

president's discretion to the Nicaragua or the Panama route.

On the 9th the House went at once into committee of the whole for the further consideration of the Nicaraguan canal bill. Mr. Shackelford, of Missouri, offered an amendment (printed at page 521) which is substantially the same as those offered yesterday by Parker and Morrell, and was by their consent offered as a substitute. It was rejected (p. 527) by 170 to 102; and, with an unimportant amendment in detail, the bill as originally proposed (p. 456) was agreed to and reported back to the House with the recommendation that it pass. A motion was thereupon made in the House to recommit the bill with instructions (p. 531) to report a substitute enabling the president to choose between the Nicaragua and the Panama route. A call for the yeas and nays on this motion was voted down viva voce by 206 to 40. The bill was then passed (p. 531)—309 to 2, with 44 not voting.

The census bill (House bill No. 196), making the present temporary census organization permanent, was taken up in committee of the whole on the 10th, and after consideration was reported back to the House (p. 563) with the recommendation that it be recommitted to the select committee on the census, with instructions to prepare and submit a substitute providing for a detailed organization of a permanent census bureau with a provision placing the employes within the classified service. The House adopted the recommendation. After enacting a bill (p. 563) giving to the widow of the late President McKinley the privilege of sending mail matter free of postage, it adjourned to the 13th.

MISCELLANY

STRIKE AT THE WRONG!

For The Public.

Ye who would lead your fellow men
To tread a newer, better road;
Who strive by deed, and tongue, and pen,
To lighten Labor's galling load;
Have courage! Scorn the idle jeers,
Nor deem your slightest effort vain;
The world shall in the after years
Pay tribute to each restless brain.

Mankind shall claim the truths ye teach,
And follow where your dreams have led.
The feet of Progress soon shall reach
The paths ye solitary tread.
Enlightenment shall sweep away
The Ignorance that cries you down;
Ye bring the world a brighter day,
And place new gems in Freedom's crown.

The world has suffered, patient, long,
Beneath the grinding soulless sway
Of unjust laws and social wrong;
These ill your light shall sweep away.
Your words of reason, flashing bright,
Shall set the tolling millions free;
Swing hard the ax of Truth and Right—
Strike at the wrong, where'er it be!

ROBERT T. WHITELAW.

PRO-BOER ECHOES FROM CLEVELAND.

A Pro-Boer mass meeting was held Sunday afternoon, Jan. 5, in the Grays' armory, Cleveland, under the auspices of the German Central Bund. The Hon. John J. Lentz, of Columbus, was the principal speaker of the occasion, and the Hon. William J. Bryan, and the Hon. Tom L. Johnson, who were present, were also called upon. The following extracts are taken from the report in the Cleveland Plain Dealer of Jan. 6.

The war now being carried on should not be dignified with the name. It is murder and assassina-

tion. England knows it, the Boer feels it. For from centuries of ages past has come the note of warning that in Teuton blood the love of liberty can never be extinguished. Germans may die and do fighting in the cause, but with the steadfastness of purpose and the zeal of gods, they still retain that spark of liberty which has ever characterized them. Only when the last Boer lies a corpse upon the brown veldts of the republic will Britain have won.—Hon. J. J. Lentz.

A republic cannot perish anywhere in the world without injuring all republics. The cause of liberty is not limited by boundary lines, and a blow to it at one point is felt in all.

Sad will be that day, fallen will be the star of our destiny, if the time ever comes when struggling freemen feel that they cannot look upon the people of these states for sympathy.

I am glad that it has taken over 200,000 Englishmen to fight less than 25,000 Boers; glad that even yet they have been unable to conquer. It will furnish in times to come an incentive to other oppressed peoples, and stands as a proof that men still live who will fight for liberty.—Hon. W. J. Bryan.

My sympathies are always with the oppressed, and while I am in full sympathy with this meeting, I believe that such meetings should sympathize with the oppressed of every sort. For myself, I feel for the struggling classes of England who must bear the expense of this costly war. It is from their labor and their tears that the bills which the policy of extermination of the Boer must be paid.—Hon. T. L. Johnson.

"A CENTURY WITHOUT STRIKES."

An extract from a discourse delivered in the Vine street Congregational church, Cincinnati, January 5, by the pastor, Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow.

We are told that in the last 20 years strikes have cost labor and capital nearly \$400,000,000. This expenditure ought to be eliminated, since the nation gets no return for it but social animosities.

In the hope of bringing to an end this industrial strife 36 gentlemen of prominence have resolved themselves into a board of arbitration, which Senator Hanna, their chosen president, says is the greatest step ever taken in the direction of industrial peace.

Are the lion of monopoly and the lamb of labor actually going to lie

down together, or is there some treachery in the proposition of the lion to the lamb that they should get closer?

Capital has nothing to hope from this organization, and labor has nothing to fear. The only damage will be that done to the reputation of these gentlemen who have allowed their names to be identified with such a farcical and flippant treatment of the labor problem; and the only good that can come of it will be the certain demonstration of its futility.

Think of the sober brows getting together to devise ways and means of establishing industrial peace, while barring from their deliberations any consideration of "abstract labor questions," that is, of the economic causes of industrial war!

Who would listen to the advice of physicians who, having been invited in for consultation over a sick patient, should bind themselves to consider only the questions of remedy, and refrain from any abstract question as to the cause of the malady?

It is like the national conference of charity and corrections assembling professional philanthropists year after year to consider ways and means of dispensing charity, but tabooing any discussion as to the real causes of poverty.

The present century will be a century without strikes, but it will not be due to the efforts of the peacemakers. Arbitration boards are no novelty, yet strikes have proceeded in spite of them, and will do so as long as there is hope of accomplishing anything in that way. But as a weapon in the hand of labor the strike is doomed. Such defeats as that recently administered to the steel workers are showing workmen that the ballot is their only hope. The strike will be abandoned. But that will not mean an industrial truce. It will mean that by bitter experience labor has been forced to adopt more effective means of warfare.

Any law which will increase opportunities for the legitimate employment of capital must of necessity increase the opportunities and the rewards of labor.

When a federation of labor unions in Chicago recently determined to devote a regular meeting to the discussion of political measures looking toward the improvement of industrial conditions, they took a more radical step in the direction of industrial peace, and showed more insight into the nature of the problem, than did the wise men in New