

operate the mines for ten days without fixing the price, a board of arbitration to fix the price for that time.

President Ratchford insisted that nothing but the 69 cent rate could be possibly accepted.

The operators were firm, but the miners were equally determined and every argument of the operators was met by the miners' leaders. It was therefore decided to end the conference.

President Ratchford gave out the following statement:

"We have disagreed. Our proposition remains unchanged. Besides our proposition to arbitrate we made them a second one along the lines of bringing about a general conference of miners and operators of all mining states. They refused to lend their efforts in that direction and the strike will be continued. We have no other plans for the future."

Immediately after the close of the morning conference J. B. Zerke called a meeting of operators for 2 o'clock this afternoon to discuss the situation and outline a plan for future action.

Some of the operators favor the plan decided upon at the Cleveland conference to make a fight to start the mines with the old men if they can be induced to dig at 54 cents or to import men to take their places.

Others, however, say they will not aid in carrying out this plan and favor a complete surrender.

The outlook after the adjournment of the conference seemed to be encouraging for the miners. There is no question as to the anxiety of the operators to start their mines. Nearly every coal company in the Pittsburgh district was represented at the Monongahela during the conference.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Aug. 24.—Quiet prevailed at the strikers' camp about the DeArmit mines. Both sides are waiting for the decision of the court in the cases of the five men arrested on Saturday morning.

The sheriff does not want to go on making arrests until he is sure the court will sustain him, and the strikers do not want to be arrested if the court will sustain the sheriff in making the arrests. So a sort of truce has come about.

This morning on account of rain, the campers remained under shelter and passed an uneventful day, awaiting news of the conference between the operators and miners officials in session at Pittsburgh.

The threatened evictions at Plum Creek will not take place this week, as the company discovered an error in the papers served on the tenants which made them illegal. New papers are being prepared. Anticipating the evictions several strikers who occupied company houses have moved out.

Yesterday was pay day at the Plum Creek mine and about 200 of the men received their money. Pay was withheld from about 150 men on account of the strike. A number of miners threatened to enter suit for the amount due them.

WHEELING, W. Va., Aug. 24.—The strikers suffered further losses in the Kanawha valley in the upper Lott, Creek region and along New river today. New river mines loaded 600 cars of coal yesterday, which is a big day's work for normal conditions. In

Kanawha 200 more men went to work today which leaves very few men out.

Fairmont increased its output and the Norfolk & Western region shows no sign of a strike. Leader Rea in the Fairmont region today established five camps of toilers. The men will march from camp to camp, making visits, holding this to be their interpretation of the injunction given by Judge Giff. It is not likely these marches will be allowed, however.

The danger of a coal famine in the Wheeling district has been greatly reduced by the peddling mines over in eastern Ohio going to work, this being their usual market.

The strike at Corinth has caused the loss of a million brick that were half burned when the miners refused to burnish a y more coal.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—Wheat had a comparatively tame opening today. December dropped a cent a bushel on first sales and then practically recovered the loss. The crowd had apparently lost its bull fever and was content to accept profits on old purchases or else scalp the market for a reach. The cable news was interesting only because Liverpool failed to match our decline of yesterday. Paris markets were of bearish significance and showed declines in both wheat and corn.

Towards noon wheat collapsed completely, prices selling at four cents from the opening and over five cents a bushel from last night. The selling orders came mostly from eleventh hour bulls who had a bad loss in their purchases and were anxious to get out. The break forced December to 96½. I was partly caused by a smash in Liverpool quotations, the closing cable being 3½@4½ below last night.

ROME, Aug. 24.—There is considerable agitation among the peasantry in Lazio district in favor of a distribution of the vast uncultivated estates of the patrician families. Seven hundred villagers with their wives and children carrying the national flag and headed by a band playing the royal march started from Marino, a few miles southeast of Rome, intending to seize and divide the estates of Prince Orlonova a Le Fratocchie. The authorities intervened and persuaded them to disperse. Troops have been dispatched to prevent further disturbances.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 24.—When the barkentine Hudson was docked for repairs yesterday it was discovered that sometime during her last voyage the vessel had been struck by a swordfish. The sword had passed through four inches of planking and gone five inches further into a solid timber. The blue iron section was broken off even with the copper sheathing.

DETROIT, Mich., Aug. 24.—The body of Aaron C. Conn, the board of trade operator who disappeared last Thursday, was found on Belle Isle this morning. Around his neck a handkerchief had been knotted and then twisted with a lead pencil until the victim strangled to death.

Conn is said to have lost considerable money in speculation and was partially deranged.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—A special dispatch to the World from London says great excitement prevailed on the London, Liverpool and Glasgow corn exchanges over the sensational advance

in the price of wheat. A World representative spent some time on the London exchange and talked with several authorities. Oscar Friton, manager of the firm of Ralli Bros., Bros., said:

"This big and sudden rise has taken us completely by surprise over here. I don't consider it is justified by circumstances. At the same time our market is firmer than ever and the price will hold for some time apparently."

"It is due, in my opinion, to various causes, one being the big bear account which was opened in New York. Operators got frightened and closed it to cover themselves. I would not venture to give a definite opinion on the prospects of prices, the rise being, in view, so purely speculative and surprising."

Mr. Wood, of the leading firm of W. P. Wood & Co., of the corn exchange, said:

"The outlook depends, in my opinion, on the financial situation on the other side. If there is no money trouble in the United States I believe wheat will go up another 20 cents. They are importing wheat this year from America to the Cuban province, where they have never imported it before. We and the whole of Europe are in the hands of America. It is the only country we have to look to for our wheat. We millers are buying from hand to mouth, waiting for a 'tropic price', which I do not believe will come. A poor crop to Europe generally is the cause for the rise—a perfectly sound cause. In some of your millionaires go into wheat, having made a good deal out of railways from which they are now withdrawing, the boom will last."

Frank Wilson (of Montegredon, Elberly & Co.) said: "France is a great actor in the situation. I have seen a French buyer just come over from Paris, who said to me of the present French crop, 'The more we see of it, the less we like it.'"

"There was a shortage in France of seven million quintals and they have already bought 3,000,000. If the estimate is too high they may be selling soon instead of buying. Here is a sample of a parcel of wheat which I stored six weeks ago at 29 shillings and for which I have received this morning 41 shillings. That is a hard fact which cannot be blinked. I give on my opinion: I believe the present price of something near it will rule for some time to come."

Beth Taylor, far and away the biggest miller of England, said: "I believe the rise springs from natural conditions, but in all my experience I have never known an advance more considerable in so short a time without any very striking change in the situation. There is, of course, the fact that the whole continental crop is short and if the weather breaks in the north of England before the harvest is over you will have the price up another five shillings like a shot. The weather looks pretty bad just now. The condition of France apparently is very serious. The French government can save themselves from the socialists and anarchists by taking off the wheat duty if the present prices are maintained."