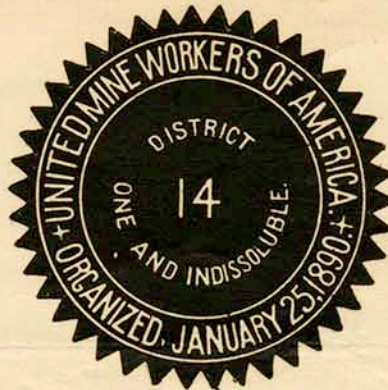


OFFICIAL CIRCULAR

United Mine Workers of America



Pittsburg, Kansas
Aug. 6, 1925.

To the Officers and Members,
All Local Unions, District 14,
U. M. W. of A.

Greetings: -

The District Officials feel that the drive of the coal operators to break the Jacksonville Agreement and return the mines to the 1917 scale, has been broken. As briefly as possible, we will outline the move that was tried by the operators, which was the same as the one they were partially successful in making in our sister district, No. 21.

The Doubleday Mine in our district, which had been operating non-union; the Sheridan Coal Company, who refused to be a party to the contract between our Organization and the Operators' Association; and the Crowe Coal Company, were the principals in this conspiracy of the operators, with the backing of other operators.

Their plan was to use the men from the Doubleday mine to open Mine No. 14 of the Sheridan Coal Company, and after that mine was producing, the men there would be the nucleus for the starting of Mines 7 and 18 of the Sheridan Coal Company, and then if they had been successful, the mines of the Crowe Coal Company at Croweburg would have next been started, and if successful there, the other mines which were and are operating under the present contract, would have been closed down, and the coal orders would have been turned over to the mines above mentioned. In that way, it was hoped by the coal operators to break the present contract and put into effect a wage reduction of approximately thirty per cent.

Through the loyal efforts of our membership, and the plan of resistance formulated by President Walters, this move has been broken. The Doubleday Mine is now operating under the Jacksonville Agreement. Mine #7 of the Sheridan Coal Company is also operating under the Jacksonville Agreement, with prospects of some of the Crowe mines, and Mine 18 of the Sheridan Coal Company, resuming operation under the Jacksonville Agreement in the near future. The outlook for a good Fall and Winter's work, is good.

The relief that the Organization has been able to offer to the membership who have so loyally stood by the organization, has been very meager, but as mines open up and men go from the "relief list" to the "paying list", we hope to augment this considerable, so that those who are still unable to obtain employment later on may be helped more.

The success of the District Organization in stopping the drive of the operators, was made possible by the assistance and loyalty of the membership, and the District Executive Board takes this opportunity of assuring the membership that with their continued support, the Jacksonville Agreement will remain in force and no backward step will be taken. With kindest regards, we are

Fraternally yours,

M. L. Walters, President.

Dan O'Donnell, Vice-Pres.

Harry W. Burr, Sec'y-Treas.