

# SAY 6,000 QUIT COAL JOBS.

## Operators Dispute Miners' Figures —Admit Strike Cuts Output.

WILLIAMSON, W. Va., July 1.—Although miners were reported to be leaving the Mingo County, W. Va., and Pike County, Ky., coal fields in large numbers today, in compliance with the strike order issued by officials of District 17, United Mine Workers, effective at midnight last night, several mines in Mingo County continued in operation.

Apart from four mines in the Kentucky fields, reported in operation today, the operators there made no attempt to open their mines today, it was said.

Operators here declared that not more than 1,500 miners were actually involved in the portion of the district covered by the strike order and that not more than 5 per cent. had joined the union.

District union officials asserted, however, that 6,000 miners were affected and that they were virtually all organized.

Quiet prevailed throughout the Mingo County coal fields today and no trouble was reported from the Kentucky fields.

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CHARLESTON, W. Va., July 1.—Officials of the United Mine Workers of America announced here early today that, while they had received only meagre reports from Mingo County, W. Va., and Pike County, Ky., as to the progress of the miners' strike, which went into effect last midnight, they predicted that 6,000 members of the union in the two counties would walk out before the close of the day.

The strike order was sent out last Tuesday, the action being taken, according to union officials, after operators of Mingo and Pike Counties refused to meet with representatives of the men to discuss the question of wages.

Two representatives of the Bureau of Conciliation of the United States Department of Labor arrived in Williamson, the Mingo County seat, today, according to reports received here. The conciliators, F. L. Frick of Garrett, Ind., and L. R. Thomas of Pittsburgh, were sent to Williamson in an effort to avert the strike. They expected to confer with representatives of the men and the employers.

Union leaders said today that the miners who were directed to strike had been ordered to leave a sufficient number of men at the mines to insure protection of mining property, unless the companies decided to operate them.

Operators here had said the strike would affect about twenty mines in the two counties, with an estimated daily production of 25,000 tons.