

WHOLE TOWN RAIDS RAILROAD FOR COAL

Led by Burgess and Protected by Police, Citizens of Olyphant, Pa., Seize Fuel for Schools—Will Pay for it.

Scranton, Penn., Nov. 8.—Angered by the failure of the Federal and State Fuel Commissions to furnish coal for schools and churches, more than 2,000 citizens of Olyphant, near here, marched to the yards of the Delaware & Hudson Railroad Company and confiscated four cars of coal. The fuel was loaded into auto trucks and wagons and hauled to the nine churches and ten public schools in the borough. The schools have been closed for two weeks because the coal companies have refused to sell coal in Olyphant Borough, although thousands of tons are mined there daily.

The Olyphant citizens held a mid-night meeting on Saturday with Burgess P. B. Dempsey, members of council and the school board. It was decided that the burgess should exercise his police power and confiscate sufficient coal to supply the schools and churches. Shortly after 6 o'clock Sunday morning the fire gong in Olyphant was struck. This was the signal for the seizure of the coal. Fire trucks loaded with firemen raced through the streets and got the citizens up. Scores of other vehicles, including auto trucks, wagons and push carts joined the gathering in front of the Borough Building. Hundreds of men and boys carrying shovels formed in the line, and Burgess Dempsey, the Councilmen and School Directors, all with shovels on their shoulders, led the caravan on the half mile jaunt to the railroad yards, while hundreds of women lining the streets shouted words of encouragement to the marchers. "Get us coal for our schools and churches," "Fight for fuel if you have to," were some of the cries.

When the railroad yards were reached Burgess Dempsey climbed aboard one of the cars on a long train of coal. He



announced an embargo on all coal mined in Olyphant and all coal passing through the borough. He said this embargo against the Delaware & Hudson Company and the Hudson Coal Company would continue until such time as conditions in Olyphant were remedied. Town Police Afford Protection.

The citizens then swarmed upon the cars of coal and commenced loading the trucks and wagons. People from other towns of the mid-valley came up on the scene and shouted words of praise. The Olyphant police force stood ready to give battle to railroad and coal police if they interfered. Firemen had hose attached to hydrants and any one who attempted to interfere with the seizure was doomed for a ducking. Hudson Coal Company police arrived on the scene shortly, but the mob never hesitated and the coal policemen turned around and walked away.

The Rev. P. J. Murphy, rector of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic church and beloved by people of all creeds in Lackawanna County, visited the yards and praised the citizens.

"You did all in your power to avoid this, but when the health of your loved ones is menaced you must act in their defense," he was quoted by an official as saying to the crowd.

After the schools and churches had been furnished with coal the confiscation was stopped. Burgess Dempsey stated that about two hundred tons had been taken from the cars.

"We tried to buy coal for weeks and could not get it. Today we took it, but tomorrow we will pay for every ounce confiscated. We had to have coal to protect the health of our school children and citizens," Burgess Dempsey said.

AN A. Y. P. A. VISIT.

The members of the A. Y. P. A. of St. Jude's church were guests at an entertainment given by the members of the A. Y. P. A. of the Church of the Good Shepherd last night in the hall of the Fairville church, and the evening was pleasantly spent. The Good Shepherd A. Y. P. A. provided an excellent programme of vocal and instrumental music, readings and recitations, and the various numbers were heartily applauded. Refreshments were served at the close of the evening. The two organizations have established a custom of visiting each other which fosters good-fellowship and works for mutual benefit.



NEWS NOTES OF THE WEST

Edmonton, Alta., Nov. 8.—Dedicated to the memory of the late M. R. Jennings, formerly managing director of the Edmonton Journal, a stained window was recently unveiled in Christ church here by Lieutenant-Governor R. G. Brett. The window is in the form of three panels illustrating the well known verse: "Come unto Me, all ye that are heavy laden and I will give you rest."

Saskatoon, Sask., Nov. 8.—The body of William Francis Walsh, aged 67, killed by a train near Regina recently, will be cremated. The ashes will be

buried at sea along with those of his wife. Instruction to this effect are contained in his will.

When a young man, Walsh saw graves being opened to permit the construction of a canal in Ontario. He took a vow that the same fate would never overtake his remains. When his wife died last July the body was cremated and Walsh drew up his will. His own ashes and those of his wife are to be taken on board ship at Seattle and strewn on the waters of the Pacific.

Port Arthur, Ont., Nov. 8.—A strange proceeding to Canadian courts was introduced when Charles Wong, non-Christian, was administered an old Chinese oath during a case in the local court. From somewhere in the police station an old saucer was brought to the court room and on taking this oath "As this saucer is broken, so may my soul be broken and destroyed, if I do not tell the truth and the whole truth," Wong broke the saucer over a window sill.

Vancouver, B. C., Nov. 8.—Records of the City of Vancouver's license department indicate that 1,658 Chinese and Japanese are licensed tradesmen within the city limits. This does not include Orientals working for a salary. Dotted up and down the city and confined to no particular quarter these Orientals are engaged in thirty-nine separate lines of business, including one boot-black, 201 tobacconists and thirty-one licensed druggists.

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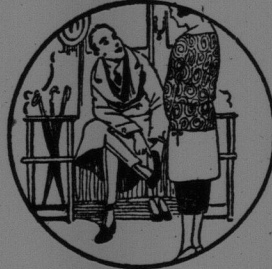
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