

The Colorado troubles (pp. 264, 294) are reported to have been revived. On the 20th a mob organized by the mine-owners took possession of Cripple Creek, looted the labor union store, and deported several men for sympathizing with the labor unionists. Among the persons deported were J. C. Cole, a former assistant prosecuting attorney; Eugene Engley, a former attorney general of the State; F. C. Hall, manager of the union store, and F. J. Hays, a lawyer and counsel for the labor union. Steps have been taken by the injured interests to secure protection in the courts and also from the national government. The latter claim is made on the ground that the looted store is owned by the Inter-State Mercantile company, an outside corporation.

In connection with the meat trust strike (p. 295), an injunction asked for by the trust against the city of Chicago has just terminated in a decision favorable to the trust. The trust has been using its packing houses at Chicago for the purpose of housing its "strike breakers." This was decided by the corporation counsel, Mr. Tolman, to be unlawful under the city ordinances with reference to lodging-houses and fire protection. Accordingly, the trust was notified by the city to cease using the packing houses for lodging purposes; and thereupon the trust made application to the courts for an injunction. On the 24th Judge Brentano granted the injunction, which prohibits the city from interfering with the complained-of use of the packing houses. He granted it on the ground that the packing houses are outside the fire limits of the city. The city has taken an appeal. It has also taken steps to terminate the strike through a mediation committee authorized by the city council and appointed by the Mayor on the 24th.

As large numbers of the "strike breakers" in this strike are Negroes, the strikers have urged Booker T. Washington to come to Chicago and address a Negro meeting on the subject with a view to averting hostile race feeling. Their telegram of the 23d to Mr. Washington was as follows:

Booker T. Washington, Tuskegee College, Tuskegee, Ala.: Organized la-

bor of Chicago, representing 250,000 men and women of all races, respectfully request you to address a mass meeting of colored people in this city on the subject, "Should Negroes Become Strike Breakers?" Organized labor has endeavored for years to overcome race hatred, and the fact that hundreds of Negroes are acting as strike breakers, to aid the beef trust to reduce wages, is undoing all of the good work done in years along that line. Letter will follow.

Negotiations regarding the Chicago traction question (p. 236) are in progress. The committee on transportation of the council reported to the council on the 24th, at a special meeting called for another purpose, a franchise extension ordinance (p. 305), supposed to be acceptable to the Chicago City Railway Company; and Judge Grosscup, of the Federal court, has been invited by Mayor Harrison to join in negotiations on the basis of that report, for adjusting the controversy with the receivers of the Union Traction Company, and thereby settling the whole matter. The overture was made on the 18th by Mayor Harrison in the following letter to Judge Grosscup:

I am informed by the Corporation Counsel that the substantial elements of the decree to be entered in the traction case have been determined by your Honor, and that, while important questions remain to be decided, a computation can be now made of a commuted term equivalent in duration to the average duration of all existing franchise rights. Feeling myself charged with the duty of doing everything in my power to bring about an adjustment of the present differences between the traction companies and the city, and being convinced from your Honor's public utterances that you also desire a settlement, fair at once to the city and to the property interests confided to your charge, I beg leave to send you herewith a copy of the ordinance lately tendered to the City Railway Company, and to ask that if this ordinance (which seems to me the best practical solution of the questions at issue between the city and the transportation companies) meets with your Honor's approval you intervene in the matter in such way as you may deem proper to bring the settlement of existing differences with the Union Traction Company and its underlying companies.

To this overture Judge Grosscup replied on the 23d as follows:

The fiscal structure of the property interests embraced in what is known

as the Union Traction lines is such that a settlement out of court of their franchise relations with the city—particularly the merging of all outstanding franchises in a new franchise—would be a task of great difficulty. On this account it has seemed to me all along that when a feasible basis for settlement was once arrived at the court's possession of the properties—drawing along with it jurisdiction over the questions that the proposed settlement is bound to raise—would be helpful to a quick and complete adjustment of all the matters involved. The court, so far as I represent it, is ready now to aid you to the extent of its power in bringing about such adjustment. Nothing can be done by the court, however, except on the basis that the franchise to be given will contain the legal equivalent for the franchises to be relinquished. An exact equivalent would be a re-grant for the period found to be the average for all the outstanding grants, and on the terms substantially of the outstanding grants. To what extent the pending City Railway ordinance meets this test, now that the boundaries of the grants are known, will be made the subject of immediate inquiry. Personally I hope that a basis for settlement, not only in principle but in detail, will be speedily found.

At the special meeting of the city council on the 24th, at which the proposed franchise ordinance was reported by the committee on transportation, Mayor Harrison reissued his proclamation (p. 305) calling upon opponents of the ordinance to secure a petition against it under the "public policy" law by October 20—six weeks after the legal time for such petitioning expires.

Another important judicial decision in the long-drawn-out tax fight of the Chicago school teachers (vol. iv, p. 696), was made by Judge Edward F. Dunne on the 22d. Of the fund which the school teachers had unearthed in the form of unpaid taxes due from public utility corporations, the city council had appropriated such amount as might be necessary to reimburse them for unpaid salaries; but the school board, which received this appropriation, refused to make that payment. The teachers thereupon brought injunction proceedings, and Judge Dunne has decided in their favor. He finds that the salaries of the teachers had been fixed by contract, that they had unearthed the fund in question, and that they therefore