

BIG STEEL STRIKE. Reported Negotiations for Settlement Through Disinterested Parties.

Cancellation Committee of the Civic Federation Prepared to Carry on Negotiations—In the Meantime Both Sides Claim a Victory.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Aug. 28.—Reported peace negotiations for the settlement of the strike through the mediation of disinterested parties—officials and members of the National Civic Federation—received a setback when President Shafter tonight declared absolutely that he had no official knowledge of such proceedings, and that if such a move had been started it did not have the official sanction of the organization.

Nevertheless the subject will not be dropped, and tonight it is said the cancellation committee of the Civic Federation, already prominent in the matter, is fully prepared to carry on negotiations, and will if necessary endeavor to secure the good offices of Archbishop Ireland, Bishop Potter, Daniel Hanna and Seth Low, co-members of their organization, to give such prominence to the committee that the proposal will be received by the Steel Corporation. In the meantime both sides to the controversy make claims to a victory.

The steel people, ridicule the claims of the Association, and point to the failure to induce the South Chicago and the Duquesne men to go on strike as an evidence that the strength of the Amalgamated has departed.

The officials say the only plants at which they have difficulty are at the Star and the Lindsay and McCutcheon, but they expect to overcome all troubles there and have the mills running full at an early date.

AT CHATHAM. Seventh Annual Session of the Maritime Board of Trade.

Invited to Meet at Sydney Next Year—To Prevent Railway Accidents—Insurance Matters.

CHATHAM, N. B., Aug. 22.—After the reading of the minutes Wednesday evening, Mr. Bentley of Truro moved that the Maritime Board of Trade desire to place before its deep appreciation of the continued efforts of the various boards of education to encourage education of a practical nature and wish to express their warm thanks to Sir Wm. C. McDonald for his assistance in introducing a public system of manual training in public schools in the various provinces, and would urge upon the respective governments of the maritime provinces the great importance to the business communities of further encouraging an assisting education of a practical character.

The question of better inspection by the government of culverts and bridges was introduced and regret was expressed that Mr. Jarvis of St. John, who was to deal with the question, was not present. W. S. Fisher said that in view of the defective road of life, especially in this province, during the past year, the weak bridges and culverts, it was very desirous that something should be done to have the smaller R. R. lines properly inspected. The question was further discussed by Mr. Jarvis and Senator Snowball, and a resolution was moved by W. S. Fisher as follows:

Resolved, That the number of serious accidents that have occurred during the past year or two through defective R. R. bridges and culverts, this board recommends that the local governments consider the advisability of appointing an officer whose duty it shall be to examine and report upon their condition.

Fire insurance rates were then taken up and discussed by Mr. De Wolfe of Halifax. Mr. Hannahan of Sydney, Mr. Bentley of Truro, Mr. Calkin of Kentville, Senator Snowball of Chatham, Mr. Longworth of St. John, Mr. W. S. Fisher, and Mr. Jarvis of St. John, all took part in the discussion.

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OTTAWA. WAGES IN N. B.

Officers of the Canadian Medical Staff Who Have Failed to Qualify. As Fixed by the Government in its Contracts.

Ladies Who Went to South Africa Appointed Nursing Sisters in the Militia—Prominent Resident of Hull Ends His Life.

OTTAWA, Aug. 27.—The following officers of the Canadian army medical staff having failed to qualify, their names have been removed from the list of officers of the Canadian militia: Capt. J. H. Harrison, Lieutenant H. H. Archibald, H. B. Addison, H. P. Preston, D. A. Stewart, J. S. MacCabe, R. Owens, J. H. McCormack, W. T. Senkler, and 2nd Lieut. H. H. Sinclair and T. O. Orr.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Boer Says He Will Continue to Fight—Avoiding British Columns in Cape Colony.

LONDON, Aug. 28.—A despatch from Lord Kitchener dated Pretoria today says: "Three officers and 65 men who were sent north of Ladysmith, Orange River Colony, on the right of Elliot's column, were surrounded on unfavorable ground and captured by a superior force of Boers. One man was killed and four were wounded. The Boers were released. Holding enquiry, who have received a long letter from them containing an argumentative statement of the Boers and saying they will continue to fight, also a short letter from DeWitt to the same effect. Both parties acknowledging the receipt of my proclamation and protesting that they intend to go on fighting. On the other hand the Boers have lately been increased considerably."

LONG DELAYED RAIN.

ALBANY, N. Y., Aug. 27.—Rain, the first of any consequence for several months, fell here today, though probably too late to do much good to the root crop, which will be very short.

DROWNING ACCIDENT.

TATAMAGOUCHE, N. S., Aug. 26.—This place was shocked on Saturday night to learn that one of its prominent men had suddenly met death by drowning. John Clark, about 7.30 o'clock went to the shore below the house to bathe. Not returning at the usual time, his son went to search for him. Only his clothes were found on the bank. An alarm was given and a search made. The body of the deceased was found eighteen inches under water. The coroner's inquest returned a verdict of accidental drowning. The deceased's brother is George Clark, ex-M. P. P.

ACTION FOR DAMAGES.

HALIFAX, N. S., Aug. 28.—Some time since Edwin Hooper, a contractor on admiralty work in Bermuda, was arrested in this city at the instance of Admiral Bedford, charged with having stolen government stores. After an inquiry he was discharged, and returned to Bermuda. Now Hooper has retained a lawyer to bring an action against Admiral Bedford for \$500 damages for false imprisonment. The vessel which he purchased from Bermuda dockyard officials, these officials, who are said to be prominent, have now in turn been arrested.

SCHOONER DISMASTED.

HALIFAX, N. S., Aug. 27.—The schooner, Canadiane, of Halifax, which left here on Friday, bound for House Harbor, Magdalen Islands, was towed back today, dismasted. Capt. Dennis reports that on Friday night, ten miles off Cape Lawrence, a spring tide broke, the main mast and rigging falling back over the stern. There was a little wind at the time, but a heavy sea. The mast was not sound. The vessel's motion caused the stay to break, and the mast was too weak to stand without it. Capt. Dennis had a narrow escape from death. He was standing at the wheel when the wrecked fell. It carried away the davits and damaged the wheel which was spinning. The vessel was towed back to port.

THE CITY TREASURER OF WORCESTER, MASS.

The city treasurer of Worcester, Mass., has a staff of 60 girls making out tax bills. The job takes about 10 days.

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