl of Murray, wh
crushed yesterday by a
improved today. The
only six years old, was
car track and did not
of the approaching car
motorman "pounded har
and fairly sat on the be
feet were terribly crum
car wheels, but he was
to be the office of Dr. Jone
cared for. The doctor
amputation will be neces
it will be a long time
Sandahl can walk.

ZION'S SAVINGS BA
CO. has half a million
in sums to suit borrow
collateral at lowest mar

UTAH COMMERCIAL AN
Interest paid on as
Armstrong, pres. Byr
pres. J. E. Caine, cash

TELEGRAPH SCHO
Night School. Practical
course; good positions
us. 247 W. Fourth Sou

Loiselle's School of
Ladies' Literary Club
East, cor. Brigham stre
class commences Satur
m. Adults, Tuesday es
o'clock, October 25, 190
structions given. Send

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tionary in your
school room? If n
up to date. It i
best edited, best
bound, and most
in all respect.
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